



NORTHERN REGIONAL LEGISLATURE

HOUSE OF CHIEFS

DEBATES

(Second Legislature)

Second Session

17th March, 1958

Price : 3d

Printed and Published by the Government Printer, Northern Region of Nigeria, 1958. To be purchased from the Government Press, Kaduna

NORTHERN REGIONAL LEGISLATURE

HOUSE OF CHIEFS

Monday, 17th March, 1958.

The House met at 10.00 a.m.

PRAYERS.

(MR. DEPUTY PRESIDENT in the Chair)

PRESENTATION OF MACE

MR. DEPUTY PRESIDENT:

I understand that the Premier wishes to deliver a message to this House. Is it your pleasure that he be admitted in? (Cries of "Aye", "aye".)
Sergeant-At-Arms, please let the Premier in.

The Premier then entered the Chamber followed by the Sergeant-At-Arms holding a Mace.

The Premier then advanced to the Table of the House.

THE PREMIER (ALHAJI the HON. AHMADU, C.B.E., SARDAUNA OF SOKOTO):

Deputy President,

On behalf of the Government, it gives me the greatest pleasure to present to this House a Mace which is the symbol of authority that has come to be used by most Legislative Houses. You will recall, Mr. Deputy President, that in August, 1956, a Mace was presented to the House of Assembly by myself on behalf of the Government. At that time it was thought that the House of Chiefs should have its own Mace and, accordingly, an order was placed to the design, approved by the House Committee of this House, of which the Emir of Zaria was the Chairman.

I do not think, Mr. Deputy President, that this is the appropriate time to go into the history

and origin of the Mace, but briefly it is given by the Crown to mark the authority of the Chair and therefore, whenever the President is in the Chair, the Mace is placed on the table as a symbol of authority, and whenever the President is not in the Chair, the Mace is removed.

I need hardly say that this august House does not need to be reminded about respecting the authority of the Chair because it has always, since its inception, been noted for its dignity and decorum which I am sure will be maintained throughout the years to come. I am sure, Mr. Deputy President, that this Mace will in the future become not only a symbol of authority but also of unity, unity not only amongst the Members of this House but also unity within the Region, unity within the Federation of Nigeria and among the other free nations of the Commonwealth. I pray, Mr. Deputy President, that the Members of this House will continue to honour this Mace, and treat it as a symbol of real force and unity in this our beloved country. (Applause).

Sir, I beg to present this Mace to you.

The Premier handed the Mace to Mr. Deputy President.

MR. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: (holding the Mace in both hands)

Premier, on behalf of this Honourable House, I accept with pleasure this precious gift which I am sure is deeply appreciated by Members of this House. I direct that this Mace be borne before the President and that it be used in this House in accordance with the customs and traditions of the Mother of Parliaments. (Applause)

Mr. Deputy President then handed the Mace to the Sergeant-At-Arms who placed it on its stand on the Table of the House.

OATHS

The following took and subscribed the Oath or made and subscribed the Affirmation required by law:

The Honourable Maikano Dutse (Dutse), Minister for Local Government;

The Honourable Muhammadu Kabir, Chiroman Katagum (Katagum North), Minister of State.

The Honourable Daniel Ogbadu (Igala South), Minister of State.

The Honourable Abutu Obekpa (Idoma North-West),
Minister of State.

MR. DEPUTY PRESIDENT:

Honourable Members, His Excellency the Governor desires to address this House. Is it your pleasure that I do meet His Excellency and lead him in, and afterwards escort him out? (Cries of "aye", "aye").

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

His Excellency the Governor entered the Chamber in Procession, took his seat, prayed the House to be seated and delivered his Speech from the Throne as follows:-

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE.

CHIEFS OF THE NORTHERN REGION:

I wish to begin by saying that I count myself honoured in addressing you for the first time today.

In the Speech from the Throne last year Sir Bryan Sharwood-Smith stated that the North would probably attain full regional self-government during the lifetime of this House. My Government considers that the time is now ripe and accordingly intends later in the Session to bring a motion before this House praying that Her Majesty may be graciously pleased to confer self-government upon the people of the Northern Region, who are second to none in loyalty to her, on 15th March, 1959. (Applause)

Let me now turn to the ordinary business of Government. The Minister of Finance will in his first Budget Speech introduce the Annual Appropriation Law which, this year, sets out thirty-four Heads of Recurrent Expenditure totalling over £13,000,000. In addition, a Capital Budget with expenditure of more than £8,000,000 is planned.

This year my Government also hopes to raise loan capital for development purposes amounting to £3,500,000.

Agriculture remains, by far, the greatest single industry in the Region and provides a correspondingly large part of the national income. Ten years ago the Region accounted for less than a quarter of the exports from the Federation. In 1958 it is probable that

exports from this Region will account for half of the value of the produce exported from Nigeria. Measures to assist the industry will be pressed forward. The K.50 groundnut multiplication scheme in Kano Province will be further expanded. Similarly, the replacement of the successful Allen "26C" variety of cotton and also of the "Benue Ungraded" type by the further improved "26J" will continue. The fertilizer campaign will be further extended, and the benefits of seed dressing will be widely demonstrated.

The programme of pasture-improvement will be extended to new sites in Kano, Katsina and Sokoto Provinces, and the increasingly serious problem of soil erosion will be given more attention.

The Veterinary programme will include the expansion of the work of tsetse control. In 1956-57 over 560,000 cattle were treated for trypanosomiasis and in the coming year it is expected that the figure will approach 700,000.

The Region's own Veterinary School will be built during the year and it is hoped that at least one of the modern abattoirs will be completed.

The much improved hides and skins service will continue to safeguard the value of these important products.

Plans are also in hand to build an experimental tannery to find suitable techniques for developing and expanding the local industry of tanning.

The main activities of the Forestry Division will continue to be concentrated during the coming year on the setting aside of the permanent forest estate. Schemes for management and exploitation will be brought into operation where an effective demand for forest produce exists. A Forestry School for the training of Native Authority Forestry Staff should be opened at Naraguta near Jos during the year.

As regards Education, the numbers of young men and women adequately educated to serve their country in the critical years ahead will steadily increase. During the year some 420 candidates in the Region will sit the School Certificate Examination: this is an increase of 60 per cent over last year's figure.

On the Technical side, the Trade Centre at Ilorin will take its first classes in March and several new Craft Schools will be opened during the year.

It is hoped to start work on the Provincial Girls' School at Bauchi and on the new buildings at the Women's Training Centre at Kano.

In the sphere of Medical and Health Services the emphasis must remain for the present on the improvement of training facilities. The Medical Auxiliaries Training School, Kaduna, which was opened last year, will be brought up to its full student strength in April: the construction of the Kaduna Nurses Preliminary Training School has been begun and it is hoped that by the end of the year it will be ready to receive its first intake of pupils: the capacity of the Kano Nurses School is also to be increased. The standard of the Zaria Pharmacy School is to be raised, and the Kano Medical School staff is to be increased.

Funds have been made available for the construction of the Okene Combined Hospital in conjunction with the Roman Catholic Mission. Both this and the Kano Orthopaedic Hospital should be brought into operation during the year.

Within the portfolio of the Minister of Internal Affairs the coming year will see a start made on the expansion of the Northern Police College - a necessary preliminary to the more methodical training which the Government wishes to see given to Native Authority Police. Complementary to this, the training provided for Native Authority Police by Nigeria Police detachments in Provinces is to be intensified.

For the past decade it has been becoming increasingly evident that the Land and Native Rights Ordinance is in several respects failing to fulfil present-day requirements and that a new Law is needed. It is proposed in the coming year to press ahead with defining policy and drafting new legislation.

A number of Native Authorities have proposed introducing registration of land deeds or titles. My Government will examine the possibilities closely and introduce registration of title where and when it may be feasible.

The Northern Nigerian Survey will continue its programme of mapping and it is hoped that by the end of the year up-to-date maps will have been published covering the whole of the area bounded roughly by the line Katsina-Keffi-Yola-Geidam and the northern frontier. All these maps will be based on air photographs.

Large scale plans of Kano, Kaduna and other large towns are in course of production. It is also hoped that the coming year will see an increase in the Town Planning Staff to deal more effectively with the Region's ever-mounting problems of urban development.

Encouragement will continue to be given to the broadening of Native Authority Councils, according to need and consistent with the preservation of authority and good government.

As regards the finances of Native Treasuries the post-war period of development is now nearing a close. Reserves built up in the past and financial assistance from external sources are drying up. The time has come for every Native Authority to review its financial resources, capital and current, and to consolidate all the social and economic development of the past decade. If the public wishes to continue to enjoy these services then it must be prepared to pay for their maintenance and expansion from their own pockets.

In many Provinces, both in the northerly and riverain areas, fear has been expressed about the future relationship between the Regional Government and individual Native Authorities. I recommend to the study of all those who have any such fears the declaration of policy on this subject made by the Premier on the 7th December last year. Let me now quote from it. "The Regional Government re-affirms its faith in the safeguards of democracy, namely the rule of law and freedom of discussion, and pledges itself to observe them in spirit as well as in letter. In particular, it is resolved to treat all Native Authorities, irrespective of their political sympathies, with strict impartiality and scrupulously to refrain from any action which could be attributed to political bias. Native Authorities may therefore rest assured that provided they, for their part, discharge their statutory and moral obligations, they will not be subject to unjustifiable interference or undue influence by the Regional Government."

One of the main tasks of the Ministry for Local Government will be the implementation of the policy on Provincial Authorities which was accepted in principle by the Regional Legislature last year. A Bill to establish Provincial Authorities will, it is hoped, be ready to be presented during the coming year.

The Ministry for Northern Cameroons Affairs will continue to foster and assist all forms of development in Trust Territory in close co-operation with the Ministries concerned.

In the field of Social Welfare, Government's effort will continue to be directed towards curbing the spread of juvenile delinquency, particularly in urban areas. Native Authorities will be encouraged to establish Remand Homes for the detention of juveniles in urban areas and to make more extensive use of the probation system in areas where Social Welfare staff are available to give the necessary supervision.

Continued encouragement will be given to Co-operative Societies as a means of combating the problems of debt and crop pledging.

It is the intention of my Government to continue to encourage industrial development, which will assist us to diversify our economy.

The operations of the Ministry of Works continue to the limit of its executive capacity.

Major buildings which will be begun during the year include the first stage of the new Hospital at Kaduna, a large three-storey laboratory block at the Agricultural Research Station, Samaru, and the new school of Agriculture at Kabba. In addition it is hoped to start work on the new Chamber of this Legislature, a State House for the Premier, the Kano Law Courts, a four-storey block of offices for the Public Service Commission, and accommodation for the Native Authority Wing at the Police College Kaduna.

Work will continue on extensions to Urban Water Supply schemes at Kaduna, Zaria and Jos, and it is hoped that the supplies for Maiduguri and Katsina will be put into full operation during the year.

The Regional Government will continue to press forward the policy of Northernisation with the greatest energy.

The Council of Chiefs of the Northern Region which was recommended at the Nigeria Constitutional Conference 1957 will be established as soon as the necessary amendments have been made to the Constitution. This Council will consist of the Premier, not less than two or more than four Chiefs from the Executive Council, and four other Chiefs selected from among the Members of the House of Chiefs, under the presidency of myself as Governor. It will determine all matters pertaining to the appointment, recognition, grading and deposition of Chiefs and their removal from any part of the Region to another part of the Region.

In conclusion I must revert to the problem mentioned by my predecessor, Sir Bryan Sharwood-Smith, in the Speech from the Throne last year, namely the preservation during this period of rapid political transition of mutual trust and confidence between the people on the one hand and those in authority on the other, especially those such as Chiefs and title-holders, whose position is based upon tradition and not upon popular election. During the past twelve months all Native Authorities have applied themselves to this problem by examining their administrations and eliminating the worst abuses. Although valuable work has already been performed I must emphasise that the task is necessarily a slow and laborious one and that much therefore still remains to be done. My Government is as convinced of the importance and urgency of this task as was the previous Government. The Native Authorities have a vital part to play in the administration and development of the Region and it is no exaggeration to say that, if they should fail, our whole future would be placed in jeopardy. Now therefore, on the eve of self-government, it is more than ever essential to press on with the task which was begun last year of overhauling the whole structure of local governments, repairing its weaknesses, and adapting it to the needs of the day. This is a duty which you and all those who have inherited positions of authority owe to the people over whom you rule, to the Governments of the Region and the Federation, and above all to God to whom you must answer for this sacred trust.

Chiefs of the Northern Region, I pray that your deliberations in this House, with God's guidance, will be wise, impartial, far-sighted, and of lasting benefit to the people of the North. (Applause)

His Excellency then left the Chamber in the same procession, escorted by the Deputy President.

The Deputy President then returned to the Chamber and resumed his seat.

MR. DEPUTY PRESIDENT:

Order, order. The sitting is suspended for 15 minutes.

House suspended at 11.00 a.m.

House resumed at 11.25 a.m.

(MR. PRESIDENT in the Chair).

His Excellency took and subscribed the Oath.

MR. PRESIDENT:

Gentlemen, I wish to say that I count it a great honour to be President of this House of Chiefs. Here in this assembly there have come together over the past twelve years the traditional representatives of the people of this great Region. They have gathered to discuss the problems of the Region and to debate and determine how best to ensure the Region's moral and material progress. Northern Nigeria, like Britain, is a country of fine traditions, built up over the past by the work and example of wise and able men. Great developments and changes have come about in both countries in recent years. Many of them have been good, but in order to achieve their full benefit, change and development must be properly related to tradition and to the wisdom of the past, and it is in the forging together of these two forces - the best that is in the past with the best that exists in modern life - that this House can play its most valuable part in ensuring the future happiness and stability of the Region.

Gentlemen, in view of my many other duties I am going to ask the Deputy President, Alhaji Haruna, the Emir of Gwandu, to relieve me of the task of sitting during the present Session. I ask him to take my place here, and at the same time I pray God to guide you in your deliberations and decisions.
(Applause)

(MR. DEPUTY PRESIDENT in the Chair).

PAPERS.

THE PREMIER:

Mr. President, Sir, I beg to lay the following Papers on the Table of the House:

1. His Excellency's Speech delivered on the opening of the House of Assembly;
2. Statement of Government Activities in the Northern Region;
3. Second Annual Report of the Northern Region Development Corporation, 1956-57;
4. Second Annual Report of the Northern Region Development Corporation, Part II, Annual Accounts; 1st April to 31st March, 1957.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (ALHAJI ALIYU, O.B.E. MAKAMAN BIDA):

Mr. President, Sir, I beg leave to lay the following Papers on the Table of this House:

1. Report of the Regional Joint Standing Committee on Finance for the period August, 1957 to January, 1958;
2. Accounts of the Jos Hill Station for the year ended 31st March, 1957.

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (ALHAJI ISA KAITA, O.B.E., MADAWAKIN KATSINA):

Mr. President, Sir, I beg leave of the House to lay the following Papers on the Table:

1. Rules governing the organisation and conduct of the Northern Regional Scholarship Board;
2. Audited Statement of Accounts of Northern Regional Voluntary Agencies Building Loans Fund, as at 31st March, 1956.

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND CO-OPERATIVES (MR. MICHAEL A. BUBA):

Mr. President, Sir, I beg to lay on the Table of this House the following Papers:-

1. The Annual Report of the Social Welfare Department of the Northern Region of Nigeria, 1956/57;
2. The Annual Report of the progress of Co-operation in the Northern Region of Nigeria, for the year 1956/57.

THE MINISTER OF WORKS (MR. G.U. OHIKERE):

Mr. President, Sir, I beg leave to lay on the Table of the House the Annual Report on the Public Works Department of the Northern Region of Nigeria, 1956/57.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH (ALHAJI AHMAN, GALADIMAN PATEGI):

Mr. President, Sir, I beg leave to lay on the Table of the House:

The Annual Report of the Department of Medical Services of the Northern Region of Nigeria, for the year 1954-55.

THE EMIR OF YAURI (MALLAM MUHAMMADU TUKUR):

Sir, I beg to lay the following Report on the Table of the House:

Report of the Public Accounts Joint Committee of the Northern Legislature, Session 1957-58.

MR. DEPUTY PRESIDENT:

The Clerk will now read the messages from the House of Assembly.

THE CLERK:

Message from the Northern House of Assembly to the Northern House of Chiefs. That the Northern House of Assembly has agreed to the Bill entitled "The Northern Region, 1958-59, Appropriation Law, 1958" as amended, and asks the agreement of the House of Chiefs thereto. The said Bill, together with a fair printed copy thereof, accompanies this message.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE:

Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move that the Bill be now read the first time.

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION:

Mr. President, Sir, I beg to second.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the first time.

MR. DEPUTY PRESIDENT:

Second reading when?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE:

Tomorrow, Sir.

THE CLERK:

Message from the Northern House of Assembly to the Northern House of Chiefs. That the Northern House

of Assembly has agreed to the Bill entitled "The Education (Amendment) Law, 1958" and asks the agreement of the House of Chiefs thereto. The said Bill, together with a fair printed copy thereof, accompanies this message.

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION:

I beg to move that the Bill be now read the first time.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE:

I beg to second.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the first time.

MR. DEPUTY PRESIDENT:

Second reading when?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION:

Tomorrow, Sir.

THE CLERK:

A message from the Northern House of Assembly to the Northern House of Chiefs. That the Northern House of Assembly has agreed to the Bill entitled "Control of Travel Agencies Law, 1958", as amended, and asks the agreement of the House of Chiefs thereto. The said Bill together with a fair printed copy thereof accompanies this message.

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION:

Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move that the Bill entitled "A Law to provide for the Establishment in the Northern Region of Nigeria of a Board for the Licensing and Control of Agencies Arranging Travel to certain Foreign Countries and for purposes connected therewith" be read for the first time.

THE MINISTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

Sir, I beg to second.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the first time.

MR. DEPUTY PRESIDENT:

Second reading when?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION:

Tomorrow, Sir.

THE CLERK:

A message from the Northern House of Assembly to the Northern House of Chiefs. That the Northern House of Assembly has agreed to the Bill entitled "The Adaptation of Legislation Law, 1958" as amended, and asks the agreement of the House of Chiefs thereto. The said Bill together with a fair printed copy thereof accompanies this message.

THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL (MR. H. H. MARSHALL, Q.C.):

Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move that this Bill be now read the first time.

THE MINISTER OF LAND AND SURVEY:

Mr. President, Sir, I beg to second.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the first time.

MR. DEPUTY PRESIDENT:

Second reading when?

THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL:

Tomorrow, Sir.

THE CLERK:

A message from the Northern House of Assembly to the Northern House of Chiefs. That the Northern House of Assembly has agreed to the Bill entitled "The Liquor (Amendment) Law, 1958" as amended, and asks the agreement of the House of Chiefs thereto. The said Bill, together with a fair printed copy thereof, accompanies this message.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (MALLAM MUSTAFA MONGUNO):

Mr. President, Sir, on behalf of my Honourable colleague, the Minister of Internal Affairs, I beg to

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move that the Bill be now read the first time.

MALLAM MU'AZU LAMIDO (MINISTER OF STATE):

Mr. President, Sir, I beg to second.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the first time.

MR. DEPUTY PRESIDENT:

Second reading when?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

Tomorrow, Sir.

THE CLERK:

A message from the Northern House of Assembly to the Northern House of Chiefs. That the Northern House of Assembly has agreed to the Bill entitled "The Native Authority (Amendment) Law, 1958", without amendment and asks the agreement of the House of Chiefs thereto. The said Bill together with a fair printed copy thereof, accompanies this message.

THE MINISTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

Mr. President Sir, I beg to move that the Bill be now read the first time.

MALLAM MUHAMMADU LABIR (MINISTER OF STATE):

Mr. President, Sir, I beg to second.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the first time.

MR. DEPUTY PRESIDENT:

Second reading when?

THE MINISTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

Wednesday, 19th March, Sir.

BUSINESS STATEMENT.

THE EMIR OF KATSINA (ALHAJI USMAN NAGOGO, C.M.G., C.B.E.)

Mr. Deputy President, Sir.

As is customary, the Chiefs will expect to hear from the Government Bench what business will be considered during this meeting. Tomorrow, Sir, the House will hear the Budget Speech from the Minister of Finance, after which there will be a Motion on the Speech from the Throne. The debate on this Motion will give Members chance to speak on the general policy of the Government. If time allows, the second readings of the following Bills will be taken:

The Education (Amendment) Law, 1958;
 The Adaptation of Legislation Law, 1958;
 The Control of Travel Agencies Law, 1958;
 and The Liquor (Amendment) Law, 1958.
 All these are short Bills and are also non-controversial.

On Wednesday, there will be four Motions, for appointing Members to various Committees. There will also be one Motion on the adoption of the Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Finance laid on the Table of this House today. After that, Sir, we will then take the second reading of the Native Authority (Amendment) Law.

On Thursday, 20th March, the Debate on the Second Reading of the Appropriation Bill will take place. If this debate is concluded, the House will go into Committee of Supply until the end of the sitting on that day.

Friday and Saturday will be devoted to Committee of Supply which will give members chance to go through the Heads of the Estimates.

This, Sir, is the Business which the Government proposes to put before the House for this meeting.

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

THE PREMIER:

I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

RESOLVED: "That the House do now adjourn."

~~House adjourned at 11.50 a.m. until 10 o'clock
on Tuesday, 18th March, 1958.~~



NORTHERN REGIONAL LEGISLATURE

HOUSE OF CHIEFS

DEBATES

(Second Legislature)

Second Session

18th March, 1958

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Tuesday, 18th March, 1958.

The House met at 10.00 a.m.

PRAYERS

(MR. DEPUTY PRESIDENT in the Chair.)

MR. DEPUTY PRESIDENT:

Special Announcement. 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, and
The Emir of Kano.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

APPROPRIATION BILL

Order for the Second Reading read.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (ALHAJI ALIYU, O.B.E., MAKAMAN BIDA):

Mr. President, Sir, I rise to move that the Bill entitled "The Northern Region 1958-59 Appropriation Law, 1958" be read a second time. Sir, I do not propose to speak at length since Chiefs have already received copies in both English and Hausa of my speech in the Northern House of Assembly but I should like to summarise the main points made in the Budget address.

Before I go further, Sir, I wish to express my deep appreciation of the honour given me of being the first Northerner to introduce a budget in this House. Here too, Sir, I would like to take the opportunity to acknowledge the parts my predecessors have played in the task of holding the Region's purse strings. To the late John Knott and to Peter Scott we shall always owe a debt of gratitude.

I wish here, Sir, to emphasize, most strongly that the departure of the Financial Secretary from Executive Council in no way signifies any change in the way our finances will be controlled. The Northern Regional Government, Sir, will not lend itself to any measures which might lessen the confidence either of our own people or of overseas investors. We are determined to maintain firm and stable financial and economic policies.

In my Budget Address to the House of Assembly I dwelt at some length on the general economic situation, not only within the country but also in the Sterling Area to which Nigeria belongs. That survey makes it clear that we, as a country that produces export products for sale in the world markets, cannot stand alone. We live, Sir, in an interdependent world economy and our prosperity depends on the state of world trade as a whole.

Set against the background of these world factors is the economic picture inside our own Region. We are fortunate that we have had an all time record groundnut crop. The final total is expected to reach some 670,000 tons compared to the previous record of 530,000 tons. The cotton crop has also been an excellent one. However, producer prices for groundnuts are only maintained by a large subsidy from Marketing Board reserves. We cannot receive higher prices for our products than the world market is prepared to pay and therefore we watch the trend of prices with some anxiety and hope that no further decline will take place.

Agricultural exports do not, of course, constitute our sole sources of export wealth. We derive valuable income from our mineral exports. Another aspect of the halt in the expansion of world trade is that demand for tin has fallen. The International Tin Council has, therefore, called for restriction in production, which, it is hoped will prevent a severe drop in price that might make the production of tin not worthwhile. We hope that it will not be necessary to continue the restrictions on the present scale throughout next financial year.

Turning to the Industrial scene in our own country, chiefs will be glad to know that industrial expansion, upon which the Government sets great store, continues. We are proud of the Textile Mill that has come into operation south of the Kaduna river where our own cotton is spun and woven for sale as grey baft throughout the Region. This project is truly a fine

example of the most desirable type of partnership between Northern and oversea enterprise. There are many other items of progress, such as the new Cigarette Factory at Zaria, the steady expansion of light industry in Kano, the growth of industry elsewhere. Recently, an area has been set aside for industrial development at Jos.

Local Government.

Chiefs will be aware that responsibility for Local Government finance now rests with my colleague, the Minister for Local Government. As Native Authorities occupy such an important place in our financial scene and as their financial relationships with Government are naturally a matter of great interest, I will make some mention of these matters here. It is gratifying to see that Native Authorities' revenue is still rising, being $8\frac{1}{2}\%$ greater in 1957-58 than in 1956-57, and that a satisfactory ratio between revenue and expenditure is being maintained. However, the gap between ordinary revenue and recurrent expenditure is much reduced by a regrettable number of applications for Supplementary Expenditure. This shows that some Native Authorities are still not facing realities when preparing their Estimates.

Chiefs are aware that last year, the capitation rate, the Region's share of general tax, was doubled from 2/6d to 5/-. The Regional share of general tax and Jangali now produces slightly more than £1m. per annum. This is approximately the same figure as the total paid over in Recurrent Code Grants to Native Authorities. These grants may be expected to increase from year to year as the number of trained men employed by Native Authorities increase and the grant attracting services, notably education and medical services, expand. We must remember also that the Regional Government also helps Native Authorities considerably by way of grants for capital works.

Many Native Authorities are proposing reasonable increases in rates of tax during the coming year. This is in accordance with the policy of progressively bringing the tax-payer to accept the cost of the burden of the expanded services which he desires.

I wish here, Sir, to stress the point that increased taxation must be made to fall more heavily on the wealthy. Government intends to assist in this. A senior Officer, who has undergone a course on taxation, has been posted to Special Duties in this connection. He is, at present, studying what staff

he will require. I earnestly hope that Native Authorities will take advantage of his specialist knowledge and that he will be able to render real assistance to them.

Some Native Authorities are finding it difficult to complete their present Development Plans because they have to hold fairly large cash reserves to provide working capital. The best advice I can give to all Native Authorities, not merely those suffering from this difficulty, is that they should plan their Budgets carefully and economically. The smaller Native Authorities in particular should not embark on expensive capital projects without being certain that they will, in fact, be able to service them properly when they are completed. All Native Authorities should examine their establishments very carefully to make sure that no passengers are being carried and that all those on the pay roll are efficient and fully employed.

The Estimates.

I turn now to an examination of the Estimates themselves. They are laid out in the manner followed since 1956 with a clear division into Recurrent and Capital Budgets. Let us first consider the Recurrent Budget.

Revenue.

Chiefs will be aware that a Fiscal Commission, appointed as a result of the London Constitutional Conference, is at present examining the structure of Nigeria's revenues, both Federal and Regional. We earnestly hope that we will secure increased revenue as a result of the Commission's recommendations but I can, of course, only budget for the revenue obtained from the system now in being.

Our main sources of revenue continue to be Statutory Appropriations from the Federal Government. Despite the unfavourable world trends which I mentioned earlier in this speech, our revenues from export and import duties should improve considerably compared to this year. The reason is that the great increase in volume more than compensates for a lower price as far as export duties are concerned. As regards Import Duties, the subsidizing of the producer means that he has more cash in his hands than ever before and this, combined with the continuation of an intensive development programme requiring large scale imports, should

the Minister to take great care of the Government's purse. (Applause) We should not spend money indiscriminately because it has been pointed out that we shall not always continue to receive grants from the British Government. We hope that every year we shall be finding some surplus. I appeal to the Minister to pay greater attention to the Government's purse.

Here I do not support what my Honourable Friend has said that it does not matter what political party is in power as long as there is a stable Government. We know that all political parties say that when they get into power they will do this and that; and we know which ones of them are sincere. Our only hope is that the present party will remain in power for ever. (Applause)

THE ATTA OF IGALA:

I rise to speak on ...

MR. DEPUTY PRESIDENT:

Will you please speak louder.

THE ATTA OF IGALA:

I rise to make some observations on the chart before me. On the left side of the chart we can see a district head and his Malam collecting tax. Below that we can see the amount of money collected from produce sales tax. I hope that whoever drew this chart did not forget benniseed and palm kernels, because I see that groundnuts and cotton have been included in the diagram. The inclusion of benniseed and palm kernels will give encouragement to those who grow them in the Provinces of Benue and Kabba. It will show that they also make their contribution to the wealth of the country. We can see from the two sides of the diagram that the green colour shows the amount of revenue and the red shows the amount of expenditure. At the bottom, the totals for both columns are the same. They have both been worked out in fractions of one pound and the totals show one pound for each column. This means that we are spending exactly what we get by way of revenue and we have no reserve at all. I am not sure whether the Minister of Finance is afraid of the burglars who broke into the local treasury in my town, Idah, and fears that they may break into his chest if he shows a reserve.

As the first speaker has indicated that the

tendency of extending services in the North is becoming more than we can cope with, I think this is a timely warning. I would like to see more ways of getting revenue coming in than what we are at the moment spending. Apart from what we are here to approve, the native authorities also have their own expenditure and if the two are put together the benefit is raised by about fifty per cent if not more.

I have another difficulty, but I do not know whether it is the duty of the Social Welfare or Labour Department. We are here to speak on behalf of our people and it is the people who really produce the money. In my own part of the Region, something really bad is going on. I say this because money is really needed to put things right and the Minister of Finance may have it in his future plans to make a limited scheme. People go about in search of work. On some market days you will find from twenty to sixty people moving into the Western Region, all going there in search of work. Only a small proportion of them returns. Nobody knows what will happen to them and their families. Will it not be wise, Sir, for the Regional Government to protect the rights of these people by creating an office in the Region to help the people, so that we know the number of them who go out and the number of them who come back; and we can enquire about those who do not come back. This causes a large decrease in revenue in the Region and for this reason should be looked into.

Now police, Sir, I know it is a Federal subject, but our native authority police should have better training.

THE PREMIER:

I think this should come under the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

MR. DEPUTY PRESIDENT:

The Premier's point is quite correct.

THE ATTA OF IGALA

I am sorry, I withdraw that. More ways should be evolved of spending our money in this Region. If fishery is developed I am sure more revenue will come in and that is why I am suggesting that Government should give it attention.

With these few remarks I support the Estimates.

THE EMIR OF BIU:

I rise to support the views expressed by the Honourable the Emir of Misau on the point made by our Honourable Friend about politics. My Honourable Friend should.....

THE EMIR OF LAPAI:

Mr. President, Sir, I should like my Friends to refrain from mentioning politics in this House in order not to cause confusion.

MR. DEPUTY PRESIDENT:

I think this is quite right. The Emirs and Chiefs are not supposed to take part in politics.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE:

Mr. President, Sir, to begin with I should like to thank the Chiefs for the speeches made and the good things they have said about me personally. Although most of the speeches should have been made under the various Heads of the Estimates; I should like to speak on two points raised.

The first one is that of the Emir of Lapai when he said that the Government should give more assistance to native authorities. I want to assure the Chiefs that the Government is continuing with the assistance it gives to native authorities. I should also like to remind them that these grants are given in respect of experienced and trained staff employed by the native authorities.

I should like to touch on the point the Emir of Lapai also made that it was not advisable for the Government to start projects which they could not cope with. This is quite true. There is nothing more detrimental than either the native authorities or the Government starting projects which they will not be able to maintain after completion. The Government is fully aware of this.

His other point was that the Government should run its services efficiently. I should in this connection like to remind the Chiefs that, since the inception of the Ministerial system of Government in this Region, there has never been any confusion, the type the Emir has in mind. It is the earnest intention of the Government to continue this peaceful and amicable atmosphere because it is the only way through

which a stable Government can be achieved and hence attract foreign investors. Therefore, the Government is always avoiding doing anything which will bring about misunderstanding and confusion.

The Chief of Paiko said that an industrial officer should be appointed. I am afraid I do not fully understand what he means, but I may say that there are many officers in the Ministry of Trade and Industry whose responsibility it is to undertake this work.

The Chief of Kagoro supported the Emir of Lapai when he said that a stable government is necessary in this Region. I should like to assure him that, as I said before, this is our intention. As he was the first to mention politics in this House and, although we know that it is not appropriate to mention politics, I should like to say that we are also aware of the type of politicians we have in the Region, but whatever kind of confusion and trouble they cause in this Region will not frighten the Government and stop it from following a course which will be beneficial to the Region (Applause).

The Chief of Kagoro has mentioned tin and said that things like tin and groundnuts, which are our exports, should be utilised in this country. Well, just as the Kaduna Textile Factory has come into being in order to utilise our cotton so we are looking for ways and means of utilising other export products. The Ministry of Trade and Industry has established many other factories in Kano with the intention of utilising other products now exported. He said that I did not mention the question the manufacture of sacks. Experiments are going on now.

The Chief of Kagoro also mentioned the Assessment Officer and his work in connection with the assessment of rich people. The Officer is now here and his work is important. As everyone knows the taxing of rich men in this country is a difficult matter; some will be over-assessed and many others will be under-assessed. This expatriate has been fully trained in this difficult job and since his work will be in connection with Native Authorities, I want all the Chiefs to give him their co-operation.

The Emir of Misau has said that we should not spend money anyhow. I thank him very much but I must add that I only act as a storekeeper. It is the Regional Government which has the power of spending

the money. My only work is to keep an eye on the revenue and expenditure. When the Regional Government says that I should release some money I cannot refuse. (THE PREMIER: You are also part of the Government).

The Atta of Igala asked that benised should be included in the diagram. He has expressed a fear that we have no reserve. If he looks at the Estimates before him he will see that we have tried to keep a reserve against a rainy day.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the second time.

MR. DEPUTY PRESIDENT:

Comm) tee when?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE:

Tomorrow, Sir.

ADJOURNMENT.

RESOLVED: "That the House do now adjourn". (The Minister of Education)

House adjourned accordingly at 11.00 a.m.
until 9 a.m. tomorrow.



NORTHERN REGIONAL LEGISLATURE

HOUSE OF CHIEFS

DEBATES

(Second Legislature)

Second Session

21st March, 1958

Price : 3d

Printed and Published by the Government Printer, Northern Region of Nigeria, 1958. To be purchased from the Government Press, Kaduna

Friday, 21st March, 1958.

The House met at 9.0 a.m.

PRAYERS

(MR. DEPUTY PRESIDENT in the Chair)

ORDERS OF THE DAY

APPROPRIATION BILL

Order for Committee read.

MR. DEPUTY PRESIDENT:

The question was put and agreed upon yesterday. The House will now resolve itself into Committee of the Whole House.

(House in Committee)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:

May I remind the Honourable Members that when a Head is called a Member may rise and address the House on the policy of the Head, Department or Ministry concerned.

Clauses 1 - 4 postponed

Schedule

HEAD 221 - THE GOVERNOR

Question proposed "That £21,560 for the service of Head 221 - the Governor - do stand part of the schedule"
Subhead 1 agreed to
Subheads 2 to 7 agreed to

£21,560 for Head 221 - the Governor, - agreed to

HEAD 222 - GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

Question proposed "That £20,355 for Head 222 - Governor's Office - do stand part of the Schedule."

£20,355 for Head 222 - Governor's Office - agreed to

HEAD 223 - PREMIER'S OFFICE

Question proposed "That £60,530 for the service of Head 223 - do stand part of the Schedule"

£60,530 for Head 223 - Premier's Office - agreed to

HEAD 224 - OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Question proposed "That £56,905 for the service of Head 223 - Office of the Executive Council - do stand part of the Schedule."

Subhead 1 agreed to

Subheads 2 to 9 agreed to

Subheads 10 and 11 agreed to

Subheads 12 to 15 agreed to

£56,905 for Head 224 - Office of the Executive Council - agreed to

HEAD 225 - ADMINISTRATION

Question proposed "That £632,670 for the service of Head 225 - Administration - do stand part of the Schedule."

Subhead 1 agreed to

Subheads 2 to 18 agreed to

£632,670 for Head 225 - Administration - agreed to

HEAD 226 - COMMISSIONER IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

Question proposed "That £32,150 for the service of Head 226 - Commissioner in the United Kingdom - do stand part of the Schedule"

Subhead 1 agreed to

Subheads 2 to 8 agreed to

Subheads 9 to 14 agreed to

£32,150 for Head 226 - Commissioner in the United Kingdom - agreed to

HEAD 227 - LEGISLATURE

Question proposed "That £204,605 for the service of Head 227 - Legislature - do stand part of the Schedule"

Subhead 1 agreed to

Subheads 2 to 8 agreed to

Subheads 9 to 14 agreed to

Subheads 15 to 17 agreed to

£204,605 for Head 227 - Legislature - agreed to

HEAD 228 - JUDICIAL

Question proposed "That £78,315 for the service of
Head 228 - Judicial - do stand part of the schedule"
Subhead 1 agreed to
Subheads 2 to 8 agreed to
Subheads 9 to 16 agreed to

£78,315 for Head 228 - Judicial - agreed to

HEAD 229 - PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Question proposed "That £40,065 for the service of
Head 229 - Public Service Commission - do stand part
of the Schedule"

THE EMIR OF LAPAI:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to know the relationship between this Commission and Secondary Schools. I just want to know whether students from Secondary schools and the College of Arts can send in their applications for scholarships to the Commission. If they are allowed to do so I want to know how these applications are considered.

THE PREMIER:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, this has nothing to do with the awards of scholarships. If it is the question of scholarships, the Honourable Member can raise this under 'Education'.

Subhead 1 agreed to
Subheads 2 to 7 agreed to

£40,065 for Head 229 - Public Service Commission
agreed to

HEAD 230 - AUDIT

Question proposed "That £100,170 for the service of
Head 230 - Audit - do stand part of the Schedule"
Subhead 1 agreed to
Subheads 2 to 7 agreed to
Subheads 8 and 9 agreed to

£100,170 for Head 230 - Audit - agreed to

HEAD 231 - MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

Question proposed "That £1,465,935 for the service of Head 231 - Ministry of Agriculture - do stand part of the Schedule"

THE CHIEF OF PALKO:

Mr. Chairman, I just want to ask a question on this Ministry. Agricultural officers go to the farmers and tell them to use fertilizers. The officer tells the farmer to use fertilizers on a certain number of acres of his farm. It is possible therefore that the farm is divided into two and the farmer can only use half of the produce from the farm. After some time the yams which he is using will be fully grown and he is told that he cannot touch that part of the farm on which the fertilizer has been used for some time. So he cannot eat the yams on his farm and he has to go and buy yams from elsewhere, whereas he has them on his own farm. I therefore want to suggest that whenever this sort of thing is going to happen the Ministry of Agriculture should buy the whole farm from the farmer or establish its own experimental farm so that people can go and see; it should not take the farmer's yams.

THE CHIEF OF KAGORO:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to make a few points on this Ministry. There was a farm in Southern Zaria which was established to help the Biroms. I understand that it was the responsibility of the Federal Government but I have heard that the farm had to be abandoned after fine buildings had been put up and the area had been cleared and prepared well for farming. There are places there suitable for growing cocoa and kolanuts, etc. Will the Regional Government consider taking this farm over in order to continue with the scheme? It will benefit the people living in the area.

THE EMIR OF ARGUNGU:

I rise to bring a point on this Ministry. I just want to ask whether the Ministry can help us with our problem of rats. These rats caused a great deal of trouble during the last rice season. We thought that they would die out as usual when the rains came but we have

... these rats will cause a great deal of damage. We need this help now because it is at this time that people start sowing their rice and what happens is that when the rice germinates these rats just cut it down and destroy it. The amount of rice which is being sown at the moment is very small but in the near future

when farmers begin to sow their rice and the rain comes, all the rice which germinates will be destroyed by these rats. When the rice germinates and is destroyed by these rats and the rain comes, nothing can be done and that is what brings about famine in the country; and these rats are multiplying rapidly. In the past the activities of these rats were restricted to the border between Argungu Emirate and Sokoto Emirate, but they are now spreading through Argungu Emirate up to Gwandu Division. I was advised of this when I was on my last tour - people told me that these rats are not more than 40 miles away from Gwandu Emirate and there are many of them. What happens is that when these rats come into the rice farms they are sometimes destroyed by flood water, but this time the people have told me that they are very much afraid of what will happen - that the flood water will not destroy all the rats. I therefore appeal to the Minister to see whether any help can be given.

THE EMIR OF JEMA'ARE:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, just as the Emir of Argungu has mentioned we want the Minister to help us in order to eradicate rats and termites. There are also other small animals which cut down grass; for example, we hoped to have a citrus plantation but all the seedlings planted were destroyed by termites and rats and we therefore need some help from this Minister if it is possible.

THE EMIR OF DIKWA:

Mr. President, Sir, I should also like to talk about pests. The pests I have in mind are different from those the Honourable Members have just spoken about. What I am having in mind is the birds that are known as quelea birds. These birds have done quite a lot of destruction this year in our part of the country. In the past the farmers knew how to deal with them but the Forestry Ordinance was strictly enforced and the method of destruction they were using was discontinued, so much so that for the past two or three years they have started to worry us. The method that the farmers used in the past was destructive to plant life. Their method was to go out and burn the nests during the nesting season. Therefore I am appealing to the Ministry to find some means of destroying these pests, otherwise if they continue at this rate we will find that within a very short period the danger of destruction will be very grave. I understand that in the Sudan the same problem existed - I do not know whether they have got the remedy this time or not. Therefore, we shall be grateful if the Ministry will try and investigate this matter and get some remedy.

THE EMIR OF BAUCHI (MALLAM ADAMU JIMBA):

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise in order to express the grievances of my people on this Ministry. The grievances are genuine. These people are worried about tobacco cultivation, because there is a large part of my Emirate where the people do nothing except cultivate tobacco. They say that they have heard that tobacco which is suitable for making cigarettes can be grown and they therefore want me to appeal to the Ministry so that they can be provided with seedlings to plant in their area. I have done so on many occasions but I have not been successful. I therefore hope that these people will be helped and be provided with the seedlings. If the area were not suitable for tobacco growing I would not support them. I therefore hope that these people will be helped and be provided with the seedlings. If the House was not aware of this previously, I am now informing the House and if nothing is going to be done in a very short time I want tobacco officers to be sent to the place to make investigations and prevent me from being worried by the people. I know that these people are trying other means of obtaining the seeds, but I shall not at all be happy if they get the seedlings elsewhere.

THE LAMIDO OF ADAMAWA:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise in order to support the point raised by the Emir of Dikwa. I hope a proper means of destroying these quelea birds will be found because if nothing is done to these birds at the moment, quite a lot of destruction will be caused by them in the future. I do not say that they have caused a great deal of trouble in my area although they have caused some destruction. This year we are more afraid of the damage from the people of Bornu than these birds because, as these birds caused a lot of suffering in Bornu Province, the people of Bornu have now taken away all the guinea corn that we have cultivated (Laughter). I therefore hope that the Government will do everything in its power to see that these birds are destroyed.

the Minister of Agriculture. The Ministry has helped the people a great deal. Last year I raised two points in which people can be greatly helped, but neither of them has been accomplished. I advised the

Ministry that in the Southern part of Lapai Emirate the people live by fishing. There are many lakes in the area and the people get a great deal of benefit from the lakes and, as there are fishery officers, I hope that these officers will pay a visit there in order to help the people. It is possible that when this officer pays a visit he will help them with other means of getting fish more than they did in the past.

My second point which I raised last year was about rice cultivation. There are many farmers in that area whose livelihood depends on rice cultivation and these people who are still using the old method of rice cultivation. The time has come when irrigation projects should be provided so that large acres of land can be cultivated. We hope that we will not be forgotten this time.

THE EMIR OF KOTON KARIFI:

Mr. Chairman, I rise in order to speak on this Ministry of Agriculture. I support the view expressed by the last speaker on rice cultivation it applies in my area. The people are still using their old methods of rice cultivation. The time has come when these people should be taught to grow rice whether during the rainy or dry season. And again, these people suffer a great deal from the damage caused by birds. There are many other pests which stop people from getting good produce from their farms. Because of these pests this year people have found it difficult to pay their taxes. These pests have caused a great deal of damage especially to the yams. There are some pests which attack the yam crop and stop it from producing anything. Although we have complained to the Agricultural Officers and they have been doing their best during the past two years, yet they have not been very successful. As for the people who live along the banks of the rivers who grow maize, they are greatly worried by crickets and rats. We shall be very grateful if the Minister of Agriculture will help us in our problems because the people living in my area have got no other occupation besides farming, though there are a few fishermen, just as the Emir of Lapai has mentioned.

I therefore support the provision under the Head.

THE EMIR OF AGAIE:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the previous speakers. I am very pleased with the Ministry of

Agriculture, but what I would like to point to them is that in my Emirate in the North of Agaie there are cotton farmers. The strain of cotton now being issued to them is not very good though the strain they have been planting for quite a long time is good. I asked them why this was so. They said that after they have planted the crop and it has germinated, in the course of its development it becomes bad. Therefore I am appealing to the Ministry to help us to see if we can get a better strain.

MAI BIU:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Shehu of Dikwa. As regards quelea birds, unless something definite is done about it, these birds will create havoc and even though they have not done any damage in my own Emirate this year, there have been quite a lot of them in Shani District and for this reason I am appealing to the Government to do something about it. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I wish to raise the question of hyenas which trouble us in our Emirate.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:

Hyenas are nothing to do with the Ministry of Agriculture.

MAI BIU:

This is not about hyenas - this is about farming.

THE CHIEF OF WAMBA (MALLAM MUHAMMADU KWORE):

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the previous speakers - the Emir of Argungu and the Emir of Lapai - about these birds. We are three independent districts, adjacent to one another and all three of us are troubled with the same pests. Of the three of us the destruction in Mada District is the greatest and in my Emirate, guinea corn has been very badly destroyed. We do not intend to belittle the work of the Agricultural Officers in the Emirate, but because other Members have spoken about this damage I am also complaining of it. I therefore appeal to the Ministry of Agriculture that something be done to help us. I know that it is not the time for the cropping season yet, but it is better to let us speak before the time.

THE CHIEF OF DABAI:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the speeches made by the previous speakers about farming. In our own Emirate there is something which is giving us trouble, but not birds. It is an insect which sets in at the onset of the rains. At the time when millet and guinea corn are just developing it gets into the crop and it prevents its growth and from then on it withers and dies. It is just like a fly but it is not a fly, it is an insect. I am appealing to the Ministry of Agriculture to do something about it.

The next thing I am going to talk about is cotton. I do not know whether this concerns the Ministry of Agriculture or the Ministry of Finance, but in my Emirate this year we have got about 300,000 tons. I am asking the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Finance to establish a ginnery in Sokoto. Now that roads have been opened, cotton will be on the increase. If a ginnery is established in the area, people in Zuru and other places will be very pleased.

My second appeal is this. There is another third crop in our area and that is Shea-butter. If marketing is opened on this people will be very pleased, but this has been closed now. If there is a possibility of developing this trade, I think the Minister should see about it.

I should like to support what the previous speaker has said.

THE EMIR OF PATEGI:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to congratulate the Ministry of Agriculture because we have been fortunate to have one man, by name Mr. McLeod, who has helped farmers to grow guinea corn, cotton and other crops. We have got damp places in the area and I am now appealing to the Minister for tractors. I should like him to send one for demonstration in the Emirate. Although we have our own method of farming now people want progress and for this reason the Minister should see that tractors are sent to the Emirate.

THE EMIR OF WASE:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I do not think it would be right for me not to speak on this Head. I feel that not only I but the Emir of Lafia should congratulate the Minister on the work his Ministry has done in our Emirates.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, most of the money spent in the mining areas on the land reclamation scheme, especially in the Lowland Division, is well spent. The Minister always sees to it that the money spent on this kind of work is not wasted. Useful advice is always given to us by Agricultural Officers, especially at Agricultural Shows which enhance the enthusiasm of farmers for farming. Every year these shows are held, and there is no doubt that they encourage farmers to be interested in farming. I do not know whether the Young Farmers Club is part of the Ministry of Agriculture, but if it is people are very happy about it.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: (to MAI BUI who had previously stood up)

Does the Honourable Member wish to speak?

MAI BUI:

Mr. Chairman, I should like ...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:

Not on hyenas. (Laughter)

MAI BUI:

No, Sir, I wish to speak on baboons.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

On point of order, Mr. Chairman. This is not under my Ministry - it is under the Ministry of Animal Health and Forestry.

MAI BUI:

But it is part of agriculture because baboons damage our crops.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:

Is it part of food crops?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

Yes, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:

Then the Honourable Member can continue.

MAI BUI:

Mr. Chairman, I want to speak on red monkeys. The amount of damage done by baboons to our food crops was considerable, but now we have remedied the situation. It is now the red monkeys that worry us. They are hunted every day but it seems these red monkeys are clever. Even when we poison a piece of food, on coming upon it they will just circle it and go on their way without touching it.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to appeal to the Government to get some means of eradicating them.

THE EMIR OF KEFFI:

Mr. Chairman, I will not allow this Head to pass without congratulating the work of the Minister. Nothing is more important than farming, and in my own Division nothing we planted this year was spoilt or damaged. We therefore thank God.

I would like to remind the Minister of Agriculture that we would like him to send fertilizers to the farmers in my area and explain to them its usefulness. I bought £7 worth of fertilizers from the Agricultural Superintendent who showed me how to use it, and I found it very useful. But our people do not understand anything about it. I should therefore like the Minister to show the farmers its usefulness. That is my appeal to the Minister.

THE EMIR OF NASSARAWA:

Mr. Chairman, I support the Emir of Keffi because we are more or less from the same Province. What he has said is the same in my area. We want the Minister of Agriculture to help us.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am very grateful to all Honourable Members who praised the activities of the Ministry of Agriculture. We all know that agriculture is the backbone of the Northern Region. It is with agriculture that we pay our tax, it is with agriculture that we buy our clothes and food and it is with agriculture that we marry our wives. (Hear, hear) And for this reason I want to tell Honourable Members in this Honourable House what is going on with experiments in every crop in order to increase the wealth of the country. We have already achieved great success in the field of groundnuts and cotton; and we are bound to go forward.

Now I come to my Honourable friend, the Chief of Kagoro. He enquired about tree crops. I am glad to be able to assure him that I am devoting increasing time and money to cocoa, coffee, kola nuts and oil palm, in the southern part of the Region. Much of the work, though promising, is still in the experimental stage and it would be unwise for us to force the pace too much.

My Honourable friend, the Emir of Dikwa, raised the question of quelea birds in Bornu. He may be assured that this matter which has proved very troublesome in Kenya, South Africa and French Chad territory is receiving my close attention. We are studying the somewhat expensive remedies adopted elsewhere and hope to provide an effective cure for this country and I am determined to find an effective remedy as soon as possible.

My Honourable Friend the Emir of Lapai raised the important matter of fisheries. Up to the present time there has, I regret, been no clearly defined Regional fisheries policy but I am engaged in preparing one now and I hope it can be fully discussed at the next budget session of this House.

The Chief of Dabai spoke about the need for more cotton ginneries. This matter is part of the whole question of cotton policy in the Region, which I am at present reviewing. If the need for more ginneries emerges, the Honourable Member can be assured that I will raise it with the British Cotton Growing Association.

The Chief of Dabai and the Chief of Koton Karifi spoke about various pests in food crops and the need for finding a remedy for them. I entirely agree with both of them and cordially invite them to find time to visit Samaru some time to see what our Research Officers are doing about these pests.

Farms. Farmers are not ordered not to sell the crops when harvested, a farmer is only asked to report when he is harvesting the yams, so that my Officers can know the yield of yams when fertilizer is used.

The Emir of Bauchi talked about tobacco growing in his area. I have already asked the Tobacco Company to investigate how to grow tobacco in Bauchi Province.

The Emir of Biu spoke about baboons. I assure him that I will bring this matter to the notice of my friend the Minister of Animal Health and Forestry (Laughter).

The Emir of Keffi raised the question of fertilizers. I entirely agree with him about what he said on the need to induce many more farmers to use 'Takin Zamani'. But in order to do so we need much more junior staff, and they must be Northerners, to teach the work in the field. I am urgently examining this matter and I hope to put my proposals to the Executive Council shortly for consideration.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like again to thank all the Chiefs who are here in this House and I hope they will give more co-operation to my staff in every Division of the Northern Region. (Applause)

THE EMIR OF YAURI:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise in order to ask the Minister of Agriculture a question which is worrying us. This is in connection with the two most important rivers we have in the Region, that is the Rivers Niger and Benue. If anybody visits places which are adjacent to these two rivers he will see that the places are well watered. Year after year the river has been allowed to flow without any effort on the Agricultural Department to harness some of the water for agricultural purposes. The water, if harnessed, could be used for growing dry season crops as well as fruit trees and this will increase the production of food and increase the prosperity of the Region generally. We want to know when the Agricultural Department will do something about this.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

Mr. Chairman, although this is a matter for the Federal House, my Ministry is making every effort to find ways and means of increasing irrigation in the country, and it is now under investigation. I can assure the Honourable Member that we will do everything possible to help, but it will necessitate quite a lot of money.

Subhead 1 agreed to

Subheads 2-8 agreed to

Subheads 9-12 agreed to

Subheads 13 and 14 agreed to

Subheads 15 and 16 agreed to

Subhead 17 agreed to

Subheads 18-30 agreed to

Subheads 31-33 agreed to

Subhead 34 agreed to

Subheads 35-40 agreed to

Subhead 41 agreed to

Subhead 42 agreed to

Subheads 43-55 agreed to

Subhead 56 agreed to

Subhead 57 agreed to

Subheads 58-69 agreed to

Subhead 70 agreed to

Subhead 71 agreed to

Subhead 72 agreed to

Subhead 73 agreed to

Subhead 74 agreed to

Subhead 75 agreed to

Subheads 76-86 agreed to

Subheads 87 and 88 agreed to

Subhead 89 agreed to

Subhead 90 agreed to

Subhead 91 agreed to

Subheads 92-99 agreed to

Subhead 100 agreed to

Subheads 101-105 agreed to

Subhead 106 agreed to
Subheads 107 and 108 agreed to
Subhead 109 agreed to
Subheads 110-112 agreed to
Subhead 113 agreed to
Subheads 114-117 agreed to
Subhead 118 agreed to
Subhead 119 agreed to
Subheads 120-126 agreed to
Subheads 127 and 128 agreed to
Subhead 129 agreed to
Subhead 130 agreed to
Subheads 131-134 agreed to
Subhead 135 agreed to
Subheads 136 and 137 agreed to
Subhead 138 agreed to
Subheads 139-141 agreed to
Subhead 142 agreed to
Subheads 143-147 agreed to
Subhead 148 agreed to
Subheads 149-156 agreed to
Subheads 157-161 agreed to
Subhead 162 agreed to
Subheads 163-170 agreed to
Subhead 171 agreed to
Subhead 172 agreed to
Subheads 173-178 agreed to

Subhead 179 agreed to

Subhead 180 agreed to

Subhead 181 agreed to

Subhead 182 agreed to

Subhead 183 agreed to

Subheads 184-195 agreed to

Subheads 196-198 agreed to

Subhead 199 agreed to

Subheads 200-205 agreed to

Subheads 206-210 agreed to

£1,465,935 for Head 231 - Ministry of Agriculture -
agreed to.

House suspended at 10.30 a.m.

House in Committee resumed at 10.45 a.m.

HEAD 232 - MINISTRY OF ANIMAL HEALTH AND FORESTRY.

Question proposed "That £549,195 for the service
of Head 232 - Ministry of Animal Health and Forestry -
do stand part of the Schedule".

THE CHIEF OF KAGORO:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to express my appreciation of the services of this Ministry, because of the drugs which cure the diseases of cattle, like the disease of Trypanosomiasis. Previously, cattle used to suffer a great deal, but through the intensive efforts of the Ministry staff, it has now been remedied.

I would like to remind this Ministry about a point I raised last year. Last year I suggested that the Fulanis be checked from wandering about. I suggested that a means of checking that, is to settle them in one place because that will stop them going to places that are infested. I am happy to say that I was together with this Minister during a recent a tour to the United Kingdom. We had a look at places where cattle are being satisfactorily raised, and we asked a lot of questions

about it. We have seen how everywhere cattle for different purposes such as beef and milk production were being segregated. I hope the Minister will put into use the systems he has seen being followed there.

With these few observations I beg to support.

THE EMIR OF MISAU:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to congratulate the Minister of the Ministry of Animal Health. We always have a Veterinary Officer in Katagum Division who gives us help, and this Veterinary Officer is a very industrious man. His staff are always going round and treating cattle, and they are treating the cattle against the disease of "Hanagamba". And with regard to the treatment of Trypanosomiasis, although the Veterinary Officer collects the fee from the Fulanis he does not actually inject the cattle - his staff does so. Some of the cattle are being castrated. Some time ago Bovine pleuropneumonia from Bornu Province found its way into the Division, but the Veterinary Officer at Bornu and Katagum and the Native Authority Veterinary Staff met together and discussed it. If anyone brings cattle suffering from this disease into the Division the cattle are slaughtered and the man is not fined but sent to prison for six months, because this is a very serious disease.

It would make me happy if the Minister would show the Fulanis how to collect hay during the winter to prevent suffering from lack of grazing in the dry season. The Veterinary Officers are trying their best to show them this way, but the Fulanis still do not appreciate it. As a result, whenever the bush is burnt down, the cattle suffer. The bad people who burn the bush are the hunters, who say that if they do not burn down the bush they will not be able to see their prey. Although there is a law against this, nobody sees them when they put fire to bush. We are very concerned about these bush fires because cattle are very useful to us. I wonder whether a way can be found to prevent these people from starting bush fires.

We thank one Forestry Officer by the name of Mr. Tupper Carey. He is helping a lot with regard to Forestry. He is a very active man and we like what he does. Therefore we appreciate the services of this Ministry.

With these remarks Mr. Chairman, I support.

THE EMIR OF DIKWA:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to congratulate this Ministry and I would like to bring one important suggestion in connection with 'tapkis' for watering of cattle. I can remember that these have been introduced in Gombe Emirate at Wawa. I have visited the place and was very much impressed by the project and I have even asked the Minister in charge of the Ministry whether we could have a similar thing and now one is going on in our area. But this has now become very popular, so that whoever sees them will want a similar project in his own area, and besides watering of cattle, these tapkis are very useful economically, because it will open up large areas for cultivation and farms. Therefore, I think this kind of project is needed in every Province. Although this type of work needs a lot of experienced staff and a lot of money, it will not be wasteful if the Government tries to expand it, at the moment not more than three gangs are to be found at work on this project. The reason why I have said that, is because there are some people who when they know they are really needed, that is when they will try to leave the place. These people because of their heavy machinery take a long time to move from one place to another, and unless they are allowed a longer term in one place, their work will not be economical as they would waste more time on transit. I hope the Minister in consultation with the Ministry of Agriculture should do something to expand the tapki team.

THE EMIR OF AGAIE:

I rise to show my appreciation of the services rendered by the staff of this Ministry because we always get assistance from the Veterinary Officer residing in Minna. What I want is that there should be one officer who should live permanently with us to cater for the cattle of the Fulani in Agaie Emirate. Although I see that this is not possible because this is not the practice in other areas. I am however wondering whether it would be possible to meet our needs.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:

Will the Minister reply?

THE MINISTER OF ANIMAL HEALTH, FORESTRY AND MINISTER
FOR NORTHERN CAMEROONS AFFAIRS:

Mr. Chairman, I have listened carefully to all the comments made on the matters which fall within my Ministry and I want to thank the Honourable Members for their various suggestions and criticisms. The points have been noted and will be considered.

The Chief of Kagoro raised a very important point about the settlement of the Fulani. Anyway, about two days ago, my Ministry sent out a circular to all provinces about this subject. Therefore, Sir, I want the Native Authorities to give their help. This is a very big problem facing the more northerly provinces of the Region because there is a tendency that the cattle-owners move towards southerly parts of the Region looking for water and grazing areas.

The Emir of Misau raised a point about bovine pleuro-pneumonia which broke out in Bauchi. I am happy that the Emir realises the danger of this disease and I hope he will co-operate with the staff of my Ministry.

The second point is about animal husbandry. This is the responsibility of my colleague the Minister of Agriculture.

The third point is about bush burning. I advise the Emir to take this matter up with his Council because it is the Native Authority's responsibility. I think they can ask the District Council to see that nobody burns bush.

Now I turn to the points raised by the Emir of Dikwa about 'tapkis'. But still, I will say that this is the responsibility of my colleague the Minister of Agriculture; but being the Minister for Northern Cameroons Affairs and as the Emir's emirate is in the Trust Territory, I will take up the matter with the Minister of Agriculture (Applause), and give him all possible help.

The Emir of Agaie wants to get somebody to be posted in his area. If there is anyone available, I will see that he is posted there (Applause).

Subhead 1 agreed to.

Subheads 2 to 11 agreed to.

Subhead 12 agreed to.

Subheads 13 to 22 agreed to.

Subheads 23, 24 agreed to.
Subheads 25 to 29 agreed to.
Subheads 30, 31, 32 agreed to.
Subheads 33 to 37 agreed to.
Subhead 38 agreed to.
Subheads 39 to 51 agreed to.
Subhead 52 agreed to.
Subheads 53 to 61 agreed to.
Subhead 62 agreed to.
Subheads 63, 64 to 73 agreed to.
Subheads 74, 75 to 81 agreed to.
Subhead 82 agreed to.
Subheads 83 to 88 agreed to.
Subheads 89, 90, 91 to 95 agreed to.
Subheads 101, 102 to 105 agreed to.

£549,195 for Head 232 - Ministry of Animal Health and Forestry - agreed to.

HEAD 233 - MINISTRY OF EDUCATION:

Question proposed "That £2,880,665 for the service of Head 233 - Ministry of Education - do stand part of the Schedule".

THE CHIEF OF KAGORO:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to thank the Minister and show my appreciation for the services rendered by his Ministry. This Ministry has concentrated on seeing that the Region progressed in the field of education. I am very pleased to see the ways in which assistance is given to voluntary agencies for their schools. I am very pleased to see this because these voluntary agencies help to spread education in this Region; and if the people of this country are to take responsibility for everything in this country, they must become educated. For this reason I appeal to the Ministry to put more effort in higher education, such as secondary schools, because with the present development we have more responsibility than ever before. I support the provision.

THE CHIEF OF BACHAMA (MALLAM NGALE):

I rise to thank the Chiefs and Emirs on the question of poultry.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:

I am sorry, we have passed that. We are now talking about education.

THE ATTA OF IGALA:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to congratulate the Minister controlling the Ministry of Education for the services rendered to my area which is very progressive. The progress is even getting out of our control. I would therefore like to appeal to the Minister to help us. We have got so many junior primary schools with classes 1 - 4 and the number of children of school going age are increasing. We have concentrated in this direction, so that we may establish schools for the ever increasing number of children, but up till now we are short of Senior Primary School teachers, although we have many Senior Primary Schools there.

Can the Minister help us to transfer our boys who have left junior primary schools in our area to gain entrance in Senior Primary Schools elsewhere and the boys who have reached Senior Primary Six in our area to find secondary schools for themselves because many children who are of the age of 13 years finish their primary schools and are not old enough to be employed. If you ask them to go back to their parents they will be unhappy as they want to continue their education. My suggestion is that more Provincial Secondary Schools should be brought up to full secondary standards. If this is done in our area we shall be very grateful indeed. I know I will be told that teachers are very difficult to find. Since the Minister has provided the money we are sure to have teachers. If this money is spent in the field of education in our area it will not be a waste.

We are grateful for the Craft School which has been established in our area. We hope that we are not being neglected because amongst the places listed for the construction of new Craft Schools, our area is not mentioned though we were promised and have selected a site for the school.

With this, Mr. Chairman, I support the provision of this Head.

THE EMIR OF JEMA'ARE:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to congratulate the Minister. We too in our area should be helped with more teachers.

I congratulate the Minister of Education.

THE CHIEF OF PAIKO:

Mr. Chairman, my point is concerning junior primary school boys. Some boys who have failed their junior primary school examination, although they have not reached the standard age they are told that they are too old for the class. They are told that they should go back to their parents. What happens is that when a boy goes back to his parents he does not want to take up the profession of the parents and he cannot be employed. I therefore want to bring a suggestion that the profession of parents should be taught to the children so that if they fail to continue, they will go back to take the profession of their parents.

MAI BIU:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to thank the Minister of Education because of the progress in Biu. Although the building has not yet been completed, nevertheless I feel that I must mention it. I thank him very much and I am grateful to him but I will have more to say when the school has been completed. It is because of what is going on now that I thank the Minister.

THE EMIR OF MISAU:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I congratulate the previous Minister of Education, the Honourable Alhaji Makaman Bida because we have seen his efforts. It was during his tenure of office that these Senior Primary Schools were built and they have been of great use. Previously our boys were sent to Bauchi Middle School and at the end of the year not more than 36 passed out, some of whom got employments with the Native Authorities and some with the Government and this was not enough. Now in these days about 180 boys pass out of our Primary Schools every year. About 60 in Bauchi and Gombe and the same for Azare. Some of them go to Bauchi about 45 go to Clerical Training College, Potiskum, some go to train as dispensary attendants, some go to be trained in Hygiene and some go to the Trade Centre, Bukuru. This shows that many boys train in various fields. We are grateful for having these schools in this Region.

We would like the Emir of Bauchi to look after the Provincial Secondary School especially as the teachers are expatriate officers who do not know our customs. But if the Emir pays regular visits to the school he will advise them to adjust anything that goes wrong, because there are many complaints that the boys do not behave well. If they pass out from there,

they are usually employed by Native Authorities or by the Government. Since we are accepting self-government we should have boys who are not only educated but must have good character.

I hope that the Emir of Bauchi will note this.

THE CHIEF OF WAMBA:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the views expressed by my friends the Emir of Paiko and the Emir of Misau regarding primary education and I congratulate the previous Minister of Education before I congratulate the present one. The reason for my gratitude is that what I have previously pointed out in this House that the tributaries have to be full first before they feed the main river. The previous Minister realised this, that is why he built so many primary schools everywhere.

As the Emir of Paiko has said when treatment is given to a person, if he is not cured properly before he leaves the hospital he is more likely to become sick again.

We know that there have been instances where senior primary school boys have been unsuccessful in obtaining entrance to secondary schools but it would be very good if they could be given the opportunity. I hope that this will be so before self-government so that we shall not regret our choice, and I hope that the present Minister of Education will try his best and make every effort he can so that he becomes as efficient as the previous one. We hope to see this - may God help him.

THE EMIR OF BAUCHI:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I had not intended to speak to this House but I have found it necessary to do so. In the first place there are a number of senior primary schools and girls schools which are intended to be established, but the main reason for my getting up to speak is to refer to the Provincial Secondary School on which my friend, the Honourable Member has commented.

I am quite aware of this school and I visit it about three or four times monthly. What I usually tell the boys is that I go there to represent my friends the Emirs and Chiefs in other places who have sent the boys into the school, and I give them all kinds of warnings. Again, monthly I have one Mallam who is very well known to everyone in the Emirate of

Bauchi and I send him to this school every week to teach these boys what they should do. My Council and I are doing our very best in connection with this School and I will try my very best to see that these boys conduct themselves properly. I remember last month there was a boy who I realised, was getting out of hand and so I dismissed him. I have got my own son in the school and I give the boys the same kind of warnings as I give to every son of mine. If there are any going astray now it is not in our knowledge.

THE EMIR OF ZARIA:

I too have risen to show my appreciation to the service of education. My feeling is that I support everybody who appreciates the service of education in the Region because I have seen that if Zaria is to prosper in education all other places too will prosper. That is why I have risen to congratulate the Minister.

I have one question to ask of the Minister of Education. Is there any reason that would prevent the introduction of teaching of English and the abolition of Hausa in elementary schools? It seems to me that our boys' time is being wasted in teaching them Hausa. I know that in certain elementary schools English is now being taught, but what I want is that the whole of the teaching of Hausa be abolished, and that the teaching of English be introduced in all schools. Among boys leaving elementary junior primary IV, there are some who get themselves employed in certain institutions, and when they go to certain craft schools they cannot understand much of what is being taught to them unless they have a good knowledge of English. I have seen that the time has come when concentration should be on English because that will be the road to progress. I can remember when I was in school in Kano I was taught the alphabet in English. I did not know why, but Lord Lugard instructed that that should be stopped, and that has wasted a great deal of time, without it I would have been left ignorant up to the present day. Whether it would be possible for my plea to be accepted that English should be introduced in junior primary schools is the Minister of Education to say.

I support the provision under the Head.

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to the Chiefs for their constructive suggestions. I have noted down the points they have raised and I shall consider them in order of their merit. Some Chiefs have said that there

are many boys in junior and in senior primary schools who find no other schools to go to. I am grateful to the Emir of Misau who has given the appropriate reply which I would have given. I want the Honourable Members to note that not every boy is fit to go to a higher school. There are some for whom it is best that they should go back to their parents to take up the profession of their parents or to take up professions which would help them. It is my intention to see that every man in this Region is educated (Applause) but this does not mean that they should all have to be found employment as well. What the Emir of Zaria has said is what we have in mind and it is what we are heading for. That is why we are training our teachers so that they should not be outshone and I thank the Emir of Misau and the Chief of Wamba who have congratulated the previous Minister of Education. I hope that next year they will have cause to thank me as they have the previous Minister. (Applause)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:

The moment of interruption has come. The Question is that I do report progress to the House. Those in favour say "Aye". Contrary opinion nil. The Ayes have it.

The House resumed.

Progress reported: Committee to sit again tomorrow.

ADJOURNMENT

RESOLVED: "That the House do now adjourn" (The Minister of Land and Survey)

House adjourned at 11.45 a.m. until 9.00 a.m. tomorrow.

WRITTEN ANSWER TO QUESTION.

W.1 THE CHIEF OF KOTON KARIFI (Mallam Abdu Aguye) asked the Minister of Works:

- (a) Is the Minister aware of the report made by the then Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Works (Mallam Mu'azu Lamido) on the following roads:-
- (i) Lokoja-Jamata-Koton Karifi-Girinya-Gulu-Baro;
 - (ii) Lokoja-Jamata-Koton Karifi-Abaja-Toto-Nasarawa-Keffi?
- (b) Will the Regional Government take over the above roads in view of their importance?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS (MR. G. U. OHIKERE):

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) With the exception of the road, Koton Karifi-Girinya-Gulu-Baro the Regional Government has in mind the importance of the road Lokoja-Jamata-Koton Karifi-Abaja-Toto-Nasarawa-Keffi and it has already been decided that this road should become a Regional Road as soon as funds are available. When therefore the next Regional Road Development Plan is being framed the claims of this road will be fully considered.

ERRATUM

Page 29 - Lines 39 and 40:

Delete the words "administration carrying our Government".



NORTHERN REGIONAL LEGISLATURE

HOUSE OF CHIEFS

DEBATES

(Second Legislature)

Second Session

22nd March, 1958

Price : 3d

Printed and Published by the Government Printer, Northern Region of Nigeria, 1958. To be purchased from the Government Press, Kaduna

Saturday, 22nd March, 1958.

The House met at 9.00 a.m.

PRAYERS

(MR. DEPUTY PRESIDENT in the Chair)

BUSINESS MOTION.

THE EMIR OF KATSINA (The Honourable Alhaji Usman Nagogo, C.M.G., C.B.E., Minister without Portfolio):

Mr. President, Sir, I rise to move that this House at its rising this day do adjourn sine die.

THE AKU OF WUKARI (The Honourable Atoshi Agbumanu, O.B.E., Minister without Portfolio):

Mr. President, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

APPROPRIATION BILL.

Order for resuming the Committee of Supply read.

(PROGRESS: HEAD 233 - MINISTRY OF EDUCATION. -
SECOND ALLOTTED DAY).

(House in Committee)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:

Yesterday Members expressed their views on this Head and the Minister replied, so what I will do now is to call the sub-heads.

Subhead 1 agreed to.

Subheads 2 to 27 agreed to.

Subheads 28 to 54 agreed to.

Subhead 55 agreed to.

Subheads 56 to 75 agreed to.
Subheads 76 to 77 agreed to.
Subheads 78 to 101 agreed to.
Subhead 102 agreed to.

£2,880,665 for Head 233 - Ministry of Education - agreed to.

HEAD 234 - MINISTRY OF FINANCE.

Question proposed "That £859,120 for the service of Head 234 - Ministry of Finance - do stand part of the Schedule".

Subhead 1 agreed to.
Subheads 2 to 18 agreed to.
Subheads 19 to 54 agreed to.
Subheads 55 to 56 agreed to.

£859,120 for Head 234 - Ministry of Finance - agreed to.

HEAD 235 - PAYMENTS TO OTHER GOVERNMENTS, ETC.

Question proposed "That £434,700 for the service of Head 235 - Payments to other Governments, etc. - do STAND part of the Schedule".

£434,700 for Head 235 - Payments to other Governments, etc. - agreed to.

HEAD 236 - PAYMENTS TO THE CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to move the Motion standing in my name on the Order Paper, "That consideration of Head 236 should take place after consideration of all other Heads of Recurrent Expenditure and should include the examination and approval of the Capital Estimates, Capital Development Fund and the Appendices".

The purpose of this Motion, Sir, is in accordance with the normal practice to bring the Capital Budget and Appendices to the Estimates into discussion in this House, and give Members the opportunity to ask questions or raise points upon the proposals of this Government for Capital Development and the matters contained in the Appendices. Members will, I think agree with me that it is most appropriate that these

matters should be discussed after the House has completed its consideration of the Recurrent Expenditure proposals.

Sir, I beg to move.

MALLAM MU'AZU LAMIDO (MINISTER OF STATE):

Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise in order to support the Motion moved by the Minister of Finance. I have noticed that during the past years, Estimates for Capital Development have not been considered properly and the reason is that these Estimates were put at the back of the printed Estimates, and by the time they are reached most of the Honourable Members are tired and anxious to go home. This Head ought to be considered properly so that Honourable Members would understand the Government proposals for development.

Question put and agreed to.

HEAD 237 - PENSIONS AND GRATUITIES.

Question proposed "That £35,010 for the service of Head 237 - Pensions and Gratuities - do stand part of the Schedule".

HEAD 238 - PUBLIC DEBT CHARGES.

Question proposed "That £336,180 for the service of Head 238 - Public Debt Charges - do stand part of the Schedule".

£336,180 for Head 238 - Public Debt Charges - agreed to.

HEAD 239 - MINISTRY OF HEALTH.

Question proposed "That £1,940,920 for the service of Head 239 - Ministry of Health - do stand part of the Schedule".

Subhead 1 agreed to.
Subheads 2 to 51 agreed to.
Subheads 52 to 53 agreed to.
Subheads 54 to 58 agreed to.

£1,940,920 for Head 239 - Ministry of Health - agreed to.

HEAD 240 - MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS.

Question proposed "That £523,025 for the service of Head 240 - Ministry of Internal Affairs - do stand part of the Schedule".

Subhead 1 agreed to.
Subheads 2 to 19 agreed to.
Subhead 20 agreed to.
Subheads 21 to 37 agreed to.
Subheads 38 to 42 agreed to.
Subheads 43 to 54 agreed to.
Subheads 55 to 58 agreed to.

£523,025 for Head 240 - Ministry of Internal Affairs - agreed to.

HEAD 241 - MINISTRY OF LAND AND SURVEY.

Question proposed "That £258,475 for the service of Head 241 - Ministry of Land and Survey - do stand part of the Schedule".

Subhead 1 agreed to.
Subheads 2 to 20 agreed to.

£258,475 for Head 241 - Ministry of Land and Survey - agreed to.

HEAD 242 - LEGAL.

Question proposed "That £34,870 for the service of Head 242 - Legal - do stand part of the Schedule".

Subhead 1 agreed to.
Subheads 2 to 10 agreed to.
Subheads 11 to 12 agreed to.

£34,870 for Head 242 - Legal - agreed to.

HEAD 243 - MOSLEM COURT OF APPEAL.

Question proposed "That £6,505 for the service of Head 243 - Moslem Court of Appeal - do stand part of

the Schedule".

Subhead 1 agreed to.

Subheads 2 - 9 agreed to.

£6,505 for Head 243 - Moslem Court of Appeal - agreed to.

HEAD 244 - MINISTRY FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

Question proposed "That £29,880 for the service of Head 244 - Ministry for Local Government - do stand part of the Schedule".

THE MINISTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to sieze this opportunity to explain in further detail some points already raised by the Honourable Emirs and Chiefs of this House. The points are those which particularly affect my Ministry and I believe the Honourable Members will agree with me if I say the points are strictly in conformity with Government policy.

As Minister entrusted with the responsibility for Local Government I wish to give my pledge that I shall with the co-operation of the Native Authorities do all in my power to continue the policy which the Government has been pursuing for the past eight years, namely that policy, the foundation of which was laid down by the Joint Select Committee of both Houses in 1951.

I wish to pay tribute to the progress which my Honourable predecessor the Premier achieved when the subject of local government came within his Portfolio. It is sometimes encouraging to look back at past achievements in order to inspire confidence for the future. Honourable Members may like to know that since 1953 all Native Authorities have begun to broaden their Councils by the inclusion of nominated members to represent the new and influential interests that are emerging in our modern day society, the new educated elements and the new commercial interests in particular. In addition, of the 64 Native Authorities in the Region, 35 - that is more than half - have elected members. Of these, 23 have elected majorities. Others are considering the introduction of elected elements.

I would like to say now that the policy of the Government is to introduce representation into Native Authority local government councils at all levels from the Native Authorities downwards. This does not necessarily mean elected majorities, but it does mean introducing elected, either in minority or majority, as and when public opinion requires it, and so long as it is consistent with order and good government. The Government recognises three forms of representation, that is firstly through traditional members in whom large sections of the public still place their confidence; the nominated representatives to cover special interests; and the elected representatives. The Government believes that all three forms are of genuine use and need for the promotion of good government. The proportions one to the other depend upon the character and strength of different sections of the public opinion. It is in the judgement of public opinion that lies the skill in determining what proportions of representation are needed in the top Native Authority councils. I rely upon the co-operation of all Native Authorities constantly to review the composition of their Councils and to effect change when change is patently necessary.

I wish to make one other point. It is the firm belief of Government that the best training schools for true stable local government is in the development of the District and Town Councils. They should have delegated to them, in proportion with their experience and ability and need, increasing powers of finance to care for their own affairs always provided that they conform with the general policy of the Native Authority. With the modern day, the people have found new desires and ambitions and needs, far too many for one central Native Authority to deal with centrally. Thus our policy may be briefly described as delegation of powers to lower Councils without loss of essential control of general policy.

The Region owes a deep debt to the Honourable Premier for past achievements in the field of local government. It is the aim of this new Ministry to continue his progressive policy on the lines indicated in the Speech from the Throne and in His Excellency

Subhead 1 agreed to.

Subheads 2 - 13 agreed to.

£29,880 for Head 244 - Ministry for Local Government' - agreed to.

HEAD 245 - INSTITUTE OF ADMINISTRATION

Question proposed "That the sum of £128,415 for the service of Head 245 - Institute of Administration - do stand part of the Schedule".

Subhead 1 agreed to.

Subheads 2 - 11 agreed to.

Subheads 12, 13 - 18 agreed to.

£128,415 for Head 245.- Institute of Administration - agreed to.

HEAD 246 - MINISTRY FOR NORTHERN CAMEROONS AFFAIRS.

Question proposed "That the sum of £13,445 for the service of Head 246 - Ministry for Northern Cameroons Affairs - do stand part of the Schedule".

Subheads 1, 2 - 11 agreed to.

Subhead 12 agreed to.

£13,445 for Head 246 - Ministry for Northern Cameroons Affairs - agreed to.

HEAD 247 - MINISTRY OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND CO-OPERATIVES.

Question proposed "That the sum of £119,595 for the service of Head 247 - Ministry of Social Welfare and Co-operatives - do stand part of the Schedule".

THE CHIEF OF KAGORO:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to make a short speech on this Ministry, especially on Social Welfare. Social Welfare is very important in this country, Mr. Chairman, for the future security of the country. Because of the very quick changes people change their customs just as quickly. The old ways of stopping children from being naughty are quickly becoming out of date. Some people

tell their children to stop being naughty by frightening them with 'Dodo'. Some parents speak to their children on matters of religion. The children used to abide by what the parents told them because they feared 'Dodo'. But now due to changes in the times and modern communications, our children do not heed their parents' warnings. Therefore we must see that this Ministry does its work properly in order to keep our children from mischief-making. I am very happy that some bigger Native Authorities have already started building reformatories; but some Native Authorities are not financially strong enough to do this. Last year I appealed to the Government to help the weak Native Authorities, to group them together and build a reformatory in their areas. Juvenile delinquency is not only detrimental to the Native Authorities but to the Government as well. I therefore still appeal to the Government to start building these reformatories in the areas of weak Native Authorities.

THE EMIR OF MISAU:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we are very happy to have this Ministry, so that delinquent children will be reformed. We are also very glad of the rules prohibiting children under the age of sixteen from travelling in lorries unaccompanied by an adult guardian. In the past nobody cared whether these boys under the age of sixteen travelled alone or not. But now, whenever the Native Authority Police see these children, they detain them pending investigation as to whether they are running away from home. If they are running away from their parents they are returned home.

We should also realize that it is not the responsibility of this Ministry alone; we are responsible, too, for keeping our children at home. We must also keep our wives who have borne children for us and not divorce them. It is by divorcing these wives that our children become delinquent because of a divided home and love. Looking at the divorce figures, it would be seen that most divorces come from wealthy people and civil servants. These people can afford to marry at any time because they have money whereas a poor man, or 'talaka', cannot afford to do so. It will be seen also that these wealthy people divorce their wives after the wife has delivered two or three children - they say she is too old. Now, when she marries another man her children who are with her former husband will not receive proper treatment from their father's other wives. They will ill-treat them and in course of time they tend to run back to their mother. There the mother's husband will not try to keep the children out of mischief because he fears he might antagonise the

mother. This leads to children becoming delinquent because there is nobody to look after them.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I appeal to the people to keep their wives with them and not to divorce them, in the interests of the welfare of their children. (Applause).

Mr. Chairman, I beg to support.

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND CO-OPERATIVES:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to give a little explanation on this Ministry. Just as the Chief of Kagoro has mentioned, this Ministry is very important in the lives of the people and he will remember that last year the Probation of Offenders Law was passed in this House. The Government still intends to help every Native Authority that tries to set up a reformatory. There are many Native Authorities at the moment who have started social welfare work and the Regional Government is very grateful to them. The Government is ready to give grants to every Native Authority that intends to do the work. As the Honourable Chief has mentioned there are some Native Authorities who are not strong enough to do the work. The Government is considering how to help them, but first of all the Government wants these small Native Authorities to co-operate with each other and start to do the work, because it is through their co-operation that they will be financially strong enough to carry out the work. We hope that these small Native Authorities will consider this advice seriously. But as I have already pointed out the North Regional Government is trying to see how it can help them.

I will now turn to thank the Honourable Emir of Misau. I was happy to note that when we were debating the Appropriation Bill he raised the same points which he has raised again today. We are considering all the points he has brought and we are grateful for his advice. (Applause).

Subhead 1 agreed to!

Subheads 2-20 agreed to.

Subheads 21-23 agreed to.

Subheads 24-25 agreed to.

Subheads 26-28 agreed to.

£119,595 for Head 247 - Ministry of Social Welfare and Co-operatives - agreed to.

HEAD 248 - MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY.

Question proposed, "That the sum of £111,765 for the Service of Head 248 - Ministry of Trade and Industry do stand part of the Schedule."

Subhead 1 agreed to.

Subheads 2-15 agreed to.

Subheads 16 and 17 agreed to.

Subheads 18, 19-29 agreed to.

Subheads 30 and 31 agreed to.

£111,765 for Head 248 - Ministry of Trade and Industry - agreed to.

HEAD 249 - MINISTRY OF WORKS

Question proposed "That £704,100 for the service of Head 249 - Ministry of Works - do stand part of the Schedule".

THE CHIEF OF PAIKO:

Mr. Chairman, I rise in order to thank the Ministry for what it did a few months ago, that is, in sending away the people of Southern origin and replacing them by Northerners. This shows that the Ministry wants to northernise its offices and I advise the Government that in future, whenever a man of Southern origin is going to be employed, he should be employed on contract and whenever a suitable Northerner is obtained he should replace him and the Southerner should go away.

My second point concerns contracts. In the North there are many contractors but some of these contractors have not got the knowledge and experience of doing the work; therefore, sometimes it becomes necessary to give contracts to Southerners. What this Ministry should do about this matter is to see that every Native Authority makes its contractors come and do some work and undergo a course here in Kaduna, so that whenever there is going to be any contract work in that area they can be given the work instead of giving it to someone who comes from outside. The local people will then get the benefit from their areas.

I support the provisions under the Head.

THE EMIR OF BORGU:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to thank the Minister of Works because he travelled up to Borgu to see the construction of the Kaiama-Bussa-Rofia road. When the Minister went there he proceeded straight on, he did not even have a rest. He went straight there in order to see what was going on; the Minister saw for himself. If a senior man always goes to see the work, the workers will always do their work properly. When the Minister came back at 7.00 in the evening we had a dinner party and his Engineers and the Divisional Officer were all invited to the dinner. The next day he attended a meeting of the Native Authority Council and the Native Authority Council welcomed him. All the councillors raised points and the Minister gave a very favourable reply to the questions raised. From the time he paid a visit to this area the Engineers have been very busy doing their work and this was because the Minister went and inspected their work; they are now putting greater effort into their work. I am grateful to him and we hope that God will help him. When he was coming back he paid a visit to the Bussa Rapids where Mungo Park was drowned. I am grateful to the Minister.

THE EMIR OF MISAU:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I hope that the new Minister of Works will pay a visit to my area. No Minister has visited us since the Sardauna was Minister of Works. Although we know that Trunk Roads "A" are Federal roads, the Minister should travel along the Kano-Misau-Potiskum-Maiduguri road to the Kaduna-Jos-Maiduguri road. Although these roads are not under him he will probably be able to advise the Federal Minister, Alhaji Inuwa Wada, so that the latter will help us after he has heard our complaints.

All My Honourable friends who are in this House know the trouble we have during the rainy season travelling from here to Jos....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:

This should not be discussed in this House. We have got Federal Members - you should ask them to raise the point there.

THE ATTA OF IGALA:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise in order to thank the Minister of Works and I am also aware of the works that are going to be carried on in my area. Whenever we ask the Minister to do anything for us it will cost money, but we shall not fail to ask the Minister to do anything for us just because money is going to be spent. There is a shortage of staff in the Ministry, we are told, but we hope that the Minister will try and get the people who will do the work because if the roads are good the economy of the Region will increase. I am raising this point because I hope that the Regional Government will take up the new road between Igala and Oturkpo which we have just opened. That is the road from Ankpa to Yangede. If the Regional Government takes on the maintenance of the road it will reduce the distance between Benue and Lagos by about 213 miles. Previously people had to travel from Oturkpo via Onitsha and Benin to Lagos, but as we have opened this new road and have also got a ferry between Idah and Agenebode the distance has been greatly reduced. Previously the distance between Idah and Lagos via Onitsha was about 600 miles, but because of the new ferry plying Idah - Agenebode the journey is now only 370 miles and if the Minister considers it too, this road will enable us to get our mails within a very short time. Therefore, we shall be grateful if the Government will take up this road. We shall pay any amount in order to get this road!

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

THE EMIR OF WASE:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to congratulate the previous Minister of Works and to thank his successor for carrying on with the plans made by the previous Minister.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we always have had the greatest difficulty after the washing out of the road from Panyam to Shendam. The damage is very great and I hope that the Government will consider our appeal because this road is the main link between the Mines field and Benue Province. I hope that when the road has been constructed up to Shendam the Government will see whether they can maintain it as we previously asked. And the road from Shendam via Lafia which the Government is doing now, I hope that the work will get on quickly. Although this does not primarily concern the Regional Government, I should like to mention the Railway line between Lafia and Gombe, I am only trying to explain

because previously the surveyors of this line thought that it would come past us at Wase. We are appealing that these roads should be all-season roads.

Similarly, between Pankshin and Shendam - a lot of farm produce is being transported on this road. At the present moment the road between Pankshin, Wase and Shendam is all in the hands of the Regional Government, but unless the work is pressed on there will be no road between Wase, Langtang and Shendam.

I beg to support.

THE CHIEF OF WAMBA:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to thank the Ministry of Works. Last year, I complained about the road to Jos. We want it tarred. This is a very important road and we want it to be repaired and tarred. I wish to thank one of the officers of the Ministry, by name Mr. Manning, who did his best to see that the roads to Shendam and from Wamba to Jos were made motorable, but still there is much to be done. We should like to have the road tarred up to Wamba and from Wamba to Lafia. Last year the late Tor Tiv and the Emir of Lafia complained that a certain portion of the road should be repaired between Lafia and Wamba and one of the Officers of the Ministry mended a 17 mile stretch, but from Lafia to Wamba is about 55 miles.

The Akwanga-Abuja road should be looked after very well. I know it is a Federal road, but nevertheless we are going through a rapid change and therefore are appealing to the Minister as the agent of the Federal Government. We ask that something should be done for us.

I beg to support.

THE MINISTER OF WORKS:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have to express my gratitude to the Honourable Chiefs for the kind words they have spoken of this Ministry.

The Honourable the Chief of Paiko has made some suggestions to the Ministry. I can assure him that as regards taking non-Northerners on contract, it is already being done by this Government. It is the policy of the Government to fill those posts with non-Northerners where no Northerners are available, and they are always filled on contract.

As regards his other suggestion, to have a course for the training of contractors, I am sorry to say that it is not within the policy of the Government to establish courses for contractors, because contracting is a private undertaking; but if Northerners do combine to set themselves up as contractors, we will do everything we can to help them.

I have to express my special gratitude to the Chief of Bussa for his appreciation of my visit to his area.

The Honourable the Chief of Misau says that he also hopes to see the Minister of Works in his area. I hope I will be able to do that in due course. It is my intention to visit as many of the roads as possible. As regards his suggestion, that I should speak to the Federal Minister, he can rest assured that I always make contact with the Federal Minister whenever possible.

The Atta of Igala appealed to the Government to take over a certain new road which has been constructed. I hope that will be brought up in the next Five Year Development Programme. Our present resources are fully committed.

As regards the point raised by the Chief of Wase on the road from Panyam to Shendam, work is already going on on that road. The Lifidi Bridge is being built at the moment.

As regards the other point concerning the road from Lafia to Shendam, this is also a new road and should be brought up for consideration in the next Five Year Development Programme.

Referring to the points raised by the Chief of Wamba, some of the roads he has mentioned, I am sorry to say, are Federal roads and fall completely out of my own Ministry. As I have said, I will make contact with the Federal Minister whenever possible.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Subhead 1 agreed to.

Subheads 2 - 21 agreed to.

Subheads 22 - 24 agreed to.

£704,100 for Head 249 - Ministry of Works -
Agreed to.

Committee suspended at 10.25 a.m.

Committee resumed at 10.45 a.m.

HEAD 250.

Question proposed, "That the sum of £1,010,350 for the service of Head 250 - Works Recurrent - Maintenance Works - do stand part of the Schedule."

Subhead 1 agreed to.

Subheads 2-4 agreed to.

Subheads 5-17 agreed to.

£1,010,350 for Head 250 - Works Recurrent - Maintenance Works - agreed to.

HEAD 251.

Question proposed, "That the sum of £402,520 for the service of Head 251 - Works Recurrent - Maintenance Services - do stand part of the Schedule."

Subheads 1-12 agreed to.

£402,520 for Head 251 - Works Recurrent - Maintenance Services - agreed to.

HEAD 252.

Question proposed, "That the sum of £96,200 for the service of Head 252 - Works Extraordinary - do stand part of the Schedule."

Subheads 1-32 agreed to.

£96,200 for Head 252 - Works Extraordinary - agreed to.

HEAD 253.

Question proposed, "That the sum of £10,940 for the service of Head 253 - Other Services - do stand part of the Schedule."

Subheads 1-5 agreed to.

Subhead 6 agreed to.

£10,940 for Head 253 - Other Charges - agreed to.

HEAD 254 - POLICE

Question proposed, "That £8,500 for the service of Head 254 - Police - do stand part of the Schedule."

Subheads 1 and 2 agreed to.

£8,500 for Head 254 - Police - agreed to.

THE CAPITAL BUDGET.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:

We do not vote on these Heads as they do not appear in the Schedule.

Head 213 - Capital Development Fund Receipts - approved.

HEAD 280 - ROADS DEVELOPMENT

Question proposed, "That £2,477,435 for Head 280 - Roads Development - be approved."

£2,477,435 for Head 280 - Roads Development - approved.

HEAD 281 - BUILDINGS, MINISTRY OF WORKS.

Question proposed, "That £2,815,120 for Head 281 - Buildings - Ministry of Works - be approved."

£2,815,120 for Head 281 - Buildings, Ministry of Works - approved.

HEAD 282 - WATER SUPPLIES (GOVERNMENT)

Question proposed, "That £365,890 for Head 282 - Water Supplies (Government) - be approved."

£365,890 for Head 282 - Water Supplies (Government) approved.

HEAD 283 - NATIVE ADMINISTRATION WATER UNDERTAKINGS.

Question proposed "That £300,910 for Head 283 - Native Administration Water Undertakings - be approved."

£300,910 for Head 283 - Native Administration Water Undertakings - approved.

HEAD 284 - RURAL WATER SUPPLIES

Question proposed that £523,125 for Head 284 - Rural Water Supplies - be approved.

£523,125 for Head 284 - Rural Water Supplies - approved.

HEAD 285 - OTHER PUBLIC WORKS

Question proposed, "That £198,740 for Head 285 - Other Public Works - be approved."

£198,740 for Head 285 - Other Public Works - approved.

HEAD 286 - LOAN EXPENDITURE

Question proposed, "That £10,000 for Head 286 - Loan Expenditure - be approved."

£10,000 for Head 286 - Loan Expenditure - approved.

HEAD 287 - OTHER CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

Question proposed, "That £1,488,085 for Head 287 - Other Capital Expenditure - be approved."

£1,488,085 for Head 287 - Other Capital Expenditure - approved.

APPENDICES

Head 2317 - Cotton Development and Marketing - approved.

Head 2318 - Marketing Publicity - approved.

Head 2320 - Oil Seed Development and Marketing - approved.

Head 2603 - Water Supplies (Ministry of Works) - approved.

Head 2604 - Mechanical and Woodworking Shops - approved.

Head 2605 - Accounting Division Mechanical Accounting Machines Renewals Fund - approved.

Head 2606 - Marine Renewals Fund - approved.

Head 2602 - Printing & Stationery Division Machinery Renewals Fund - approved.

Head 2319 - Northern Region Scholarship Board (Ministry of Education) - approved.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:

Now we go back to Head 236 - Payments to Capital Development Fund.

Question proposed "That £10 for Head 236 - Payments to Capital Development Fund - do stand part of the the Schedule".

Subhead 1 agreed to.

£10 for Head 236 - Payments to Capital Development Fund agreed to.

Question proposed "That the sum of £13,207,045 be the total of the Schedule".

Question put and agreed to.

Clauses 1 and 2 agreed to.

Clauses 3 and 4 agreed to.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:

The question is that I do report the Bill to the House.

House resumed.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE:

Mr. President, Sir, I beg to report the Bill back to the whole House from the Committee of the House, without amendment, and to move that it now be read a third time and passed.

THE MINISTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

I beg to second.

Question proposed:

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the third time and passed.

THE PREMIER:

Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move that the House do now adjourn sine die and in doing so, Sir, I would like to express the appreciation of the Government Bench for the way that the business of the House has been expedited. (Applause) As was said to me by a gentleman the day before, debates in the House of Chiefs concern themselves with fact and not politics. That is what has led us to finish this work in good time. I know we have

now ended a difficult period and that is past. I pray to God that all Members should get home safely. (Applause)

THE MINISTER OF WORKS:

Mr. President, Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

THE EMIR OF LAPAI:

Mr. President, Sir, we know that some Members of this Honourable House have been unable to attend, due to various reasons. One of them was the Chief of Kabba, who died some months ago. I think it will be the wish of this House that a letter of condolence is sent to his family. Also we have absent from among us the Emir of Bida, who was recently ill and feeling too weak to attend, and the Emir of Ilorin, who no doubt has to look after his home affairs.

(MR. PRESIDENT in the Chair.)

We ask that a friendly letter be sent wishing them the best of luck. Mr. President, I beg to move.

THE EMIR OF AGAIE:

I rise to second the Motion.

MR. PRESIDENT:

Gentlemen, although I have not been able to attend the present Session of this House, I have followed the business closely in the daily issues of Hansard. I think that it has been a successful Session and that much useful business has been expeditiously carried through. I wish you all a safe return to your homes. 'Allah Ya Kaiku Lafia'. (Applause) I will now put the question.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

RESOLVED: "That the House do now adjourn sine die."

Adjourned accordingly at 11.05 a.m. sine die.