

ARG/148



NORTHERN NIGERIA LEGISLATURE

**PARLIAMENTARY
DEBATES**

**HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
DAILY HANSARD**

(Third Legislature)

**Fifth Session
(First Meeting)**

3rd March, 1965

Price: 3d

*Printed and Published by the Government Printer, Northern Nigeria, 1965.
To be purchased from the Printing Division, Kaduna*

The House met at 10.00 a.m.

P R A Y E R S .

(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS.

KOLANUT AND COCOA.

0130. ALHAJI HANAFI IDIARO (Ilorin North) asked the Minister of Agriculture: (a) Which of the Provinces in the Southern part of the Region does the Minister consider suitable for planting Kolanut and Cocoa? (b) If none, why is it that an experiment in some of the Provinces is not carried out?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (Alhaji The Hon. Ahmadu Rufai, M.H.A.): Parts of Ilorin, Niger, Kabba, Benue, Sardauna, Adamawa, Plateau and Zaria Provinces are suitable for planting either Cocoa or Kola or both. Suitability is governed by soil, rainfall and existence of shade trees. In such areas my Ministry and Native Authorities operate nurseries from which improved seedlings are sold at heavily subsidised rates to farmers. The following Kola and Cocoa seedlings were distributed in Ilorin Province during 1962 - 1964 :-

	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>
Kola	634	2,525	2,417
Cocoa	820	24,000	3,624

(90,000)

From 1963 the bulk of cocoa raised in Ilorin was done by farmers in group nurseries not controlled by this Ministry and from which records of seedlings distributed are not available. In 1963 and 1964 such nurseries received sufficient seed of F3 Amazon cocoa to raise 24,000 and 90,000 seedlings respectively. Extension staff also provide assistance in regard to site selection plus guidance on planting and post planting maintenance. (b) Therefore does not arise.

AGRICULTURAL SUPERINTENDENT.

0140. MR. A.A. ABOGEDE: (Igala) asked the Minister of Agriculture: How many indigenous Northerners have been appointed to the post of Agricultural Superintendent since 1956, and how many of them had gone to overseas for further training?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

(Alhaji The Hon. Ahmadu Rufai, M.H.A.): The total number of indigenous Northerners appointed and or promoted to the post of Agricultural Superintendents since 1956 is 40. Out of this number, 20 have been promoted to higher grades. 32 have attended various courses overseas.

LAFIA DIVISIONAL FARM CENTRE.

0176. ALHAJI SHEHU USMAN, SARKIN DAJIN LAFIA (Lafia) asked the Minister of Agriculture: When will the Lafia Divisional Farm Centre be opened?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

(Alhaji The Hon. Ahmadu Rufai, M.H.A.): There is no intention of opening a Government Farm Centre in Lafia Division. As the Honourable Member is aware Lafia Division has already a good Native Authority Farm Centre. This, together with the Yandev Farm Centre, can meet the needs of Lafia Division in regard to multiplication of improved seed and planting material and the execution of field trials under the conditions of the Lafia Division.

If, however, the Honourable Member is referring to the Lafia Divisional Farm Institute which each Division is entitled, it is my intention that this will be constructed and opened during the current development plan period.

EXCAVATIONS FROM TIN MINING.

0185. MR. J.S. LAJE (Jos North-West) asked the Minister of Agriculture: (a) Is the Minister aware that hundreds of people living in Jos Division have lost their houses and farms as a result of excavations from tin mining? (b) If so, when will the land be reclaimed? (c) If no, why?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

(Alhaji The Hon. Ahmadu Rufai, M.H.A.): I am aware that the price of tin has risen and that in consequence mining operations are intended to expand. I am also aware as, I have no doubt, is the Honourable Member that provision is made for generous compensation to be paid to people who lose their crops or buildings as a result of mining activities. My Ministry however is not concerned with the payment of compensation beyond assessing the value of crops affected. (b) Land can only be reclaimed by my Ministry after mining companies to the Federal Ministry of Mines and Power and after that Ministry has satisfied itself by check drilling that no economic quantities of minerals

remain in the soil of the lease. Immediately this procedure is completed my Ministry is empowered to reclaim the land, and indeed does so within the space of a very few months. The Honourable Member may be interested to know that to date just over 2,000 acres have been reclaimed and planted with valuable trees (eucalyptus) for the benefit of the people living in Jos Division (c) Does not arise.

FARMERS OF JOS DIVISION.

0186. MR. J.S. LAJE (Jos North-West) asked the Minister of Agriculture: Is the Minister aware that the Government has not supplied a single modern machinery for farming to help the farmers of Jos Division?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

(Alhaji The Hon. Ahmadu Rufai M.H.A.): No Sir, I am not aware. The conditions encountered in the greater part of Jos Division do not lend themselves readily to mechanised farming techniques. However, a pilot tractor hiring unit will be operating in Plateau Province in 1965 to demonstrate to farmers what can be done on upland farms by mechanical equipment. Thereafter farmers must decide for themselves if they wish to pay for the services of mechanical equipment provided on a subsidised basis by my Ministry.

MACHINERIES FOR FARMERS.

0187. MR. J.S. LAJE (Jos North-West) asked the Minister of Agriculture (a) Is the Minister aware of the fact that even though most of the cotton from Jos Division comes from Jangre, the farmers of Jengre have not been supplied with any ploughs and other farm machineries. (b) When will the farmers be supplied with such modern farming implements? (c) If they are not to be supplied, will the Minister explain the reason for that?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

(Alhaji The Hon. Ahmadu Rufai M.H.A.): I presume that the Honourable Member is referring to the mixed farming project in the current development plan. I am informed that in the Jengre area the situation with regard to tsetse fly and trypanomiasis is such that mixed farming development in the area would be a risky operation. This is the reason why funds have not been provided from the mixed farming project for this area. (b) As I have already intimated, a service for the mechanical cultivation of farmers' upland crops is to be instituted in Plateau Province in the coming season. I shall ensure that the Jengre people are given the opportunity to utilise this service if they so wish. (c) Does not arise.

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PROMOTION TO SENIOR POSTS.

015. MR. OLAREWAJU AFOLAYAN (Ilorin South) asked the Hon. Premier: How many Northerners were promoted to the post of Senior Assistant Secretary since the inception of the Northernisation Policy, and how many are from each Province?

THE HON. PREMIER (Alhaji Sir Ahmadu Bello, G.C.O.N., K.B.E., M.H.A., Sardauna of Sokoto) (a) Fifty-three, Sir. (b) Promotions in all branches of the Civil Service are made by the Public Service Commission and their guiding principles are merit, experience and qualification. It will be a sad day for the service if promotions have to be made on Provincial basis. It would be detrimental to discipline and efficiency if the Public Service Commission were to be too provincially minded in matters affecting the composition of the Civil Service. Anyhow our motto is one North one people.

MEMBERSHIP OF HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

0127. ALHAJI HANAFI IDIARO (Ilorin North) asked the Hon. Premier (a) Whether membership of this House will now be increased consequent upon the result of the last Nation wide census which revealed the true and correct population of this Region? (b) If yes, by how many?

THE HON. PREMIER (Alhaji Sir Ahmadu Bello G.C.O.N., K.B.E., M.H.A., Sardauna of Sokoto) (a) Consideration will be given to the need for reviewing the composition of this House in the near future. (b) I cannot at present say whether this will result in an increase of membership or if it does by how much.

MOTOR ACCIDENTS

048. ALHAJI RABIU (Babura Garki) asked the Minister of Justice whether the Minister is satisfied that the penalties now enforced on Motor drivers found guilty on traffic offences are sufficient enough to serve as a lesson to others in view of the frequency of motor accidents often resulting in loss of many lives?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF JUSTICE: I am satisfied that the law dealing with criminal negligence is adequate to deal with case in which injury of death is caused by road accidents. The Government is concerned about the loss both of lives and property caused by road accidents and the Hon. Member will recall that in 1963 this House passed an amendment to the Road Traffic Law which increased penalties for offences under that Law. The new Road Traffic Regulations similarly increased penalties in appropriate cases. I am satisfied that the courts are applying the law correctly.

UNNECESSARY DELAYS BY POLICE.

049. ALHAJI RABIU (Babura Garki) asked the Minister of Justice: (a) Is the Minister aware that unnecessary delays by police in investigating cases add more to the large number of cases pending in courts? (b) If yes, what steps is the Minister taking to remedy the situation?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF JUSTICE: Slowness in police investigation may delay hearings of criminal cases. The Criminal Procedure Code gives courts the power to direct police investigation and the proper use of this power should ensure that any delays that do take place are unavoidable. Where it has been found that delays have been excessive officials of my Ministry have taken the matter up with the Commissioner of Police and this approach has proved most effective in dealing with such situations. It has been found that the Police have been most cooperative in these circumstances.

BENUE PROVINCIAL COURT OF APPEAL.

057. MR. S.A. ATUM (Kwande) asked the Minister of Justice: When will the Minister consider it appropriate to appoint a Native of Benue Province as the President of the Benue Provincial Court of Appeal (Grade 'A' Limited), in view of the fact that there are people with even better qualifications than those who had held the office previously?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF JUSTICE: I take it that the Hon. Member is referring to the Provincial Court Benue Province. There is no court named as he indicates in the question. I am very satisfied with the qualifications of the persons who have been appointed to the Presidency of the Benue Provincial Court, and I do not contemplate making any change in this appointment.

UPGRADING COURTS

0178: ALHAJI SHEHU USMAN, SARKIN DAJIN LAFIA (Member for Lafia) asked the Minister of Justice that in view of the fact that all the existing courts in Benue Province have been performing their duties satisfactorily, will the Minister consider up-grading these courts.

THE HON. MINISTER OF JUSTICE (Alhaji Mohamadu Nasir M.H.A.) The courts in Benue Province as in every other Province vary in their performance and it would be

wrong to deal with all of the 123 courts which exist there as if they were one.

Upgrading is not a reward for efficient work. The grade of a court is fixed at its establishment to enable it to deal with the type of offences and the value of subject matter involved in civil cases which it is foreseen will arise in its area. Regarding its necessary only where the situation changes and its powers are found to be out of balance with the needs of the community.

The establishment of an Area Court by the Government in Benue Province and the stationing of a High Court Judge in Makurdi are sufficient to deal with the cases that are beyond the jurisdiction of the existing native courts.

I will none the less confirm any regrading which is shown to be necessary in the interests of the community and if the Hon. Member can show me circumstances which warrant the regrading of any particular court or courts I shall take it up.

DIAMOND DEPOSIT

Q14: MR. OLAREWAJU AFOLAYAN (Member for Ilorin South) asked the Minister of Economic Planning whether the Minister will advise the Federal Government to cause an investigation to be made on the alleged deposit of diamond in Ilorin Province.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC PLANNING: (Alhaji the hon. Haliru Zarma Hong): No, because mining and prospecting are the exclusive responsibility of the Federal Government. I suggest that the Honourable Member may request his constituency representative in the Federal Parliament to raise this question there. On the other hand, if the Hon. Member would obtain verified facts and information which would convince the Federal Government that the investigation is worth pursuing, such information if sent to my Ministry will be forwarded to the Federal Government.

EXPANSION OF ELECTRICITY SUPPLIES

Q29: MALLAM I. MEGIDA LAWANI (Member for Igbirra North) asked the Minister of Economic Planning that what Financial Aid does the Northern Regional Govern-

ment give to the E.C.N. for the expansion of Electricity supplies in the Region and how much profit does the Government get in return.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC PLANNING: (Alhaji the hon. Haliru Zarma Hong):

The only financial aid which the Government of Northern Nigeria gives to the E.C.N. takes the form of interest-free loans for the development of amenity as distinct from commercially viable undertakings. By their nature interest-free loans do not earn any profits. The social benefits derived from the loans are of course clear.

UNTAPPED RESOURCES

Q46: ALHAJI RABIU (Member for Babura Garki) asked the Minister of Economic Planning: May I know what proposals his Ministry is putting with regard to the many untapped economic potentialities in this Region.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC PLANNING (Alhaji the hon. Haliru Zarma Hong):

The Honourable Member may like to know that my Ministry in collaboration with the Ministries of Trade and Industry and Agriculture is doing everything possible to attract industrial concerns into this Region. To this end a Natural Resources Board has recently been formed to advise the Government on how best to develop our natural resources in a co-ordinated manner. The Ministry of Trade and Industry has also published a Book on the Industrial Potentialities of the Region and this publication is an important medium of publicity as well as a useful guide to prospective investors. All these are aimed at tapping the economic potentialities of the Region.

ADVANCED TEACHERS COLLEGE

Q23. MR. OLAREWAJU AFOLAYAN (Member for Ilorin South) asked the Minister of Education that in view of the increased out-put of Grade II Teachers throughout Northern Nigeria, will his Ministry consider it desirable to make negotiation with the Ford Foundation with a view to establishing an Advanced Teachers College in the Southern part of Ilorin.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (Alhaji the hon. Abdu Anace, Magajin Garin Kontagora):

The possibility of converting Ilorin Training College

into an Advanced Teachers' College preparing students for the Nigeria Certificate in Education has been discussed from time to time. The matter is continuously under review, but I am not yet satisfied that the local production of Higher Elementary Certificated Teachers is adequate for the need of the schools.

GOVERNMENT CRAFT SCHOOLS

099: MR DESHI TOKLEN (Member for Angas) asked the Minister of Education: Whether his Ministry has made any proposal for the upgrading of Government Craft Schools in Pankshin to Technical Schools.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (Alhaji the hon. Abdu Anace, Magajin Garin Kontagora):

No, Sir.

There is no plan for the up-grading of any of the Craft Schools to become Technical Training Schools. The objectives of the two types of institution are not the same, and require completely different facilities and staffing. Craft Schools have a distinct and important role of their own in the scheme of technical education in Northern Nigeria and are not to be considered as a lower grade of Technical Training School.

Their purpose is to give general education and pre-vocational training at secondary level, following which provide the bulk of students entering our Technical Training Schools to be trained as motor mechanics, electricians, carpenters and so on. Current technical education planning aims at improving the equipment and pre-vocational training programmes at the Craft Schools so as to enable them to become even more effective in their field of activity.

PREROGATIVE OF MERCY

050: MR. S.A. ATUM (Member for Kwande) asked the Minister of Internal Affairs: How many convicted persons were granted Prerogative of Mercy during the following periods:

- (i) 15th March, 1959 to 30th September, 1963
- (ii) 1st October, 1963 to date.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS (Alhaji the hon. Tijjani Hashim M.H.A.)

After consultation with the Advisory Council on the

Prerogative of Mercy I advised His Excellency to exercise his powers as follows:-

- (a) Between 15/3/59 and 30/9/63, death sentences commuted to life imprisonment in 21 cases. In 7 other cases prison sentences were reduced. (b) Between 1/10/63 to date, 5 death sentences were commuted to life imprisonment and in 5 cases prison sentences were reduced.

VISITORS TO NORTHERN NIGERIA

086: ALHAJI USMAN AHMED (Member for Kontagora) asked the Minister of Internal Affairs that: (a) how many important visitors from other states in Africa and abroad visited Northern Nigeria during the year 1964-65? (b) who are the visitors by name and what countries did they represent.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS: (Alhaji the hon. Tijjani Hashim): (a) 115 important visitors from other states in Africa and abroad visited Northern Nigeria between 1st January 1964 and 17th February, 1965. (b) Amongst the most important were the Presidents of Senegal, Niger Republic, Camerouns Republic and Chad the Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago. If the Hon. Member could care to call on me in my office he may inspect the full list of visitors.

WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM IN GBOKO

063: MR. S.A. ATUM (Member for Kwande) asked the Minister of Works: Whether the Minister would out-line the steps his Ministry is taking to improve the water supply system in Gboko.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF WORKS (Alhaji the hon. Muhammadu Sokoto M.H.A.): Extensions to cost £11,100 are at present being carried out to the Gboko Water Supply. These extensions will double the output and improve the reliability of the supply. An elevated tank is being erected near the recently drilled boreholes and a new water main is being laid to the Town. Three pumps have already been delivered and when all the remaining equipment is received it will be immediately installed.

QUALIFIED MEDICAL OFFICERS.

067. MR. J.A. AMAICHIGH (Member for Ukum-Shitire): asked the Minister of Establishments and Training -
- What number of Northern Nigerians are now qualified as Medical Officers and how are they distributed as coming from each province in the North.
 - How many students are undergoing medical training both at home and abroad.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF ESTABLISHMENTS AND TRAINING (Alh-aji the hon. Muhammed Suleman, M.H.A.):

- The number of Northerners who are qualified Medical Officers in the Northern Public Service are 27. The second part of question (a) does not arise since the North is one.
- The Northerners undergoing medical training both at home and abroad are 67.

AGRICULTURAL OFFICERS.

070. MR. J.A. AMAICHIGH (Member for Ukum-Shitire): asked the Minister of Establishments and Training -
- How many Northern Nigerians since Independence qualified for appointment as Agricultural Officers.
 - How many are at present undergoing training both at home and abroad.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF ESTABLISHMENTS AND TRAINING (Alhaji the hon. Muhammed Suleman, M.H.A.):

- Since Independence, 25 Northern Nigerians have qualified for appointment as Agricultural Officers.
- There are a total of 38 Northerners undergoing training in agriculture. Of these, 12 are in-service trainees abroad and 26 are Scholarship holders of whom 9 are studying abroad and 17 in Nigeria.

TIV NATIVE AUTHORITY.

07. MR. J.A. AMAICHIGH (Member for Ukum-Shitire): asked the Minister for Local Government - When will the Government restore the Tiv N.A.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT (Alhaji the hon. Usman Suleiman, M.H.A.):

The Government is considering carefully the long and detailed report by the Commission on Tiv and will not make any changes until its consideration of the report has been completed.

KONTAGORA-ZURU-SOKOTO ROAD.

092. ALHAJI USMAN AHMED (Member for Kontagora) asked the Minister of Works -

- Whether his Ministry has received the 1963-64 and 1964-65 Road Traffic Census on the Regional Government section of the Kontagora-Zuru-Sokoto road.
- If yes, when will the section maintained by the Regional Government be tarred.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF WORKS (Malam Muhammed Sokoto):

- Traffic census figures for the Kontagora-Zuru-Zamfara Road have not been received for January, 1965.

The figures previously notified are: -

	<u>Kontagora - Zuru</u>	<u>Zuru-Zamfara-Mainchi</u>
January, 63	141 v.p.d.	57 v.p.d.
July, 63	150 "	104 "
January, 64	243 "	185 "
July, 64	82 "	156 "

- The tarring of the Kontagora-Zuru-Zamfara Road is included in the Roads Development Plan. The work will be carried out when funds are made available.

MALAM IBRAHIM MUSA: Does it mean that until they know the number of vehicles travelling on a road in a day before it could be tarred.

MR. SPEAKER: The Hon. Member for Igala, I think, is asking a general question because we are discussing Kontagora-Zuru road in particular and not on all roads in the Region.

MR. A.A. ABOGEDE: May I know when the term "when funds become available" is used as I feel that provision is always made for tarring of roads in the Development Plan. Why should it be then when funds become available as the proposal to tar the roads is in the Development Plan.

HON. MINISTER OF WORKS (Alhaji Shehu Usman, M.H.A., Sarkin Maska): There is proposal sir, but works cannot be carried out until funds are available.

WINDMILL

094. ALHAJI USMAN (Member for Kontagora): asked the Minister of Animal and Forest Resources - that when will the installation of the windmill started last year at Kaboji Cattle Route well in Kontagora be completed.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF ANIMAL AND FOREST RESOURCES (Alhaji Musa Muhammadu, M.H.A., Sarkin Agwara): This coming Financial year, Sir.

LOANS GIVEN TO FARMERS:

0106. MR. DESHI TOKLEN (Member for Angas): asked the Minister of Social Welfare and Co-operatives that what is the amount of loan given to Farmers during the year 1963-64 and how much has been repaid.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND CO-OPERATIVES (Alhaji the hon. Shehu Cigari):

The total amount of loans issued to Co-operative farmers in 1963/64 was £502,302. By the 30th September, 1964 repayments totalled £376,966 which is equal to 75% of the loans issued. On 1st October, 1964 the balance of debts became due to Government and repayments up to 31st January, 1965 amounting to £5,614 was paid to the Government Treasury.

TOURIST AREA.

0114. MR. DESHI TOKLEN (Member for Angas): asked the Minister of Information whether his Ministry will soon consider declaring an area in Pankshin Division as a tourist area in view of the indication given by the Minister to that effect some time last year.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF INFORMATION (Alhaji the hon. Kokori Abdul, M.H.A.): The Hon. Member will I think recall that last year in this honourable house I informed him that I was fully aware of the possibilities of Pankshin as a tourist attraction but that during the present period of austerity funds are not available for the full development of this. The situation remains the same.

INDUSTRIES ESTABLISHED.

0166: M. MUHTAR A. BELLO YOLA (Member for Dawakin Tofa East): asked the Minister of Trade and Industry -

- (a) Since the beginning of the current Six-year Development Plan, how many industries have been established.
- (b) What type of Industries are they and where are they situated.

HON. MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY (Malam Michael Audu Buba, O.F.R., M.H.A.):

- (a) Since the beginning of the current six-year Development Plan, not less than forty-seven industrial establishments have been promoted in Northern Nigeria and many more are under active consideration.

(b) <u>Type of Industry</u>	<u>Number of Establishment</u>	<u>Location</u>
Textiles (Cotton Piece Goods)	5	4 Kaduna, 1 Gusau
Cotton Spinning (Yarn)	1	Kaduna
Tanning and Leatherworks	2	Kano
Cement	1	Sokoto
Oilseed Crushing	1	Maiduguri
Enamelware	1	Kano
Sugar (National)	1	Jebba (Bacita)
Sugar Cubing	1	Ilorin
Plastics	1	Kano
Motor Engineering	1	Gusau
Hotel Keeping	2	Kaduna, Kano
Matches	1	Ilorin
Cigarette	1	Ilorin
Light Engineering (Metal doors and windows, castings and pumps assembly, wood works etc)	5	1 Kaduna, 3 Kano, 1 Jos
Gramophone records	1	Jos
Toiletries and Perfumery	3	1 Zaria, 2 Kano
Pre-case Cement Products	1	Kaduna
Modern Baking (Large scale)	1	Kaduna
Ammunition and Light engineering (National Project)	1	Kaduna
Abattoirs	5	One each in Maiduguri, Kano, Sokoto and Kaduna.
Knitting (Socks, Sweaters, etc.)	2	Kano
Meat Processing	2	Maiduguri, Nguru.

Asbestors Materials	1	Kaduna
Furniture	2	Kano
Animal Feeds	1	Kaduna
Paper (National)	1	Jebba
Brewery	1	Kaduna
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MALAM IBRAHIM MUSA: Why are all the industries sited in Kaduna whilst the North is so vast?

HON. MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY: Mr. Speaker Sir, I have explained on several occasions why industries at the moment are being sited in Kaduna, that it is not a deliberate intention of the Government, but something we cannot help at the moment. For instance we have water and electricity in Kaduna in a greater quantity and other amenities such as transport facilities and distribution system is much easier. But nevertheless, I have informed this House that we are trying our best to see that industries are being diverted into various places in the Region.

MR. ANDREW ABOGEDE: Mr. Speaker Sir, may I know from the Minister whether it is made a factor for the industrialists to go round for the potentialities before siting their industries?

THE HON. MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY: The factors depend on these amenities. The Honourable Member is alive to the fact that in the 1962-68 Development Plan there are areas which we shall provide with water supplies and electricity and when these are completed it would be easier for the industrialists to extend their industries to such areas.

ALHAJI M. MAUDE GYANI: May I know whether the Minister of Trade and Industry will try to site an industry in my constituency?

THE HON. MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY: As long as your constituency is in the North the answer is yes. (APPLAUSE).

MR. O. AFOLAYAN (Member Ilorin South) I want to know why there are no industries established in Offa, whereas almost every part of the North has got industries in their areas. (Interruptions.)

MR. SPEAKER: Order! Order! I know there is much anxiety on this question but we should control our emotions please. The Minister has done his best to explain why industries have been sited at the places

mentioned. Members who have got questions on industries should put them down. I think the Minister of Education has got ministerial statement.

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (Alhaji the hon. Isa Kaita, C.O.N., C.B.E., M.H.A., Wazirin Katsina) Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission I would like to inform the House how far we have gone with regard to the incident concerning the Nigerian Broadcasting Corporation. The following have been received:- Priority to the Hon. Speaker, Northern House of Assembly: "Please accept my profound and unreserved apologies for the embarrassment caused you and other Hon. Members for the wrong impression created in our news of 25th February. It was a mistake of the head and not of the heart and every effort will be made to avoid future recurrence. I hold the North in greatest respect and affection and will not stand for any deliberate unfair or derogatory treatment of their affairs and have the cooperations backing for this. God's blessings on your debates.

Badejo Director Broadcasts, Lagos".

And also the following message to the hon. Speaker of the Northern House of Assembly:

The Hon. Speaker,
Northern House of Assembly,
Lugard Hall,
Kaduna.

Dear Sir,

Further to my letter No.CN.240/52 of 27th February, 1965, I have to inform you that I have, yesterday afternoon, received a teleprinter message from the Director-General. The following is an extract from the message:-

"Grateful convey our profound and unreserved apologies to the Hon. Premier and the Government of Northern Nigeria for wrong impression given on Thursday 25th on our Bulletin."

Since then I have contacted the Director-General and he is arranging to come up himself to Kaduna to convey, personally, the Corporation's apologies to the House, through the Honourable Speaker.

Yours faithfully

Controller
NORTHERN REGION.

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION: (Alhaji the hon. Isa haita, C.O.N., C.B.E., M.H.A., Wazirin Katsina) Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am sure that it will be the pleasure of this House to give the Director-General of the Nigerian Broadcasting Corporation permission to come to you or to the bar of this House and apologise on behalf of the Corporation.

MR. SPEAKER. Hon. Members, I think if I can gauge the opinion of the majority of the House that we do accept the visit of the Director-General of the N.B.C. to apologise on behalf of the Corporation. We have to make arrangement for his visit, he will be here before the adjournment of the House. I will inform the House of further developments.

HON. ATTORNEY-GENERAL (Sir Ian Lewis, Q.C.) Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to move the motion standing in my name on the Order Paper namely -

"Be it resolved that in pursuance of the provisions of subsection(3) of section 10 of the Revised Edition of the Laws of Northern Nigeria Law, 1963, this House hereby authorises His Excellency the Governor by proclamation to bring into force, from such date as he shall think fit to name therein, that part of the Revised Edition of the Laws of Northern Nigeria, prepared under the Authority of the said Law, which has been completed and published, namely Volumes I to III inclusive, a copy of each volume thereof having been laid before this House."

Hon. Members will be aware that on the opening day of this Session I laid on the table of this House a set of Volumes I, II and III of the Revised Edition of the Laws of Northern Nigeria 1963. This was to comply with section 10(1) of the Revised Edition of the Laws of Northern Nigeria Law, 1963, and the set had been specially sent out to me by air at my request so that I could bring this motion before the House today. We have in fact ordered some two thousand sets of the Revised Edition, and a set will consist of six volumes, the first three of which will contain all the Laws, the second two all the Subsidiary Legislation and finally when these have been published the preparation of the Index will be completed and it will be published as a sixth volume of the set. At present the first three volumes have been finished and the remainder of the sets of these volumes are now being sent to us by sea. When they are received they will be distributed free to appropriate members of the Government and Government

Officers and each Native Authority, but if further sets are needed or if any other person wishes to purchase them they will have to be obtained from the Government Printer at a cost for the set of 25 guineas. When this distribution has been effected, if this motion has been approved, we shall then ask the Governor to issue a proclamation under section 10(3) of the Law stating the date on which these three volumes will come into force and be the sole authentic edition of the Regional Laws. This will be an immense help to all who have to use these Laws but I must sound one word of warning and that is that these Laws are effective only up to and including the 1st of October, 1963 so that all the Laws that we passed in this Legislature last year and those that we pass now will not be included in the Revised Edition and to that extent it will be necessary for each person who uses the Revised Edition to either amend it or to bear in mind the amendments that have been made in the past 18 months, in particular to the Criminal Procedure Code. My warning on the date of effectiveness will equally apply to the volumes of subsidiary Legislation when they are published. We had hoped that as the Law Revision Commissioner began his work in 1962 having already had the assistance since 1961 of a person to do the preparatory work of the Law Revision, it would have been possible to bring out the Revised Edition in 1964 and so not have had to make so many amendments, but unfortunately this could not be done and even now we only have the first three volumes of the set. We are, however, asking the printers to do their best to see that the printing of the remaining two volumes of the Subsidiary Legislation will be completed later this year so that the preparation of the Index may then be finalised. I am sure that once Hon. Members examine the Revised Edition they will be as pleased as I am with the way Messrs Lyre and Spottiswoode have printed it and bound it, at our request, in green binding in the Northern tradition and Hon. Members will also, I am sure, appreciate the work not only of the Law Revision Commissioner but also of the other past and present members of the Legal Department who have contributed so much to the preparation of this Revised Edition. I do hope it may prove possible to place before Hon. Members at a later session this year the other two volumes so that except for the Index the Revised Edition will then be completed.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move.

MINISTER OF WORKS (Alhaji the hon. A. M. Ibrahim, Wazirin Katsina) Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to second

Question proposed.

MR. J.U. UYEH (Member for Kunav) Mr. Speaker, Sir, I know that the Motion is non-controversial but I have a few remarks and advice which I would like to direct to the Minister of Justice. Sir, the points I would like to make is that since these Laws are now being revised it is worth-while that all the people appointed by the Native Authorities should be adequately educated so that they could read and understand.

MR. SPEAKER. Order! Order! This concerns only the printing of the Laws. I thought you are going to ask for more copies, I think you should stop speaking about the qualifications of Court Officials. We are not discussing the Ministry of Justice now.

MR. J.U. UYEH (Member for Kunav) More also this is worth-while if the books will be available to hon. Members to buy the printed Laws. And I will be grateful if it will not be too exorbitant (Interruptions).

HON. ATTORNEY-GENERAL: I can assure the hon. Member that copies of the set will be placed in the Library of Lugard Hall for the use of the Members but if Members wish to buy them privately they can do so from the Government Printer at a cost for the set of 25 guineas. We have fixed this price, as it is the same as that charged for the Revised Edition of the Federal Laws in 1958, despite the rise in the cost of living since then.

Question Proposed

Be it resolved:

"that in pursuance of the provisions of subsection (3) of section 10 of the Revised Edition of the Laws of Northern Nigeria Law, 1963, this House hereby authorises His Excellency the Governor by proclamation to bring into force, from such date as he shall think fit to name therein, that part of the Revised Edition of the Laws of Northern Nigeria, prepared under the authority of the said Law, which has been completed and published, namely Volumes I to III inclusive, a copy of each volume thereof having been laid before this House."

Question put and agreed to.THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND CO-OPERATIVES

(Alhaji Umaru Babura, Sarkin Fulanin Jaidanawa) Mr. Speaker Sir, I beg to move the motion standing in my name as follows:- "Be it resolved:

That this House approved the pledging of Government's credit to the amount of £2,500,000

to enable Co-operative Societies to finance both the cultivation of their individual members' cash crops and the marketing operations of their agricultural produce by means of Government guaranteed bank overdrafts".

Hon. Members are aware that it is the earnest desire of this Government to see that farmers' co-operative societies develop to their fullest extent, and one of the most important ways in which this desire can be fulfilled is to provide adequate financial assistance. In due course, the Co-operative Movement will become self-supporting and it is expected that the establishment of the Co-operative Bank, which is provided for in the Northern Nigeria Six-Year Development Plan, will greatly reduce the responsibility of this House for pledging Government's credit annually for the financing of co-operative societies.

Last year this House approved a total of £2,250,000 in the form of Government guaranteed overdrafts and since then over 300 primary co-operative societies have been registered. In addition to these primary societies, 5 new co-operative Unions have been established and a further increase in the number of Co-operative Licensed Buying Agents of the Northern Nigeria Marketing Board will result in heavier demands for financial assistance. Also, the responsibility of buying cotton at the special markets in Funtua and Gombe "Seed Multiplication Areas" has been transferred from British Cotton Growing Association to Co-operative Unions by the Northern Nigeria Marketing Board. For this alone, Produce Purchasing Advances amounting to £280,000 have been issued to the Unions operating in these special markets and it is estimated that a total of seven thousand tons will be purchased before the end of the current season. In view of this desirable expansion, I am asking the House to approve the sum of £2,500,000 for the next financial year.

Finally, I would like to thank those Hon. Members who gave their kind assistance and support to the field staff of the Co-operative Division of my Ministry and am confident that with such continued support the officers will be able to educate the farmers in co-operative ideas and methods which will result in increased business in produce marketing and full and prompt repayment of Government guaranteed loans.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move.

MR. SPEAKER: The Question I have to propose is^{as} in the words of the motion moved by the Hon. Minister of Social Welfare and Co-operatives.

MR. C. AFOLAYAN (Ilorin South): Mr. Speaker Sir, I rise up to give a full support to motion moved by the Minister of Social Welfare and Co-operatives. The Minister has told us that when this guarantee is given it will enable the farmers in the way of financial help but I have got two comments to make as far as co-operative Society is concerned. One could notice that even though our aim is to help the farmers yet certain restrictions are still placed in the formation of Co-operative Society. For instance, poor farmers may gather themselves together to form a certain Co-operative Society - the restrictions may be set until certain conditions are fulfilled and this causes financial embarrassment. When we guarantee money to help farmers I think we should try to encourage these farmers even though they have not got the means. On the other hand, when loans are given to Co-operative Society we must ensure that these loans are paid back in time, so as to allow others and to encourage others to continue with the formation of Co-operative Society. I do not say that the Minister is not doing what he should do. I can see even in my own Province that a large number of Co-operative Societies have been formed. This is very encouraging on the Minister concerned. More encouragement must be given to poor farmers irrespective of whether they have got money to establish it or not.

Mr. Speaker Sir, with these few remarks I beg to support the motion.

ALHAJI ANINU DANTATA (Kura) Thank you very much Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the motion moved by the Hon. Minister. In supporting this motion, I will like to make some observations on the Co-operative Societies. Truly speaking Co-operative Societies are Societies which need encouragement from the Government because it is through these most traders get things to improve their trade. We see that the Government pays attention more to the Co-operative Societies than other trading. As I have hear from the Minister that some cotton markets were received from individual and given to these Societies, I therefore want the Government to buy the whole of B.C.G.A. and give it to the Co-operative Societies. The best thing for the Government to do I suggest is to hand over all these trading to the Co-operative Societies instead of leaving them to the foreigners. The gain all goes to the foreigners and I therefore suggest that the Minister should take over

all the trading from the foreigners and give it to the Co-operative Societies so that the Co-operative Societies would be well established and from there we can derive a lot of money. There are so many places, some remote areas where we cannot grow and buy things, therefore, I suggest that the B.C.G.A. should be transferred to the Co-operative Societies.

With these few remarks Sir, I beg to support.

MR. ISAAC SHAAHU (G.S. Tieu): I rise to support the motion before the House. We must thank the Minister for his efforts to see that the Co-operative Movements are spread to every corner of this Region. There is no where this movement has not reached and farmers are profiting from the credits of the Government. This House and every Member I am definitely sure will show his appreciation even if the amount was up to £4 million. The Co-operative bodies have grown so rapidly that I am definitely sure they have contributed a lot to the economy of this Region (Hear! hear!) I am sure we can remember last year, we gave the same assent of £2½ million last year and this year £2½ million. But Mr. Speaker Sir, this money as we give our assent at the end of each year we want to have an account of what has been given out, how much of the money was repaid and gained. So that we would be able to know the efforts of the movement, profits they have made, and the losses they have made.

Mr. Speaker Sir, I beg to support the Bill.

MALLAM IBRAHIM MUSA (Igalala North West) Mr. Speaker Sir, I rise to support the Minister of Social Welfare and Co-operatives. In fact the Co-operative Societies have helped both local traders and farmers of this Region.(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: If this continues I am going to stop the conversations. It is not good when you have finished your speech to interrupt another Member, and in fact the man did not interrupt you when you were speaking.

MALLAM IBRAHIM MUSA: In supporting the Minister of Social Welfare and Co-operative I know quite well that the Co-operative Society has been formed in this Northern Nigeria and has been trying its best both for the local farmers and traders. Their positions have been elevated. But still I have some few comments to make. We know this Co-operative Society actually and we call it a sort of saviour for local farmers and traders. But in my area about 50% of the people who

form this Co-operative Society at times the Co-operative Instructors will not approve their society and at times when the time comes for distribution of the money some people may then go about and only few of them repay their money and so they fail to give others. If the Minister will look and give directives that if those who failed to repay their money should either be penalised so that others will not be hindered from being guaranteed. The amount of money given to some people is very small for example a farmer is given £5 and this will be used in employing some labourers. This is too small because before they could finish the work the money must have finished. The interest on the money is too much. When somebody ask for a loan especially to establish a business he may be given £20, or £40 or even £50, how do you think this money will be of benefit to them. That is my own observation of Co-operative Society. Co-operative Registrars should be restricted of this point - that when people wish to form a society they should go and open it and give terms of loans so that this loan should be of great benefit to them not to hinder them from getting the loan.

With these few remarks I beg to support.

SARKIN GOBIR ADDIYYA (B/Tangaza) Mr. Speaker Sir, I rise to support this motion. I would like to suggest to the Minister on the way loans are given. According to the Minister these Co-operative Societies who receive loans are to repay it is on a certain percentage? But if so they would not be able to get another loan until the whole society finished paying back the loan. ~~In which case it is generally found that some people have not finished paying back their loans. These people who have finished must have to wait for a year or two. I am appealing to the Minister to review this so that those who have paid should get another loan and not wait for others to finish repaying.~~

Now turning to trading, Mr. Speaker, I really support the Minister in encouraging the farmers to get some money to buy things. We have no other way besides this. In my opinion Mr. Speaker this is not even concerning the Co-operative Society but everything, I think the Government should encourage those people who seem to be trying very hard. It is through these people the Government get great deal of profit. We usually find that people get this money and will not pay them back. In future this will not be a good thing.

With these few remarks I beg to support Sir.

A. USMAN (S/Daji Iafia) Mr. Speaker, I rise to support this motion moved by the Hon. Minister. In the first place I support this motion wholeheartedly. We all realise that all of us assembling here have come to help the people and so it is only worthwhile to support this type of motion. I am appealing to the Minister that whenever this money is distributed, it should be done in time so that the people will be able to use it. As soon as the loan season starts people should get the money so that farmers will buy some seeds and use it on their farms. I hope the Minister will take this advice to give the money in time so that the farmers will be able to use it wisely, if this money is not given in time the farmers will not use it on their farms and will use it on other things. If it is given in time they will not find it difficult to repay it on time.

Mr. Speaker Sir, I beg to support.

ALHAJI MUSTAFA MAUDE GYANI (Zaria South West) Mr. Speaker Sir, this Minister has helped greatly and there is nothing wrong with it so we have to congratulate the Minister and the entire staff of his Ministry. I would like to thank the Minister and his staff. I know this Co-operative Society in Gyani because it has not paid its loan in time but this year we promised to do our best to see that out of £650 which is still outstanding we will be able to pay more than a half. We realise that this money helps us greatly. I am often considering that I may not take this loan again because it is very risky especially for a Member of this House. Any Member who claims to be the leader of this society will have to be very careful and will have to see that Co-operative Society pay back its money in time. Because I have taken this responsibility to see that the people who got the money will pay back to the Government at least half of £350 or £300, the remainder will be paid later. I therefore appeal to the Minister Mr. Speaker to sympathise with these people. We are very grateful to the Minister for what he has done.

MR. A.A. ABOGEDE (Igala East) Mr. Speaker Sir, I have only one comment to make and at the same time to ask the Minister. We are very grateful for the Minister of Social Welfare and Co-operatives for they have been helping us greatly in Igala Division, to see that the Co-operative Society grows more and more and the money given to the farmer's union in that area is rather too small. At times the people gather together to farm with a view to get profit and to sell and get some profit for themselves. But I still have a question for the Minister. This Co-operative Society has been formed in the North for some years but when is the

Society qualified to share their money? The question is just simple.

So that if the members do not enjoy the gain when it is one way or the other, the government is making away with the gain, I should like the Minister to think seriously about it, so that the percentage of the government should not double that of the organisers. The organisers should always have some benefit out of it. I know and think that each an everyone of us do associate with these societies, I know that the profits have never been divided among the Members. With these few remarks I support the motion.

MR ATUM (Kwande) Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support this motion with all my heart and in so doing I must thank the Minister of this Ministry for the work his Ministry is doing especially in Benue Province. There are at times we complained here that the money given to the farmers used to come late but last year we saw that with great difficulty in the province the money was obtained in time and we were able to purchase all the produce and the farmers who got individual loan were able to continue with their farming, so I must sincerely thank the Minister for that. There are other things that I like in this Ministry. All the officials in the province have a sort of meeting which they meet monthly in the provincial headquarters and see that such money obtained from loans is used correctly. What I want to ask is that this money is insufficient. The Ministry should be given more money so that farmers could be given a bit sufficient money to carry out with what they want. Some get the money but not sufficient and I think that it is the fault of the Ministry. So I shall be grateful if the government adds more money to this Ministry because it is doing a lot to every farmer, even in the remote corner of the country. With these few remarks, I beg to support.

ALHAJI ABDULLAHI MAIKANO, SARKIN DUTSE (Dutse West): Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the motion. With what my previous speakers have said about the co-operative societies, I will like to advise the Minister that when the money is paid, then loan can be given to the farmers. If the money is not fully paid, they should not be given the loan. It is not good to be given more money when the outstanding balance has not been refunded. (MR. SPEAKER: Will you speak louder for the reporters to hear you). There is no doubt that you should look closely to those people who pay their loans and get another loan. Those people who do not pay should not be given any money. About trading which some members have spoken, some people go to the traders but if they do not get sufficient money the traders will not give them

what they want. Some people were given ten tons, others fifteen tons and others twenty tons and some forty tons. The buying of groundnuts is useful to people who have more money so I appeal that more money should be given to the people. With these few remarks I beg to support.

M. AMINU DANTATA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I understand that the last speaker is referring to speech I made recently. I do not at all said that co-operatives should not continue but I appeal that it should be given money because there are some people who are irresponsible among them who do not pay their loans in time, that is why I suggested that the government should get another means of which the co-operative could benefit. It is not good to take the co-operative societies to court. I do not support the idea that those who do not pay their money should not be taken to court. The Minister should see that members of co-operatives should be dealt with in accordance with whether they pay their loans or refuse to pay. Moreover I want the Minister to make more explanation. You know in every part of the world depends largely on trade and it is appropriate that some traders are being protected so that they could not suffer. The Member himself is an agent.

ALHAJI MAIKANO: I am sure Sir that there are some leaders who are reliable, and there are some who receive and make use of it, that is why I say that when these people are taken to court the authorities concerned should bear it.

MALLAM YAU LERE: Mr. Speaker, on the speech of the previous speaker, nobody will receive the money without the representative of the society, whether one is there or not, once your name appears on the list, you must be given the money, that is the normal procedure. About the motion brought before the house I want to explain to the Minister something which worry us. On many occasions farmers pay their loan in time but what happens usually is that before the money is paid back, the farmer will ask for another loan.

MALLAM SIDI: Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the motion and to congratulate the Minister. I say this Ministry is a novel of the Region because the majority of the people in this Regions are farmers, therefore the Minister is a novel. There is one thing I would like to suggest to the Minister. There are time they used to share money to all the societies. Every society knows that they must pay the money before another year but at the time of collecting the money we have some workers of the society instead of asking the society for the money they go to N.A. Courts to give some money to summons the members of the society. At time they give

about 8/- or more to(interruptions). In a society, you see about 15 to 100 members and all of them will be called to the court. Everyone of them is to pay 8/- because he is called in the court and only one person reported the society.

I think the society is just like one person. If at all it should be reported I feel that the man reporting the society is doing so as a single man. It seems to me that it is a punishment to the society. I suggest to the Minister if he can meet the society and advise them about this. With these few remarks I beg to support.

M. DESHI TOKLEN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the motion and to thank the Minister but I have few remarks to make. This money when it is distributed equally in accordance with the provinces and the size of the society. I beg to support.

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND CO-OPERATIVE: Mr. Speaker, I listened with attention to the advice and good words said about my Ministry with regards to the loans. Although most of the remarks are impracticable yet I will see that they are continually carried out vigorously but I should like to answer some of the members who raised very serious remarks. The hon. member from Offa thinks that there is financial strings attached to a society. I assure the hon. member that there is no financial strings attached to any group of people who join to form a co-operative society provided the number does not exceed ten. Mr. Abogede wish to know the profit gained by members of societies. The profits are yearly divided and credited to members accounts. Mr. Atum asked for increase in the loans.

MR. S.A. ATUM (Member for Kwande): Mr. Speaker Sir, point of correction. I am not a Member from Idoma but I am from Kwande in Tiv Division.

Question put and agreed to.

Resolved:

That this House approves the pledging of Government's credit to the amount of £2,500,000 to enable Co-operative Societies to finance both the cultivation of their individual members' cash crops and the marketing operations of their agricultural produce by means of Government guaranteed bank overdrafts.

MR. SPEAKER: I think this is a convenient moment to suspend the sitting. Sitting is suspended for 15 minutes.

HOUSE RESUMES
ORDERS OF THE DAY

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS LAW.

Bill entitled the Public Holidays (Amendment) Law, 1965-
Second Reading

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL WELFARE & CO-OPERATIVES (Alhaji the Hon. Umaru Babura, Sarkin Fulanin Jaidanawa) Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to move that the Bill for a Law to amend the Public Holidays Ordinance be read a second time. This amendment has been considered desirable in view of the Republic status of Nigeria of which Northern Nigeria is an intergral part.

The amendment proposed therefore is that the designation "Self-Government Day (March 15th" be now retitled "Northern Nigeria Day (March 15th)". It is understood that the Federal Government also proposes to rename the Independence Day (1st October as National Day (1st October) and this Government desires to follow suit. To achieve this, I propose the amendment at an appropriate time, Sir.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move.

THE MINISTER OF ECONOMIC PLANNING (Alhaji Muhammadu Bashar, O.B.E., Wamban Daura) Mr. Speaker Sir, I beg to second.

MR. ISAAC SHA'AHU (Member for G.S. Tiev) Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Bill is non-controversial because on the 15th of March, 1959 this region became self-governed since then it has been called as School Days celebrations in Provinces because on this particular day most of workers do not observe the Day. This Bill should have been brought before the House since 1959 when we became self-governed. Mr. Speaker, there is no further comments to be added more than to bless it. I beg to support.

HOUSE IN COMMITTEE

Clauses I and II

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

HOUSE RESUMED

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL WELFARE & CO-OPERATIVE (Alhaji the Hon. Umaru Babura) Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to report the Bill from the Committee be now read the Third time and passed.

Question proposed

Question put and agreed to.

CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC FINANCESLAW

Bill entitled the Control and Management of Public Finances (Amendment) Law, 1965 - Second Reading.

THE MINISTER OF WORKS (Alhaji the Hon. Shehu M.H.A., Sarkin Maska) Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to move that the Bill entitled the Control and Management of Public Finances (Amendment) Law, 1965 be read a second time.

The Control and Management of Public Finances Law was passed in 1958, and since then some minor amendments have been made in it. The object of this Bill is to make further amendments, to bring the Law up to date and to adapt it to present needs. The most important part of this Bill is clause 8, which will introduce new Rules for the Operation of the Capital Development Fund, in place of those which now form the Second Schedule to the Law. The new Rules largely follow the old ones, but they make clear that the underlying purpose of the Capital Estimates which are produced every year is to implement the Development Plan. The present Plan is in operation for six years, from 1962 to 1968. A Development Plan is more than a series of projects which can be divided up into instalments carried out one year at a time. It involves a continuous process of preparing projects through all the stages of detailed planning, and then seeing them through the construction phase. During these various processes changes in details often become necessary. There must therefore be some flexibility in carrying out the Plan, so that projects can go ahead smoothly and without unnecessary delays.

The new Rules provide for this flexibility. For example Rule 6 will allow this House to resolve that money voted but not spent in one financial year can be spent in a later year. This will mean that special approval will not have to be given to revoke money unspent at the end of a financial year. When I move the resolution to approve the 1965-66 Capital Estimates

later in this meeting, I shall ask the House to provide for unspent money from the present financial year to be carried forward into the next financial year.

Rule 11 will allow me to authorise expenditure on any project in the Development Plan when necessary, provided of course that money is available. The Development Plan is known to the Members of this House, and the Estimates and Supplementary Estimates will naturally continue to show Members when funds are being provided for projects in the Plan, but this Rule will enable me to provide for projects which have been got ready, to go ahead without unnecessary delay. Rule 10 provides for modifications to be made to the Plan from time to time as is found necessary. This does not mean, of course, that the main lines of the Plan will not be followed, but the Plan cannot be completely rigid in its details. It must be possible to make changes in detail when circumstances require, or else delays and difficulties will arise.

The second main object of the Bill is to abolish the five Renewals Funds which the Government has maintained up to now. These Funds were built up by annual contributions previously shown in the Recurrent Estimates, and their purpose is to provide for replacing major items of machinery and other equipment, used in urban water supplies and other activities of Government. Such funds can be very useful, but on looking closely into the matter it has been found that there would be a better way of controlling funds for these replacements. The Renewals Funds were worked on a year-to-year basis, but now that we have Development Plans covering several years at a time, it will be better to provide for renewals as part of the Development Plan. In fact, in the draft Capital Estimates for 1965-66 provision for these renewals has been made. To allow for more flexible operation, minor renewals are provided for in the Recurrent Estimates. Clauses 4 and 7 of the Bill will lead to the abolition of these Funds, as these clauses will delete all references to the Funds from the principal Law. To round matters off, clause 6 of the Bill provides for the balances remaining in the Funds at 31st March, 1965 to be transferred from the Capital Development Fund.

Clauses 6 and 7(b) of the Bill also provide for a sum of five hundred thousand pounds to be transferred from the Personal Advances Fund to the Capital Development Fund. Two years ago the House approved

a Resolution to reduce the size of the Personal Advances Fund by a similar amount. I explained that this was partly due to the replacement of the old car advances scheme for Government officers by the hire purchase arrangements now adopted, and partly to the retirement of expatriate officers, reducing the outstanding advances against lump sum compensation. Both these factors have continued to operate, and so this further reduction in the Personal Advances Fund has become possible.

The Bill contains other clauses designed to tidy up various provisions in the Law. One effect of clause 4 will be to allow interest on loans made from the Capital Development Fund to be credited to that Fund, which is not possible now. On the other hand it will provide for interest earned by the Revenue Equalisation Fund to be credited to revenue.

I hope that the House will endorse the amendments proposed in the Bill, in order that the system of financial control can be improved and brought up to date.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move.

THE MINISTER OF LAND AND SURVEY (Alhaji the Hon. Ibrahim Musa Gashash) I beg to second.

HOUSE IN COMMITTEE

Clauses 1,2,3

MR. J.U. UYEH (Member for Kunav) May I know why they did not mention the House of Chiefs here?

HON. ATTORNEY-GENERAL (Sir Ian Lewis, Q.C., M.H.A.) The change has been made as a result of a deliberate policy decision that this matter should be dealt with in this House alone instead of both here and in the House of Chiefs. This, it is considered, is more in keeping with the provisions of the Constitution, as you will see if you look at it, and though it is possible to put these matters to the House of Chiefs it is more appropriate for them to be confined to this House. Moreover this will be in keeping with the practice followed in other parts of the Federation, so that is why the change has been effected.

Question proposed that Clauses 1 to 3 do stand part of the Bill

Question put and agreed to.

Clauses 4,5, and 6

Question proposed

Question put and agreed to.

Clause 8

Question proposed

Question put and agreed to.

HOUSE RESUMES

HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE (Alhaji the Hon. Aliyu Makaman Bida) Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to report the Bill from the Committee of the whole House without amendment and move that the Bill be now read the Third time and passed.

Question proposed

Question put and agreed to.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

HOUSE IN COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

HEAD 221 - GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

Question proposed, "That the sum of £42,980 provided for the services of Head 221 - Governor's Office, do stand part of the Bill".

Question put and agreed to.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Before I call Head 222 I would like to explain to the hon. Members that when discussing the matter of Policy generally they should do it on Head 222 Premier's Office, because he is responsible for the other heads that follow namely the Cabinet Office, Administration and the Agent-General in the United Kingdom - the Legislature has no policy because that is you.

MR. DESHI TOKLEN (Angas): Mr. Chairman, I rise to support this Bill. Before I go on with what I am going to say, I would like to thank the Premier of Northern Region, Alhaji Sir Ahmadu Bello, Sardauna of Sokoto on the speech he made.

As the hon. Premier often say that by the Will of God Mr. Chairman what I want to say is that before the rain fall the people of the North will have got the opportunity of having our own administration and we are loyal to our leaders.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I cannot stop you from what you want to say, but you should not waste time on what has already been discussed. We want you to continue with what is before the House. If you have got some advice to give please do so and if none let us continue.

MR. DESHI TOKLEN: In short, I will like to bring this to the notice of the House. Sometime ago say 12 years ago, we found in the House of Chiefs that there were very few people. But at present we have got many Chiefs appointed to the House of Chiefs. This is a great achievement. More over these Chiefs come from different parts of the Region. They are very proud and pleased to join their friends. This is also on the success of the leader Sir Ahmadu Bello. We have seen that they have been given insignia honour of office. Some have got First Class, Second Class, Third Class, Fourth Class and some ungraded but more or less they are in the House of Chiefs. This is something to be glad of. I appeal to the hon. Premier as they have already been awarded the staff of office they should also be given official flags to stick to their cars and Houses. The flags should be distributed in accordance with their honours. At present some print their names on the flags and stick them in front of their cars this should be stopped.

In His Excellency's Speech something has been mentioned about Jos N.A. people because they are not pleased with the people of Low Land.

MR. CHAIRMAN: (Order, Order). Concerning Jos, the Government has already appointed somebody to investigate. The report has not yet come out and the Government is doing something about it. You better wait and see what the Government will do.

MR. DESHI TOKLEN: To sum up my speech, we thank the hon. Premier for sending a Commissioner to the Plateau Province and everybody is aware that Plateau is a confused area. There are different tribes. There are thugs especially in Jos town but when Alhaji Ndagi Faruk came he has corrected everything and he has re-organised everything. (Applause). The Commissioner has planned a great deal. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I appeal to the Government that some Commissioners have been awarded honours, I would also like our Commissioner to be given the same honour.

MALLAM INUWA ADAMU (Special Member): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I

rise to thank the hon. Premier of Northern Nigeria and his Executive Council for the keen interest they show in the workers of the Northern Region. (Hear Hear). In doing that I would like to make the following points. First, we are grateful to the hon. Premier in connection with the general increase he made to the labourers of Northern Region to revise their wages to 5/- a day. Really for a long time there is a great tension in this Region in connection with labourers condition, but now the position is fairly changed. Secondly, I would like to point out in connection with the great lack of confidence in the civil service of this Region. There is a great loss really and the reason why I say so is that during the Colonial days the civil service was quite a different thing but at present many expatriate officers do not show much support to see that civil service of this country was carried out as we wished it to be because many of them left the office and allowed the working system not to run in the way it is supposed to run. (Hear Hear). They allow most of our civil servants to do what ever they like without given great care as it is supposed to be which is very important. This should be noted and something should be done about it. Thirdly, the recent promise made by the hon. Premier in connection with Check System (Interruptions). I know it is the responsibility of the Social Welfare but this is really very important.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I hope the hon. Member would make good use of the opportunity given to him.

MALLAM INUWA ADAMU: Mr. Chairman, Forthly, I am appealing to the hon. Premier to encourage the Trade Union Movements in this country by adding one more seat for our great Trade Union in the Northern Region.

With these few remarks I beg to withdraw my amendments.

MR. J. A. ATUM: Mr. Chairman, I am going to base my observations on what the Hon. Premier has announced in this House concerning Tiv Division. We Tivs have no hatred for the Premier.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, Order. I think that was closed after the debate on the Speech from the Throne and Government had replied to the points raised. I think we should consider that as closed.

MR. J. A. ATUM: Thank you Mr. Chairman. I quite agree with that. The point I will like to make before the Premier is that during the sitting of this House, the Commissioner for Benue left this place for Makurdi and I think what he discussed at Makurdi was about the chieftaincy of Makurdi.

HON. PREMIER. He left with my permission. The Provincial Secretary is going on transfer and he wanted to go and give him a send off party and I allowed him to go on Friday and return on Saturday.

MR. J.A. ATUM: When he got there I understood there was a hot atmosphere about this chieftaincy.

MR. CHAIRMAN. Order, order. There is no question of Makurdi chieftaincy in these estimates.

THE PREMIER: I will like the question of chieftaincy to come under my Head but there is no one for Makurdi so it does not arise.

M. MAUDE GYANI, SARKIN JABA: I want to ask the Chairman, if it is possible for me to say something which I think is going beyond the law. What I want to say will not be more than two. If I am given time to say something about the duties performed by the Hon. Premier, I want to thank him very much and I have an important message to deliver about this. In his matter, Mr. Chairman I do not think I will go against the rule. I want to plead the hon. Premier, as it was resolved in this hon. House in 1959, that every Northerner in this Region be given chance to perform what type of religion he wants and that the Premier should keep a vigilant eyes (interruptions) (MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, the honourable member had not made his point yet) Since everybody is free to follow whatever religion he likes, I think the title I am given.....(interruptions.....) for leading 20,000 people, I want to know whether everybody can be allowed to come into this country from any angle to preach. To me it is necessary to practice the Islamic religion. Mr. Chairman, what has happened to me and the articles written on me are completely false. I have sent copies to the Government. Everybody knows that the voluntary agencies are given grants. I have converted about 13,000 people to Islam. This month I asked for permission to go and preach and many people were converted to Islam. This particular thing is my worry. Really, everybody should be given freedom of speech, of religion to go and preach anywhere. There are some pagans who have no religion at all. Mr. Chairman, many people have molested me because of my religion.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have made your point and that is alright. If anybody molests, you should take him to court.

MR. MAUDE GYANI: I think we are in an independent country. With these I support the Premier, his Ministers

and the people of the "egion as a whole to unite and achieve success.

M. MUHTARI YOJA (D/TOFA EAST): Mr. Chairman, I rise to thank the Premier for a certain speech he made sometime ago over the radio about the northernisation policy which he said that all northerners should be everywhere in the public service, in carpentry etc. Everybody must thank him for this speech. We all want to see in this country that all the posts are occupied by Northerners. Northerners should occupy important posts in Nigeria. Some students who have left schools and have nothing to do should be given chance to fill posts where southerners occupy. Some southerners feel proud that the North has no qualified people to do the job. Our school leavers should be allowed to fill their posts. With the help of God and the Premier, we shall see that we get sufficient people to do the job.

MALIAM YAHAYA TULA (T/WAJA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the estimates before this House. Our Leader the Hon. Premier is a person who deserves thanks. In the whole North he has travelled all over and pays attention to everybody's request and for that reason I rise to thank him. After that Mr. Chairman the people of Tangale Waja appeal to our leader the Hon. Premier for some posts in the Sharia Court. We want him to help us in some posts which he appoints in this Region. We read in newspapers and hear over the radio that the Hon. Premier has appointed someone from so and so place to certain posts. We people from this area have not had this opportunity. For this reason, every day in our own thoughts, we hope that the Hon. Premier will help us in this way. We are proud that he does not look on only one place but everywhere. As he has never forgotten other places, we want him to remember us too. For that reason Mr. Chairman, I beg to support the estimate.

ALHAJI HASHIMU (GUSAU): Mr. Chairman, I rise to thank this gentleman for his hard working who deserves the merit of this period under whose leadership the North attains peace, tranquility and above wealth. For this reason, we must thank him, that is the Sardana, the Hon. Sir Ahmadu Bello. In fact there is nobody on earth that can do more than the Premier in this country as a whole. Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is no doubt that we should pray for this gentleman so that he may live long to lead us. He has announced that everybody must profit from the product of this Region and for that I thank him. With this I beg to thank the Hon. Premier.

(AN HON. MEMBER): We continue.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is not the correct procedure. We should inform the Leader of the House. It is not that I am defending the government. It is only right the Government Bench should be given chance to reply. They should be informed. (HON. MEMBERS...Let us continue.)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The sitting is suspended till 3 p.m.

Sitting accordingly suspended at 1 p.m.

MR. CHARIMAN: Order! Order! Committee resumes.

MALAM ADAMU TAFAWA BALEWA (Ajiya Bauchi) Mr. Chairman I rise to deliver the message sent through me from my own constituency to the Honourable Premier, Northern Nigeria. In the midst of political controversy in my constituency there were about 2,000 U.P.G.A. supporters who have resigned and declared for the N.P.C, then the Honourable Premier sent them a message of congratulations and thanks and he promised visiting these people together with the Prime Minister Alhaji Sir Abubakar Tafawa Balewa. After the elections these people wish that the Honourable Premier could fulfil his promise. In fact Mr. Chariman, these people regard the Hon. Premier in so many ways, and they associate with three major qualities. In the first place, some people want to see the Premier in person, some for his religious believe, and some for his political believe, and hope that the Honourable Premier will pay a visit to my constituency together with the Prime Minister.

With these few remarks I support the motion.

MALAM SULE DARAZO (Member for Bruchi North East): Mr. Chairman, I rise to give my thanks to the Honourable Premier and deliver the message sent me by the people of my constituency because a very large mosque is being built in my constituency for the people and it is a saying that anybody who built a mosque will be given chance in the paradise. For this I think the Honourable Premier will accept our thanks.

Mr. Chairman Sir, I think the tremendous thanks given to the Honourable Premier in this Honourable House is quite justifiable. If one is given something it is imperative that it should be revealed to everybody, and we are quite aware that if God wishes to help people He use to do it in a miraculous way. God has given us this our Honourable Premier with full tolerance and we must thank Him. With these few remarks I support the motion.

ALHAJI USMAN AHMED (Member for Kontagora South East): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I rise to support the motion and that all that has been said in this Honourable House for the praise of Alhaji Sir Ahmadu Bello, the Sardauna of Sokoto, I have nothing to add to what has already been said because this our Leader is known by everybody that in this present generation in the North and even anywhere in the world no where can a leader who will surpass him be got easily. We are proud that this our Region is improving economically to overtake all other Regions of the Federation. May God guide him from all troubles and evils of the world (amen). It is his own desire that all Northerners should be given ample opportunities but there are so many things for him to look after.

There are two Ministries, one is a corporation while the other is a Federal Ministry. If we raise a point which affects any of the Federal Departments our Government always tells us that it should be referred to the Federal Government but we of the Northern Region are in fact very worried about these two Ministries because of their high standard of discrimination.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Honourable Member has previously said that these are Federal subjects but then why is he going against the rule by trying to say something on them.

ALHAJI USMAN AHMED: Mr. Chairman, these two places are the Railway Corporation and the Posts and Telegraphs. In Nigeria Railway Corporation(Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nigerian Railway Corporation is a Federal matter and if everybody is allowed to speak on Federal matters then I do not know where we end, and in order not to allow such a thing to prevail it should not be allowed. We have got Members in the Federal Parliament representing your constituency and such questions should be directed through them.

ALHAJI USMAN AHMED: Mr. Chairman I am only appealing to you to assist in directing the question to the proper channel, and if it would not be proper for me to say anything on them here it is necessary for me to withdraw my statement.

THE HONOURABLE PREMIER (Alhaji Sir Ahmadu Bello, G.C.O.N., K.B.E., M.H.A., the Sardauna of Sokoto): Mr. Chairman Sir I would like to take the indulgence to allow me to talk at length on a certain point raised in this House during this Committee of Supply and that is about the religious affairs of this Region.

A Member from Zaria Province has raised this question and it is a question that has been exercising my mind for quite a long time. During the Colonial era, Missionaries were allowed to establish wherever they wanted in this Country. They opened dispensaries, they opened schools and what not. They had the right of preaching wherever they wanted to, or at certain places and we never interfered with their affairs. When I said we, I meant we Native Authorities because I have been in the administration since 1934 and therefore I cannot see how I could not have a say in either the area why I was a District Head or in the whole of Sokoto emirate, and Missionary came within my portfolio as a Councillor for Sokoto Native Authority.

Now since Independence we felt we must do the duty imposed upon every Moslem by his religion, and that to see if we can convince anybody who is not a Moslem to convert to Islam. This I became the spare-head but nobody can point out any place or where I went and said that people must join Islam compulsorily. Now during the elections campaigns I was accused of forcing people to join Islam and if the N.P.C. was elected into power I am going to make everybody join Islam. Well, I have not done so since we have become independent and I do not think it is my intention to force anybody. (APPLAUSE). Everybody is free in this Region to worship God as he likes. If at all, I want to convert anybody, the Minister of Trade and Industry is my neighbour and I would have raided his house and made him a Moslem. If at all I want to do that my friend who is my right hand man with whom I am sitting now is a member of my cabinet, I would have converted him to Moslem. What I always say is to continue during my life time to do what I can to persuade as many people as I possibly can to join our religion. If this House is prepared to give me a year's leave I am prepared to take it not only in Northern Nigeria but in the country, and if I will not be able to do so I will therefore appeal that we should not abuse anybody of trying to do what is right for him. My only surprise is a few Moslems who took also the same chance to accuse me and any other person who was trying to convert someone to Islam as a religious politics. Although the people will have to face the day of judgement, some have no believe that the day of judgement is coming. We believe that there is resurrection and the day of judgement. And those who feel they will never die will one day face their creator. You may die today or tomorrow, nobody knows. We must pray to meet our creator one day. So, Mr. Chairman, this is a little of what I have to say and I hope that I have cleared the air. I hope that the

few people remaining will be converted in a few year's time. Now Mr. Chairman, the hon. Members spoke on Boards and Committee which are given out to people and never cared for them. I think what the hon. Members should remember is that Boards and Committees are appointed for certain periods. A man might be appointed for three or five years and if the life of that Board or Committee expires then consideration is given whether the Member has done his work well and if he does he will continue but if he does not he is kicked out. People should not think that, every now and then, that there are many Boards in the Premier's pockets and he can give them out at will. Well, I am glad also about the suggestion brought forward by an honourable son from Kano, Mallam Muktar. I assure the Members of this House that if anyone has got any suggestion he thinks it will be useful to the good end I will give him my sympathetic consideration, (applause), because what we are asked to do here is in order to put our minds and our thoughts together for what is good for the country and not one mind of one man therefore. The Ajiya of Bauchi asked me to pay them a visit in Bauchi. Well I don't know what to say to this Babawa, because in actual fact I have paid more visits to Bauchi than Rabah. Anyhow, I give the promise and I assure you that when I return from my Holy Pilgrimage I will visit Bauchi. I would like to thank everybody in this House for the tribute paid to me, my office and my officers who work day and night for the progress of our father land. I can assure you that they will continue to give you their best of what they can, and I pray to God to continue to guide us so that we will do what is good for us and not for individuals.

Question that the sum of £132,650 provided for the service of Head 222 - Premier's Office do stand part of the schedule, put and agreed to.

Head 223 - CABINET OFFICE.

Question proposed that the sum of £112,495 provided for the service of Head 223 - Cabinet Office do stand part of the schedule.

Head 224 - ADMINISTRATION

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Hon. Minister of Finance has got an amendment to this Head.

HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to move the amendment standing in my name on the Order

Paper as follows:-

Be it resolved:

"That the sum of £668,415 shown against Head 224, Administration be increased by £3,270 to £671,685."

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to move.

Main question that the amended sum of £671,685 provided for the service of Head 224 - Administration do stand part of the schedule, put and agreed to.

Head 225 - AGENT-GENERAL IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

MR. A.A. ABOGEDE stood up but was ruled out of Order by Mr. Chairman.

HON. CHAIRMAN: I told hon. Members that when we were considering the Head of the Premier's Office and I explained in English and even in Hausa that if Members had got something to say on the Heads which come under the Premier's Office they should do so outlined them. As the Hon. Premier has replied to hon. Members, I will not go back.

MR. ISAAC SHA'AHU got up to speak

HON. CHAIRMAN: Which item?

MR. ISAAC SHA'AHU: Subhead 1 - Premier's Office.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am sorry if it is the Premier's Office - 224 - Administration, I am not going back to it because we have passed it. Even the Minister of Finance has moved an amendment. (There were shouts of UPGA) Haven't you got something to say about the Agent-General in the U.K.? If there is nothing I will put the question.

MR. ISAAC SHA'AHU: Nothing.

Question that the sum of £102,190 provided for the service of Head 225 - AGENT-GENERAL in the U.K. do stand part of the schedule put and agreed to.

Head 226 - LEGISLATURE.

MR. ISAAC SHA'AHU: Mr. Chairman, Sir,

HON. CHAIRMAN: Which item?

MR. ISAAC SHA'AHU: Item 8 Subhead 1. - Honourable Members. I raised during last year's Budget Session

when we approved a Bill for the protection of the Hon. Members that is - Members privilege and Immunity but there is a part of it which says that before any Member is charged and convicted the Speaker must be informed of such Members before they are tried, arrested or convicted. Sir, I don't know whether the Hon. Chairman has given his approval to the conviction of an Hon. Member of the Opposition - Mallam Salihu Nakande, because if the Speaker has given his approval he should have made an announcement in the House about the conviction of this hon. Member. HON. CHAIRMAN. Let me correct this statement of yours much as I want such powers, my power does not go beyond the perimeter of this Legislature. The power of maintenance of Law and order outside the Legislature is within the jurisdiction of the authority of that area. The procedure is that if a Court has convicted a Member the judge should notify me. No one has the right to arrest any Member within the precincts of the House or prevent him from coming to the Meeting of the House but outside the Legislature if a Member is found guilty of an offence and if he is convicted the judge will notify me. That is the correction I want to make.

MR. ISAAC SHA'AHU. That is exactly what I wanted to say. And also may I know whether the judge who convicted this hon. Member has informed you about it.

HON. CHAIRMAN: I think the Member has appealed against the judgement. That is why I have not been informed officially about the conviction at the lower court.

MR. ISAAC SHA'AHU. At the same time Sir, I will take the same chance to suggest that it is necessary for the Minister of Justice to instruct or asked all Courts trying all hon. Members for an offence to allow them to get to their lawyers so that they can help them.

THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE: We are not considering Ministry of Justice now.

MR. ISAAC SHA'AHU: But I am speaking on the hon. Members who are under the Legislature. It will be better and it will give the N.P.C. Government a better chance of argument when the Opposition Parties accuse them of oppression of political opponents. I believe if hon. Members are allowed to consult their lawyers they will receive fair trial. Mr. Chairman, Sir, to say the last and not the least this side of the House has changed its leadership of the few of us who are here. We have written a letter to the Speaker, Leader of the Government and the Premier to that effect. I thought the Speaker would have announced this but has said

nothing about it. Therefore Mr. Chairman, when I get up to speak I speak for the few of us on this side as the Opposition Leader and the other hon. Member speaks for himself or for his own Opposition side.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is purely a matter of procedure. For your information I could remember you came to my Office and I told you that I did not get the letter. You cannot form a quorum in the House. So there is no need for me to recommend to the Government for you to be recognised as the Official Opposition.

It will be very unjust of me if I do not allow him to speak but not as a Leader of the Opposition.

HON. PREMIER. I would like to point out to the Hon. Members that your power does not extend into Kaduna. Your power extends within the very Coronation Crescent. No body should think that he can go to Zaria Road and commit an offence and think that he cannot be arrested. Everybody will make it quite clear that that rules 36 applies to this House and not to everywhere.

THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE (Alhaji the hon. Muhammadu Nasir M.H.A.): Even though I reminded the Hon. Members that there is a Head from the Ministry of Justice but he continues to make some points on Courts that try the members of this Hon. House. Firstly I would like to make it absolutely clear that it is not the wish of the majority of the members of this House for this very simple reason which is that all the members other than probably the speaker or two others of members of this House for high respect in all the Courts in Northern Nigeria. I cannot understand why a person in a Court where he is not represented be a Legal Practitioner.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am afraid the Hon. Minister is trying to confuse the issue. The member was asking for special representation which we did not take it serious.

THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE (Alhaji the hon. Muhammadu Nasir M.H.A.): The real position is that in our Native Courts neither the plaintiff nor the defendant is represented by a Counsel. They have equal opportunity before the Court therefore there is no question of one side having a sort of upper hand than the other and in our Courts both parties have equal representation. As the Minister of Justice I have checked and found that this system is working very satisfactorily and I have no complain from the general public.

Question proposed

Question put and agreed to

HEAD 226 - LEGISLATURE

Question proposed, "That the sum of £235,260 for the services of Head 226 - Legislature - stand Part of the schedule." Put and agreed to.

HEAD 227 - JUDICIAL

Question proposed

M. IBRAHIM MUSA:

Mr. Chairman Sir, in fact.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Although members have put down their names trying to review the Head I think it is merely that they want to have their names. I will leave this to the Committee and members will rise and I will call them as they stand up. Because some of them I understand do not want to raise any point. It is embarrassing if I call them as they do not wish to address the House.

M. IBRAHIM MUSA: I am very grateful to be given this opportunity to express my thanks to the Judicial Department. But the point I am going to say is about the appointment of Magistrate. Head 1 Sub-Head 7. That is many a times especially in some rural areas the whole cases of the usual trial are suffering a lot in this Region. In accordance with this we have provision for 14 Magistrates. They should be divided into the 13 Provinces so that each Province should have one Magistrate, and if this is done it will be very good because the more we are civilised the more trouble arises because our senses are not the same. When somebody likes to appeal and he is not granted bail he is remanded in a cell for a long time until the Magistrate is available. The Government should consider it very necessary to appoint each Magistrate for each Province. I understand that we shall have 13 Cotton Inspectors. If the Government will help to attach each Magistrate to each Province it will be good because when a Magistrate is coming Crown witnesses stay almost three or four days and a times the itiner-ary is cancelled. With this few remarks I beg to withdraw my amendment.

A. A. ABOGEDE: I rise in the form of asking the Minister of Justice, and in doing so I have to congratulate the Judicial Department for the past performance in the way and manner they are promoting Law and Order in the Region. Our need and ardent desire is one North and one people but still we need things for ourselves. It is even provided in the words of God that we should love others as we love ourselves. So really I am begging the Government of this Region as they have always been helping to improve the standard of living of Igala, but at this stage there is something which is giving us especially the masses headache. That is when most of our big people from Igala vacate seats are not still replaced by our Igala people.

Is it because we have not got adequate people? But as we can see they are quite able people.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Of course I have tried to follow what you are aiming at but at last I found that I am at a loss myself. If you want to raise that particular point it will be more appropriate to the Ministry of Justice. This is what Judicial is actually dispensing. We have not reached that yet but although it is answerable to this House on the Judicial side but the Head Judicial is for the Salaries and Allowances of Judges and their own work. You cannot criticise the work of the Judges unless you put down a substantial ground to that particular Judge.

HON. PREMIER. This is the concern of the Public Service Commission. What the Hon. Member is after is that if an Hon. Member retires from service that another man from that area must be found to take his place. This is not the policy of the Public Service Commission and if it is I think we will be heading no where but confusion.

Question put and agreed to

HEAD 227 - JUDICIAL

Question proposed, "That the sum of £128,940 for the services of Head 227 - Judicial - stand Part of the Schedule", put and agreed to.

HEAD 228 - PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Question Proposed

ISAAC SHAAHU (G.S. TIEV) Mr. Chairman Sir, What I actually want of this Head is not I think to say much but I only wanted to ask the Government to add to the numbers of members of this Commission by one. It will be more effective in discharging their duties. We have a lot of people who come to look for job. The Members we have at present is not sufficient.

HON. PREMIER: This is not the work of the Public Service Commission but the work of the Ministry of Establishments and Training and they are doing their best. (APPLAUSE)

MR. O. AFOLAYAN (ILORIN SOUTH) Mr. Chairman I the only point I have got is on the Public Service Commission and is just about the final step of promotions. I am actually aware that a lot of work has been done by this office due to series of applications received, but I will still suggest that despite the fact that

more applications are received, since the P.S.C. take the final steps as far as promotions are concerned they should speed up so that more encouragement may be given. For instance one may be recommended for promotion to the P.S.C. this may take about six to eight months before it comes out. I think this should be rectified.

Sir, I beg to withdraw my amendments.

HON. PREMIER: Well I am at a loss about what the Hon. Member is talking about. Recommendations for promotion are made by Ministries to the P.S.C. and the P.S.C. looks into them, but so far we have not heard any complaint about the delay. If the Hon. Members can give me an instance I will investigate and give him answer tomorrow morning (applause).

Question put and agreed to

HEAD 228 - PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Question propose-d, "That the sum of £20,660 for the services of Head 228 - Public Service Commission - stand Part of the Schedule", put and agreed to.

HEAD 229 - AUDIT

MALAM MAIGIDA LAWANI (Igbirra North): Mr. Chairman I rise up to say some point about this Head. In fact I have viewed with great concern the way and manner the people in this Department are trying to force some civil servants to take some very bad road.

MR. CHAIRMAN: As a former teacher I shall continue to be patient and to teach. If we follow the practice in other places Audit is part of the legislature. You issue money to be spent and you ask him to see that it is properly spent. The Director of Audit does not regulate that you should be paid 6d per mile or follow a particular route. He is guilty if he does not report any fraud or makes regular checks.

MALLAM MEGIDA LAWANI: Mr. Chairman I have lost the opportunity. I thought that it is the appropriate time for me to speak about it. (MR. CHAIRMAN: You should wait until we come to Finance) I then withdraw.

MUSA IBRAHIM: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have almost the same idea with my Hon. friend from Okene, but you should tell us the appropriate head so that we can table this motion properly.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, Order. The appropriate Head is

when we come to discuss the Head of the Ministry of Finance to whom you have entrusted your financial affairs, but I am not here to give you advice in the House. If you want an advice you should see the staff outside the chambers. If they do not help you, you can come to me, I will help you.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE: The question has nothing to do with my Ministry. It is a question for the Ministry or Establishments and Training.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think I do not want to tell members what to do because it is not my duty. My duty is to guide when something comes up for discussion. But if it is the general wish of the members, you should put down a motion and we discuss it and the government will reply.

MR. AFOLAYAN: Mr. Chairman I only have two points to raise on this audit. One is about the insufficient training of auditors. As we know the work of auditors, they try one way or other to control the financial repercussions of the N.A. We could see that we have not got a lot of them, so I am just trying to expect statement from the Director of Audit why we should not have auditors to be trained so that our financial control will be well organised. The other point is about the dull promotion in the audit department. The Director of Audit must be aware that because promotions are so dull members do not rush to audit department. So I suggest that encouragement should be given so that our boys and girls may rush to audit department. With this remarks I beg to withdraw.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I do not agree with the remarks made by the last speaker. Training of auditors have always been going on and at the moment, there are seven northern officers under training for auditors. The scheme is for three years of which the first is at the Institute of Administration in Zaria. More and more will be sent as suitable candidates become available. As regards dull promotion also, I do not agree. There is promotion in audit department as much as there is in other departments. If you have people who are due for promotion and have not been promoted bring them to me tomorrow.

Question proposed that the sum of £130,480 provided for the services of Head 229 - Audit - do stand part of the Schedule. _____ put and agree to

HEAD 230 - SHARIA COURT OF APPEAL.

MR. J.A. AMAICHIGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir. I have a very

important point to raise. It is about appointment of Area Court Judges. This position is by appointment and this man receives up to £3,540 as his salary.

THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Point of Order. Sir, salaries of Judges are statutory. It is no need discussing this now.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE: Do you not notice the big 'S'? That means statutory, that means no member can speak on it.

MR. AMAICHIGH: If that is the case, I beg to withdraw.

ALHAJI MAUDE GYANI: Mr. Chairman, I want to speak on the provincial courts.....

Question proposed that the sum of £11,955 provided for services of Head 230 - Sharia Court of Appeal do stand part of the Schedule. put and agreed to.

HEAD 231 - AGRICULTURE

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Mr. Speaker Sir, I rise first to thank the many Members who have expressed their satisfaction with the work which my Ministry is doing and second to comment on the points that have been raised during this meeting.

As it is the policy of Government to develop and increase the economy of the country, my Ministry is pledged to do whatever possible to carry out the projects listed within the development plan.

The problem of recurrent annual demands on labour with the small return for the hours worked is very much before us and I am considering proposals on how to embark on a big scheme of mechanisation whereby tractors and equipment will be distributed to meet the demand as funds permit. The Hon. Member for Gwaram mentioned this point and I hope my answer will satisfy him. The Member for Ingawa also brought up the question of mechanical equipment in which he asked that mechanisation should be extended to cultivation of tall crops such as guinea-corn and millet. I can assure him that my engineers are testing and amending equipment for this sort of work. It is hoped that they will find suitable machines before too long.

The importance of tree crops is fully realised and efforts are being made to step up production. I have approved that a new section known as the Horticultural Section should be established this year under the Field

Services Division of my Ministry to look into the possibilities of all tree crops suitable for this country. As members may be aware, the Chief Agricultural Officer visited Morocco and Libya last year to arrange for the importation of vines, apples, peaches and dates for introduction into suitable areas of the North.

Much is being done also to ensure higher yields from the seed which is planted, by producing a better seed, by preparing the ground properly, by using fertilizers and by the use of insecticides so as to produce a crop which a man will be proud to harvest.

To turn to individual points, I can assure the Hon. Member for Dikwa North that although his supposition is correct regarding the responsibilities of the Lake Chad Commission it is intended to carry out the expansion of the South Chad Scheme and other irrigation schemes in the Chad Basin as quickly as financial and other resources permit. The Honourable Member for Malumfashi spoke of reducing the number of Agricultural Officers in Samaru and Shika so that more divisional headquarters could be manned. Samaru and Shika do not come under my Ministry now as they are research stations under the Institute for Agricultural Research which as a part of the Ahmadu Bello University is the responsibility of the Premier's Office; the officers serving there although known as Agricultural Officers in the past are in fact research workers. The remarks addressed to me by the member for Idoma South-East about cattle breeding, I have brought to the notice of my colleague the Minister of Animal and Forest Resources. Certain members from Ilorin have talked of their disappointment that Farm Settlements or Agricultural Centres have not been set up in their area. As the implication was that these help curb unemployment I presume the reference was to Farm Institutes and I can assure the Honourable Members that it is the intention of Government to build one Farm Institute in every administrative division by the end of the development plan period. Ilorin already has a Farm Centre and a Farm Training Centre. The member for Bauchi South-East asked that Ministry staff should work in closer cooperation with farmers. As the member is no doubt aware much is being done already. Demonstration farmers have been set up and extension staff of Government and Native Authorities have been available to give advice, but in the Gombe area this work has been further concentrated and any farmer so wishing has been given the opportunity to attempt to carry out the new techniques on his own farm. This concentration of extension effort is also being carried out in South-East Sokoto with the intention of extending it throughout the North. Also as Members are aware it is the aim of

my Ministry to increase the number of extension workers so as to have one to every 2000 farming families by the end of this Development Plan. To achieve this, more and more extension workers are being trained in Farm Training Centres for posting in the Province.

The Honourable Member for Durbi has mentioned the scarcity of groundnut inspection stations. I have noted this but I suggest he brings this up at the meeting of the Katsina Provincial Produce Advisory Committee for consideration by the Produce Inspection Board before the next groundnut season.

The Hon. Member for Zaria South-West, apart from joining one or two others in a praise-worthy appeal for my Ministry to have more funds, which I am bringing to the notice of my Honourable colleague the Minister of Finance, asked that more cotton should be grown in his area. Cotton seed is available in the area and I will instruct my staff to contact farmers to advise on cultivation. As regards ginger buying the Hon. Member may now be aware that it is the purpose of the Marketing Board Bill that is before the House to restrict buying only to those who have been appointed by the Marketing Board.

Some members from Benue complained about the lack of attention that my Ministry gives to the cultivation of crops and particularly beans, soya-beans and rice. Apart from the difficulties in being able to farm in certain parts of Benue Province particularly in Tiv Division in the past year or so, I refute the statement as considerable assistance is given by the staff of my Ministry to those who wish to make use of it. I would also like to mention that as regards beans and soya-beans both of which have been accepted in the past year as crops for compulsory inspection, the staff of the Produce Inspection Division have encountered many difficulties as the crops have not been properly cleaned and are therefore not able to be graded as fit for export. If these Hon. Members particularly from Tiv Division wish their constituents to make the best profit out of their produce then they should insist that the farmers ensure that his crop is clean when he offers it for sale.

I hope the Hon. Member for Igala-East has noted that my Ministry is opening a new Horticultural Section to deal with tree crops which of course will benefit his area amongst others.

I can assure the Hon. Member for Bauchi South-East that his suggestion for the production of irrigated wheat in the Duguri fadama will be looked into. The Hydrological Section of the Ministry is investigating the

water available in rivers in this area to ensure that sufficient water for irrigation can be found to cover the wheat growing period November-March, a period when most rivers have dried up.

I can also assure the Hon. Member for Idoma South East that my agricultural officers do go to other countries to learn about advanced methods of agriculture; in fact more than 33 are being considered for selection to go to the United States on either degree or short course later this year.

I am grateful to the Member for Ringim for bringing up the question of sub-grade groundnuts. The Produce Inspection Division of my Ministry is responsible for ensuring that produce exported is of the standard laid down by law and accepted in world markets where our reputation is sound. The groundnuts in this area are of a noticeable low standard, very few exportable standard nuts being passed. My colleague the Minister of Economic Planning and myself are seriously concerned about this; the trouble appears to be that the local farmers do not use decorticators, but instead use the local pestle and mortar, and break the nuts so badly that they cannot be exported. I appeal to the Honourable Member and to other Members from Northern Kano in particular to persuade their constituents to obtain decorticators. For my part, I will do all I can to assist.

These are the important points raised by Honourable Members and their replies. I will be very pleased to receive fresh points.

MR. CHAIRMAN: For the convenience of other Members who have been patient in this chamber I will suspend the sitting for 15 minutes.

THE SITTING IS SUSPENDED FOR 15 MINUTES BY
4.25 p.m.

HOUSE RESUMED

MR. DESHI TOKLEN (Member for Angas) Mr. Chairman, I rise to support the head and in doing so I have to congratulate the hon. Minister as he has fulfilled his promise to establish a Farm Institute in Pankshin Division. Sir, I should like to make some few comments to the Minister, that is, in Pankshin Division there is a place called Gwamma Daji at the place, there is a vast land of farming. I would like the Minister to set aside some amount to establish a Farm Resettlement there, in doing so, it will stop the immigration of people from Pankshin to other places for seeking Farm Land.

Secondly, Sir, as Pankshin is a rocky and unfertile area, I suggest that the Minister concentrates and give top priority in that area by sending some experts to make some experiment in by planning coffee, tea, and other cash crops there.

Finally, Sir, I would like to associate myself with the Member who commented on encouraging the agricultural show in this Region, I believe that by doing so it will encourage the Farmers to concentrate much in farming. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to support.

MALLAM BATURE DANGYANG (Member for Jos South) I rise to support the provisions under this head and also to praise this Ministry. Sir, this is an important Ministry because it has helped a lot to reduce unemployment in this Region as some of the young men have begun to grow interest in farming. Mr. Chairman, according to what the Minister has said that the Government has the intention of building Farm Settlements in certain Divisions I will like to ask the Minister to give Jos Division priority. The reason is that we have so many boys and girls coming out of schools every year in this Division more than any other Division. Secondly, I am sure that the Minister is aware that Jos Division and Plateau as a whole is very good for growing Irish Potatoes therefore if a Farm Institute is built there these young people will benefit from it and it will bring more revenue to the Government. Saying that those young people find it very difficult to come down to Kaduna and get employment I think if a Farm Settlement is established it will save the situation. I would like to give an advice that the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Trade and Industry to see that something is done about the selling these Irish Potatoes—(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE. Is there no Marketing Co-operative Society in your area?

MALLAM BATURE DANGYANG: There is. But of course, farmers find it difficult, although people needs it in various parts of this country but they will not know how to send it there.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE. Give an example.

MALLAM BATURE DAN-YANG: For example, a lot of it is sent to Maiduguri. What I would like the Minister of Trade and Industry to do is to give assistance in sending to this part and if that is done it will encourage the people to grow more and will make it easy for them to sell it. Another thing is that the getting of the seeds of Irish Potatoes, it is very difficult and I don't know whether there will be a means of getting the seeds over the year round. You can grow the Potatoes every three months and all the year round one can

grow it. So if there will be a plan of keeping the seeds perhaps in care of the Government or if the people are thought how to keep it somehow it will be helpful. Sir, with these few remarks I beg to support the provision under this head and withdraw my amendment.

MR. A.A. ABOGEDE: (Member for Igala East) Mr. Charman, Sir, I rise to advise the Minister of Agriculture and in doing so Sir, I have been conscious of the help he has been giving us in this Region, but still Sir, I will put up this few suggestions that it is high time Sir, the Northern Nigeris should encourage the growing of Rubber Trees. Sir, Rubber trees have been the back bone of economic viability of the Mid-Western Region and I know we have the soil if the experts will approve that. The trees will grow well in the Riverain Areas in this Region. We hope that if the trees are tried they grow well and is something that will increase the economic potentiality of the country. Unlike manner Cashew Trees will also grow in the Riverain areas of this Region and I believe if they are tried will do well. Though I don't know what the Ministry of Agriculture have for this area. If the Ministry of Agriculture tries it, it will surely help us. (Interruptions) So, I think it is one North and one river. Really Sir, I thought if the Ministry of Agriculture will help us it will help in the economy of the country and furthermore, millet, maize, guinea corn and yam are being produced in some areas in quantity of this Region and if they would teach some local producers how to preserve it for a longer period it will be better.

ABDU TANGAZA (Gandi Goronyo) Mr. Chairman, I thank you very much for the chance you have given me. I rise in order to thank the Minister of Agriculture especially the speech made by the Minister. After that there is something I shall suggest to the Minister. There are 13 farm centres I would like him to make a provision for us so that we can have such a centre at Talatamafara. If that is done that means we would get about one hundred farm centres. What I mean is this, our children are coming out from the schools and those who do not have work are roaming about the roads, motor parks and garages these boys are not luck at all in passing examinations to higher institution and their education is not enough for them to take employment under the N.A. or the Government Department. These type of children suffer very much indeed. As I have mentioned before about the roaming about of these children is just something that make them become vagabond. This is the reason why I am making this suggestion. If this is taking into the ten years development plan in the Agricultural Ministry in ten year's time the children will understand the usefulness of farming. At first they should be helped by farming

implements and laans so that in two or threes years time they should refund the money spent on them. This is my suggestion to the Minister and I hope the Minister will do his possible best to implement this. There is another provision made by the Minister of Finance in his speech that we can get a balance of about £1 million or \$½ million for the work we can do in the year 1966-67.

With these few remarks I beg to withdraw.

MALLAM IBRAHIM MUSA (Igala N.W.) I am very grateful and express my thanks to the Minister of Agriculture. He is an experienced Minister and his activities in this Region cannot be over emphasised (Applause) My appeal to the Minister is that we from Igala Division if you could look in the Map of the Northern Nigeria we are more less like the people of Delta area we are covered by forest. If the provision is made the Minister of Agriculture could help us about agric. farming implements in Igala Division. If this is provided it will lessen the question of unemployment. So many of our boys who have left Middle Schools becomes stranded because there is no work to do. In this respect I want the Minister to help so that the question of unemployment could be reduced. Although my speech was not embodied on the debate, yet I appeal to the Hon. Minister about the B.C.G.A. industry to be established in a place called Ogbagana. If you realise the tonnage produced from this Division you will realise that the place deserved encouragement. The Minister should just listen very well so as to help us establish B.C.G.A. at this place. Our electorate has mandated us to say something about the question of unemployment. It would be encouraging and interesting to our coming generations if the question of unemployment is reduced.

I beg to withdraw.

ALHAJI MUSTAFA MAUDE GYANI (Zaria South) I am very sorry in the reply of the Minister of Agriculture he has asked me to come and see him in his office. I am sure the Minister is not ready to accept any of my [appeal] therefore I withdraw my amendment.

MALLAM SIDI ANDREW (Zangon Katab) Mr. Chairman I rise in order to thank this Ministry. This Ministry, Chairman we have seen that in my constituency - Samaru, Zonkwa and Zangon Katab my people do not know the way of making dry season farming. But because of this Ministry we have improved alot about dry season farming. At present we do not use to get maize during this time but now we do get it because of this

Ministry. Because of the help rendered by this Ministry that is why I would like to repeat my appeal which I made last year. This Ministry at present is working at Kachia, Kagarko in order to help farmers to continue their farming during the dry and wet seasons but they have no transport to take them to the places they use bicycle, because of this I appeal to the Head of this Ministry to see to our request so as to get means of transport such as Land Rover and that of car which is very strong. Mr. Chairman this Ministry is greatly helping us and has improve the way of our rice farming. In a week we used to cultivate more than 50 acres of land. I therefore beg the Minister that it should not be turned to one section only. It is better that the tractors be distributed in two or three places so that we could get what we will use to cultivate our lands in Southern Zaria.

ALHAJI USMAN KABIRU (Ingawa) Mr Chairman Sir, I rise in order to thank this great Ministry of Agriculture for the important work it has done in this vast Region. It is obvious that the good work done by this Ministry, is a good sign of improvement. Because of this I want to thank the Minister and to beg the Minister for some good things I have seen during the time of Agricultural Show at Kila. There is one Agricultural Officer who told me that at present there is a certain type of corn that when it is planted in seventy days it will be good and can be harvested. I learn that at Kila Agricultural Show. Because of this Mr. Chairman he said that there is another type of cassava planted twice a year. Again Mr. Chairman, I would like to express my gratitude to the Minister of Agriculture for his good work and even at the moment the Ministry is trying to build up farm centres at Gaya. Because of this I extend my thanks and gratitude to the Minister. We people at Gaya are very much keen in farming, which since have been our main occupation.

MR. AFOLOYAN: I want to add a word or two to this Ministry. The Minister has done a great deal of work to enhance the confidence of the members of this House. First one could see that he has provided courses for our farmers so that they may become efficient farmers. This is very important and we are grateful for the Minister for establishing such courses. It is the only way the farmers can be more productive. He should try to put more effort into this encouraging step. Also it is gratifying and pleasing to note that some courses have been provided for Agricultural Assistants whereby they may go from place to place to enlighten our farmers. This is just another way of what the Ministry is doing. I am sure

by taking this way the better productivity of our farmers may be ensured and consideration given to the implementation in the development plan for the creation of nurseries. Actually there is an acute shortage of timber plantation in my area and I used to bring this to the notice of the Minister that he is a member from the same province he should realise that we have a very good soil for timber plantation. When he gives consideration to the development plan my area should be given first priority. So Mr. Chairman, I beg to support.

ALHAJI USMAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have expressed my sincere address to the Minister for fulfilling his promise in constructing a dam for the Wushishi Rice Scheme which is now under construction. I also thank you for the provision of cotton seed to the local farmers in Kontagora through the B.C.G.A. Mr. Chairman, I have respectfully to appeal for two most important things. The first is that I hope in consultation with the Minister of Information to try and give information to the farmers about the time of planting cash crops. Secondly, I understand that another sugar industry will soon be established and I hope and pray that this industry should be established in Wushishi. This is my remarks I beg to support.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Mr. Chairman, in replying to some of the points raised by hon. Members I like to thank all those who have spoken about the good work done by my Ministry. I will like to assure them that we will continue to do whatever possible to develop agriculture of this country. A member from Jos, Hon. Deshi asked if we should encourage agricultural shows. I like to assure him that we in the Ministry are always doing our best to encourage any agricultural show anywhere in this Region, by showing our own produce and see the difference of the produce which used fertiliser and those that are not used by fertiliser. He also spoke about farm establishment for Gombam Daji. I like to assure him that the policy of this government is not to establish farm settlements but to build farm institutes whereby school leavers should be trained to become modern farmers and set up their own farming and government is to assist them by giving them loans through co-operative societies and also implements. A member from Jos South raised the same question of farm institutes and wanted to know when that of their division will be built. I will refer him to the present estimate before the House. That will come up in the 1965-66 financial year. With regard to other questions since some of them becomes repetition I will like to assure all the hon. members that I have taken note of what they have said.

Question proposed that the sum of £1,901,170 provided for the services of Head 231 - Agriculture, do stand part of the schedule.

HEAD 232- MINISTRY OF ANIMAL AND FOREST RESOURCES

Mr. J.U. UYEH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I only have a few suggestions to make on this Ministry. I want to raise the question of burning of bush. It is high time that Ministry should try and do something about it especially during the dry season. It is difficult for the cattle and those people looking after the cattle to become embarrassed. Another thing is that the question of burning bush is bad for the young trees. When the bush is burnt the young trees are destroyed. I feel that the Minister should do something about this. These are the few suggestions I want to make.

ALHAJI MAUDE GYANI: Mr. Chairman, I rise to thank this Ministry and I like to suggest to the Minister for example if the Emir of Zaria is the ruler of the whole Zaria and after the District Head, there are some village heads and after the village head, there are some hamlet heads..... seemingly interruptions.....In the division of Gyani which the Emir of Zaria gave me to rule, there are plenty of things which were given at Kachai with the approval of the government and Zaria N.A. but nothing was done because we were in the opposition.....(Interruption....)

THE MINISTER OF ANIMAL AND FOREST RESOURCES: It is the N.A. that will ask us to construct a dam in such a place.

ALHAJI MAUDE: It is the same thing which I am trying to explain to the Minister. Mr. Chairman, the reason is that we do not want to disgrace our Region. I would want the government to make an effort and see that the N.A. does something about it.

MR. I SHA'AHU (Member for G.S. Tiev): Mr. Chairman, I am not going to speak at length on this Ministry, but ask one or two questions and then go ahead with my suggestions.

We were made to understand that this Ministry has sent some people to the United States of America to learn ranch management. I do not know whether these people have come back or not but I would like the Minister to at least establish ranches in the Region whereby the Fulanis can go and learn the care for their own cattles. As we have plenty of cattle here what we actually need now is to fatten them so that they can fetch us more money. I know the work that the Ministry is doing about eradicating diseases but this will not stop them from doing the same in addition to fattening them. If these cattles are not fattened I am assuring you Sir that in the next five years the cattles in this Region will not get any market in the East or West because the ranch established at Obudu is progressing so rapidly that if we do not check our own stock up here in course of time they will be out of the market, therefore, I want the Minister

to establish as soon as possible few ranches to compete with the ranches in the East. Mr. Chairman with these few remarks I beg to support.

ALHAJI ABDU TANGAZA (Member for Gandi Goronyo): Mr. Chairman Sir, I rise to show my gratitude and to thank this Ministry for their excellent work especially in the care of cattles. This work since its beginning about three years ago has been very useful to us. Our animals are well cared for and other such diseases which we were observing have vanished.

Furthermore, there is another thing which this Ministry was carrying out with good result. They go in an aeroplane and push down some trees and scattered them in the bush. We did not know its usefulness until after sometimes and after spreading these will get so many young trees and this is to avoid soil erosion. I want to make sure to the Minister that we want such work to be continued because now it has been stopped and the soil erosion is continuing. We ask the Minister to go on with this help and we do not know the reason why it has been stopped. With these remarks I beg to withdraw my amendment.

ALHAJI YA'U (Member for Kaura Namoda): Thank you Mr. Chairman. I also thank this Ministry. We know that this Ministry has much to do, and it is on their good work that the Fulanis will have to get money and I am quite sure the Ministry will be happy to do more for the Fulanis. One of the essential things for them is to construct dams for the Fulanis during their annual immigration period, this will help them greatly. This work which is being started has done very well and our cattle are now well and we are quite sure if our cattle are well cared for the people will get enough milk and meat.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is one disease which is troubling the Fulanis now and it is common among the male cows which are being reared at home, but these people do not understand what kind of disease it is because it is spreading and will eventually eradicate the cattle if adequate care is not taken in time. I therefore strongly appeal to the Minister to help us in combating the disease. With these remarks I beg to withdraw my amendment.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order! Order! The moment of interruption has come.

The question is that I do report the progress back to the House.

Question put and agreed to.

House Resumes.

MR. SPEAKER: Committee to be resumed what day?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (Alhaji the hon. Aliyu, Makaman Bida):
Tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER: Any other business before the House? If there is none will the Minister move the adjournment of the House?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (Alhaji the hon. Isa Kaita, Wazirin Katsina): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the House do now adjourn.

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION (Alhaji the hon. Ibrahim Biu):
Sir I beg to second.

Question proposed that the House do now adjourn.

Question put and agreed to.

The House stands adjourned at 5.50 p.m. until 10.00 a.m. tomorrow morning.

Northern Regional legislature, House of Chiefs Debate 4th session
4, 7, & 9th May 1960
1st meeting

Wednesday, 4th May, 1960

The House met at 10.00 a.m.

PRAYERS

(MR. PRESIDENT in the Chair)

MR. PRESIDENT: Order, Order. Oaths.

The following took and subscribed the Oath of allegiance:-

- (i) The Chief of Idoma, Mr. Ajeme Ukpabi.
- (ii) The Chief of Dadiya, Mallam Abubakar.
- (iii) The Chief of Mbula, Mallam Biyapo.

MR. PRESIDENT: Honourable Members, His Excellency the Acting Governor of the Northern Region wishes to come and address this House. Is it the wish of the House that the Honourable Premier and I go and meet him and escort him in and then afterwards lead him out again?

(Cries of "aye", "aye").

The President then went out in procession to meet His Excellency.

His Excellency the Acting Governor, after inspection of Guard of Honour, provided by the Queen's Own Nigeria Regiment, 1st Battalion, entered the Chamber in procession, took his seat and delivered his Speech from the Throne as follows:-

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Mr. President, Chiefs of the Northern Region:

It is a great pleasure to have this opportunity to address you at the end of the first year of Self-Government in the Northern Region, at a time when the Federation of Nigeria is on the brink of complete independence, and to outline to you my Government's major proposals for the continued progress of the

Region during the year ahead.

You will once again be asked to consider the annual Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure and to vote the sums necessary for my Government to be able to carry out its plans for the coming year and to maintain its normal services. Because of Ramadan the Houses will not have concluded their consideration of the Estimates until some weeks after the start of the new financial year. The Minister of Finance has had to exercise, therefore, the powers vested in him by the Control and Management of Public Finances Law and has authorised the expenditure of the minimum sums necessary if the machinery of state is to function during the period before the Legislative Houses have approved the annual Appropriation Law. This Law will provide for recurrent expenditure throughout the year ahead of nearly £18,000,000. In addition a Capital Budget is planned with expenditure of nearly £10,000,000.

The estimates take account of the additional provision needed to cover the cost of the revision of salaries and wages following my Government's acceptance of the Mbanefo Commission. The Minister of Finance will also introduce a Law to permit the acceptance of the generous loan of £2,000,000 offered to the Region by Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom.

In the day to day business of government it is the intention of my Ministers to continue to promote by all the means available the health, wealth and social welfare of our people.

It is intended to carry out with external help a full scale investigation into the natural resources of the Region and into the methods and organisation of the Ministries of Agriculture and Animal Health and Forestry.

My Government hopes that this investigation will lead to a greater co-ordination of effort and the more useful development of our natural resources.

The Ministry of Agriculture will continue to expand its extension work.

Veterinary activities will concentrate on the control of major diseases, but the Ministry will also continue its normal services. More attention will be paid to the needs of Fulani graziers.

Education services throughout the Region will be further expanded as rapidly as possible. It is proposed to open ten new Secondary Schools in 1960 and to double

stream two more; and it is hoped that the universal primary education scheme launched in Kano will be extended to other areas. Consideration will be given to improving the standards of Koranic Schools.

My Government will continue to press forward with the policy of Northernisation.

Seven hospitals are in process of construction or rebuilding at Azare, Bama, Birnin Kudu, Ganye, Hadejia, Okene and Wukari and a new Kaduna Hospital is to be started soon.

The Ministry of Health will continue to give all priority to the training of personnel at all levels. Rural Health Services will continue to be expanded.

At home and abroad my Government will intensify its efforts to publicise its activities in developing the Region. The Regional Information Service will be overhauled and re-organised. The possibility of introducing television in the first instance in the cities of Kano, Zaria and Kaduna and their environs is under consideration.

It is hoped to introduce in the near future a new Land and Native Rights Law.

The Instruments and Electoral Regulations for the new Provincial Councils have been promulgated recently and the Councils will shortly begin to function.

My Government appreciates the great part played in the administration of the Region by the Native Authorities and will assist them in every way in their efforts to improve and modernise their services and their central and district administrations.

During the last year it has been necessary to appoint several Commissions of Enquiry into the affairs of a few Native Authorities and as a result of one Enquiry a member of this House resigned. My Government will never hesitate to insist on truth and justice prevailing in the affairs of Native Authorities and will always take the action which is necessary to attain this object. My Government however is confident that all the Chiefs will in the coming years rule their subjects honestly and justly as the vast majority have always done in the past.

In the Northern Cameroons, as you know, a new Administrative Unit is being established as a result of the recent plebiscite. On the 1st October when the Federation of Nigeria becomes independent the Trust Territory will be separated from Nigeria and

will be administered by an Administrator appointed by Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom. A second plebiscite will probably take place in February, 1961 when the question to be put to the people of the Territory will be:-

- (a) "Do you wish to achieve independence by joining the independent Republic of the Cameroons?" or
- (b) "Do you wish to achieve independence by joining the independent Federation of Nigeria?"

The increasing delinquency amongst juveniles has given cause for concern and steps are being taken to remedy this by encouraging Native Authorities who have not already done so to appoint Social Welfare Officers, by improving and extending Remand Homes and Reformatory Schools and by encouraging youth clubs and sports. A proposal is to be considered to establish a form of Regional Sports' Council.

The development of industry throughout the Region will be given every encouragement and my Government will continue to welcome the investment of capital from overseas.

Projects scheduled under the 1960-62 Roads Development Plan include the completion of the roads from Argungu through Birnin Kebbi to Jega, from Bunga through Ningi to the junction with the A21 in Kano Province, from Kaura Namoda to Jibiya, the second phase of the Kano-Gumel-Hadejia Road and the reconstruction of the Bonkani-Bida-Keffi-Gudi-Akwanga road.

Last year my Government introduced the first stage of the reform of the legal and judicial systems recommended by the Panel of Jurists by bringing before you the new Penal Code. This year my Government is completing the process with no less than nine Bills, the longest being the Criminal Procedure Code. When the Penal Code and the Criminal Procedure Code, together with the complementary Federal Ordinances on these subjects are enacted and brought into force there will be in this Region a new system of penal legislation which will be universally applied in the High Court, the Magistrates' Courts and all Native Courts.

It will also be necessary to set up two new Courts, in the form of the Sharia Court of Appeal and the Court of Resolution and, with a new system of appeals in Native Courts, a new Native Court to be

called the Provincial Court will be established in every Province in the Region. Finally the old Magistrate's Court with civil and criminal jurisdiction will disappear and magistrates will only have criminal jurisdiction in future whilst their former civil jurisdiction will go to another new court to be called the District Court.

A Committee has been set up to advise on the functions of Administrative Officers in the new patterns of government and the civil service that are developing in the Region. When this Committee has reported consideration will be given to making any changes or modifications in functions which are considered suitable as a result of constitutional changes.

I know that you, the Chiefs of this Region, will continue to direct your energies towards the well being of all our people in the year ahead and I pray that God will assist and guide you in this great purpose.

His Excellency then left the Chamber in the same procession, escorted by Mr. President and the Hon. Premier.

MR. PRESIDENT:

I am pleased to welcome Hon. Members to this House who have met here today and I hope that they left their people well. As Members are aware, the Budget meeting is the most important meeting of the year for during the meeting the Regional Estimates are considered. Members will have the right to say anything about the Revenue and the expenditure of the Region or furthermore to ask the Government questions on its policies and activities in the Region as a whole, so long as the subject matters are neither N.A. nor Federal responsibilities and provided that they do not contravene the Standing Orders of this House. Apart from the Estimates another important thing, is the consideration of some nine Bills all connected with the re-organisation of the Legal and Judicial Systems of the Northern Region.

I heartily congratulate the new Members whom I hope will soon be contributing to the debates in this House. I have received a telegram from the Emir of Jema'a who is unable to attend this meeting and who has sent his good wishes. The Members have no objection, I know, to my instructing the Clerk to send him a suitable reply.

There will be a joint sitting of this House and the House of Assembly, at 11.30 a.m. this morning to select a Senator.

May God guide us in all our deliberations. Amin.
(applause)

PAPERS LAID

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE: (Alhaji Aliyu, O.B.E., Makaman Bida) Mr. President, Sir, I beg to lay the following papers upon the table of the House:-

The Report of the Director of Audit on the Accounts of the Government of the Northern Region for the year ended 31st March, 1959.

The Capital Development Fund Settlement for the year ended 31st March, 1958.

The report of the Director of Audit on the Accounts of the Northern Region Capital Development Fund for the year ended 31st March, 1958.

ORDERED:

That the said papers do lie upon the Table.

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION: (Alhaji Isa Kaita, O.B.E) Madawakin Katsina): Mr. President, Sir, I beg to lay the following paper upon the Table of the House:-

Building Loans for Voluntary Agencies Statement of Accounts, 1957-58.

ORDERED:

That the said paper do lie upon the Table.

THE MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY: (Mallam Shehu Galadiman Maska) Mr. President, Sir, I beg to lay the following paper upon the Table of the House:-

The Northern Region Marketing Board (Fourth Annual Report) 1st November, 1957 to 31st October, 1958.

ORDERED:

That the said paper do lie upon the Table.

THE MINISTER OF WORKS: (The Hon. G.U. Ohikere)

Mr. President, Sir, I beg to lay the following

paper upon the Table of the House:-

The Annual Report of the Ministry of Works, 1958-59.

ORDERED:

That the said paper do lie upon the Table.

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND CO-OPERATIVES:
(The Hon. Michael Audu Buba):

Mr. President, Sir, I beg to lay the following paper upon the Table of the House:-

Report of the Social Welfare Division, 1958-59.

ORDERED:

That the said paper do lie upon the Table.

THE EMIR OF YAWURI (Mallam Muhammadu Tukur):

Mr. President, Sir, I beg to lay the following paper upon the Table of the House:-

Report of the Public Accounts Joint Committee of the Northern Regional Legislature, Session, 1959-60.

ORDERED:

That the said paper do lie upon the Table.

MESSAGES ON BILLS FROM HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Appointment and Deposition of Chiefs
(Amendment) Law, 1960.

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Appointment and Deposition of Chiefs (Amendment) Law, 1960"- read. Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill without amendment by the House of Assembly, be now read the first time". (Premier)

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time upon Monday, 16th of May.

1960 - 61 Appropriation Law, 1960.

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled 1960-61 Appropriation Law, 1960, - read.

Motion made, and question proposed "That the Bill, as amended by the House of Assembly be now read the first time". (Minister of Finance)

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time upon Monday, 9th May.

Supplementary Appropriation Law, 1960.

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled 1958-59 Supplementary Appropriation Law, 1960 - read.

Motion made, and question proposed "That the Bill, without amendment by the House of Assembly be now read the first time". (Minister of Finance)

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time upon Monday, 9th May.

MESSAGES ON BILLS FROM THE HOUSE
OF ASSEMBLY.

The Northern Region 1959-60 Supplementary
Appropriation Law, 1960.

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Northern Region 1959-60 Supplementary Appropriation Law, 1960" - read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a first time" - (Minister of Finance)

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the first time, to be read a second time on the 7th May, 1960.

The Loans Law, 1960.

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Loans Law, 1960" - read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a first time" - (Minister of Finance).

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the first time, to be read a second time on the 14th May, 1960.

The Control and Management of Public
Finances (Amendment) Law, 1960.

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Control and Management of Public Finances (Amendment) Law, 1960".

Motion made, and question proposed "That the Bill be now read a first time"- (Minister of Finance)

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the first time, to be read a second time on the 16th May, 1960.

The Old Metal Dealers Law 1960

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Old Metal Dealers Law 1960," - read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a first time" - (Minister of Trade & Industry)

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the first time, to be read a second time on the 16th May, 1960.

The Cinematograph Law 1960

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Cinematograph Law, 1960"- read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a first time" - (Minister of Social Welfare & Co-operatives).

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the first time, to be read a second time on the 16th May, 1960.

The Private Hospitals Law 1960

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Private Hospitals (Amendment) Law, 1960" - read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a first time" - (Minister of Health).

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the first time, to be read a second time on the 16th May, 1960.

Business Statement.

THE SULTAN OF SOKOTO, SIR ABUBAKAR (MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO):

Sir, in accordance with Parliamentary practice I should like to inform the Honourable Members of what business will come before the House for the rest of the week.

On Thursday and Friday Sir, the House will not be sitting as Members will be on Educational visits to places of interest in and around Kaduna.

On Saturday, Sir, the House will receive messages on the following Bills:-

- (a) Bill entitled the Criminal Procedure Code Law, 1960.
- (b) A Bill entitled the Evidence (Amendment) Law, 1960.
- (c) A Bill entitled the Coroners (Amendment) Law, 1960.
- (d) A Bill entitled the Native Courts (Amendment) Law, 1960.
- (e) A Bill entitled the Northern Region High Court (Amendment) Law, 1960.
- (f) A Bill entitled the District Court Law, 1960.
- (g) A Bill entitled the Sharia Court of Appeal Law, 1960.
- (h) A Bill entitled the Court of Resolution Law, 1960.

- (i) A Bill entitled the Adaptation of Legislature Law, 1960.

A motion appointing Members of the Committee of Selection will be moved and after this the House will then take the Second Reading of the Bill entitled the Northern Region 1960/61 Appropriation Law, 1960. It is also expected to start debate on the Speech from the Throne on this day and another statement of the business coming before the House during the following week will be announced before the adjournment on that day.

Mr. President Sir, I beg to move that the House do now adjourn until Saturday, the 7th May, 1960.

THE EMIR OF KATSINA: Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

MR. PRESIDENT: May I remind Hon. Members that there will be a joint sitting at 11.30 a.m.

The House accordingly adjourned at 11.20 a.m. until 9 a.m. on Saturday the 7th May, 1960.



NORTHERN REGIONAL LEGISLATURE

**HOUSE OF CHIEFS
DEBATES**

(Second Legislature)

Fourth Session

(First Meeting)

7th May, 1960

PRICE : 3d

*Printed and Published by the Government Printer, Northern Region of
Nigeria, 1960. To be purchased from the Printing Division, Kaduna*

Saturday, 7th May, 1960
The House met at 9.00 a.m.

PRAYERS

(MR. PRESIDENT in the Chair)

MR. PRESIDENT: Order, Order. Honourable Members, the Executive Council has nominated the following members for the Committee of Selection for this Session in accordance with Standing Order 53(2):

The Attorney-General

The Sultan of Sokoto.

We shall now read the messages of the Northern House of Assembly.

MESSAGES ON BILLS FROM HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Criminal Procedure

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Criminal Procedure Code Law, 1960" - read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read for a first time" - (Attorney-General)

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time on 18th May, 1960.

Evidence

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Evidence (Amendment) Law, 1960" - read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read for a first time" - (Attorney-General)

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time on 18th May, 1960.

Coroners

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Coroners (Amendment) Law, 1960" - read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read for a first time" - (Attorney-General)

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time on 18th May 1960.

Native Courts

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Native Courts (Amendment) Law, 1960" - read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read for a first time" - (Attorney-General)

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time on 18th May, 1960.

Sharia Court

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Sharia Court of Appeal Law, 1960" - read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read for a first time" - (Attorney-General)

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time on 18th May 1960.

District Courts

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The District Courts Law, 1960" - read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read for a first time" - (Attorney-General)

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time on 18th May 1960.

Northern Region High Court

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Northern Region High Court (Amendment) Law, 1960" - read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read for a first time" - (Attorney-General)

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time on 19th May 1960.

Court of Resolution

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Court of Resolution Law, 1960" - read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read for a first time" - (Attorney-General)

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time on 19th May 1960.

Adaptation of Legislation

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Adaptation of Legislation Law, 1960" - read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read for a first time" - (Attorney-General)

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time on 19th May 1960.

MOTIONS

Committee of Selection

SHEHU OF DIKWA - ALHAJI UMARU IBN IBRAHIM ELKANEMI C.B.E.

Mr. President, Sir, I rise to move the motion standing in my name on the Order Paper that this House do hereby appoint the Lamido of Adamawa (Mallam Aliyu Mustafa) and Emir of Lapai (Mallam Muhammadu Kobo) to be members of the Committee of Selection in pursuance of Standing Order 53(2).

Mr. President, Sir, the Honourable Members will agree with me that both of these persons are well experienced members in Government with long years of service behind them. They have served this Region in various capacities and I am sure that as members of the Committee of Selection they will offer good service to the country in general. Sir, I beg to move.

EMIR OF ILORIN (MALLAM SULU GAMBARI): Mr. President, Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Resolved: "That this House do hereby appoint the Lamido of Adamawa (Mallam Aliyu Mustafa) and Emir of Lapai (Mallam Muhammadu Kobo) to be members of the Committee of Selection in pursuance of Standing Order 53(2)".

MINISTER OF LAND & SURVEY: (Alhaji Musa Gashash)

Mr. President, Sir, I rise to move that the Bill entitled the "Northern Region 1960-61 Appropriation Law, 1960" be read a second time.

In this Budget Session, Sir, the Government looks forward to the attainment of independence for the Federation of Nigeria, and to the changes that will result from it. I am sure Chiefs will join with me in saying that for all of us this is the greatest landmark of the year. We pray that God will help us and guide us through all our problems.

When I introduced my Budget to this House last year I had to inform Chiefs that world markets for our main export crops and minerals were still depressed. During the last year there has been some improvement in these markets, and prices have been maintained. Indeed, there has recently been a welcome rise in the price of groundnuts - unfortunately after the bulk of the crop had been sold. There are

signs that the Governments in some of the countries to which we sell our products will have to take steps to prevent inflation, but nevertheless we hope that the trade for our goods will continue to improve to some extent.

Because of this improvement we are able to show a budget surplus this year of two hundred and eighty eight thousand, five hundred and seventy pounds. This is less than last year, and is far less than I would like to see, but the point I want to make is that we should not have had a surplus at all, unless better conditions of world trade had led to an increase in revenue just enough to keep pace with the increase in expenditure.

Our recurrent expenditure has risen in this one year alone by over two million pounds. Nearly half of this increase is due to the revision of salaries and wages as recommended by the Mbanefo Commission. The rest of the increase results largely from the successful completion of the 1955-60 Capital Development Programme. Every year we have spent large sums on capital works to improve our trunk roads, and to extend education, water supplies, health services and other important services. The construction of such capital works inevitably leads to an increase in recurrent expenditure on upkeep and maintenance. To give just one example, in the period 1955-60 we spent over six million pounds on Regional Trunk Roads. As a result, the amount provided in the Estimates for the maintenance of Trunk Roads 'B' has risen from £184,000 in 1955-56 to £500,000 in 1960-61, an increase of a quarter of a million pounds over last year.

Education continues to be the largest item in the Recurrent Budget, with a total exceeding three and a half million pounds, and we shall spend half a million pounds more on it in 1960-61 than we did last year. The increase in medical and health services is just under four hundred thousand pounds. The Public Debt Charges, about which I shall say more later, have risen by two hundred and eighty five thousand pounds. These, together with the maintenance of roads, are the Heads showing the largest increases over last year's Estimates.

This year, for the first time, the recurrent revenue will exceed eighteen million pounds. I have explained already that most of the increase of over two million pounds comes from better conditions of world trade, particularly for groundnuts, tin

and columbite. We, cannot, however, always rely on an improvement of such magnitude taking place. We must try to increase the revenues which the Regional Government can control and I shall introduce a Motion to increase the rates of Produce Sales Tax on benniseed and soya beans. The Federal Government too has announced some increases in import and excise duties, which will benefit the Region.

In the Capital Estimates, we plan to spend nearly ten million pounds this year, a considerable increase over last year. In the past five years we have spent over twenty-seven million pounds on development works, and this year and next year we plan to spend a further eighteen million pounds, as a two-year extension of the five year plan which we have just completed, provided that the Ministries' executive capacity can successfully deal with a much higher rate of capital expenditure than in the past.

One-quarter of this year's total, more than two and a half million pounds, will be spent on the development of our roads. The Government gives a very high priority to the development of roads, for not only does it make travelling easier, but it leads to an increase in trade, and so to a growth in production and wealth. Other large sums will continue to be spent on education, water supplies in both towns and villages, and on those services, agriculture, animal health and forestry, which are vitally important for strengthening the foundations of the wealth of this Region.

We shall find most of the money we need to carry out these development works from loans, from within Nigeria and also from Britain. This year there is a balance of Colonial Development and Welfare Grants to be received by us, but one of the changes resulting from independence is that Britain will no longer give us these grants, which have helped us to the extent of five million pounds since 1956. In the future she will help us mainly by means of loans and technical assistance. We shall look to other sources too for loans on fair terms and without harmful conditions, to pay for our development programme.

Loans have to be repaid over a period of years, and we shall therefore need to make increased provision for these repayments. Indeed, this can already be seen, for the Public Debt Charges in 1960-61 are over five times as great as they were

three years ago. It is of the greatest importance, therefore, that we develop our economy and increase our wealth, so that we can carry the burden of repaying these loans without strain.

The Native Authorities have an important part to play. Like the Regional Government, they are carrying out useful development works, and as a result their recurrent expenditure is rising year by year. This has made it necessary to increase taxes, but Native Authorities can also increase their revenue by seeing that taxes are properly assessed and collected. Inefficient tax census work and tax evasion reduce the revenue derived from the General Tax and Jangali, and make it necessary to impose higher rates of tax on those who pay in fulfilment of their duty as good citizens.

I hope that Chiefs will use their influence to see that Native Authorities continue to improve their efficiency, to manage their finances prudently, and to carry out their development programmes in a way which will best satisfy the needs and wishes of their people.

Finally, I wish to emphasise the need to develop our economic strength. During the next few years it will need all our efforts to develop our economy and to increase our revenues, so that we can afford to have the schools, hospitals and other social developments that we want to have. This economic development is not something that can be done by the Government alone. Every person can and must contribute by working harder, and by making the most of the opportunities that present themselves to produce new wealth. This production of new wealth is what we must put first, and for which we must be prepared to work harder whatever our rank or occupation.

May God give us his blessing in facing the great challenge before us.

Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move.

Acting MINISTER OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS:
(M. Muhammadu Kabir)

Mr. President, I beg to second.

MR. PRESIDENT: In accordance with Standing Order 64 (2) the Debate on a Bill of this nature may be

adjourned until Monday so I am not proposing the question now.

THE ATTA OF IGALA (M. Aliyu Obaje):

Mr. President, Sir, with your permission I have the following remarks before moving the motion standing in my name. I rise to move the motion of thanks to His Excellency, the Acting Governor, Northern Region of Nigeria for his balanced Speech from the Throne to this Honourable House of Chiefs holding its budget session at the end of the first year of Self-Government in our Northern Region and at a time when the Federation of Nigeria is on the verge of complete independence on 1st October 1960, God willing.

I describe this Speech from the Throne as a balanced one in that it contains the following vital points on which depend the Social and economic developments of our self-governing Region. These vital points occur to me in the following forms:-

- (a) The mention of the intention of the Regional Government to appropriate the sum of about £28,000,000 for the services of the Region - the largest sum ever budgeted for in the history of this Region.
- (b) The mention of the intention of our Regional Ministers who have vowed to promote by all means available our health, wealth and social welfare services.

~~I am particularly happy that our Regional Government is always alive to the needs of its people.~~

In the Schemes for the expansion of Social Services, touching health services, I ask the leave of this House to point out that some important item seems to be shovelled to the background. To me prominence should have been given to the care of motherless children of this vast region. We all know that the Government is doing everything within its powers to promote modern medical facilities but I am only to ask that it should give more attention to the vital aspect of care of the motherless babies. We all know that these young and helpless children or orphans build up our future nation.

In this respect it would be a good idea for an Orphanage as a complementary aspect of our medical facilities to be embarked upon so as to give this Region a unique quality in the Federation of Nigeria. This Orphanage is to medical facilities what technical

education is to the system of our education in general. It is my wish to further suggest that Missionaries or Voluntary Agencies may be willing to take up this bodily job on our behalf. Encouragement should also be given to Native Authorities that are willing to take up this type of work.

If we all can give a little thought to this Orphanage Service we shall realise that it is the only aspect of our medical requirement which received the least or no attention. The Regional Government is spending almost its last penny on general education, technical education, scholarships and much money is being spent on skin diseases, eye diseases, maternity facilities but as I have been pointing out, the care of the motherless babies is receiving little or no attention.

So much for this point, I will now proceed to thank the Regional Government for what it is doing on Forestry Development as well as Agriculture and Animal Health. I must warn that more attention should be paid to the production of local manures and their extensive use brought home to our farmers since the imported fertilizers are rather expensive and above the means of the majority of our farmers to buy and to use with advantage.

The news that 10 more new Secondary Schools will be opened in 1960 is encouraging and it goes to reveal the desire of the Regional Government to educate its people. This done, then our critics will have nothing to complain of educationally. I hope that Dekina and Abuja Junior Secondary Schools will be upgraded to the level of full Secondary Schools if only the Government will lend ears to the maxim: First born first named.

Thanking the Acting Governor for the news that a new Land and Native Rights Law will be introduced, I am to extend gratitude on this burning question of Land Tenure in the Northern Region. The Land Tenure Law as is in force today only suits the days of Colonial rule in Nigeria. We have complete confidence in the Minister controlling this subject as no doubt he will travel extensively to get to know the customary practices regarding land in almost all the Divisions in the North before he formulates the necessary Law to be introduced. The Northern Region as we all know is a vast area and so all customary practices concerning land utilization differ from Division to Division. I am confident that all of us will give the Minister the help he needs.

We have to thank the Government of the Northern Region in being bold in launching reforms in the judiciary systems obtaining in the North. The Government has brought the Region to the level of Self-Government in the eyes of outside world. I say this, because the reforms in the judiciary give assurance of justice to the would-be investors in the Region without fear and this in itself is capable of promoting expansion of trade and industries we so badly need in these early days of our development.

Last but not the least is my thanks to the Regional Government for the warning being given to the Native Authorities to deal with their people with impartiality and justice. No good father on earth will give deaf ear to the misbehaviour of his children in both their private and public lives and I am of the hope that God will help us in all our honest ways to achieve greatness and public praises as we carry out our duties toward our people with impartiality and justice. And closing my remarks I move while thanking the Regional Government for their selfless and tireless work for this Region that this House notes with approval in its entirety the policy of the Government as set out in the Speech which His Excellency the Officer Administrating the Government of the Northern Region has delivered to this House.

M. MUHAMMADU MERA (EMIR OF ARGUNGU):

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to second the motion moved by the Atta of Igala. In doing so I have some comments to make.

My first comment is about agriculture. As we all know Northern Nigeria is an agricultural region. Most of our revenues come from agriculture but it is a pity to see that our farmers are still following the old methods and the number of people of this Region are increasing daily but the way of our farming is still an old one. I am appealing to the Minister of Agriculture to introduce more agricultural machines in the Region. I am sure if he does so, our farmers will be able to produce more crops and thereby the standard of their living will rise. At present an educated person will not like to farm and I am sure if the methods of farming are improved many of our educated and intelligent people will go back to farming and thereby produce more farm crops.

My second point is about the juvenile delinquency. I am very glad to see that the Government is going to take active steps in trying to stop children going

about on the streets. At present there are many boys going about on the streets. These boys have nothing to do because no school is provided for them. I hope the Government will copy other countries to introduce clubs where these boys will go in their spare time. Everyone knows the type of trouble that this Government went to in order to stop homeless boys roaming about and taking part in politics. I think the reasons why these boys do take part in politics is because they have nothing to do. Therefore if the Government can establish clubs for boys all over the Region they will have somewhere to go during their spare time.

My third point is about education. I am glad to see that more secondary schools are being built, but I am drawing the attention of the Government that there are many lame boys and deaf boys as well as blind boys roaming about on the streets and market places at present. I am therefore advising the government to build a school for them. There are many visitors coming to this country. Visitors from other countries who come here will go back and say that Nigeria is not a well developed country. Therefore I should like to appeal to the Minister of Education to build a school for these boys.

Another point is about the grants given to Primary Schools. Capital grants are given in respect of building of new Primary Schools. I hope the Minister will consider giving grants in respect of building houses for teachers of these Primary Schools. At present Native Authorities are expected to build houses for them. I am sure the houses built by the Native Authorities are not suitable for these teachers, and if the Government can help the Native Authorities these teachers will have better houses and do a better job.

My other point is about the Northernisation Policy. I am glad about the Government's Northernisation policy and I think the Government ought to be proud of its policy on Northernisation. At present wherever we go we find Northerners in very important posts. This is very good indeed and this is how it should be, especially as Nigeria is now approaching Independence.

I also want to congratulate the Government for introducing Northern A.D.Os. I think this a very good thing. I am glad to say these these Northern A.D.Os have proved to the world that if given a chance they can do anything. (Applause). I hope the Government will continue with that.

to provide a hospital for each Division.

I should like to appeal to the Minister of Education to investigate why the Voluntary Agency teachers do not get their salaries in time. If we could know the reason why we should be very grateful.

I am also appealing to the Minister of Education to see that if possible the Koranic teachers should be paid higher salaries and more Koranic Schools should be built.

Now my appeal is on water supply. Where there is not enough water, wells and dams should be built. In Nassarawan Eggon now for the past 3 years the Rural Water Supply staff have been trying their best to dig wells but they have failed. Therefore, it was advisable that dams should be built. Recently I was told that there was not enough staff. Everyone knows that if there is no water people cannot live. I am therefore appealing to the Minister of Works to see that dams are built.

I will now turn to the question of District Courts. I think this is a very important Bill. I should like to know to which court can one appeal to from the District Court.

I am turning to the question of roads again. We are very grateful on what the Government has done. The road leading to our area which is trunk 'A' ... (Mr. President: Trunk A is a Federal subject. You should inform a Member of the House of Representatives to discuss this in the House of Representatives).

Thank you Mr. President. I support this Motion.

EMIR OF MISAU: Mr. President, Sir, We thank the Acting Governor for his speech from the Throne when he mentioned that the Agriculture Department will continue with its research. Even now Agricultural Department should be thanked for the ploughs which the Ministry supplies to the farmers, because this has solved many of our problems in farming. The farmers realised the importance of the ploughs they are buying. Although we have a very small area we have nearly one thousand farmers. But I would like to advise that the Agricultural Officers should advise farmers to collect their manures in ridges and that attention should be paid to farmers who cut trees and those farmers who to the Minister is because the prices of Hospitals are too high, and people are complaining about it. If it is possible I should like the Government

I am also glad to hear a mention made of Argungu - Birnin Kebbi road in the Speech from the Throne. We should be grateful if the Government could tar this road. I should like the Government also to remember Argungu - Kan giwa road. We have been asking for its repairs for quite a long time. This road is very important to Argungu because it serves two-thirds of the Emirate and the Argungu N.A. has voted £16,000 for roads and so all that the N.A. is asking now is a little more money from the Government. We hope the Government will pay attention to this.

The other point is about the Penal Code. I congratulate the Government for introducing this very important Bill. This shows that the Government is moving with the times. This Bill when passed into law will serve the present needs of Northern Nigeria and will bring more unity to the country because wherever one goes one is bound by one law and this is very important to our country at present.

The last but not the least Mr. President is that I am congratulating the Government for achieving self-government for the Northern Region without tears. (Applause). In 5 months' time the entire Nigeria will be free. I think this is due to the stability of the Northern Nigerian Government.

With these remarks, I second the Motion.

Question proposed

~~THE CHIEF OF NASSARAWAN EGGON:~~

Mr. President, Sir, I rise to support the Motion. The speech from the Throne contains almost all we need, and therefore pray that God bless this Government on which the Governor made the statement of activities.

My second point is about the Agriculture in the Region, which is the most important industry in this country. I should like the Minister of Agriculture to provide those areas that do not get fertilizer with fertilizer free for at least one year. During the second year after the farmers have realised the value of fertilizer it will not be difficult for them to buy it.

I am appealing to the Minister of Health to give more aids to the Combined Hospitals. Why I am appeal engaged in such farming because in this way they spoil most of the forest reserves. If these farmers make good manures there would be no need for them to

engage in shift farming. I want to know if it is possible for legislation to be made that people should not cut forests unless it is found necessary for them because there is no land for them to farm. I would be very grateful if such legislation could be enforced. Even though we thank the Minister of Agriculture.

Turning to the Forestry, we have seen great improvement on that part.

Turning to the Ministry of Health, there is no shortage of medicine and whenever there is an epidemic such as Cerebral Spinal - Meningitis, the Ministry is always ready to fight against it with vaccination and other treatments. Those people suffering from leprosy are now realising the use of medicine and in any dispensary where such treatment is given, you will find up to five thousand patients. Even in rural areas dispensary do get over a thousand attendances in a month. I am happy to see that the General Hospital at Azare will be expanded, perhaps it has already been expanded because I have been there few days ago and the Medical Officer told me that up to £4,000 has been spent in expanding the Hospital. We are only few miles away, therefore whenever we have any patient we use N.A. Ambulance to convey him and the Medical Officer does his best. We therefore thank this Ministry.

Turning to the Acting Governor's Speech on Northernisation policy, there is no need for us to say how useful this is as the expatriates are leaving the country. It is necessary for Northerners to take their jobs; and those Northerners who have been posted to our area we see that they can do their work quite all right and I am sure that others are the same and I hope that the same type of people will continue to be posted to our area.

On his speech the Acting Governor mentioned that the Chiefs should continue to do their work well, we hope God will guide us to continue with the work. Turning to schools, we know that when we ask the Minister to give us more grants for building Primary Schools he will say no, those schools which have been built are getting the grant but those to be built in future will not get ... (Minister of Education - they will get) We know this is true because funds are limited. Those who are strong enough to build these schools will continue. We thank the Minister because we see that Teachers of these schools will not be paid their salaries if the Minister stops the grants to these schools whilst the biggest grant the N.A. gets from the Government is teachers' salaries and we hope that the Minister will continue to give these grants. I am

therefore appealing that education work in this Region should be improved greatly. We have more Primary and Secondary Schools now than we had eight years ago before we had Ministers... Anybody who says that there is no progress in this sphere does not know anything. During this eight years I mentioned, great progress have been made in the Educational, Health, Forestry and Agricultural Field in this Region. Another improvement was in Rural Water Supplies, the Government has sunk many wells in our area and I hope this will continue.

The Government, as well is doing its best on roads only we do not understand what the Federal Government is doing on this question, and we are thanking the Ministers and we hope that they will continue to do their best to tour the Region during their terms of office. We thank the Premier and his colleagues for their great task.

EMIR OF AGAIE: I rise to thank the Minister of Health because of health facilities given to Baro Dispensary after we had complained and we thank the Minister for a grant of nearly £265 for the improvement of this dispensary but still I would like the Government to take over that dispensary because Baro is an important junction. My second point is about roads which I am going to make to the Minister of Works - that is the road to Baro. We asked the Minister to take over the road and during the time the Premier was passing to Lokoja I raised this question with him because there are many cars and lorries using that road and there are many bridges on that road which may be broken during the rainy season. I am therefore appealing to the Minister of Works that the Government should take over this road.

EMIR OF BORGU: Mr. President, Sir, I rise to support the Emir of Misau's speech with regard to Agriculture in this Region. In actual fact, with regard to Agriculture I feel it is the duty of the Emirs, Districts Heads, Village Heads and Halmet Heads to see that they help those people who are provided with tractors and ploughing cattles. It is impossible for a lean bull to plough. This is the first point. My second point is with regard to shifting cultivations. I really realise that such shifting cultivations only occur where there is no good soil; for instance, in Borgu Division, there is a place where one can travel for almost fifty miles without seeing a farm and so we cannot prevent them from shifting. My third point is to appeal on what I have already appealed but nothing has been done with regard to that appeal. My appeal to the Minister of Works is that there is a place West of

Borgu called Kuta where up to date they have not got a good water supply and even when wells were dug they proved to be unsuccessful and I repeat this to the District Officer and the Resident every year. I feel that it is unfair for the taxpayers to pay their taxes and not be provided with a very good water supply. That is all we want in Borgu Division. May God help the Government.

CHIEF OF WUSHISHI: Mr. President, Sir, I rise to support the Speech from the Throne delivered by the Officer Administering the Government the day before yesterday. In actual fact the Government of the Region has done its best especially with regard to Local Government, Health, Agriculture and Education. I would like to point out something with regard to Education in which I feel the standard is till low. We have just six months to go before Independence and we are far behind in female education and since we are ready to move with the times I feel it is very important to see that our women are given enough education. I have two reasons for pointing out this. We are gifted with almost hundred blessings but we only take care of fifty out of hundred and neglect fifty per cent and that is male education and leaving women behind. A Member has already mentioned this with regard to juvenile delinquency. All these juvenile delinquencies are caused by lack of education and so is prostitution. Nothing hinders progress like lack of education because if a person is not educated he does not know how to help himself nor the Region. I feel the women are not to be blamed, we the males are to be blamed, and this is the responsibility of the Minister of Education.

I will now turn to Provincial Councils. These Provincial Councils established recently are something worth praising because they will facilitate the work of our Members and we Chiefs who are Members of this House. It will also give a chance for complaints from Districts to come right up to the centre.

I now turn to Health, really this Ministry has done great work. There are so many Hospitals built in this Region and there are some Voluntary Agency Hospitals. But there are some fees paid to these Hospitals. These fees always present difficulties to some Native Authorities and relatives of the patients. It is not that I am opposing the idea of paying these fees, all that I am appealing for is for the Minister to see to that these fees are collected in a constitutional manner.

I now turn to the Ministry of Agriculture. Surely the Minister of Agriculture has done his best, but we cannot compare what he has done with that of the Ministry of Education nor with that of the Ministry for Local Government but in this Region Agriculture tops all our works because unless the population is well fed we cannot attempt education or local Government. That is why I intend to bring two proposals to the Minister of Agriculture. My first point is how to improve our food crops so that they can give us better yield. My second point is how we can introduce into this Region various other seeds for planting which would be cultivated as either cash crops or food crops.

In actual fact, Mr. President, Sir, in this Region many people disregard Agriculture, but I consider it is very important to pay more attention to Agriculture. So I ask the Minister concerned to pay more attention to encourage the people in farming.

I would like now to touch on the Ministry of Trade and Industry. Really, when we paid a visit to the Kaduna Textile Mill yesterday we were highly impressed. As already mentioned by a certain Hon. Member I am also of the opinion that if Northernisation is put vigorously into operation I am sure that Northerners will lead the Region and so with our farm products. If we do not export our products, we can put them to better use in our own local factories that manufacture something that will be appreciated in the Region, in the same way as we have an oil processing industry in Zaria. We would also like to see as many industries established in this Region so that in due course we shall be in a position to produce the fertilisers now imported into this Region and so I also feel that we are in a position to process some of our local raw materials into something which will be appreciated.

I now turn to the Ministry of Works. The Minister of Works has really done his best, but I have two points to mention. May I know what the Minister is doing about the railway bridge at Zungeru? This bridge gives a lot of difficulty to the people and the railways have set up lamps on the bridge and there is a law which prohibits lorries and cars from passing; and this is a Regional Government road. The law prohibiting the passage is not a Regional law but a Railway Bye-law. We would like to know whether the Minister is prepared to do something about this; either to ban this bye-law or to see to it that these difficulties are eased.

I now turn to rural water supply. A certain Member mentioned some wells sunk which did not produce water.

We do not complain about pipe-borne water; but the wells are not very good in our areas and in actual fact no attempt has been made to sink wells there. In my district no well has been sunk and I do not know whether there is a proposal to sink one. In our Division, we discussed this with the Resident during a meeting and he advised us to apply for funds to provide us with a hydraulic ram pump which will lead from the river to the town. But after this meeting with the Resident we were asked to wait for the water engineer who would come and advise us how to do this work. Now up to this time we have not heard anything from the water engineer or the Resident and no well has been sunk there. But we thank the Minister of Works greatly. We would, however, like the Minister to take into consideration these two points: namely, the question of this very important bridge and the question of the water supply.

With regard to the Criminal Procedure Code introduced, Mr. President, Sir, I have perused the whole Bill as far as I can. Really the Government has foresight. That is very good foresight for a Government that has been established for so many years. I have seen nothing to criticise in the Bill, and I thank the Government for its work.

CHIEF OF MINNA: Mr. President, Sir, I rise to express my appreciation and my approval of the speech from the Throne. This speech has explained fully the activities of the Government, and I feel it is a duty of all of us to thank the Government for its efforts to improve the lot of the people of the Northern Region. With regard to Government business, there are a lot of stones left unturned. We can only appeal to the Government to pay more attention to what is needed now. It is not my intention to speak at length, but I would like to explain a few points. With regard to Agriculture, it may be possible that people will be thinking that to provide ploughs and tractors for farming is the only way we can improve our farming methods, but I do not feel that that is the only thing that will improve our farming methods, because it is not all areas that will suit these machines, and to man these machines is a very difficult work. All we want from the Minister of Agriculture is to help the local authorities so that the local authorities in turn will inform the farmers as to the best methods they should follow to improve their farming. We are also appealing to the Minister to recruit as many experts as possible to help us with our farming. The work of these experts will be to advise the farmers with regard to the best crops they should cultivate and also to teach them how to eradicate crop diseases.

After that, Mr. President, Sir, it is gratifying to all of us to see the work done by the Minister of Health. Because everyone knows the spread of modern diseases nowadays, and everybody is conscious of how these diseases have been combated. My only appeal to the Minister of Health is to see that more doctors and nurses are employed because the nurses we have now in the Region are inadequate and so are the doctors. There are some places where it would be suitable to establish hospitals, but due to the inadequacy of doctors and nurses this has not been possible; and there are some established hospitals which are only provided with one or two doctors and that is not enough. They deserve to have two or more doctors but they have none at present; and I appeal to the Minister of Health to pay more attention to these points, when his deliberations will be worth praising. I would also like the Minister of Health to realise that his task is one of the most important because if one is not healthy one cannot do anything and an unhealthy population cannot produce anything. I hope the Minister of Health will pay more attention to improving the health of the people of the Region.

Turning now to the Ministry of Trade and Industry, we in this Region have existing local industries which if improved would be of great benefit to the whole people of the Region. I do not intend to speak at length on this subject but my advice to the Minister is that if he has no chance to tour the whole Region and advise the people how to improve their local industries he should have other officers to go and tour and advise the people in the Region how to improve their local industries. I believe the Minister is in a better position than myself to know the best ways of improving these local industries. Now I would also like to advise the Minister that those who are competent to encourage our local industries are sent overseas for further training. I am not specifically suggesting that these competent people should be sent always to the United Kingdom, they could be given a chance to come to Government established industries to be trained. I believe if these people are encouraged to improve their industries they would pay more attention and realise the importance of these industries. After this Mr. President, it is also gratifying to see the improvement made in the field of education in the Region. The only thing I have to say is that we should provide more schools to accommodate our children.

We are also grateful to the Federal Government for providing the Military College whereby some of our

unemployed boys can be better employed. (MR. PRESIDENT: It is not for this House to debate such matters.) After this Mr. President Sir, it is also great pleasure to me that the Government intends to improve the Land and Native Rights Law. The present Law of Land and Native Rights is not a Law that suits modern people because in some places at present difficulties may be experienced if their crops are involved in this law. If the Government pays attention and improve this law it should be of great benefit to everybody.

Mr. President Sir, I pray Government that all they do is done to improve the standard of living and lot of the people of the Northern Region.

CHIEF OF IDOMA: Mr. President Sir, I rise to thank the Government of the Northern Region for the tremendous progress it has made especially on the side of the Hospitals. After thanking the Government I would like to make some comments on certain points. First, roads. I know that there are roads works going on between Aledi, Akwanga, Gudi and Keffi but I would like to point out to the Government that the following provinces are suffering from lack of good roads Kabba, Benue and Plateau Provinces. I should be grateful if the Government would consider taking over some of the roads as Trunk 'B' roads.

My second point is about combine hospitals which have already been mentioned by one of the Hon. Members. Since it has been reported that the Government will take over these hospitals immediately, I would like to consider increasing the number of wards in these hospitals. This is one way for people to see that they get room for their patients. Some of these hospitals have two patients to a bed. Sometimes these people have different diseases and if they happen to be in one bed these can pass from one to the other. I would like the Minister of Health to think of this and to assist the Voluntary Agencies to increase the number of Hospital Wards.

My third point is about the Native Authorities.

It is well known that no Government can stand without the Native Authorities and without the Native Authorities no Government is respected. I would like all the Ministers to continue to assist the Native Authorities by all means possible. I would like them to be given help from the beginning and not wait until they fall down and collapse. With these few remarks, I beg to support, Sir.

EMIR OF PATEGI: I rise to support the Acting Governor's Speech from the Throne. We have so many complaints that we bring before the Ministers. We realised the great help of the Minister of Education, the Minister of Agriculture, and the Minister of Health.

Minister of Agriculture has provided us with good Agricultural Officers who are helpful and these officers are continuing with their good work. There is one point that has been mentioned by the Agricultural Officers and that is that farms should not be cleared - that bushes should not be cut down. In our constituency and area unless trees are cut down we cannot farm properly. Also in our area a person works on the farm for about four years after which he has to shift to another place. Our area too is one in which cattle cannot be kept to provide us with manure because of the tsetse fly. Great help is due to the introduction of fertiliser - and all who have experimented with it and found that their crops have yielded more - continue buying more. So we must confess that we cannot definitely say that we will refrain from clearing the bush, more and more people are buying fertiliser and also they are trying to grow rice, and guinea corn on their farms. We are very grateful to the Government for all the good things they have provided for us in our area - we are a grateful people - we thank the Government very much.

EMIR OF ZARIA: Mr. President, Sir, I rise to support the motion brought. I am very grateful to the Acting Governor for the Speech he made. Before I go on I would like to express my gratitude to the Government and the Premier of the Northern Region, Sir Ahmadu Bello and the other Ministers for their good leadership. The Government of the Northern Region, with the Grace of God, on the 1st October, 1960 together with the Federation of Nigeria - will become independent. To my colleagues the Chiefs I am grateful because of their loyalty and the co-operation which they are showing the Northern Region Government. In this Self-Government year for the Federation of Nigeria there are two most important things which we must consider. The first one is, to keep law and order and the second one is the economic development of the people. I am advising the Government to stick firmly to these two points, because as soon as the people of this Region have these two things we shall have peaceful living.

Turning to the Ministry of Agriculture and the

Ministry of Animal Health and Forestry, I would like to advise the Government to help the farmers with new method of farming and with modern farming equipment. The nomadic Fulanis also should be taken into consideration. Provision of medicine against Rinderpest which is now administered by expatriate officers should be extended to those veterinary assistants sponsored by the Native Authorities - many of these people are faithful enough and capable of administering and giving out the medicine without suspicion.

Turning to the Ministry of Education, that the Minister should help us to add another secondary School to Southern Zaria. There are many children leaving the Native Authority Senior Primary Schools and Mission Schools. I am very glad to hear that the Koranic School will be improved. I want the Northern Government to enforce the aim of their Northernisation Policy.

Turning to the Ministry of Health, I would like more help to be given to the people of Zaria.

Referring to the Ministry of Agriculture, we have good farms and farming lands but the tsetse fly is always with us. I would like the Government to be more strict about fighting these flies and see to it that they are all destroyed.

My last point, Sir, is on the Ministry of Works. I would like the Government to get to work in the Northern Part of Zaria so as to establish both Wet and Dry-Season Roads. That is the road between Dutsen Wai and Jos going through Anchau and Ikara to join the main road from Zaria to Kano near Paki. The reconstruction of this road would mean wealth to the people of Northern Zaria as well as to the people in the Eastern part of Zaria and also in Southern Zaria. Consideration should also be given to the construction of the road from Zagon Katab - Lere to join with the main motor road from Jos to Zaria to Sami-Naka. This road also will increase the wealth of the people of Southern Zaria. Consideration too should be given to the road from Kano to Abuja. The main difficulty of the Government here, is bridges, but Bailey Bridges could be used.

Mr. President Sir, with these few remarks, I support the Acting Governor's Speech. (Applause).

MR. PRESIDENT: Order, Order. The moment of

interruption has come. Committee when?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Monday, Sir.

EMIR OF KANO (Sir Alhaji Muhammadu Samusi):

Mr. President, Sir, before I move that the House do now adjourn, I should like as promised by my Hon. Colleague, the Sultan of Sokoto, Sir Abubakar last Wednesday, to inform the Hon. Members of what business will come before the House during the next week.

On Monday, Sir, the House will take Second Reading of Two Bills, namely, the Bills entitled the Northern Region 1958/59 and 1959/60 Supplementary Appropriation Laws, 1960 before continuing with debate on the Speech from the Throne.

On Tuesday, Sir, the House will debate two motions, that is a motion pledging of Government's Credit to enable Co-operative Societies to finance their Marketing operations by means of Government Guaranteed Bank Overdrafts and a motion for Resolution relating to the sale of Produce (Taxation) Ordinance, 1953, and the Revenue Equalisation Fund. The Second Reading of the Bill entitled the Northern Region 1960/61 Appropriation Law, 1960 will also be taken on this day.

On Wednesday, Sir, the House will debate in Committee of Supply the Second Reading of the Bills entitled the Northern Region 1958/59 and 1959/60 Supplementary Appropriation Laws, 1960.

On Thursday and Friday, Sir, the House will debate the Second Reading of the 1960/61 Appropriation Law, 1960 in Committee of Supply.

On Saturday, Sir, the House will conclude debate in Committee of Supply on the Second Reading of the Bill entitled the Loans Law, 1960. Another statement of the Business coming before the House during the following week will again be announced before the adjournment on this day.

Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move that the House do now adjourn.

EMIR OF KATSINA (Alhaji Usman Nagogo): Mr. President, Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

House accordingly adjourned at 11.50 a.m.
until 10 a.m. the 9th of May, 1960.



NORTHERN REGIONAL LEGISLATURE

HOUSE OF CHIEFS
DEBATES

(Second Legislature)

Fourth Session

(First Meeting)

9th May, 1960

PRICE : 3d

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The House met at 10.00 a.m.
Monday, 9th May, 1960.

PRAYERS

(MR. PRESIDENT in the Chair)

MR. PRESIDENT: Order, Order. The Clerk will now read the Order of the Day.

CLERK: Bill entitled Northern Region 1958-1959 Supplementary Appropriation Law, 1960.

ACTING MINISTER OF FINANCE: (M. IBRAHIM MUSA GASHASH:)
Mr. President, Sir, I rise to move that the Bill entitled the Northern Region 1958-59 Supplementary Appropriation Law, be read a second time.

Sir, according to the Law for control and management of Public Finances any recurrent expenditure in excess of that authorised in an Appropriation or other Law, must be covered by Supplementary Estimates passed by the Legislature. Three such Supplementary Estimates have already been passed by the Legislature for the financial year 1958-59. This is the fourth and the last for that year.

As shown in the schedule attached to the Bill, the total supplementary recurrent expenditure to be appropriated is £154,058. In addition there is £8,990 statutory expenditure not subject to appropriation, because some other Law exists authorising the expenditure, and there is also the sum of £226,836 in respect of capital expenditure. All these figures are supported by the detailed estimates volume before the Chiefs.

Sir, the reasons for the major increases are explained in the memorandum accompanying the estimates and may be summarised as being due to:

- (i) Adjustment of misclassifications;
- (ii) Increased costs of passages;
- (iii) Increasing number of training schemes undertaken by Ministries to accelerate Northernisation;
- (iv) Provision of new ceremonial uniforms for

- senior members of the Public Service on the attainment of Self-Government; and
- (v) Payment of benefits to retired employees, especially in the Ministry of Works.

The increase in costs of passages in recent years have been substantial and the possibility of a reduction of these costs is being considered.

Sir, I beg to move.

MINISTER OF HEALTH (ALHAJI AHMAN PATEGI): Mr. President, Sir, I beg to second.

MR. PRESIDENT: The debate shall be adjourned according to Standing Order 65 for at least one clear day, so I am not proposing the question now. The Clerk will now read the Order of the Day.

CLERK: Bill entitled Northern Region 1959-60 Supplementary Appropriation Law 1960.

ACTING MINISTER OF FINANCE: Mr. President, Sir, I rise to move that the Bill entitled the Northern Region 1959-60 Supplementary Appropriation Law, 1960, be read a second time.

Chiefs will notice from the schedule to this Bill, that the sum to be appropriated amounts to over one and a half million pounds. This excludes statutory expenditure of twenty three thousand six hundred and sixty pounds which is included in the Estimates, but is omitted from the Bill as it does not legally require to be appropriated, and capital expenditure of over six hundred thousand pounds.

Our actual Consolidated Revenue Fund Balance as at 1st April, 1959, was four million one hundred and sixty eight thousand three hundred and sixty three pounds. Because of this favourable balance, we have decided to transfer a million pounds of it into the Capital Development Fund to help meet the cost of our capital development programme. The other major items of expenditure are those under Heads two three four and two three seven. They concern:-

- (i) payment of one hundred and twenty five thousand pounds on interest on temporary advances from the Joint Consolidated Fund. To meet the high rate of our development expenditure, we borrowed money from this Fund which is maintained by the Crown

Agents with cash remittances made by countries using their facilities, instead of selling our investments the loss on which would be greater than the interest we are paying on the loan;

- (ii) Payment of ex-gratia awards to staff whose services are no longer required. It is impossible to estimate accurately in advance such liability.

Any further information Chiefs may require will be given in Committee of Supply.

Sir, I beg to move.

MINISTER OF STATE, MR. ABUTU OBEKPA: Mr. President, Sir, I beg to second.

MR. PRESIDENT: The same Standing Order 65 applies in this case. The question I am to propose is that this House notes with approval the policy of the Government as set out in the Speech which His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government of the Northern Region has delivered to this House.

CHIEF OF KAGORO, MALLAM GWAMNA: Mr. President, Sir, I rise to express my appreciation of the Speech which His Excellency, the Governor delivered to this House. The Speech which His Excellency delivered to this House shows that the Government is really ready and firm to promote all the progress that is intended in this country. There are other things which are very interesting to me in this speech although I am not going to comment on them all. There are some however, on which I should like to raise some points. I really have to express my appreciation of the work done by the Government in introducing the new Penal Code. Mr. President, Sir, no country can progress without people taking care of themselves and being law abiding. This new Penal Code proves that the people of this country, whether strangers or indigenous have got something to depend on.

My second point is that I am pleased to see that the Government is taking care to improve the educational standards in this country. This proves that the Northernisation Policy of the Regional Government is not just a word of mouth, but it is something that has been put into force. Without education Northerners cannot man the Civil Service of the Region. Further, Mr. President Sir, I should like to remind the Government about the problem of child delinquency.

We have been mentioning this problem for a long time. There are very many of our children in this Region who are roaming about in the streets, and we have been suggesting that provision should be made to house these children. We are very pleased to see that the Government is making an effort in this respect.

Another point is that there are some of our children who are orphans and some who are lunatics and some whose parents are not taking care of them. It may be possible these children do not turn out to be delinquents, but they roam about the streets of towns, and I advise the Government that some necessary steps should be taken in order to care for these children. There are various ways of giving assistance to these children. For instance, Institutions could be established for these children, as children who cannot go on with their education should not be allowed just to roam in the streets without any supervision. Our children of today will be the leaders of the country tomorrow. Instead of neglecting these children Institutions should be built in order to teach them some useful trades.

Another point on which I should like to express my appreciation is that the Government is going to introduce a Land and Native Rights Law. This shows foresight on the part of the Government as it was necessary to introduce another new law. At this juncture I would like to agree with what the Atta of Igala said in this connection on Saturday. As the Atta of Igala said, he hopes that before this law is drafted the Minister in charge will tour the whole Region and meet various people so that in drafting the law the interests of the people of the Region will be considered. Before I resume my seat Sir, I should like to make some comments regarding some projects which the Government has said it will look into. We really need roads in this country. Without roads progress will be very difficult. In this respect, I should like to remind the Government of the roads which the Emir of Zaria mentioned on Saturday. These are the roads from Abuja passing through Kagoro to Kafanchan and from Kafanchan to Jos. The poor condition of these roads cutoff the whole area from the public, and I hope the Government will not forget this road. So I beg to support.

EMIR OF ILORIN: Mr. President Sir, before supporting the Speech from the Throne, I want to praise the Government for its vision in providing so much for the welfare of the people of this region. I also praise the Government for its past performances. The reason

for my praise is this. When constitutional Government began in this country few years ago, many people doubted the ability of Northerners to run their Government alone by themselves. Today it is our pride and glory that the North has proved itself not only better than but superior to other parts of the country, by the way it has been running and maintaining the affairs of the region with peace, progress and efficiency. It is a very good policy on the part of the Government, that it has always placed the comfort and well-being of the people in every corner of the region above all things. This policy is reflected by the provisions made in this and other budgets. It is true that Government cannot and could not be expected to satisfy the needs of the people at the same time. No matter how much it is praised for its efforts, it will still receive grumblings from several quarters from time to time. For this reason therefore, I myself wish to put up some matters for Government to consider.

The first matter concerns the Ministry of Works. This Ministry has done many good things for Ilorin. The buildings of Queen Elizabeth Secondary School, H.T.T.C., Trade Centre to name a few, are the pride of Ilorin today. I now want to draw attention to roads. Among the roads in Ilorin there are two which deserve to be recognised as Trunk "B" roads. One is Jebba to Balla road. This road is better, smoother, less hilly and more passable than the present trunk "A" route. Moreover, if this road is developed, it would shorten the present route by some miles. In fact, vehicles from Lagos to the North ~~were often use this road than~~ the normal route. The second one I have in mind is the Share to Pateggi and Lafiagi. This road should be given greater attention than at present. It deserves to be tarred. It shall become an important road because of the Sugar industry at Bachita. There is no doubt that when this industry is matured, population in the area will increase and traffic on the road will be heavy.

My second matter concerns the Ministry of Health. I praise this Ministry for providing Ilorin with two large and well equipped Hospitals. I refer to the hospital in Ilorin town and the one at Offa, the latter of which is being enjoyed by patients from parts of the Western Region despite their "LIFE ABUNDANCE". I do not want to say that these hospitals are not enough. What I want the Government to realise is this. The population of Ilorin like other areas of the North is increasing from day to day, due to many opportunities for work created by Government, which now make this region a centre of attraction for job seekers. An example is the proposed Jebba dam. It is certain that this dam would

increase the population of Jebba area which is now almost congested. The area is almost 70 miles away from Ilorin or Offa the nearest hospitals. It would be necessary to build one hospital at Jebba to meet the health needs of the people in the area now and in future. I want hospitals to be provided for the following places as well, Borgu Division, Lafiagi and Pateggi and Isanluisin in Ilorin (East) Division.

My third point relates to the Ministry of Trade. I express my deep gratitude to this Ministry for the Bachita Sugar Cane project. I fervently pray that the industry may prove successful to benefit not only the North but the whole country. I want the Minister of Trade and Industry to examine whether it could be possible to establish a sack factory at Jebba. I think the soil in Jebba area is suitable for growing Rama Fibre for such an industry.

In conclusion, I want to thank the Government and particularly the Attorney-General for introducing the Bill amending the Native Court Law, also for the preparation now on hand to amend the Land and Native Rights Ordinance. I should like to lay great stress on the need for amending the Land and Native Rights Ordinance. Left to me, not mere amendment but entire replacement of the ordinance with completely new one could wipe-away the many bad features in the old law. In drawing up such amendment or making replacement however, all shades of opinion in the region should be consulted. The old ordinance had done a lot of havoc and deterred progress in the region. It is incomparable with laws in the other two regions. As we are now approaching full independence Government should try to produce a law on Land Tenure acceptable to the people of the North.

I must not forget to express appreciation to the Government for its wise step taken in setting up a Committee to advise on the functions of Administrative Officers. It would be a good idea if this Committee dealt with the matter with minimum delay. Mr. President, Sir, I support the Bill.

ETSU LAPAI: Mr. President, Sir, I rise to speak mainly on the policy of the Government but before doing so I would like to congratulate the Emirs of Argungu, Zaria and of Ilorin for their maiden speeches. They were ably made. (applause) I think that we should copy their example.

Turning to the Speech from the Throne, I first want to thank the Government for speeding up development schemes in the Region by means of Loans Development Funds. My advice to the Government is that

it should be very very careful that we do not become so much in debt financially to the people overseas. We should respect our well achieved Self-Government by steering clear of debt. As far as development works are concerned there is always a tendency that Government institutions are confined to a few places, usually the big towns. If there is fair distribution of Government Development Schemes the smaller Native Authorities may not be in such dire need and poor as they are at present. Money spent in a place means more work for the people of that place and the people in such an area enjoy a better standard of living.

My next point concerns the investigation which the Government is going to make into the natural resources of the Region. In this connection I would like the Government to investigate the possibilities of river ports on the Niger and Benue rivers. This region has no seaport and it is very necessary to have easy facilities for our exports and imports. I would like to suggest one point to the Government. There is a small village, Dere, below Baro, which lies at the junction of the rivers Niger and Gurara. In the dry season when the depth of river at Baro is too low to allow ships to come up, the water at Dere is deep enough for this purpose. I am sure that a few thousand pounds spent there will give us a second port in the Region. The only difference will be that Baro will be a wet season port and Dere a dry season port.

My last remark, Sir, - I would like to thank the Attorney-General for his work in introducing the many Bills on judicial reforms. We all feel that these Laws when they come into operation will bring a new lease of life to the Northern Region.

With these words, I support.

CHIEF OF SHARAGI: Mr. President, Sir, I rise to express appreciation of the Speech delivered by the Officer Administering the Government of the Northern Region. In the Speech it has been explained that the work of the Ministries will be aimed at the progress of this Region and the betterment of the standard of living of the people and better health for the whole population of the Region. These three points are very important things.

With regard to Health, in our Division, Lafiagi-Pateggi Division, we have no general hospital but we have small Native Authority and Voluntary Agency dispensaries. The Missionaries are of great help to us especially with regard to maternity care but even

so we often come up against difficulties. Our main difficulty is in getting transport to send our patients to general hospitals. At times we get serious cases which require sending the patient direct to a general hospital and at that time it might be that Native Authority transport is not in good condition and the Missionaries too might also have no transport available. Due to this lack of transport the patient might even die. I am appealing to the Minister of Health to see whether it would be possible to arrange with the Senior Medical Officer at the Headquarters that at any time a request either from a Village Head, District Head or a Chief is made for an ambulance such request should be attended to without delay.

My second suggestion is that Government provides ambulances for the smaller Native Authorities.

My third point, Sir, is an appeal to the Minister of Health with regard to lepers who are served with drugs. In our Division there are leprosy clinics. In some of these about 400 lepers receive treatment. In some of these Clinics the Native Authority provide the drugs and in others the Missionaries provide them. I ask the Government therefore to see whether it would be possible to give the Native Authorities and Missionaries grants in this respect. In some cases the Native Authority at times are not in a position to meet the cost of paying the staff who are taking care of these clinics.

With regard to the natural resources of this Region Bachita is in Sharagi District in Lafiagi-Pategi Division in Ilorin Province and the Emir of Ilorin has already spoken on this town - Bachita. I fully appreciate what he has said. I would like to add to his comments - we have been informed that after November new people will be employed in this place. I appeal to the Minister to see to it that these posts are not filled by Easterners or Westerners. The senior posts should be filled by Northerners. I would like the Minister to do his best in this matter.

With regard to roads, the Emir of Ilorin has already said something about them but I must stress the fact that these roads are very important and attention should be paid to them because during the Premier's tour and the Governor's tour of Ilorin Province they were unable to reach Bachita due to this poor road. These are some of the points I have in mind..

EMIR OF JEMA'A: Mr. President, Sir, I rise to support

the Government activities' statement. I appreciate what the Minister of Health has done with regard to Health. I really appreciate his efforts in connection with the treatment of cerebro-spinal meningitis. When this disease broke out first ten or more people died each day. With the prompt attention which has been given to the treatment of this disease we found that it was gradually being overcome.

After this, I also thank the Minister of Education for seizing the opportunity to visit some of our schools and also I have to thank the Minister for Local Government. We also appreciate his efforts in touring our area. Concerning roads, we have not got good roads in our area. We have been constantly appealing for a road from Adamamite Itas. We appeal to the Government to provide an all season road from Adamamite Itas because both groundnuts and other crops are produced along this road and I hope the government will bear this in mind and help us. We appreciate what the government has done.

OHIMEGE OF KOTON KARIFI: Mr. President, Sir, I rise to support the Speech from the Throne. I rise to speak on various Ministries, and I will start first with the Ministry of Agriculture. I would like to know from the Minister whether it will be possible to supply farmers with fertilizer before they are asked to pay. (MR. PRESIDENT: The best time to ask this question is when we enter into the Committee of Supply.) My other point is with regard to roads. For some time we have been appealing for improvements to the road from Nasarawa to Keffi which runs to Koton Karifi and to Lokoja. This is a road which will link the North with the South. Experience has shown that many lorries pass day and night along this road, but due to lack of a ferry to convey them across the river, they have to wait for quite a long time; and we have often complained about this. May I know if it is not intended to link the North with the South? There is another road which starts from Agbaki to Koton Karifi and runs through Nasarawa to Abuja. We have been appealing for these roads to be improved, but nothing has been done.

Secondly, I am going to speak on the question of Rural Water Supply. We appeal to the Minister concerned to pay more attention to this Rural Water Supply, because most of the wells sunk in our area have no signs of water in them. There are some villages in our area where no well has been sunk at all. We living in the town were supposed to be given a pipe borne water supply, but we have not got it.

During the dry season, we often do not get water until around 4 p.m. and I am sure if the Minister concerned visits this area, he will be shocked.

I now go on to the Ministry of Health. I feel that the hospital provided for Lokoja in Kabba Province is worthless. The Minister himself is quite aware of conditions at this hospital, and there is no point in my giving everything in detail. If a patient is taken to this hospital he often has to wait indefinitely and it is better for him to go to Kaduna, Minna or Vom. That is why we appeal to the Minister to do something, because people who are taken there are neglected and many of them prefer to stay and die at home rather than go to this hospital.

I also thank the Minister of Education. We are aware of the fact that there is a Minister of Education but he does not tour our area and we ask him to tour the area. We know we are only a small part of the Region, but we feel the Minister should try and visit us.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH (HON. ALHAJI AHMAN GALADIMAN PATEGI): Mr. President, Sir, I must first of all thank all those Chiefs who have made valuable suggestions. I am grateful for their comments because the comments show that people are now realising the importance of the work of my Ministry and the need for the development of the medical and health services. The Government is doing all it can to develop these services in all areas and it will continue to do so. I know that more hospitals are needed and when we are considering our next five year development plan we shall consider where new hospitals can be built but it all depends on finance.

The Chief of Minna has asked for more doctors and nurses. I can assure him that we hope to be able to post another doctor to Minna before long. We also hope to post a second doctor to other hospitals which at present have only one, as the recruitment of doctors has improved considerably. The Nurses Training Schools at Kano and Kaduna are now turning out 90 new nurses in every 6 months and the establishment of nurses has been increased by 100 this year in the Estimates. The Medical Auxiliary Training School has doubled its intake this year. I am sorry to say that some Native Authorities did not send their students this year and I hope they will do so when the next course starts.

I can assure the Chief of Idoma that we are aware of congestion in all hospitals and we hope to expand

those hospitals when funds are available. I will also assure him that the doctors always separate infectious from non-infectious patients. I do not think that any doctor would be so ill-advised to allow patients to share the same bed particularly when one patient is suffering from infectious disease.

The Chief of Nassarawan Eggon asked for more grants for the Combined Hospitals. I can only say that the whole question of grants is at present under consideration by the Government. Fees for these hospitals are standardised as most of the funds both capital and recurrent are provided by the Government. We cannot however dictate to the Missionaries what fees should be charged in their own private hospitals.

I am grateful to the Emir of Misau for the great interest he and his Native Authority have shown in Leprosy work. I am glad to hear him saying that drugs are adequate. Chiefs may be interested to know that a German Doctor recently passed through this Region on his way to Europe from East Africa and he expressed an opinion that leprosy work is more advanced here than any other country he has visited in the world. Chiefs may also be interested to hear that we are now trying a new form of leprosy treatment in one or two clinics near Kaduna. It is in the form of an ointment and the first results are hopeful. We also hope before long to investigate an experiment in the treatment of cerebro spinal meningitis. This is taken in the form of snuff, and my Ministry hopes to be able to use this, but its possibilities must first be examined by experts.

The Emir of Agale said that the Government should take over Baro dispensary. The Government has already made a grant of £255 this year. In a way the Government is virtually paying for this dispensary. I must also remind the Emir of what the Premier said to him when he was passing to Lokoja that Baro was likely to be developed as a result of the proposed Kurwasa dam on the River Niger. It is possible therefore, that the Federal Government might be able to do something for Baro in the future when it becomes a big port. This might also answer the question raised by the Emir of Ilorin about the hospitals wanted in Borgu and Jebba. We have to wait and see what this scheme will result in. The same thing may apply to Bachita when the sugar plantation is developed.

The Chief of Sharagi wants the Government to provide hospital ambulances to the Native Authorities.

We have repeatedly stated in this House that this is entirely the responsibility of the Native Authorities. Some Districts have already bought ambulances from their District Council Funds. Kutigi District in Bida Division, Niger Province, bought an ambulance last year. I hope others will follow suit.

With regard to grants to Missions and Native Authorities concerning the treatment of Leprosy which he mentioned, I recently advised them to employ a Leprosy Inspector and said that the Government would give a grant-in-aid towards his salary, but they have not yet responded to my advice. When they do so the Government is ready to help them. Grants to Missions are in respect of Leprosy Settlements. I made a statement on this in the House of Assembly when they were considering the Estimates. I do not think the Chiefs would wish me to go back and make the same statement again. I therefore refer the Hon. Member to the Hansard report of the House of Assembly debate.

Lastly, Mr. President, I say again that I am grateful for the great interest which Members have shown in the activities of my Ministry and again I assure them that we shall continue to do our best to the limit of our funds and our staff. The Government will do its best to see that adequate medical and health services are extended through out the Region. No any area will be neglected whether urban or rural.

I will investigate the point made by the Chief of Koton Karifi concerning the medical staff in Lokoja but I will be very grateful if he will come to my Ministry and give me some definite instances. It is difficult to build a house in the air.

MINISTER OF EDUCATION (ALHAJI ISA KAITA): Mr. President, Sir, I would like to thank the Hon. Members of this House for the appreciation which they have shown of the work done by my Ministry. Mr President, Sir, on behalf of the Premier I would like to reply to one point which was made by the Emir of Zaria.

Mr. President, Sir, the Emir of Zaria in his speech drew attention to the essential need to maintain law and order if our independence is to be worthwhile. We must all agree with this sentiment, for, although our Region is known for its respect for authority and its reputation for keeping the peace, nevertheless lately we have had tragic and unpleasant unrest in one province of the Region caused by misleading propaganda at the time of the Federal Elections. We all regret this unrest and the Government is doing its

best to inform the people of the area concerned of the true facts.

As Members know, responsibility for law and order rests primarily on the Native Authorities and the Native Authority police. Some N.A. police are better than others and I wish to emphasise in this House that Government hopes to see all Native Authority police raised to a high standard of efficiency.

Our duty is twofold - firstly to remove as far as it is in our power all causes for unrest and secondly to raise the standard of our local police.

The Emir of Zaria also suggested that a progressive country must have a well balanced economy. I would like to say, Sir, that the Government bears this continually in mind and in fact has applied to international organisations for a number of experts to visit the Region to advise on the most economic use of its Natural Resources.

Now, I will turn to Education. The Atta of Igala hopes that Dekina and Abuja Junior Secondary Schools will be upgraded to full Secondary School status. I would like to mention that Abuja Junior Secondary School will progress to full Secondary School status as the classes develop. No decision has yet been made about Dekina but I would remind the Hon. Atta of Igala that a new Voluntary Agency secondary school has recently opened in Dekina with Government assistance.

I would like to say that the Emir of Argungu has asked Government to consider giving grants for building houses for teachers who are running junior and senior Primary schools. I would like to say that the Government is paying grants for masters' houses in Government quarters who live in the vicinity of boarding schools but Government is not giving housing grants for day primary schools whether junior or senior.

Mr. President, Sir, I would like to reply to the Chief of Massarawa. I would point out that every effort is being made to pay grants on time so that teachers' salaries can be paid in time. But in my opinion Voluntary Agencies, Sir, should help themselves in this matter by making financial arrangements so that teachers can be paid even if grants are not received from Government in time.

The Chief of Nassarawa and many Hon. Members of the House of Chiefs showed appreciation of the Ministry's plan to improve Koranic education. The plan will be

drawn up in order to assist Koranic schools as soon as Koranic Education Adviser has been appointed to advise me how to carry on with the job. I would like also Sir, to answer the Chief of Kagoro who said that quite a number of children who left school are roaming in the streets of this Region doing nothing. I would like to say Sir, that quite a number of these school leavers have been absorbed in Craft Schools, Clerical Training Schools and some of them are employed as N.A. Police, some by the Native Authorities and some by Commercial Firms. As to the number who are left, I would like to suggest that the Chiefs advise them to take up the most important occupation in this Region which is farming. I am sorry to say that most of our people now do not want to take up farming.

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (Mallam Mustafa Munguno):

Mr. President, Sir, it has given me great pleasure to listen to the speeches of Honourable Members and to learn that, generally speaking, they appreciate the activities of my Ministry over the past year and those proposed for next year. I am also glad to hear of the importance which they, and their Native Authorities, attach to Agriculture, for without their support and encouragement the work of my Ministry can be of little value. The problem of telling farmers about new agricultural developments and instructing them in improved methods has always been difficult. Over the past few years there has been a great advance in adult literacy and that, coupled with the wireless, in helping to bring information to the farmers. But a most effective way still remains by N.A. agricultural assistants paying personal visits to farmers and I hope that Honourable Members will, on their return home, urge their N.A. Agricultural Staff to tour frequently and energetically.

I have also been encouraged to hear of the importance which is being placed on the use of manure and artificial fertilizers. One of the best ways of combating shifting cultivation, which I know is a problem causing concern to a number of Native Authorities, is to maintain the fertility of the soil. For by so doing, farmers can continue to obtain good yields from their crops, and therefore do not need to cut down bush and open up new farms. Whilst on this subject I should like to inform the Chief of Nassarawa-Egga that my Ministry has funds available for the free distribution of fertilizers. Free issues are not made to all farmers, because that was found to be wasteful and in a number of instances the fertilizer was put to improper use. It is, however, issued free for one year to a limited number of good

farmers whom the N.A. can recommend will make proper use of it. I shall ask my Provincial Agricultural Officers to make known more widely this service of the Ministry.

Reference has also been made to mechanisation. The introduction of mechanical equipment is a costly business, but my Ministry now has a total of nearly 150 tractors operating in the Region. A number of these are employed on duties giving direct benefits to farmers, e.g. ploughing schemes in Bornu and Benue Provinces and on soil conservation work in Katsina and Zaria Provinces. In addition this year a school will be opened at Samaru where Northerners will be trained to use and maintain mechanical equipment. These men will replace non-Northerners who are at present employed as tractor drivers by the Government, and later it is hoped that it will be possible to train them to use this equipment on their own farms.

The Chief of Wushishi enquired whether yields of existing crops could not be increased and whether there were any new food or cash crops which could be introduced with advantage into the Region. I can assure him that investigation and experiments on these lines are being carried out continuously both at Samaru and in the Provinces. Wheat is the latest crop to receive such consideration and a survey has recently been undertaken which has provided much valuable information on the areas at present under wheat cultivation and particularly in Sokoto, Katsina, Kano and Bornu Provinces. My Ministry will give every assistance to farmers to achieve expansion of this crop, and at the same time research will be undertaken with a view to finding a variety which will be suitable for the requirements of the new flour-milling industry which is likely to be established shortly in Lagos.

May I conclude as I began, Sir, with an expression of my appreciation of the interest which Honourable Members continue to show in this, the most vital, industry of our Region.

MR. PRESIDENT: The question I have to put is that this House notes with approval the policy of the Government as set out in the Speech which His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government of the Northern Region has delivered to this House.

Question put and agreed to.

MINISTER OF LAND AND SURVEY: Mr. President, Sir,
beg to move that the House do now adjourn.

MINISTER OF HEALTH: Sir, I beg to second.

R. PRESIDENT: The question is that this House do
now adjourn.

Before I adjourn the House, I would like to
inform Hon. Chiefs that the Emir of Kano, will be
leaving Kaduna tomorrow morning in order to meet
Her Majesty the Queen Mother who will be spending
one hour in Kano on Wednesday 11th May. I think
this House would like the Emir of Kano to respect-
fully convey our welcome and loyal greetings to Her
Majesty. (Applause). When she returns from Her
tour on 31st May, Her Majesty will be met by the
Emir of Katsina, in Kano, as the Emir of Kano will
have gone on a Pilgrimage to Mecca.

Now the House stands adjourned until 10'o clock
tomorrow morning.

House accordingly adjourned at 12. noon
until 10'o clock on 10th May.

CORRECTIONS:

Debates of Saturday, May 7th.

On page 17 - lines 7 - 8 delete the words -
eighty eight thousand five hundred and seventy -
and insert - sixty seven thousand, nine hundred and
five -

Page 17; line 28 delete the words "just under."

Page 18; line 10 delete the word 'nearly' and
insert 'over'.



NORTHERN REGIONAL LEGISLATURE

HOUSE OF CHIEFS
DEBATES

(Second Legislature)

Fourth Session

(First Meeting)

9th May, 1960

PRICE : 3d

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The House met at 10.00 a.m.
Monday, 9th May, 1960.

PRAYERS

(MR. PRESIDENT in the Chair)

MR. PRESIDENT: Order, Order. The Clerk will now read the Order of the Day.

CLERK: Bill entitled Northern Region 1958-1959 Supplementary Appropriation Law, 1960.

ACTING MINISTER OF FINANCE: (M. IBRAHIM MUSA GASHASH:)
Mr. President, Sir, I rise to move that the Bill entitled the Northern Region 1958-59 Supplementary Appropriation Law, be read a second time.

Sir, according to the Law for control and management of Public Finances any recurrent expenditure in excess of that authorised in an Appropriation or other Law, must be covered by Supplementary Estimates passed by the Legislature. Three such Supplementary Estimates have already been passed by the Legislature for the financial year 1958-59. This is the fourth and the last for that year.

As shown in the schedule attached to the Bill, the total supplementary recurrent expenditure to be appropriated is £154,058. In addition there is £8,990 statutory expenditure not subject to appropriation, because some other Law exists authorising the expenditure, and there is also the sum of £226,836 in respect of capital expenditure. All these figures are supported by the detailed estimates volume before the Chiefs.

Sir, the reasons for the major increases are explained in the memorandum accompanying the estimates and may be summarised as being ude to:

- (i) Adjustment of misclassifications;
- (ii) Increased costs of passages;
- (iii) Increasing number of training schemes undertaken by Ministries to accelerate Northernisation;
- (iv) Provision of new ceremonial uniforms for

senior members of the Public Service on the attainment of Self-Government; and

- (v) Payment of benefits to retired employees, especially in the Ministry of Works.

The increase in costs of passages in recent years have been substantial and the possibility of a reduction of these costs is being considered.

Sir, I beg to move.

MINISTER OF HEALTH (ALHAJI AHMAN PATEGI): Mr. President, Sir, I beg to second.

MR. PRESIDENT: The debate shall be adjourned according to Standing Order 65 for at least one clear day, so I am not proposing the question now. The Clerk will now read the Order of the Day.

CLERK: Bill entitled Northern Region 1959-60 Supplementary Appropriation Law 1960.

ACTING MINISTER OF FINANCE: Mr. President, Sir, I rise to move that the Bill entitled the Northern Region 1959-60 Supplementary Appropriation Law, 1960, be read a second time.

Chiefs will notice from the schedule to this Bill, that the sum to be appropriated amounts to over one and a half million pounds. This excludes statutory expenditure of twenty three thousand six hundred and sixty pounds which is included in the Estimates, but is omitted from the Bill as it does not legally require to be appropriated, and capital expenditure of over six hundred thousand pounds.

Our actual Consolidated Revenue Fund Balance as at 1st April, 1959, was four million one hundred and sixty eight thousand three hundred and sixty three pounds. Because of this favourable balance, we have decided to transfer a million pounds of it into the Capital Development Fund to help meet the cost of our capital development programme. The other major items of expenditure are those under Heads two three four and two three seven. They concern:-

- (1) payment of one hundred and twenty five thousand pounds on interest on temporary advances from the Joint Consolidated Fund. To meet the high rate of our development expenditure, we borrowed money from this Fund which is maintained by the Crown

Agents with cash remittances made by countries using their facilities, instead of selling our investments the loss on which would be greater than the interest we are paying on the loan;

- (11) Payment of ex-gratia awards to staff whose services are no longer required. It is impossible to estimate accurately in advance such liability.

Any further information Chiefs may require will be given in Committee of Supply.

Sir, I beg to move.

MINISTER OF STATE, MR. ABUTU OBEKPA: Mr. President, Sir, I beg to second.

MR. PRESIDENT: The same Standing Order 65 applies in this case. The question I am to propose is that this House notes with approval the policy of the Government as set out in the Speech which His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government of the Northern Region has delivered to this House.

CHIEF OF KAGORO, MALLAM GWAMNA: Mr. President, Sir, I rise to express my appreciation of the Speech which His Excellency, the Governor delivered to this House. The Speech which His Excellency delivered to this House shows that the Government is really ready and firm to promote all the progress that is intended in this country. There are other things which are very interesting to me in this speech although I am not going to comment on them all. There are some however, on which I should like to raise some points. I really have to express my appreciation of the work done by the Government in introducing the new Penal Code. Mr. President, Sir, no country can progress without people taking care of themselves and being law abiding. This new Penal Code proves that the people of this country, whether strangers or indigenous have got something to depend on.

My second point is that I am pleased to see that the Government is taking care to improve the educational standards in this country. This proves that the Northernisation Policy of the Regional Government is not just a word of mouth, but it is something that has been put into force. Without education Northerners cannot man the Civil Service of the Region. Further, Mr. President Sir, I should like to remind the Government about the problem of child delinquency.



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HOUSE OF CHIEFS
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(Second Legislature)

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(First Meeting)

9th May, 1960

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The House met at 10.00 a.m.
Monday, 9th May, 1960.

PRAYERS

(MR. PRESIDENT in the Chair)

MR. PRESIDENT: Order, Order. The Clerk will now read the Order of the Day.

CLERK: Bill entitled Northern Region 1958-1959 Supplementary Appropriation Law, 1960.

ACTING MINISTER OF FINANCE: (M. IBRAHIM MUSA GASHASH:)
Mr. President, Sir, I rise to move that the Bill entitled the Northern Region 1958-59 Supplementary Appropriation Law, be read a second time.

Sir, according to the Law for control and management of Public Finances any recurrent expenditure in excess of that authorised in an Appropriation or other Law, must be covered by Supplementary Estimates passed by the Legislature. Three such Supplementary Estimates have already been passed by the Legislature for the financial year 1958-59. This is the fourth and the last for that year.

As shown in the schedule attached to the Bill, the total supplementary recurrent expenditure to be appropriated is £154,058. In addition there is £8,990 statutory expenditure not subject to appropriation, because some other Law exists authorising the expenditure, and there is also the sum of £226,836 in respect of capital expenditure. All these figures are supported by the detailed estimates volume before the Chiefs.

Sir, the reasons for the major increases are explained in the memorandum accompanying the estimates and may be summarised as being ude to:

- (i) Adjustment of misclassifications;
- (ii) Increased costs of passages;
- (iii) Increasing number of training schemes undertaken by Ministries to accelerate Northernisation;
- (iv) Provision of new ceremonial uniforms for

senior members of the Public Service on the attainment of Self-Government; and

- (v) Payment of benefits to retired employees, especially in the Ministry of Works.

The increase in costs of passages in recent years have been substantial and the possibility of a reduction of these costs is being considered.

Sir, I beg to move.

MINISTER OF HEALTH (ALHAJI AHMAN PATEGI): Mr. President, Sir, I beg to second.

MR. PRESIDENT: The debate shall be adjourned according to Standing Order 65 for at least one clear day, so I am not proposing the question now. The Clerk will now read the Order of the Day.

CLERK: Bill entitled Northern Region 1959-60 Supplementary Appropriation Law 1960.

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My second point is that I am pleased to see that the Government is taking care to improve the educational standards in this country. This proves that the Northernisation Policy of the Regional Government is not just a word of mouth, but it is something that has been put into force. Without education Northerners cannot man the Civil Service of the Region. Further, Mr. President Sir, I should like to remind the Government about the problem of child delinquency.

We have been mentioning this problem for a long time. There are very many of our children in this Region who are roaming about in the streets, and we have been suggesting that provision should be made to house these children. We are very pleased to see that the Government is making an effort in this respect.

Another point is that there are some of our children who are orphans and some who are lunatics and some whose parents are not taking care of them. It may be possible these children do not turn out to be delinquents, but they roam about the streets of towns, and I advise the Government that some necessary steps should be taken in order to care for these children. There are various ways of giving assistance to these children. For instance, Institutions could be established for these children, as children who cannot go on with their education should not be allowed just to roam in the streets without any supervision. Our children of today will be the leaders of the country tomorrow. Instead of neglecting these children Institutions should be built in order to teach them some useful trades.

Another point on which I should like to express my appreciation is that the Government is going to introduce a Land and Native Rights Law. This shows foresight on the part of the Government as it was necessary to introduce another new law. At this juncture I would like to agree with what the Atta of Igala said in this connection on Saturday. As the Atta of Igala said, he hopes that before this law is drafted the Minister in charge will tour the whole Region and meet various people so that in drafting the law the interests of the people of the Region will be considered. Before I resume my seat Sir, I should like to make some comments regarding some projects which the Government has said it will look into. We really need roads in this country. Without roads progress will be very difficult. In this respect, I should like to remind the Government of the roads which the Emir of Zaria mentioned on Saturday. These are the roads from Abuja passing through Kagoro to Kafanchan and from Kafanchan to Jos. The poor condition of these roads cuts off the whole area from the public, and I hope the Government will not forget this road. So I beg to support.

EMIR OF ILORIN: Mr. President Sir, before supporting the Speech from the Throne, I want to praise the Government for its vision in providing so much for the welfare of the people of this region. I also praise the Government for its past performances. The reason

for my praise is this. When constitutional Government began in this country few years ago, many people doubted the ability of Northerners to run their Government alone by themselves. Today it is our pride and glory that the North has proved itself not only better than but superior to other parts of the country, by the way it has been running and maintaining the affairs of the region with peace, progress and efficiency. It is a very good policy on the part of the Government, that it has always placed the comfort and well-being of the people in every corner of the region above all things. This policy is reflected by the provisions made in this and other budgets. It is true that Government cannot and could not be expected to satisfy the needs of the people at the same time. No matter how much it is praised for its efforts, it will still receive grumblings from several quarters from time to time. For this reason therefore, I myself wish to put up some matters for Government to consider.

The first matter concerns the Ministry of Works. This Ministry has done many good things for Ilorin. The buildings of Queen Elizabeth Secondary School, H.T.T.C., Trade Centre to name a few, are the pride of Ilorin today. I now want to draw attention to roads. Among the roads in Ilorin there are two which deserve to be recognised as Trunk "B" roads. One is Jebba to Balla road. This road is better, smoother, less hilly and more passable than the present trunk "A" route. Moreover, if this road is developed, it would shorten the present route by some miles. In fact, vehicles from Lagos to the North ~~were often use this road than~~ the normal route. The second one I have in mind is the Share to Patoggi and Lafiagi. This road should be given greater attention than at present. It deserves to be tarred. It shall become an important road because of the Sugar industry at Bachita. There is no doubt that when this industry is matured, population in the area will increase and traffic on the road will be heavy.

My second matter concerns the Ministry of Health. I praise this Ministry for providing Ilorin with two large and well equipped Hospitals. I refer to the hospital in Ilorin town and the one at Offa, the latter of which is being enjoyed by patients from parts of the Western Region despite their "LIFE ABUNDANCE". I do not want to say that these hospitals are not enough. What I want the Government to realise is this. The population of Ilorin like other areas of the North is increasing from day to day, due to many opportunities for work created by Government, which now make this region a centre of attraction for job seekers. An example is the proposed Jebba dam. It is certain that this dam would

increase the population of Jebba area which is now almost congested. The area is almost 70 miles away from Ilorin or Offa the nearest hospitals. It would be necessary to build one hospital at Jebba to meet the health needs of the people in the area now and in future. I want hospitals to be provided for the following places as well, Borgu Division, Lafiagi and Pateggi and Isanlu-Isin in Ilorin (East) Division.

My third point relates to the Ministry of Trade. I express my deep gratitude to this Ministry for the Bachita Sugar Cane project. I fervently pray that the industry may prove successful to benefit not only the North but the whole country. I want the Minister of Trade and Industry to examine whether it could be possible to establish a sack factory at Jebba. I think the soil in Jebba area is suitable for growing Rama Fibre for such an industry.

In conclusion, I want to thank the Government and particularly the Attorney-General for introducing the Bill amending the Native Court Law also for the preparation now on hand to amend the Land and Native Rights Ordinance. I should like to lay great stress on the need for amending the Land and Native Rights Ordinance. Left to me, not mere amendment but entire replacement of the ordinance with completely new one could wipe away the many bad features in the old law. In drawing up such amendment or making replacement however, all shades of opinion in the region should be consulted. The old ordinance had done a lot of havoc and ~~deterrred~~ progress in the region. It is incomparable with laws in the other two regions. As we are now approaching full independence Government should try to produce a law on Land Tenure acceptable to the people of the North.

I must not forget to express appreciation to the Government for its wise step taken in setting up a Committee to advise on the functions of Administrative Officers. It would be a good idea if this Committee dealt with the matter with minimum delay. Mr. President, Sir, I support the Bill.

ETSU LAPAI: Mr. President, Sir, I rise to speak mainly on the policy of the Government but before doing so I would like to congratulate the Emirs of Argungu, Zaria and of Ilorin for their maiden speeches. They were ably made. (applause) I think that we should copy their example.

Turning to the Speech from the Throne, I first want to thank the Government for speeding up development schemes in the Region by means of Loans Development Funds. My advice to the Government is that

it should be very very careful that we do not become so much in debt financially to the people overseas. We should respect our well achieved Self-Government by steering clear of debt. As far as development works are concerned there is always a tendency that Government institutions are confined to a few places, usually the big towns. If there is fair distribution of Government Development Schemes the smaller Native Authorities may not be in such dire need and poor as they are at present. Money spent in a place means more work for the people of that place and the people in such an area enjoy a better standard of living.

My next point concerns the investigation which the Government is going to make into the natural resources of the Region. In this connection I would like the Government to investigate the possibilities of river ports on the Niger and Benue rivers. This region has no seaport and it is very necessary to have easy facilities for our exports and imports. I would like to suggest one point to the Government. There is a small village, Dere, below Baro, which lies at the junction of the rivers Niger and Gurara. In the dry season when the depth of river at Baro is too low to allow ships to come up, the water at Dere is deep enough for this purpose. I am sure that a few thousand pounds spent there will give us a second port in the Region. The only difference will be that Baro will be a wet season port and Dere a dry season port.

My last remark, Sir, - I would like to thank the Attorney-General for his work in introducing the many Bills on judicial reforms. We all feel that these Laws when they come into operation will bring a new lease of life to the Northern Region.

With these words, I support.

CHIEF OF SHARAGI: Mr. President, Sir, I rise to express appreciation of the Speech delivered by the Officer Administering the Government of the Northern Region. In the Speech it has been explained that the work of the Ministries will be aimed at the progress of this Region and the betterment of the standard of living of the people and better health for the whole population of the Region. These three points are very important things.

With regard to Health, in our Division, Lafiagi-Pategi Division, we have no general hospital but we have small Native Authority and Voluntary Agency dispensaries. The Missionaries are of great help to us especially with regard to maternity care but even

so we often come up against difficulties. Our main difficulty is in getting transport to send our patients to general hospitals. At times we get serious cases which require sending the patient direct to a general hospital and at that time it might be that Native Authority transport is not in good condition and the Missionaries too might also have no transport available. Due to this lack of transport the patient might even die. I am appealing to the Minister of Health to see whether it would be possible to arrange with the Senior Medical Officer at the Headquarters that at any time a request either from a Village Head, District Head or a Chief is made for an ambulance such request should be attended to without delay.

My second suggestion is that Government provides ambulances for the smaller Native Authorities.

My third point, Sir, is an appeal to the Minister of Health with regard to lepers who are served with drugs. In our Division there are leprosy clinics. In some of these about 400 lepers receive treatment. In some of these Clinics the Native Authority provide the drugs and in others the Missionaries provide them. I ask the Government therefore to see whether it would be possible to give the Native Authorities and Missionaries grants in this respect. In some cases the Native Authority at times are not in a position to meet the cost of paying the staff who are taking care of these clinics.

With regard to the natural resources of this Region Bachita is in Sharagi District in Lafagi-Pategi Division in Ilorin Province and the Emir of Ilorin has already spoken on this town - Bachita. I fully appreciate what he has said. I would like to add to his comments - we have been informed that after November new people will be employed in this place. I appeal to the Minister to see to it that these posts are not filled by Easterners or Westerners. The senior posts should be filled by Northerners. I would like the Minister to do his best in this matter.

With regard to roads, the Emir of Ilorin has already said something about them but I must stress the fact that these roads are very important and attention should be paid to them because during the Premier's tour and the Governor's tour of Ilorin Province they were unable to reach Bachita due to this poor road. These are some of the points I have in mind..

EMIR OF JEMA'A: Mr. President, Sir, I rise to support

the Government activities' statement. I appreciate what the Minister of Health has done with regard to Health. I really appreciate his efforts in connection with the treatment of cerebro-spinal meningitis. When this disease broke out first ten or more people died each day. With the prompt attention which has been given to the treatment of this disease we found that it was gradually being overcome.

After this, I also thank the Minister of Education for seizing the opportunity to visit some of our schools and also I have to thank the Minister for Local Government. We also appreciate his efforts in touring our area. Concerning roads, we have not got good roads in our area. We have been constantly appealing for a road from Adamamite Itas. We appeal to the Government to provide an all season road from Adamamite Itas because both groundnuts and other crops are produced along this road and I hope the government will bear this in mind and help us. We appreciate what the government has done.

OHIMEGE OF KOTON KARIFI: Mr. President, Sir, I rise to support the Speech from the Throne. I rise to speak on various Ministries, and I will start first with the Ministry of Agriculture. I would like to know from the Minister whether it will be possible to supply farmers with fertilizer before they are asked to pay. (MR. PRESIDENT: The best time to ask this question is when we enter into the Committee of Supply.) My other point is with regard to roads. For some time we have been appealing for improvements to the road from Nasarawa to Keffi which runs to Koton Karifi and to Lokoja. This is a road which will link the North with the South. Experience has shown that many lorries pass day and night along this road, but due to lack of a ferry to convey them across the river, they have to wait for quite a long time; and we have often complained about this. May I know if it is not intended to link the North with the South? There is another road which starts from Agbaki to Koton Karifi and runs through Nasarawa to Abuja. We have been appealing for these roads to be improved, but nothing has been done.

Secondly, I am going to speak on the question of Rural Water Supply. We appeal to the Minister concerned to pay more attention to this Rural Water Supply, because most of the wells sunk in our area have no signs of water in them. There are some villages in our area where no well has been sunk at all. We living in the town were supposed to be given a pipe borne water supply, but we have not got it.

During the dry season, we often do not get water until around 4 p.m. and I am sure if the Minister concerned visits this area, he will be shocked.

I now go on to the Ministry of Health. I feel that the hospital provided for Lokoja in Kabba Province is worthless. The Minister himself is quite aware of conditions at this hospital, and there is no point in my giving everything in detail. If a patient is taken to this hospital he often has to wait indefinitely and it is better for him to go to Kaduna, Minna or Vom. That is why we appeal to the Minister to do something, because people who are taken there are neglected and many of them prefer to stay and die at home rather than go to this hospital.

I also thank the Minister of Education. We are aware of the fact that there is a Minister of Education but he does not tour our area and we ask him to tour the area. We know we are only a small part of the Region, but we feel the Minister should try and visit us.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH (HON. ALHAJI AHMAN GALADIMAN PATEGI): Mr. President, Sir, I must first of all thank all those Chiefs who have made valuable suggestions. I am grateful for their comments because the comments show that people are now realising the importance of the work of my Ministry and the need for the development of the medical and health services. The Government is doing all it can to develop these services in all areas and it will continue to do so. I know that more hospitals are needed and when we are considering our next five year development plan we shall consider where new hospitals can be built but it all depends on finance.

The Chief of Minna has asked for more doctors and nurses. I can assure him that we hope to be able to post another doctor to Minna before long. We also hope to post a second doctor to other hospitals which at present have only one, as the recruitment of doctors has improved considerably. The Nurses Training Schools at Kano and Kaduna are now turning out 90 new nurses in every 6 months and the establishment of nurses has been increased by 100 this year in the Estimates. The Medical Auxiliary Training School has doubled its intake this year. I am sorry to say that some Native Authorities did not send their students this year and I hope they will do so when the next course starts.

I can assure the Chief of Idoma that we are aware of congestion in all hospitals and we hope to expand

those hospitals when funds are available. I will also assure him that the doctors always separate infectious from non-infectious patients. I do not think that any doctor would be so ill-advised to allow patients to share the same bed particularly when one patient is suffering from infectious disease.

The Chief of Nassarawan Eggon asked for more grants for the Combined Hospitals. I can only say that the whole question of grants is at present under consideration by the Government. Fees for these hospitals are standardised as most of the funds both capital and recurrent are provided by the Government. We cannot however dictate to the Missionaries what fees should be charged in their own private hospitals.

I am grateful to the Emir of Misau for the great interest he and his Native Authority have shown in Leprosy work. I am glad to hear him saying that drugs are adequate. Chiefs may be interested to know that a German Doctor recently passed through this Region on his way to Europe from East Africa and he expressed an opinion that leprosy work is more advanced here than any other country he has visited in the world. Chiefs may also be interested to hear that we are now trying a new form of leprosy treatment in one or two clinics near Kaduna. It is in the form of an ointment and the first results are hopeful. We also hope before long to investigate an experiment in the treatment of cerebro spinal meningitis. This is taken in the form of snuff, and my Ministry hopes to be able to use this, but its possibilities must first be examined by experts.

The Emir of Agaie said that the Government should take over Baro dispensary. The Government has already made a grant of £255 this year. In a way the Government is virtually paying for this dispensary. I must also remind the Emir of what the Premier said to him when he was passing to Lokoja that Baro was likely to be developed as a result of the proposed Kurwasa dam on the River Niger. It is possible therefore, that the Federal Government might be able to do something for Baro in the future when it becomes a big port. This might also answer the question raised by the Emir of Ilorin about the hospitals wanted in Borgu and Jebba. We have to wait and see what this scheme will result in. The same thing may apply to Bachita when the sugar plantation is developed.

The Chief of Sharagi wants the Government to provide hospital ambulances to the Native Authorities.

We have repeatedly stated in this House that this is entirely the responsibility of the Native Authorities. Some Districts have already bought ambulances from their District Council Funds. Kutigi District in Bida Division, Niger Province, bought an ambulance last year. I hope others will follow suit.

With regard to grants to Missions and Native Authorities concerning the treatment of Leprosy which he mentioned, I recently advised them to employ a Leprosy Inspector and said that the Government would give a grant-in-aid towards his salary, but they have not yet responded to my advice. When they do so the Government is ready to help them. Grants to Missions are in respect of Leprosy Settlements. I made a statement on this in the House of Assembly when they were considering the Estimates. I do not think the Chiefs would wish me to go back and make the same statement again. I therefore refer the Hon. Member to the Hansard report of the House of Assembly debate.

Lastly, Mr. President, I say again that I am grateful for the great interest which Members have shown in the activities of my Ministry and again I assure them that we shall continue to do our best to the limit of our funds and our staff. The Government will do its best to see that adequate medical and health services are extended through out the Region. No any area will be neglected whether urban or rural.

I will investigate the point made by the Chief of Koton Karifi concerning the medical staff in Lokoja but I will be very grateful if he will come to my Ministry and give me some definite instances. It is difficult to build a house in the air.

MINISTER OF EDUCATION (ALHAJI ISA KAITA): Mr. President, Sir, I would like to thank the Hon. Members of this House for the appreciation which they have shown of the work done by my Ministry. Mr. President, Sir, on behalf of the Premier I would like to reply to one point which was made by the Emir of Zaria.

Mr. President, Sir, the Emir of Zaria in his speech drew attention to the essential need to maintain law and order if our independence is to be worthwhile. We must all agree with this sentiment, for, although our Region is known for its respect for authority and its reputation for keeping the peace, nevertheless lately we have had tragic and unpleasant unrest in one province of the Region caused by misleading propaganda at the time of the Federal Elections. We all regret this unrest and the Government is doing its

best to inform the people of the area concerned of the true facts.

As Members know, responsibility for law and order rests primarily on the Native Authorities and the Native Authority police. Some N.A. police are better than others and I wish to emphasise in this House that Government hopes to see all Native Authority police raised to a high standard of efficiency.

Our duty is twofold - firstly to remove as far as it is in our power all causes for unrest and secondly to raise the standard of our local police.

The Emir of Zaria also suggested that a progressive country must have a well balanced economy. I would like to say, Sir, that the Government bears this continually in mind and in fact has applied to international organisations for a number of experts to visit the Region to advise on the most economic use of its Natural Resources.

Now, I will turn to Education. The Atta of Igala hopes that Dekina and Abuja Junior Secondary Schools will be upgraded to full Secondary School status. I would like to mention that Abuja Junior Secondary School will progress to full Secondary School status as the classes develop. No decision has yet been made about Dekina but I would remind the Hon. Atta of Igala that a new Voluntary Agency secondary school has recently opened in Dekina with Government assistance.

I would like to say that the Emir of Argungu has asked Government to consider giving grants for building houses for teachers who are running junior and senior Primary schools. I would like to say that the Government is paying grants for masters' houses in Government quarters who live in the vicinity of boarding schools but Government is not giving housing grants for day primary schools whether junior or senior.

Mr. President, Sir, I would like to reply to the Chief of Nassarawa. I would point out that every effort is being made to pay grants on time so that teachers' salaries can be paid in time. But in my opinion Voluntary Agencies, Sir, should help themselves in this matter by making financial arrangements so that teachers can be paid even if grants are not received from Government in time.

The Chief of Nassarawa and many Hon. Members of the House of Chiefs showed appreciation of the Ministry's plan to improve Koranic education. The plan will be

drawn up in order to assist Koranic schools as soon as Koranic Education Adviser has been appointed to advise me how to carry on with the job. I would like also Sir, to answer the Chief of Kagoro who said that quite a number of children who left school are roaming in the streets of this Region doing nothing. I would like to say, Sir, that quite a number of these school leavers have been absorbed in Craft Schools, Clerical Training Schools and some of them are employed as N.A. Police, some by the Native Authorities and some by Commercial Firms. As to the number who are left, I would like to suggest that the Chiefs advise them to take up the most important occupation in this Region which is farming. I am sorry to say that most of our people now do not want to take up farming.

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (Mallam Mustafa Munguno):

Mr. President, Sir, it has given me great pleasure to listen to the speeches of Honourable Members and to learn that, generally speaking, they appreciate the activities of my Ministry over the past year and those proposed for next year. I am also glad to hear of the importance which they, and their Native Authorities, attach to Agriculture, for without their support and encouragement the work of my Ministry can be of little value. The problem of telling farmers about new agricultural developments and instructing them in improved methods has always been difficult. Over the past few years there has been a great advance in adult literacy and that, coupled with the wireless, in helping to bring information to the farmers. But a most effective way still remains by N.A. agricultural assistants paying personal visits to farmers and I hope that Honourable Members will, on their return home, urge their N.A. Agricultural Staff to tour frequently and energetically.

I have also been encouraged to hear of the importance which is being placed on the use of manure and artificial fertilizers. One of the best ways of combating shifting cultivation, which I know is a problem causing concern to a number of Native Authorities, is to maintain the fertility of the soil. For by so doing, farmers can continue to obtain good yields from their crops, and therefore do not need to cut down bush and open up new farms. Whilst on this subject I should like to inform the Chief of Nassarawa-Eggan that my Ministry has funds available for the free distribution of fertilizers. Free issues are not made to all farmers, because that was found to be wasteful and in a number of instances the fertilizer was put to improper use. It is, however, issued free for one year to a limited number of good

farmers whom the N.A. can recommend will make proper use of it. I shall ask my Provincial Agricultural Officers to make known more widely this service of the Ministry.

Reference has also been made to mechanisation. The introduction of mechanical equipment is a costly business, but my Ministry now has a total of nearly 150 tractors operating in the Region. A number of these are employed on duties giving direct benefits to farmers, e.g. ploughing schemes in Bornu and Benue Provinces and on soil conservation work in Katsina and Zaria Provinces. In addition this year a school will be opened at Samaru where Northerners will be trained to use and maintain mechanical equipment. These men will replace non-Northerners who are at present employed as tractor drivers by the Government, and later it is hoped that it will be possible to train them to use this equipment on their own farms.

The Chief of Wushishi enquired whether yields of existing crops could not be increased and whether there were any new food or cash crops which could be introduced with advantage into the Region. I can assure him that investigation and experiments on these lines are being carried out continuously both at Samaru and in the Provinces. Wheat is the latest crop to receive such consideration and a survey has recently been undertaken which has provided much valuable information on the areas at present under wheat cultivation and particularly in Sokoto, Katsina, Kano and Bornu Provinces. My Ministry will give every assistance to farmers to achieve expansion of this crop, and at the same time research will be undertaken with a view to finding a variety which will be suitable for the requirements of the new flour-milling industry which is likely to be established shortly in Lagos.

May I conclude as I began, Sir, with an expression of my appreciation of the interest which Honourable Members continue to show in this, the most vital, industry of our Region.

MR. PRESIDENT: The question I have to put is that this House notes with approval the policy of the Government as set out in the Speech which His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government of the Northern Region has delivered to this House.

Question put and agreed to.

MINISTER OF LAND AND SURVEY: Mr. President, Sir,
I beg to move that the House do now adjourn.

MINISTER OF HEALTH: Sir, I beg to second.

MR. PRESIDENT: The question is that this House do
now adjourn.

Before I adjourn the House, I would like to
inform Hon. Chiefs that the Emir of Kano, will be
leaving Kaduna tomorrow morning in order to meet
Her Majesty the Queen Mother who will be spending
one hour in Kano on Wednesday 11th May. I think
this House would like the Emir of Kano to respect-
fully convey our welcome and loyal greetings to Her
Majesty. (Applause). When she returns from Her
tour on 31st May, Her Majesty will be met by the
Emir of Katsina, in Kano, as the Emir of Kano will
have gone on a Pilgrimage to Mecca.

Now the House stands adjourned until 10'o clock
tomorrow morning.

House accordingly adjourned at 12. noon
until 10'o clock on 10th May.

CORRECTIONS:

Debates of Saturday, May 7th.

On page 17 - lines 7 - 8 delete the words -
ighty eight thousand five hundred and seventy -
nd insert - sixty seven thousand, nine hundred and
ive -

Page 17; line 28 delete the words "just under."

Page 18; line 10 delete the word 'nearly' and
nsert 'over'.