

THIRD SESSION
SECOND LEGISLATIVE
DAILY OFFICIAL REPORT
THE HOUSE OF COMMONS
OF
ONTARIO
DECEMBER
NORTH BRITISH COLUMBIA LEGISLATURE



Thursday, 12th March, 1959

The House met at 9.00 a.m.

PRAYERS

(MR. PRESIDENT in the Chair)

MOTIONS

Adjournment sine die

THE EMIR OF KANO (Hon. Alhaji Sir Muhammadu Sanusi) (Hausa): Mr. President, Sir, I rise to move the Motion standing in my name in the Order Paper, that this House at its rising this day do adjourn sine die.

EMIR OF KATSINA: Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

RESOLVED:

That this House at its rising this day do adjourn sine die.

Pledging of Government's Credit to assist Co-operative Societies.

MINISTER OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND CO-OPERATIVES: Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move the Motion standing in my name.

Be it resolved that this House approves the pledging of Government's credit to the amount of £1,400,000 to enable co-operative societies to finance their marketing operations by means of Government guaranteed bank overdrafts.

In the current financial year the Legislature approved that the Government should guarantee a maximum of £820,000 in order to enable Co-operative Societies to obtain bank overdrafts for their marketing operations. Members will be aware that these overdrafts, each of which is approved by the Minister of Social Welfare and Co-operatives are issued in two forms. Firstly, pre-season loans, the object of which is to tide farmers over the lean months when they would normally turn to money-lenders and middlemen for financial assistance, and also to help them with the purchasing of seeds and other expenditure essential to their farming activities. £495,000 were set aside for this purpose during the

current year, but the steady expansion of the co-operative movement is such that the Government considers it advisable to provide for £840,000 in 1959-60. Secondly, Societies can be issued with purchasing advances in order that they may pay their members in cash for produce marketed through the Society. It is proposed to increase this year's provision from £325,000 to £560,000.

I wish to make it clear, however, that this total of £1,400,000 is a maximum figure. The actual amounts issued to societies will depend on their development during the coming year, and it is impossible to make an accurate estimate of this at such an early stage because there are a number of factors which cannot be foreseen, chief among which is the availability of the trained staff necessary to supervise and educate societies. The overdrafts made available to individual societies will also depend on their repayment record in the past, because I have no intention of pledging Government in respect of societies which have shown a lack of gratitude for Government help by failing to pay back earlier loans by the date on which they were due.

I would take this opportunity of reminding Members that no actual expenditure of Government money is anticipated at the moment. These loans are not made by the Government but what Government does do is to pledge its credit in support of overdrafts issued to individual societies by a commercial bank on the strength of Government backing. Government is therefore only liable to be involved in expenditure if a society should go bankrupt and fail to pay off what it owes to the bank. This has not happened yet, and I hope that it will not happen in the future.

Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move.

MINISTER OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS: I beg to second.

Question proposed

EMIR OF LAPAI (Hausa): Mr. President, Sir, I rise to support the motion made by the Minister of Social Welfare and Co-operatives. For the past three years our people have already realised that they have to form societies for their own benefit and they have tried their best to make their societies succeed. The present step taken by the Government will no doubt assist these societies. What I want to know is that such societies after they have got their own funds make some deposits in the bank, is this taken into consideration before such loans from the Government are given; and what amount is necessary in order that they may qualify for loans?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND CO-OPERATIVES:
 Mr. President, Sir, I thank the Emir of Lapai for the sentiments he has expressed in this House. With regard to his question, the answer is that when the people come together to form such societies, each one of them pays an entrance fee of five shillings and out of whatever is collected the society buys its stationery. The second important point is that societies must have some money deposited which may be their working capital. There is no limit to such capital, it depends on the strength of the Society.

Question proposed

Question put and agreed to

RESOLVED:

That this House approves the pledging of Government's credit to the amount of £1,400,000 to enable co-operative societies to finance their marketing operations by means of Government guaranteed bank overdrafts.

THE NORTHERN REGION 1959-60 APPROPRIATION LAW,
 1959 - Committee of Supply - (First Allotted
 Day)

House in Committee

HEAD 221 - THE GOVERNOR

Question proposed "That the sum of £17,376 for the service of Head 221 - The Governor - do stand part of the Schedule".

£17,376 for Head 221 - The Governor - agreed to.

HEAD 222 - GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

Question proposed "That the sum of £14,340 for the service of Head 222 - Governor's Office - do stand part of the Schedule."

Subhead 1 agreed to

Subheads 2 to 9 agreed to

£14,340 for Head 222 - Governor's Office - agreed to

HEAD 223 - PREMIER'S OFFICE

Question proposed "That the sum of £235,110 for the service of Head 223 - Premier's Office - do stand part of the Schedule".

Subhead 1 agreed to

Subheads 2 to 24 agreed to

Subheads 25 to 28 agreed to

£235,110 for Head 223 - Premier's Office - agreed to

HEAD 224 - OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Question proposed "That the sum of £58,300 for the service of Head 224 - Office of the Executive Council - do stand part of the Schedule."

Subheads 1 - 10 agreed to

Subheads 11 - 14 agreed to

£58,300 for Head 224 - Office of the Executive Council - agreed to.

HEAD 225 - ADMINISTRATION

Question proposed "That the sum of £642,795 for the service of Head 225 - Administration - do stand part of the Schedule."

Subhead 1 agreed to

Subheads 2 - 15 agreed to

Subheads 16 - 18 agreed to

£642,795 for Head 225 - Administration - agreed to.

HEAD 226 - COMMISSIONER IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

Question proposed "That the sum of £37,880 for the service of Head 226 - Commissioner in the United Kingdom - do stand part of the Schedule."

Subhead 1 agreed to

Subheads 2 - 14

EMIR OF MISAU: Subhead 14 - is the provision for Childrens Allowance made for the Commissioner?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I do not understand, which subhead are you referring to?

EMIR OF MISAU: Subhead 13 - I mean, item 13.

PREMIER: Mr. Chairman, the Commissioner has got children, and it is Government practice to pay children allowances to its servants when they reach a certain status.

Subheads 2 - 14 agreed to

Subhead 15 agreed to

£37,880 for Head 226 - Commissioner in the United Kingdom - agreed to.

HEAD 227 - LEGISLATURE

Question proposed "That the sum of £202,480 for the service of Head 227 - Legislature - do stand part of the Schedule".

Subhead 1 agreed to

Subhead 2 - 17 agreed to

Subhead 18 agreed to

£202,480 for Head 227 - Legislature - agreed to

HEAD 228 - JUDICIAL

Question proposed "That the sum of £74,895 for the service of Head 228 - Judicial - do stand part of the Schedule".

Subhead 1 agreed to

Subheads 2 - 19 agreed to

£74,895 for Head 228 - Judicial - agreed to

HEAD 229 - PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Question proposed "That the sum of £37,495 for the service of Head 229 - Public Service Commission - do stand part of the Schedule".

Subhead 1 agreed to

Subheads 2 - 18 agreed to

£37,495 for Head 229 - Public Service Commission - agreed to.

HEAD 230 - AUDIT

Question proposed "That the sum of £101,865 for the service of Head 230 - Audit - do stand part of the Schedule".

Subhead 1 agreed to

Subheads 2 - 9 agreed to

Subheads 10 - 12 agreed to

£101,865 for Head 230 - Audit - agreed to.

HEAD 231 - MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

Question proposed "That £1,719,100 for the service of Head 231 - Ministry of Agriculture - do stand part of the Schedule".

ETSU LAPAI: (Hausa) Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to thank the Minister of Agriculture for the experiments being carried out with coffee and cocoa in my area. My people are very interested in the production of cocoa and they work very hard and so do the people who are teaching them. It is now 3 years since the experiment started, and I think that the standard has now been reached where the Minister should come and see for himself what progress is being made.

EMIR OF DIKWA: (Hausa) Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the provision, and I would like to congratulate the Minister of Agriculture. All of us in this country know that ours is an agricultural country, and the economy of the country depends on what we produce on our farms. At our last meeting we raised the question of crop destruction by quelea quelea birds in Bornu Province. At that time the Minister promised that he would do his best to fight these birds, and I am very happy to tell the House that the Minister has done his best to stop these birds. Now they have all been destroyed in Bornu Province. Mr. Chairman, I support the Estimates.

THE OHIMEGE OF KOTON KARIFI: (Hausa) Mr. Chairman, Sir,

I want to support the Estimates, but before I do so I wish to ask the Minister of Agriculture about the destruction caused by pests, as mentioned by the Emir of Dikwa. There are some insects which are doing the same damage in our area. These insects are destroying a lot of our crops, especially yams, and I even went to Samaru, Zaria, to see if anything could be done. I am therefore hoping that the Minister will find a way to destroy these insects, which are not only worrying my area but also Nassarawa area which is our neighbour. I shall be happy for any help the Minister can give us.

THE EMIR OF ABUJA: (Hausa) Mr. Chairman, Sir, I did not want to speak on these Estimates, but I feel that I should not let this important Head pass without expressing my praise for the Minister. As my hon. Friend, the Etsu Lapai, said concerning the experiments that are being carried out, on the boundaries of Kabba Province we are continuing to experiment with cocoa, cotton, coffee and palm trees. We have found out that if the farmers work hard and get at least one acre of coffee, cocoa, or any one of the crops planted, within six years' time they will start to reap the benefit which will continue for their grandchildren. Now we are only three days away from Self-Government, and we cannot enjoy it if we are hungry, neither can we if we are poor. I see that there are many forests in the riverain areas, and I am appealing to the Minister of Agriculture to train more Agricultural Assistants who will teach the people in the forests how to carry on with the extension work. I support the Estimates.

ATTA OF IGALA (Hausa): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Estimates on Agriculture. I want to tell the Minister that we have no more complaints and we thank the Minister because the insects about which we made a complaint have now been destroyed. I understand arrangement is being made between the Agricultural and Forestry Departments that more land will be given to farmers from the forest reserves so that they can grow more yams. We are very much pleased about this. I support the Estimates.

EMIR OF AGAIE (Hausa): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Estimates. Last time I raised a point about cotton, because there is an area in the North of Agaie where the old type of cotton seeds used to grow well, but the new seeds do not do well. After it has started to flower, it withers away. Recently I and my Council visited the area and saw the cotton which has been sown there. When I picked one pod and opened it I found that there were some insects inside. I sent it to Bida to the Agricultural Assistant there, in order that it

could be sent to Zaria for examination. However, up to now we have heard nothing about it, and for that reason I am appealing to the Minister to help us and kill these insects.

CHIEF OF NASARAWA-EGGON: (Hausa) Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Estimates and, in doing so, I wish to congratulate the Minister of Agriculture. But I am very unhappy about fertilisers, because my people are not accustomed to using the fertilisers and we have heard that the cost of fertilisers has gone up. That is why I am appealing to the Minister to keep the price as it was last year.

My second point, we want to plant tobacco in our area, because our people were used to growing tobacco, although it was not the same as the imported type. That is why I think that if we could get the imported type we would increase our economy. Mr. Chairman, I support the Estimates.

CHIEF OF DONGA (Hausa): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to raise some points about the Estimates. I would very much like to express my thanks to the Minister for the preparation of these Estimates. I am very happy with the Estimates for this Head as well as those for Heads of Education and Health. On Agriculture, we should like to seek advice on how best we can cure the diseases which are threatening our corn and other crops. Up to now we have had no advice and that is why I am appealing to the Minister of Agriculture to help us; unless these diseases are stopped we shall not get much from our farms. Our area is very good for growing sugar cane, tobacco and rice, and I am appealing to the Minister for help in this matter because this is a very important thing. I support, Mr. Chairman.

EMIR OF JEMA'ARE (Hausa): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the provision under this Head, Agriculture, and for some birds which are destroying our crops, I should like to appeal to the Minister to see if he can help us to destroy these birds. Last year they did a lot of damage to our crops. I am also asking the Minister to see if he can give us imported tobacco seeds, because we only have the local type that grows on the river banks. We have got one boy who went to Zaria for training in tobacco growing and we thought that he would come back after his training, but we have not seen him again, and I am appealing to the Minister to see that new tobacco is introduced into the area. I support the provision under the Head.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, my Government and I are most grateful for the very nice words expressed by hon. Members in this hon. House, particularly to the Minister of Agriculture. I have much pleasure in assuring the Emir of Abuja and the Chief of Koton Karifi that I hope greatly to increase the planting of cocoa, coffee, kola and oil palms in their areas.

With regard to the Emir of Lapai's appeal to me to visit his area, I wish to assure him that I will do so later. With regard to the expressions on quelea birds by some Emirs and Chiefs, my Government has already voted £100,000 for their destruction and I can assure hon. Members that this voting of monies will be continued yearly until all the weaver birds are eradicated in this Region. I am glad to hear that the Attah of Igala has expressed that I have already answered his needs.

With regard to the Emir of Agaie, my staff at Samaru are dealing with cotton diseases and I am sure that before long the remedy will be achieved. I note the Chief of Nassarawa Eggon's complaint about the price of fertilizers. I hope to deal with this sympathetically.

Subhead 1 agreed to

Subheads 2 - 16 agreed to

Subhead 17 agreed to

Subheads 18 - 34 agreed to

Subheads 35 - 43 agreed to

Subheads 44 - 59 agreed to

Subheads 60 - 74 agreed to

Subheads 75 - 90 agreed to

Subheads 91 - 94 agreed to

Subheads 95 - 99 agreed to

Subheads 100 - 112 agreed to

Subheads 113 - 123 agreed to

Subheads 124 - 130 agreed to

Subheads 131 - 139 agreed to

Subheads 140 - 143 agreed to

Subheads 144 - 152 agreed to

Subheads 153 - 157 agreed to

Subheads 158 - 169 agreed to

Subheads 170 - 180 agreed to

Subheads 181 - 183 agreed to

Subheads 184 - 194 agreed to

Subheads 195 - 200 agreed to

Subheads 201 - 212 agreed to

Subheads 213 - 225 agreed to

Subheads 213 - 225 agreed to

Subheads 226 - 227 agreed to

£1,719,100 for Head 231 - Ministry of Agriculture - agreed to

HEAD 232 - ANIMAL HEALTH AND FORESTRY

Question proposed "That £572,820 for the service of Head 232 - Animal Health and Forestry - do stand part of the Schedule.

Subhead 1 agreed to
Subheads 2 - 12 agreed to
Subheads 13 - 26 agreed to
Subheads 27 - 42 agreed to
Subheads 43 - 61 agreed to
Subheads 62 - 78 agreed to
Subheads 79 - 89 agreed to
Subhead 90 agreed to
Subheads 91 - 100 agreed to
Subheads 101 - 107 agreed to
Subheads 108 - 112 agreed to

EMIR OF LAPAI: The point I want to raise is about poultry diseases, because such diseases are destroying a lot of poultry in this country. Although there are some drugs for curing these diseases, the drugs are not very effective. For example, a lot of poultry and sheep are dying in our area, and I am sure that the same thing is happening in some of our neighbouring areas. These two important things are what bring wealth to the common people, because the price of a hen before was from only sixpence to one shilling, but now the price has risen up to five shillings and more. About two-thirds of the poultry in my area have died. I hope that further investigations will continue with a view to eradicating the diseases that are destroying the poultry in my area. I support the provision under this head.

EMIR OF BORGU: (Hausa) I rise to raise just a small point with regard to this Ministry that is on wild life. While I was at home, my District Head, at Kaiama, complained to me on the same issue which was taken to him by a Forest Ranger. He told the District Head that such things should be reported immediately to the Emir of Borgu, and I in turn, reported the matter to the District Officer and the Assistant District Officer, Mallam Sani Mohammed Kano, we discussed the matter and I, the District Officer, together with Assistant District Officer, promised to visit the place and I asked ten N.A. constables to escort them to the area. They reached a place, where the car could go no longer and so they began to trek, and they went as far as 15 miles. There was no other way to get to the place where the wild animals were being unlawfully killed. The District Officer arrested them and brought them. Two people were carrying guns and two people carrying cutlasses, but the guns were dane guns.

They were all brought to me, and I tried these people for three offences. Firstly, because of the law prohibiting people from killing wild animals; secondly for entering into a Forest Reserve; thirdly they were found guilty of hunting with lights, and fourthly they had no gun licences. I asked where they came from and they told me that they came from Oyo. When I asked them what part of Oyo, they said Inki. Then I sent them to the Alkali in order to be tried. All four of them were fined £10, but they failed to pay, and as a result they were sentenced to 3 months' imprisonment. Those carrying cutlasses were fined £5 each, and they also failed to pay and they were sentenced to one month's imprisonment each. With regard to the offence of carrying hunting lamps, we left the matter to be dealt with by the District Officer, and he was going to deal with it last Saturday. And that is why I am appealing to the Minister for an explanation.

CHIEF OF WAMBA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the suggestions put forward by the Emir of Lapai with regard to poultry diseases. When I rose to speak, the Emir of Borgu was already speaking, but I could not be patient, and it is true that we have been making our complaints with regard to the diseases worrying our poultry and animals. It is true that my views are the same as those of the Emir of Lapai, when he states that his area and his neighbours' are being worried by these diseases. I thought that these diseases were only confined to my own area, but now I have heard that it is the same everywhere. It is true what the Emir of Lapai has said that the prices of our poultry are rising now, from 6d or 1/- to 5/- or more. But I would like to emphasise that in my area the prices are even more, up to 10/-, and I am not making a complaint against the workers of this Ministry that they are not doing their best, though I am only emphasising that more should be done to put a stop to the diseases affecting our poultry and animals. I want the Minister to do his best to see that more effort is put into it. I support the Head.

CHIEF OF PAIKO: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I just want to raise a point on the speech of the Emir of Borgu about hunting with lamps. I want to know whether hunters are allowed to use lights or not, because everywhere in my area there are hunters using lights.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the control of hunting, and the prohibition of hunting with lights rests entirely with native authorities, who have power to make rules relating to hunting, and if this practise is so widespread I advise native authorities to make rules under the Native Authority Law as soon as they can, and, having made the rules, to enforce them strictly.

It is no good making rules if they are not enforced. Many of the hunters who hunt with lights come from outside the Region, and have no interests in this Region. The effect of this widespread hunting is to destroy the wild animals that belong to this Region, and much of the profit goes elsewhere. We have the same problem in the United Kingdom and steps are being taken there to stop it. It has been made much more easy in recent years by the use of motor transport and electric torches, which were not available some years ago.

ACTING MINISTER OF ANIMAL HEALTH AND FORESTRY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Emirs of Lapai and Wamba have spoken about the poultry disease. Now we have a laboratory which investigates these diseases, and will come into operation very soon. The Emir of Borgu has spoken about some points which are not very clear to me, and I hope he will go to my office with a view to explaining the points clearly to me.

£572,820 for Head 232 - Ministry of Animal Health and Forestry - agreed to

HEAD 233 - MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

Question proposed "That £3,179,980 for the service of Head 233 - Ministry of Education - do stand part of the Schedule".

CHIEF OF KAGORO: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I cannot let this go past without making some comment. What I take it to be, Mr. Chairman, is that the good and bad progress of our Region are all shown under this Head. Only the other day I expressed my appreciation for the money that has been set aside for this Head, but still there are some points to which I wish to draw the Minister's attention in this Head. As I understand it, every boy in school in this Region is thinking that when he leaves school he is going to sit down and work in an office. I do not mean that it is a bad thing at all working in an office; it is a good thing, but I do not think there is any country in the world where all the people are office workers. Boys, after they leave school, are in a difficult position with regard to choosing their careers, and I see many of them here going round the offices looking for jobs, which in the end leads them to become delinquents, and if we get too many of such boys, we have not laid a good foundation for the future in the North. Boys should be encouraged to take to other careers than working in an office before they pass out from the school. The boy is better shown the way he is going to take in life when he is still a boy,

but if he is allowed to mature, then it will be very difficult to show him the way. I am very anxious to see that boys are taught some kind of trade in their school before they leave.

I would also be very happy if in that connection, lectures could be given to these boys about other careers than working in an office. God has given us a very rich land and there is no reason why a man should be lazy and do nothing in this country. It is a good land for all types of trade such as farming and cattle grazing. The Minister should try and help these boys to get some education in these subjects before they leave school. In this connection, I am making the suggestion that though we have agricultural schools in which people are being trained to become agricultural instructors, I would be very glad to see a school from where a boy would be able to become a good farmer. After a boy leaves school with a Form VII certificate, he should be taught how to farm, and after that he should be given a big loan to start a farm of his own. The same thing should be applied to veterinary officers. If that were done, I am sure that a good foundation would be built up.

I support the Head.

EMIR OF MISAU: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I should not keep quiet on this Head. It is to the knowledge of all of us that a lot of progress has been made in education. In our own area, there are seven junior primary schools, and only one secondary school. About twenty boys each year pass out from a junior primary school. They are not sufficient for the native authorities' services and cannot therefore be released to come to the Government. Now that a senior primary school has been established some of the boys passing out are sent to the school and some are sent to the Clerical Training School at Potiskum and others continue up to the Secondary School. Some go to the Dispensary Attendants' School and others to the Hygiene School. We have many such boys in our Province. A senior primary school is a very useful thing. Some of the boys go to the Trade Centre at Bukuru. We are very grateful for the Training Centre at Gombe and we also have two Teacher Training Centres in Bauchi. A girls' school is being built and for all these we have to be grateful to the Government.

EMIR OF AGAIE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to congratulate the Minister of Education. In the last few years we have been short of money, and we did not get a grant for Senior Primary Schools because we did not have a Grade II teacher. But this year we have got one, and we hope

we shall now get a grant. I support the Head.

ETSU PATEGI: Mr. Chairman, I rise to thank the Minister of Education because we have got all we want and everything that has been promised to us has been done. But our people are asking when a Crafts School will be built, and I therefore want to remind the Minister of Education that we have heard nothing about the building of such a school.

CHIEF OF NASARAWA-EGGON: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to thank the Minister of Education and, in doing so, I know that education is a very important thing, but by education I do not mean only western education. I am appealing to the Minister if it would be possible that in every Junior Primary School where the majority of the boys are Muslims there should be an Arabic teacher, so that they should not be given only western education neglecting Muslim education.

My second point is about the vernacular teachers, whose services I have heard will no longer be needed at the end of this year. If that is the case, will English begin to be taught from Class I? If from the beginning English could be taught, we would be very happy with this. We hope it will be. Mr. Chairman, I support the Head.

MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank the Chief of Kagoro for the remarks he has made about the Ministry of Education. I want to tell him that on the question of advising boys on careers before they leave school, we have already published a pamphlet on the subject which will be distributed to the schools in order to help boys to choose their careers.

On the question of teaching boys farming in the schools, we are giving thought to the question of building a school where boys could be taught subjects like farming, and other subjects of that sort.

I thank the Emir of Misau for his appreciation of the activities of my Ministry in Bauchi Province. I want to assure him that my Ministry will always do its best to see that there is progress in every province in education.

I am very happy that the Emir of Agale was able to employ a Teacher Grade II, but I regret that we could not pay arrears of the grant during the time they had no such teacher.

Etsu Pategi mentioned the question of the Crafts School in his Province. I am pleased to inform him that this school will be established at Pategi, and it will be started as soon as staff is available.

On the point raised by the hon. Chief of Nasarawa-Eggon that in such schools where there is a Muslim majority there should be an Arabic teacher; this is the practice, and if there is any place where this is not the case, I would be pleased if he would bring it up to me. On the question of the vernacular teachers which he raised, our intention is always to raise the standard of education.

The Emir of Zaria suggested during the last session that we should teach English as early as possible in primary schools, and it is our intention to do so.

Subhead 1 agreed to

Subheads 2 - 10 agreed to

Subheads 11 - 47 agreed to

Subheads 48 - 53 agreed to

Subheads 54 - 64 agreed to

Subheads 65 - 74 agreed to

Subheads 75 - 87 agreed to

Subheads 88 - 98 agreed to

£3,179,980 for Head 233 - Ministry of Education - agreed to.

Committee suspended at 11.00 a.m. for 15 minutes.

House Resumed

HEAD 234 - MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Question proposed "That £1,085,425 for the service of Head 234 - Ministry of Finance - do stand part of the schedule."

Subhead 1 agreed to

Subheads 2 - 34 agreed to

Subheads 35 - 54 agreed to

£1,085,425 for Head 234 - Ministry of Finance - agreed to.

HEAD 235 - PAYMENTS TO OTHER GOVERNMENT etc.

Question proposed "That £433,250 for the service of Head 235 - Payments to other Government etc. - do stand part of the schedule"

Subheads 1 - 10 agreed to

£433,250 for Head 235 - Payments to other Government - agreed to

HEAD 236 - PAYMENTS TO CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

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

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

HEAD 237 - PENSIONS AND GRATUITIES

Question proposed "That £45,510 for the service of Head 237 - Pensions and Gratuities - do stand part of the schedule"

£45,510 for Head 237 - Pension and Gratuities agreed to

HEAD 238 - PUBLIC DEBT CHARGES

Question proposed "That £668,490 for the service of Head 238 - Public Debt Charges - do stand part of the schedule"

£668,490 for Head 238 - Public Debt Charges - agreed to

HEAD 239 - MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Question proposed "That £2,060,920 for the service of Head 239 - Ministry of Health - do stand part of the schedule"

CHIEF OF PAIKO: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I do not know whether the medical officers are aware that some diseases can be successfully treated by our native methods, and I am asking whether action could be taken to investigate this treatment and make them scientific., I think, Sir, that in this respect if we are to help our native families and if we are to use what God has given and which nature has endowed on this Region, the Medical

Department should carry out research at once and let us know the results of what benefits can be derived from them. When one goes to Lagos one will see many native doctors. You can see their sign in many places which reads "Native Doctor and Herbalist" and if you go in you can see his certificate of proficiency.

Sir, I beg to support.

EMIR OF MISAU: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the treatment of leprosy is making good progress. If you go to the clinic you can see about 400 people attending dispensary every week. It is now that we understand that there is a lot of leprosy because the introduction of the new treatment has brought to light most of the cases in the country. Those who continue to attend the dispensaries for treatment are cured within two years or so. Every month about 1,000 people attend the Misau dispensary and in the villages we get about 900 attending the dispensary each month, instead of the 200 or 300 we used to get before. The people have now realised the value of the treatment and the new drug, and those who used to buy native medicines have now realised that these are not of any use and therefore they are no longer popular. One old man bought some of this native medicine and drank it and when I set out from Misau he had been admitted to Azare Hospital. We do not know what will become of him. These native medicines are completely useless.

There is also meningitis in our area, but as soon as a case is detected the patient is isolated and he is given three injections a day and this stops meningitis spreading. The only people who die of this disease are those whose sickness was not diagnosed in time; if it had been diagnosed in time they would have been taken away and treated. Mr. Chairman, I support.

EMIR OF WASE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to congratulate the Minister and his colleagues especially for the system that has been introduced whereby people get their drugs in time. Dispensary attendants attend patients in dispensaries in the morning up until 10 o'clock and afterwards visit the nearby villages where first-aid boxes are kept for the treatment of ulcers etc. This system has made people realise the value of the drugs and they have more confidence in them. The people have been helped more than ever before.

CHIEF OF NASARAWA-EGGON: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to

drug, ... family in connection with the ...
people are saying that this medicine, if it is given to

a barren woman, and if she continues to take the tablets, she becomes fertile and conceives. Everybody knows of this. People say that they have leprosy whereas, in fact, they are not sick at all. I don't believe that this medicine helps barren women, but I know there are women who for 30 years have not produced children but after they had taken this medicine they have conceived. There are many men who complain that their bodies are itching so that they can get this medicine. They then go back and give it to their wives who are barren. For this reason, this medicine helps in two ways. It cures the lepers and it brings contentment to the barren women. I would like to express my personal thanks and the thanks of my people to the Minister for this.

CHIEF OF WAMBA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to thank the Minister of Health. I rise to associate myself with what the Sarkin Nassarawa Eggon has said. What has happened in Akonga is indeed true. It is true what he said about this medicine which we once used to get from Vom Hospital. Now we have our own dispensary where the medicine is being given out. It is true that the medicine is being taken to cure leprosy, but afterwards it was found that it was being given to barren women, who later conceived. We know that this is the work of God. It is true as my brother said that there are some women who have been barren for over 20 years but, who have now given birth to children. That is why we have established three Rural Health centres and sent some of our dispensary attendants for training here in Kaduna.

EMIR OF AGAIE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to thank the Minister of Health and I am also thanking the Ministry for establishing a hospital at Baro because Baro is a trading centre. There are some people who live in the far north who travel to Baro by train and there are some people who live in Burutu in the far south who used to come to Baro by water. That is why we are appealing to the Ministry to give us more funds to extend the dispensaries at Baro because of the importance of this place now. That is why I have brought my complaint before the House. I support.

ETSU PATEGI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to thank the Minister for the work he has done in our Province. Hospitals and dispensaries have been established in the Province, and enough drugs are being supplied to them. However, we in Pategi would like to have a General Hospital which the Government would help us to maintain, but it seems that this question has been dropped because we have heard nothing about it up to the present. I would be grateful if the Minister would tell me when this work will be started. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support.

EMIR OF LAFIA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I regret this very much but I feel that I must speak on this Head. When the House came to this Head I was absent and that is why I had no chance of speaking on it. So many Chiefs have been thanking the Minister of Health, but I would like to remind him of what I said in this House in 1956 concerning the establishment of a hospital in Lafia. I have continuously brought forward this complaint since 1956, but up to now I have heard nothing about it. I think the members of the House of Assembly have already spoken on this matter during their last meeting and I also think that this matter has been taken up in the Federal House, but up to now I have heard nothing definite about it. I would like the Minister to keep in mind what takes place in this House and in the Federal House and also the fact that journalists and N.B.C. news reporters report what is going on in the House. I would like to remind him that I have brought this complaint since 1956. We have been blamed by our people because nothing has been heard of this. If I am right I think the Minister said in 1956 that due to lack of staff it was impossible to establish a hospital in Lafia. However, according to reports in newspapers and on the radio we understand that the Minister has opened new General Hospitals in other places. We would like the Minister to pay more attention to establishing a new hospital in Lafia because unless our needs are met we shall continue to complain every year. I hope the Minister will not take offence if we worry him continuously, but truly we are not dropping this matter until we are satisfied. If the Minister of Health is complaining about lack of funds, I will in person appeal to the Minister of Finance and ask him to do his best and to consider our request sympathetically. Mr. Chairman, I support the Estimates.

CHIEF OF SHENDAM: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to thank the Minister of Health, but there is one point I should like to raise. We should like to bring an amendment because we are not satisfied. A lot of people in my area have been complaining of certain diseases for which they have not been given medicine. My people thank the Government for the medicine provided to cure other diseases in my area, but we are still appealing to the Government on this question of blindness. In my area there are a lot of people who after paying tax for two or three years become blind and we are asking for drugs to cure this disease because it is worrying my people. I have been asked to bring this matter before the House to ask for help in the future. So many other diseases are widespread in my area but every Saturday the people living in the rural areas come into

the town for treatment and they are getting the medicine and are cured. As I have already said there is only one disease which is worrying my people and that is blindness and I appeal to the Government to help the people. They feel that they should be helped with proper drugs. I hope the Minister of Health will take note of this appeal. Mr. Chairman, I support the Estimates.

CHIEF OF DABAI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to express my gratitude to the Minister of Health. Doubtless all members of this House are well aware of the complaints we used to get on diseases. I wish to bring before this House the question of a cure for epilepsy, which is worrying the people a great deal; in the same way as leprosy worried them before the drug was found. We now have confidence in the drug for leprosy and, as some members have already said, this drug is of great assistance to the people and I agree with the previous speakers. I wish to know whether the Government has done anything about finding a drug to cure epilepsy, since I first raised this question in 1957.

I now come to the question of Government General Hospitals. In our Division, Zuru and Kontagora are complaining. There is a Mission Hospital at Kontagora which has been a great help to the people, but what we want is a Government General Hospital. We admit that these Mission Hospitals are of great value to the people but people have to pay a lot for the medicines. The cost is exorbitant. Not only the people but also the Native Authorities have to pay these exorbitant rates. We live near the boundary and are joined to Sokoto, and I feel that if we are helped with a Government General Hospital it will be a great help not only to the people living in Kontagora, but also to the people living on the border. Formerly the main complaint was roads, but we have now got a main road from Kontagora to Zuru, and up to Sokoto, and that is why we are appealing to the Minister to see that a General Hospital is established there. We are the representatives of the people, and we have to bring their complaints before the House at any time, and I have also to say that we regret that the Minister has not paid us a visit in that area, and unless the Minister sees for himself I do not think that the Government will help us. We have not forgotten what these Ministries have done for us - the Ministries of Agriculture and Animal Health and Forestry. I have already expressed the gratitude of my people for these Ministries, and these Ministries should not cease to work.

CHIEF OF JOS: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to congratulate the Minister of Health and his staff. Health is a very important matter. It affects everyone and I have to thank the doctors and their staff who are working in Plateau Province, because the staff and the doctors meet the needs of the people living in the Jos area. There are also the staff working in the rural dispensaries, meeting the needs of the people living in the rural areas. Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is not my intention to talk at length on this issue, but just to bring up this point, and to show to the House what help these people are giving us.

I would just like to touch one point on the voluntary agency hospitals. I would only try to find out from the Minister what he is doing now for them whether the Government is intending to encourage these voluntary agencies. I know there are about 8 General Hospitals in Plateau, and out of these three are Government General Hospitals but five are Mission hospitals. The reason why I have brought this matter before the House, is that all these voluntary and missionary hospitals and the Government co-operate together in helping this people. I am sure that if they are given grants, they will be encouraged to give more co-operation to the Government in order to help the people of the country. They are doing their work wholeheartedly to this country. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the estimate.

MINISTER OF HEALTH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to express my thanks to those Members who have spoken on the sum of money voted to my Ministry for the year 1959-60 and for the good work of my Ministry. So many of the Emirs and Chiefs have spoken on this Ministry, and this has shown me the interest which they have in this Ministry. This reminds me of a proverb which says "health is wealth". So many Emirs and Chiefs have asked for new hospitals to be established in their areas, and some have asked for extensions to existing hospitals. I would like to remind them that money has not been provided in the current Five Year Plan, but I would like to assure the Chiefs that we would consider each case according to its merits when considering the coming 5-year Development Plan.

The Emir of Lafia has said that the question of establishing a new hospital in Lafia seems to have been forgotten, but I would like to re-assure the Emir that although we have no provision for establishing a general hospital at Lafia now in the current Five Year Development Plan, we shall keep it in mind in the next 5-year Development Plan, which is beginning in 1960. He has also said that the reason given to him before was lack of staff, I would say that this statement is wrong. If the Emir

will remember, the hospital at Keffi was built almost 2 years ago, but not opened, but now that we have staff, the hospital has been opened. I would like to assure him also that if we consider what has been provided for in this province as a whole, compared with other provinces, it would be found that the province has received more than its fair share. In Benue Province there are six general hospitals, while in Katsina Province there is only one general hospital, and the population of these two provinces are almost the same.

I now turn to the complaint of the Emir of Agaie who has expressed the need of establishing a government dispensary in Baro, or for a special grant to establish such a dispensary. I remember he brought this complaint before me when I last visited him. I would like to assure him that this question is being considered.

Turning now to the Chief of Nassarawa-Eggon and the Chief of Wamba. What they said is almost the same. They have spoken of the encouragement that they would like the Government to give to their N.A. staff to come here for training in leprosy services, and the Emir of Misau has also raised the same point. I would like to inform them that at present we are running a three months course for N.A. students sent by various Native Authorities for leprosy work, and these are people whose educational attainments are only Primary IV. I can say that if any Native Authorities want to send staff here for training we are ready to welcome them. They have also mentioned the leprosy drug which has been a great help not only for treatment of leprosy, but also for barren women. Although I have been pleased and welcome this new information, we are giving this drug not for the benefit of barren women, but for the lepers. I would not like rumours to spread about that this drug is of great help to barren women, and not for lepers.

The Chief of Shendam has complained of blindness. I would like to inform him that at present we have two teams who are surveying this disease, one is in Bornu Province and the other is in Abuja. We are going to look into this complaint and see what we can do about it.

The Chief of Dabai has said that I have never visited his area. I would like to say that when I was on tour from Sokoto to Birnin Kebbi and Kontagora I intended to go to his town but there was no road for me to drive to him. This is why I did not go to his area. It was the rainy season, and I had great difficulty in getting back myself. But if he will remember, I have recently sent my Parliamentary Secretary to the area, and I would like to inform him that we are

aware of the help that the missionary hospitals are giving to the people, and we have not forgotten to give them grants. I believe that the Emir of Yauri will witness that. In connection with establishing a new hospital there, I think the answers I have given to other Emirs and Chiefs will have to be the answer for this.

In connection with what the Chief of Jos has said, that he is not aware of the help the Government is giving to Voluntary Hospitals. I would like to tell him that in the North we have four types of hospitals. The first one is the Government general hospital. The responsibility of establishing these hospitals and the running of them is solely the responsibility of the Government. There are also the combined hospitals where the Government and the voluntary agencies combine to establish a hospital. In most of these cases we pay for the capital expenditure of the hospital. What used to happen was that all total fees collected for treatment in a year are deducted from the total expenditure and the remainder is being paid by the Government to the voluntary agency concerned. The third one is the N.A. hospitals. For example, the hospitals of Kano and Sokoto N.As. If such hospitals were to be built, Government gave capital grants to the hospitals. With regards to the voluntary agency hospitals which is the fourth, the same procedure is taken in providing grants to the N.As. (i.e. capital grant, training grant, current grant and bed of occupancy grant.)

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Chief of Paiko has complained of the native herbalists. I would say that this is a matter for the Federal Government, because it is a Federal matter. I know there is a law which says that any native herbalist who wishes to get a certificate for practising can be given a permit to do so, but I do not think it is the duty of the Regional Government to issue such permits. As we, the Regional Government, do our best to help the people in the Region, so the Federal Government has research units who go about doing research into new drugs.

Subheads 1 - 23 agreed to
Subhead 24 agreed to

Subhead 25 agreed to

Subheads 26 - 55 agreed to
£2,060,920 for Head 239 - Ministry of Health - agreed to.

HEAD 240 - MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS

Question proposed "That £626,505 for Head 240 - Ministry of Internal Affairs - do stand part of the Schedule."

ETSU LAPAI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, we never tire of thanking the Ministers at times. In the Ministry of Internal Affairs, there is an Information Division. The work done by the Information Division has really appealed to us. Niger Province is a vast Province. The arrangements that this Division has made in providing film shows for the people living in these areas have been of great help to us, because every three months the Information Service lorries used to visit us. I am sure that every corner of the Province does have a film show many times. The commentaries and the pictures are also good, and I hope that this Division will continue to send out more pictures to the people living outside.

I support the Head.

EMIR OF MISAU: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am appealing to the Minister that when we come to the Self-Government celebrations and the Durba in May, if the Durba is too big it should be divided into three parts, so that every Chief should be seen separately in the Durba. If it cannot be finished in one day, it should be divided into three parts so that the first contingent is on the first day, and the second one on the second day, and so on. The film taken during the Royal Visit has now been shown everywhere, and much has been left out from my town. There were 150 horsemen from Bauchi, and only 25 appeared in the film. When the film was being shown, all of us and our families came out to see it, and many families saw that their relations were not in the film. Those of us who came to the Durba were not seen. I appeal to the Minister that in this Celebration, every part of the contingent should be filmed now that there are more horses and more people will be coming to the celebrations. Not everyone was conscious of the Royal Visit, but everyone is conscious of these celebrations, and I request and hope that this will be a greater ceremony. Now, if we are not filmed, we will all blame the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

MINISTER OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I wish to express my thanks to the Chiefs who have spoken about this Ministry. Etsu Lapai has expressed appreciation for the cinema vans that are touring his Province. They are going everywhere in the Provinces to show the people what is going on in the world. I assure him that we shall continue to do so, and we hope to get more cinema vans to extend the work.

The Emir of Misau has drawn my attention to the film that will be taken of the self-government celebrations in May. He explained that the film that was taken of the Royal Visit was divided into three parts, and he

hopes that when the self-government celebrations are held the people will be taken in one stretch. I want to assure him that when the film was shot last time, it was not anticipated that it should be so long, but this time we know there will be more people and more horses attending, and we will make suitable arrangements to cover them. Therefore the mistake that was made in 1956 will not now be repeated. (Applause).

Subhead 1 agreed to

Subheads 2 - 22 agreed to

Subhead 23 agreed to

Subheads 24 - 42 agreed to

Subheads 43 - 46 agreed to

Subhead 47 agreed to

Subheads 48 - 61 agreed to

Subheads 62 - 63 agreed to

£626,505 for Head 240 - Ministry of Internal Affairs - agreed to.

HEAD 241 - MINISTRY OF LAND AND SURVEY

Question proposed "That £268,750 for Head 241 - Ministry of Land and Survey - do stand part of the Schedule."

CHIEF OF PAIKO: Mr. Chairman, Sir, in supporting this Head, I have a few observations to make on the Mines Department. The principal one is that the wealth of this Region is being directed into foreign hands. The other is that this Department is training very few Northerners in mining and geographical survey -

THE PREMIER: This is a Federal subject.

Subhead 1 agreed to

Subheads 2-19 agreed to

Subheads 20-21 agreed to

£268,750 for Head 241 - Ministry of Land and Survey - agreed to.

HEAD 242 - LEGAL AND COMMISSIONER FOR NATIVE COURTS

Question proposed "That £37,070 for Head 242 - Legal and Commissioner for Native Courts - do stand part of the Schedule."

Subhead 1 agreed to

Dubheads 2 - 9 agreed to

Subheads 10 - 13 agreed to

£37,070 for Head 242 - Legal and Commissioner for Native Courts - agreed to.

HEAD 243 - MUSLIM COURT OF APPEAL

Question proposed "That £7,545 for Head 243 - Muslim Court of Appeal - do stand part of the Schedule."

Subhead 1 agreed to

Subheads 2 - 9 agreed to

Subheads 10 - 11 agreed to

£7,545 for Head 243 - Muslim Court of Appeal - agreed to.

HEAD 244 - MINISTRY FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Question proposed "That £38,290 for Head 244 - Ministry for Local Government - do stand part of the Schedule."

EMIR OF WASE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I wish to express my thanks to this Ministry. At the last meeting, I expressed the hope that the new Minister would be patient in undertaking the responsibilities from the previous holder of this post. Now we see that he has taken our advice. He has worked hard, and he has visited many provinces to see the Native Authorities at work, and he has received the complaints of the Native Authorities in their offices. We express our thanks, as everybody has realised how much he has done.

Subhead 1 agreed to

Subheads 2 - 16 agreed to

£38,290 for Head 244 - Ministry for Local Government - agreed to

HEAD 245 - INSTITUTE OF ADMINISTRATION.

Question proposed "That £163,485 for Head 245 - Institute of Administration - do stand part of the Schedule."

Subhead 1 agreed to

Subheads 2 - 14 agreed to

Subheads 15 - 22 agreed to

£163,485 for Head 245 - Institute of Administration agreed to

HEAD 246 - MINISTRY FOR NORTHERN CAMEROONS AFFAIRS

Question proposed "That £13,335 for Head 246 - Ministry for Northern Cameroons Affairs - do stand part of the Schedule."

Subhead 1 agreed to
Subheads 2 - 12 agreed to

£13,335 - for Head 246 - Ministry for Northern Cameroons Affairs - agreed to.

HEADS 247 - MINISTRY OF SOCIAL WELFARE & CO-OPERATIVES

Question proposed "That £131,525 for Head 247 - Ministry of Social Welfare & Co-operatives - do stand part of the Schedule."

CHIEF OF PAIKO: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to say something about Schools for deformed children in this Region. It is high time that this Region should have such schools, on a provincial basis. In all civilised countries of the world, this is something which is done. Children, through no fault of their own, sometimes become lame. Some have deformities. Others have crippled hands, and a lot of them can be seen crawling on the streets. This is a pitiful condition. Owing to deformity, they are not admitted to ordinary schools. Such children are unable to mix with those children who are healthy. It is time that the Government of the Northern Region built such schools for deformed children, so that they too may benefit from the development of this Region. They too may be part and parcel of the citizens of this Region.

I beg to support.

CHIEF OF WAMBA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to thank the Minister. The Government has for a long time been helping the people in the remote areas. The loans that this Department has given to farmers have shown how the Government is helping, especially in Plateau Province. If it were not for shortage of rain, people would have been very rich, because the farmers have cultivated a lot of forest land, but unfortunately they do not get enough rain. Even though the land is very good, a lot has been gained from the forest that has been cleared, but not as much as has been expected.

Mr. Chairman, I support the Head.

MINISTER OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND CO-OPERATIVES (Hausa):
This Government is doing all it can to encourage the N.As to establish reformatory schools. Three schools have been established by the N.As. themselves. The Government is willing to help in establishing other schools. In connection with teaching boys crafts, my Friend, the Minister of Education is doing his best to see that something is being done.

Subhead 1 agreed to

Subheads 2 - 26 agreed to

Subheads 27 - 29 agreed to

Question proposed "That £133,525 for the service of Head 247 - Ministry of Social Welfare and Co-operatives - do stand part of the Schedule".

£133,525 - Head 247 - Ministry of Social Welfare and Co-operatives - agreed to.

HEAD 248 - MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY

Question proposed "That £109,280 for the service of Head 248 - Ministry of Trade and Industry - do stand part of the Schedule".

ATTA OF IGALA: I want to ask the Minister if we can be told whether import permits can be issued provincially. We should be very grateful to have them.

MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, imports are the responsibility of my Ministry. Imports are also a Federal responsibility. A further point - they have the right to ask the Federal Government to issue a permit to import anything into this country.

Subhead 1 agreed to

Subheads 2 - 17 agreed to

Subheads 18 - 26 agreed to

£109,280 - Head 248 - Ministry of Trade and Industry agreed to.

HEAD 249 - MINISTRY OF WORKS

Question proposed "That £742,870 for the service of Head 249 - Ministry of Works - do stand part of the Schedule".

CHIEF OF SURA-PYEM: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Estimate. I am appealing to Government to repair the roads between Barakin Ladi-Pankshin and Shendam-Kanam-Wase. Anybody who follows that road will complain about its condition. I am appealing to the Minister to do what he can to help to make the conditions better.

CHIEF OF PAIKO: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to emphasise the question of supervision of works in P.W.D. I feel, Sir, that in comparison you will find that the N.A. roads are far much better than the Regional roads. That is so because the N.A. supervise the work in such a way that they get 75% of the work out of the workers. I appeal to the Minister of Works to see that the system of work on the roads is properly organised, so that the money voted for the roads is not just wasted. Every year we come here and vote money for our roads, It is one thing to have money for the work to be done and another thing to see that the money is well used. The P.W.D. always get down to projects in such a way that the money is wasted. When we come here in August, instead of asking for fresh money to start new work, we just ask for more money to be spent on the projects already approved. It is because of lack of proper supervision. I beg to support.

MINISTER OF WORKS: Mr. Chairman, Sir, as regards the request of the Chief of Sura-Pyem I should say that a lot of improvement is going on between Barakin-Ladi - Pankshin and Shendam - Kanam Wase. As regards the request of the Chief of Paiko, I should say that I am happy to hear that the N.A. roads are better, but we

Subhead 1 agreed to

Subheads 2-26 agreed to

£742,870 for Head 249 - Ministry of Works - agreed to

HEAD 250 - WORKS RECURRENT - MAINTENANCE WORKS

Question proposed "That £1,209,800 for the service of Head 250 - Works Recurrent - Maintenance Works - do stand part of the Schedule."

Subheads 1 to 18 agreed to

£1,209,800 for Head 250 - Works Recurrent - Maintenance Works - agreed to.

HEAD 251 - WORKS RECURRENT - MAINTENANCE SERVICES

Question proposed "That £332,330 for the service of Head 251-Works Recurrent - Maintenance Services - do stand part of the Schedule."

Subheads 1 - 11 agreed to

£332,330 for Head 251 - Works Recurrent - Maintenance Services - agreed to

MINISTER OF FINANCE: I rise to move the Motion, standing in my name:

"That consideration of Head 252 - Works Extraordinary, do include the examination of the Capital Estimates and approval of the following heads of capital expenditure as listed in the Motion:"

Expenditure under this is not included in the Motion as this is for further approval in the Appropriation Bill. Chiefs will be aware that under Rule 7 for the operation of the Capital Development, Fund, all expenditure from the Fund is subject to approval by Resolution of the Legislative House. Chiefs will, I think, agree with me that it is appropriate to consider this expenditure under Head 252 - Works Extraordinary - after all Heads of the Recurrent Estimates have been taken.

Sir, I beg to move.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

The following Heads of the Supplementary Capital Estimates were then considered:

HEAD 280 - ROADS DEVELOPMENT

Question proposed "That £2,707,425 for Head 280 - Roads Development - be approved."

£2,707,425 for Head 280 - Roads Development - approved.

HEAD 281 - BUILDINGS: MINISTRY OF WORKS

Question proposed "That £1,779,550 for Head 281 - Buildings: Ministry of Works - be approved."

£1,779,550 for Head 281 - Buildings: Ministry of Works - approved.

HEAD 282 - WATER SUPPLIES: GOVERNMENT

Question proposed "That £285,530 for Head 282 - Water Supplies: Government - be approved."

£285,530 for Head 282 - Water Supplies: Government - approved.

• HEAD 283 - NATIVE ADMINISTRATION
WATER UNDERTAKINGS

Question proposed "That £244,090 for Head 283 - Native Administration Water Undertakings - be approved."

£244,090 for Head 283 - Native Administration Water Undertakings - approved.

HEAD 284 - RURAL WATER SUPPLIES

Question proposed "That £709,960 for Head 284 - Rural Water Supplies - be approved."

£709,960 for Head 284 - Rural Water Supplies - approved.

HEAD 285 - OTHER PUBLIC WORKS

Question proposed "That £262,470 for Head 285 - Other Public Works - be approved."

£262,470 for Head 285 - Other Public Works - approved.

HEAD 286 - LOAN EXPENDITURE

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

£10 for Head 286 - Loan Expenditure - approved.

HEAD 287 - OTHER CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

Question proposed "£1,479,876 for Head 287 - Other Capital Expenditure - be approved."

£1,479,876 for Head 287 - Other Capital Expenditure - approved.

HEAD 288 - PARTLY REIMBURSABLE CAPITAL
EXPENDITURE: MEDICAL

Question proposed "That £640,200 for Head 288 - Partly Reimbursable Capital Expenditure: Medical - be approved."

£640,200 for Head 288 - Partly Reimbursable Capital Expenditure: Medical - approved.

HEAD 289 - PARTLY REIMBURSABLE CAPITAL
EXPENDITURE: EDUCATION

Question proposed "That £597,500 for Head 289 - Partly Reimbursable Capital Expenditure: Education - be approved."

£597,500 for Head 289 - Partly Reimbursable Capital Expenditure: Education - approved.

Question proposed "That the total shown under Heads 280 - 289 be approved."

Question put and agreed.

£8,706,611 for Heads 280 - 289 - The Capital Budget - agreed to.

(Consideration of Head 252 continued)

Question proposed "That £71,500 for the service of Head 252 - Works Extraordinary - do stand part of the Schedule."

Subheads 1 - 35 agreed to

£71,500 for Head 252 - Works Extraordinary - agreed to

HEAD 253 - OTHER SERVICES

Question proposed that the sum of £2,955 for the service of Head 253 - Other Services - do stand part of the Schedule.

Subhead 1 agreed to

£2,955 for Head 253 - Other Services - agreed to

HEAD 254 - POLICE

Question proposed that the sum of £13,600 for the service of Head 254 - Police - do stand part of the schedule.

£13,600 for Head 254 - Police - agreed to

Total to the Schedule.

MINISTER OF FINANCE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, as a result of the amendment to Head 247 I beg to move that the total of the Schedule be increased by £2,000 to fourteen million nine hundred and fifty-eight thousand eight hundred and eighty one pounds.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Committee takes note that the total is increased by £2,000 consequent upon the amendment to Head 247.

Amended Total of £14,958,881 agreed to
Schedule as amended agreed to
Postponed clauses considered
Clauses 1 and 2 agreed to
Clauses 3 and 4 agreed to.

(House Resumed)

MINISTER OF FINANCE: I beg to report the Appropriation Bill back from the Committee of the whole House without amendment and to move that it be read a third time and passed.

Question proposed
Question put and agreed to
Bill accordingly read a third time and passed.

PREMIER (Hausa): Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move that this House do now adjourn sine die, but before the House does adjourn, I would like to explain the arrangements which we have in mind.

As the Chiefs are all aware, there will be a fire-works display on the 14th of this month on the Racecourse. On Baunday, at 10.15 in the morning, everybody will be required to attend a ceremony outside this House. After this ceremony, on Monday, the 16th, there will be a public holiday in commemoration of this important day of Self-Government for the Region.

All Chiefs will be expected to return to Kaduna on 11th May, 1959. Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester will be arriving on the 13th of

May. On the 15th May, in the morning, there will be the Durbar, and in the afternoon of the same day, we shall all be gathered here at Lugard Hall in order to present our loyal address to Their Royal Highnesses, in the same way as was done when Her Majesty the Queen was here.

The 16th will be the children's day, and in the afternoon there will be a Garden Party during which an Investiture will be held. The 18th of May is the day on which the foundation stone of the second chamber of the Legislature will be laid. On the 20th, Their Royal Highnesses leave Kaduna.

We have invited many Very Important Persons from abroad, including three of our ex-Governors, Sir Bryan Sharwood-Smith, Sir Eric Thompstone and Sir John Patterson, and they have all accepted the invitation. (applause). Other countries will be represented but the names of the representatives are not yet known. Vulcan bombers and Comets will be giving demonstrations in Kaduna and at Provincial Headquarters.

Mr. President, Sir, briefly this is what is going to happen between now and May. I have given you this information before the programme comes out. (applause).

RESOLVED:

That the House do now adjourn sine die. (Hon.Premier)

The House accordingly adjourned at forty minutes past One p.m. sine die

House resumed

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

MINISTER OF STATE (Hon. Mr. Ogbadu): Sir, I beg to second.

Question put and agreed to

Bill accordingly read the third time and passed.

RESOLVED:

That the House do now adjourn. (Minister of Trade and Industry).

House accordingly adjourned at half past Eleven a.m. until Nine o'clock tomorrow morning.



NORTHERN REGIONAL LEGISLATURE

HOUSE OF CHIEFS

DEBATES

(Second Legislature)

Third Session

(First Meeting)

10th March, 1959

Price : 3d

Printed and Published by the Government Printer, Northern Region of Nigeria, 1959. To be purchased from the Government Press, Kaduna

Tuesday, 10th March, 1959.

The House met at 9.00 a.m.

PRAYERS

(MR. PRESIDENT in the Chair)

MOTIONS.

COMMITTEE OF SELECTION.

CHIEF OF NASSARAWA EGGON: Mr. President, Sir, I rise to move the Motion standing in my name on the Order Paper,

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

Mr. President, I beg to move.

EMIR OF BEDDE: Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

RESOLVED:

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

MR. PRESIDENT: I should like to inform the Members of the Committee that the Committee will meet in my office immediately after the House has adjourned today.

EMIR OF LAPAI (Mallam Muhammadu Kobo): Mr. President Sir, I rise to move the Motion standing in my name on the Order Paper of the day,

That this House notes with approval the policy of the Government as set out in the Speech which His Excellency has addressed to this House.

I am interested in the Speech because of the personality behind it and because of the place in which it is delivered. We have all been accustomed to honour the Throne as a symbol of royalty. The Government policy as stated there is clear and straightforward.

Starting with self-government, I wish to say that we are all glad that we have lived to see the North become self-ruling. Five years ago, nobody would dream of this real achievement, but due to the combined effort of the Governor and his Executive Council which has the support of the masses, it has become a reality. History tells of how some countries got self-government after fighting and shedding blood. In this Region, during the few years of self-government aspirations, how many people have been victimised, how many have been thrown into disorder? How many have their ways made difficult? How many have been provoked or insulted? How many shots have been fired? The answer to all these un-ending questions is none. Politically speaking, the North is sane and healthy. Her leaders rule with justice and fear of God. She is therefore being granted self-government in a cool, clean and cordial manner.

I congratulate the Government for taking the trouble to explain the implications of self-government to the people. The wrong information that had spread among backward or illiterate people that the white men were going to leave this country after the attainment of self-government has been cleared. I suggest that the Members of this House should still co-operate with the Government in explaining the true status which the Region has achieved.

As for the visit of Their Royal Highnesses, the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, we shall be very happy to receive them and pay them our due respect. This will be the second Royal Visit since the visit of Her Majesty the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh. Such visits greatly help to put the North on the map of the world and strengthen our loyalty to the British Crown.

As for the administration of justice, we appreciate every effort made by the Government in bringing the judicial system up to date. We shall welcome any future policy which may bring reforms in the judicial and legal systems. However, it is good to remember that the Muslim religion and native law and custom are inseparable at our present stage of progress.

Mr. President, at this point, I would like to express gratitude to the overseas officers whose honest tutelage has helped make what the North is today and whose true guidance will help produce the North of tomorrow. Their presence in the service of the Region after self-Government will still be needed by people of all classes. Northernisation of the Public Service does not discriminate against them. They will always receive fair treatment as they have done in the past. There will be room for technicians and specialists at all times. I do not see why they should entertain fears and inconveniences. However, we have every confidence in the leadership of the hon. Premier, Sir Ahmadu Bello, and give our full support to the Northernisation of the Civil Service.

Finally, Sir, His Excellency drew attention to the matters affecting directly local government in various ways. Firstly, he asked the local government to keep up with the times, to maintain law and order, and to carry on their local affairs in a steady and progressive way. As Native Authorities, if we do not act on this advice, we shall be nowhere.

Secondly, he made a mention of the introduction of provincial Councils on representative basis. That is a very good idea especially that the Councils are going to be advisory to the Government.

Thirdly, there is the question of establishment of Joint Committees. I am sure that that will do much to make the Native Authority services efficient and also allay the fears of the minorities. There is no doubt that the success of joint Committee system will depend almost entirely on how the Native Authorities sink their differences and ambitions and place themselves on equal footing.

In these words Mr. President, I beg to move.
(Applause).

CHIEF OF PAIKO: Mr. President, Sir, I beg to second the very brilliant and historic Motion which has now been ably moved by the hon. the Emir of Lapai. In fact, after his speech, it becomes embarrassing and a little difficult for any one to know exactly what else to say. However one can still do a little by way of co-operation through congratulation.

The Speech from the Throne of this year is a master-piece of all speeches ever delivered in this House, and it is another very loud and eloquent evidence of the desire of the Government to make life more worthy

of living for the people of this Region. It is gratifying testimony to the capabilities of Government to make ways for the happiness of the people, and the Government has not left anything undone which could be used to the advantage of the people.

Referring to the attainment of self-government, I should say, if I am correct, that the agitation for Regional Self-Government started in 1956 when other Regions were granted self-government, but as the Council of Ministers, in consultation with Chiefs and other important and leading personalities of all parties in the Region, found it necessary to postpone demand for self-government until such a time when practicable, some people in the Region were thinking that we were gradually being left behind. As we exercised patience we are now to witness the time and it is left for us to do what self-governing people should do.

I should now like to say a few words about industrialisation. We talk so often in this House both the Members of House of Assembly and this House, about industrialisation of our Region. It must be realised that in order to industrialise the Region we really need foreign capital, and we must go borrowing whether we like it or not.

It is understood that our Government has sufficient money for the present day-to-day affairs yet we need more money for industrialisation. I venture to say Sir, that one of our greatest obstacles to the advancement of industrial development is the absence of adequate research facilities. I therefore appeal to the Minister concerned to see to it that the Government of our Region sets up more institutes of technical research into the various raw materials we have and prove their worth for local industries.

I should also like to say that the Government deserves our thanks for the step it has taken in appointing our own people in Sudan to certain responsible posts for caring for the welfare of our people who go to Mecca on pilgrimage. This has revealed that the Government has known what sort of difficulties our people have been suffering. It is most important that we should get our own people there in order to safeguard our people who go there against all the difficulties that they have always been encountering.

Referring to Northernisation of the Civil Service for which we have been clamouring for quite a long time, the result is now very encouraging by seeing that a reasonable number of posts in the Civil Service is

being considered for Northerners, This is indeed initiative.

Before taking my seat, I should like to take this opportunity to congratulate our Premier for the new meritorious title of Knighthood which has been recently and rightly conferred upon him by Her Majesty the Queen. With these few remarks I beg to second.

Question proposed.

CHIEF OF KAGORO: (Hausa) Mr. President, Sir, I rise to support the Motion and congratulate the Emir of Lapai for his speech. The Speech from the Throne was very interesting and I am congratulating the Emir of Lapai for his speech because he quoted important items from the speech.

On the question of self-government, Mr. President, I am congratulating the Government and the expatriate officers. We must congratulate expatriate officers for the leadership that they have given to this country from the beginning up to the present moment. When the expatriate officers got to this country they found tribal wars and slavery in the country. They stopped all the wars and the slavery and started to put the country in order. That was how they started and how we have been able to be where we have reached today. I would like to recall what an Emir said at one time that "if you could stop a cat from catching rats you could stop the people from raiding for slaves." This showed that the people were not ready to give up slavery. It was due to the hard work of the British people that slavery was stopped and things were put in order. For that reason it is necessary for us to congratulate the British. I hope the support they have given us will be a chain that will bind our old friendship for ever.

I also want to congratulate the Government leaders. It is not customary to praise somebody in his presence, but sometimes it is necessary to do it. Administration, through political parties, is something strange to this country but it did not take long for our leaders to understand it and lead this country to the present state in peace. When we started this, the other regions were already ahead of us, but now we find that our administration is being copied and that is why it is necessary for us to congratulate our leaders.

Another thing I wish to commend is the explanation which has been given on the self-government implications. Many people thought that when we attained self-government all the British would be driven out and the old way of

ruling would be started again. They expressed certain fears, but with the explanation that has been made, the fears have been allayed. Another statement made by the Premier over the radio was that every person in this Region will be free to practise his own religion and customary rights. This is one of the most important statements that will bring peace into this Region and we congratulate the Premier for this statement.

I am going to make a statement on Provincial Councils. I support the idea that when these Councils are introduced they should represent every shade of opinion in each province as it is only by this way that these Councils will have the confidence of the people. Mr. President, Sir, with these words I support the Motion. (Applause)

EMIR OF ZARIA: (Hausa) Mr. President, Sir, I rise to say a few words on a statement just made by the Chief who is like a son to me. I appeal to him and some others like him not to speak about things which happened before they were born. He and another Chief referred to the time of Lord Lugard. If we continue to recall that time it will not help the unity and co-operation of this country which we are struggling for. I think it should best be forgotten. Mr. President, Sir, I support the motion.

EMIR OF MISAU: (Hausa) Mr. President, Sir, I rise to praise Lord Lugard who introduced administration to this country, and who allowed us to go on with our customs and traditions. He established courts everywhere and told us that we should forget some of our bad old ways and that every person should be regarded according to his work. He appointed Residents and District Officers who looked after the provinces and things went on quite well. Now we have come to this day and we pray to God that our fore-fathers who worked with Lord Lugard will rest in peace. Now that we have come to this time we should remember that we should continue to do our work. We and our people should always continue to show our loyalty. I am praising the Government of the day and especially the Premier, Sir Ahmadu Bello, and his Colleagues.

On the question of Local Government and Administration mentioned by the Governor in his Speech, the Premier was the first Minister for Local Government and he established the Institute of Administration and many went to learn about administration there. The instructors also toured the provinces teaching the people the way to carry on their administration. For that reason we now have Native Authority Councils, District Councils and Village Councils. All the people have the chance

to express their opinions and these opinions are brought before the Native Authority, and the Native Authority tries to give them help. The Native Authorities are now moving with the times and I do not think there is any Native Authority where these Councils are established in which the people have no confidence. The Native Authorities are there to help people.

We are very happy about the Government's policy on Northernisation. We are hoping that on attaining self-government, people from outside the country will continue and help us, and we shall be very happy to receive them.

These Provincial Councils that are to be established will be of great use because they are going to advise the Government and for that reason, we thank all the British people who have come to help this country to reach our present position, and we hope they will continue to help us for some time.

Mr. President, I support. (Applause)

EMIR OF JEMA'ARE (Hausa): Mr. President, Sir, I rise to associate myself with the Motion so ably moved by the Emir of Lapai and also to endorse the Speech of the Emir of Misau. I really support the Motion, and apart from that I have to congratulate the Premier and his Colleagues for their good work, and we have to congratulate all the Ministers for their leadership. I should like to remind the Premier that he should remember every Native Authority, however small it is. That is the main point I want to raise.

I want to praise the House, and we must also congratulate the Premier for the honour which has been conferred on him by Her Majesty the Queen, and we are happy to hear that we are attaining self-government this very month. Mr. President, Sir, I support the motion.

EMIR OF BORGU (Hausa): Mr. President, Sir, I rise to support the Motion moved by the Emir of Lapai. We made mention in this House in 1954 that this Region should attain self-government in 1956, but that time was not convenient and we said that when the time came we would get it without any difficulty. Now the time has come and we have got it in peace. There is nothing disorderly. I should state that before all the administration was in the hands of the expatriates but now it is being transferred to the indigenous people of the Region. Now we have the Premier and the Sultan who should have patience because they are the leaders and

we shall follow them because their main task is to be able to exercise patience. I should like to emphasize that what they have to do is to be tolerant. God endows such responsibility to only a few who can carry it. There is no more rest for everybody. We the juniors shall give them all our support and co-operation in all ways since God made them to be our leaders and therefore we should obey them.

Again I have to thank all the expatriate officers who have given us their services and we pray that our own people will copy from them.

EMIR OF NASSARAWA (Hausa): Mr. President, Sir, we thank God and we thank the Prophet Mohammed and the Islamic religion which has been spread in this Region by Shehu Usman Dan Fodio; and we thank His Excellency, the Governor.

When the British first came to this country it was thought that they would rule for ever and they ruled us very well. They showed us their good ways which we followed up to the present time and they did not prevent us from practising our own religion. They came in numbers and were posted all over the country.

We thank the Premier and his Colleagues for their good leadership, and now that we have come to the time when we shall be self-governing, we should express our gratitude. Now I should like to inform the House that as we have reached the time when we shall be governing ourselves all the people living in this Region should be warned that they must co-operate and that they cannot do just as they like. We must sincerely follow the ways which we were taught because what you sow you reap. They should not think that because we have achieved this Self-Government everything is going to be easy. The expatriates will be watching us to see what progress we can make, and see that no injustice is done and that everybody is treated in a just way. With these few remarks I support the Motion.

THE PREMIER: (Hausa) Mr. President, Sir, I should like to extend my thanks to those Chiefs who have spoken in support of the Government policy which we have been following. Mr. President, you have congratulated me and those Members who have been honoured by Her Majesty the Queen. I should like to emphasise the fact that these honours have only been conferred on us through your co-operation and good assistance. Had you not given us your support I am sure that we would not have been able to reach this peaceful time as members have already mentioned. We

thank you also and we pray that you will continue to give us the assistance which you have been giving us before.

As the Emir of Lapai has already expressed his appreciation of the work of the Government and of expatriate officers and was also followed by other Emirs, I would like to comment myself on the subject. I myself can clearly inform the House that there are very many expatriate officers in this country and there are some who have already gone whom we should thank up to the end of our lives. This shows that we really appreciate their courage and the good services they have given, and we pray that those who still remain with us will continue to devote their good services to the Region as done by those who have served us from 1903 - 1910.

The Chief of Paiko congratulated the Government for the steps taken in sending some officers to look after the welfare of our pilgrims in the Sudan. I should like to inform him that we shall not steal his congratulations from the Federal Government as this is their responsibility. The Emir may rest assured that we shall extend his appreciation to that Government.

The Chief of Kagoro made mention of the Joint Committees that are going to be established and suggested that all people from all corners of the Region should be represented. I will take the chance of giving him the answer on behalf of the Minister for Local Government with his permission (if he is here). I should like to inform him that all people will be drawn from all the Native Authorities. They are the people who will do the work and it is the Native Authorities who join who will run such Committees. For this reason there is no Native Authority who will be left out (Applause).

The Emir of Jema'are appealed to the Government not to forget the small Native Authorities. They have never been forgotten before and likewise in the future they will not be forgotten.

The Emir of Bussa appealed to the Sultan of Sokoto and the Premier to be tolerant. I should like to inform him that the post of Premier is not permanently held by one person. It is possible that today I am the Premier and tomorrow somebody else will be in the post, but I should like to assure him that as long as we are the leaders of the Government we will do our best to carry out the wishes of the

general public. (Applause)

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (AMENDMENT) LAW, 1959

Order for Second Reading read.

THE PREMIER: Mr. President, Sir, I rise to move the second reading of the Bill. This short Bill seeks to amend the principal Law. In the past approval for giving a loan of over £5,000 was made by the Joint Standing Committee on Finance. If sums in excess of £½ million are going to be set aside it is necessary to obtain the approval of that Joint Standing Committee. This Committee is not now functioning and that is why it is necessary to find some place where these functions should be vested. It is for this reason that permission is being sought for the Minister responsible for the Development Corporation to be given powers to approve such loans or setting aside of the money. I am sure that the House will approve; as the Minister has been given the responsibility for the Corporation, I hope they will not mind also giving him authority to approve such sums. Mr. President, I beg to move.

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Mr. President, I beg to second.

Question proposed

Question put and agreed to

Bill accordingly read a second time

Bill committed to a Committee of the whole House

(House in Committee)

Clauses 1 - 3 agreed to

(House resumed)

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

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Mr. President, I beg to second.

Question proposed

Question put and agreed to

Bill accordingly read a third time and passed

THE PRESIDENT: I think it is a convenient time for a recess.

House suspended for 15 minutes at 10.25 a.m.

House resumed.

PENSIONS (NORTHERN REGION - NEW OFFICERS)
(AMENDMENT) LAW, 1959

Order for Second Reading read

MINISTER OF FINANCE: Mr. President, Sir, I rise to move that a Bill entitled a Law further to amend the Pensions (Northern Region - New Officers) Law, 1955, be now read a second time.

The need for this Bill arises from an anomaly which has been found in our pensions legislation. This does not include an officer who was formerly employed in the public service of a territory outside Nigeria and who, after retiring or resigning from such service, was re-employed in this Region on pensionable terms on or after 1st October, 1954. This Bill provides for such officers.

Sir, I beg to move.

MINISTER OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS: Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

Bill committed to a Committee of the Whole House.

House in Committee.

Clause 1 to 3 agreed to

House resumed

MINISTER OF FINANCE: I beg to report the Bill from a Committee of the Whole House and move that the Bill

be read a third time and passed.

MINISTER OF LAND AND SURVEY: Sir, I beg to second.

Bill accordingly read the third time and passed.

THE CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC FINANCES
(AMENDMENT) LAW, 1959.

Order for Second Reading read.

MINISTER OF FINANCE: Mr. President, Sir, I rise to move that the Bill entitled the Control and Management of Public Finances (Amendment) Law, 1959, be read a second time.

The Bill seeks to make certain technical amendments to the Control and Management of Public Finance Law, 1958, which came into force last August.

Sir, these amendments are explained fully in the Objects and Reasons appended to the Bill as published in the Regional Gazette, and I will not waste the Chiefs' time by dealing with them in greater detail here. I shall, of course, be happy to explain any points that may be raised when the Bill is examined in detail during the Committee stage.

Sir, I beg to move.

MINISTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT: Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the second time.

Bill committed to a Committee of the Whole House.

House in Committee

Clauses 1 and 2 agreed to

Clauses 3 and 4

THE EMIR OF LAPAI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to have further explanation on clause 4.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE: The first one - Personal Advances Fund - is a fund from which advances are given; for instance, advances to Members of this House for the purchase of motor cars are given from this one. The second one - Other Government Clearance Fund - is just like an advance account which N.As. have for their Treasuries. The third one - Treasury

Clearance Fund - that is a fund from which advance accounts are paid. For instance, the N.A. is doing work on the roads, and the Government advance account is opened so that the labourers and overseers are paid and then the Government afterwards pays the Treasury.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member is satisfied?

EMIR OF LAPAI: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Clauses 3 and 4 agreed to

Clause 5 agreed to

House resumed

MINISTER OF FINANCE: I beg to report the Bill from the Committee of the Whole House without amendment. I now move that the Bill be read a third time and passed.

MINISTER OF LAND & SURVEY: Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the third time and passed.

THE GASKIYA CORPORATION (AMENDMENT) LAW, 1959.

Order for Second Reading read.

MINISTER OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS: Mr. President, Sir, I rise to move that the Bill entitled the Gaskiya Corporation (Amendment) Law, 1959, be read a second time.

Sir, the purpose of this Bill is fully explained in the Objects and Reasons and there is little that I wish to add except to explain that should this Bill be made Law, it is my intention so to alter the Membership of the Board of Control as to make it more fully representative of various interests in the Region. This is not to say that the previous Board, which, with varying membership, has been in existence since the Corporation was created in 1948, has not done valuable work. This is far from being the case and Government is very grateful for all that it has done and especially to those unofficial members who have served on it for many years and given so much of their time and valuable advice in the interests of the Corporation.

the Northern Regional Literacy Agency, and thus including in one organization all the cultural activities of Government that are run on a commercial basis. It is not my purpose to enter into the details of such amalgamation but merely to point out that with the scope of the Corporation so enlarged and with recent developments and advances throughout the Region there is clearly a strong need for the appointment of a Board more suited to these changed conditions. This Bill will enable this to be done.

The re-organization referred to above will also make necessary the creation of a new post, that of Chief Executive Officer. This will be a key post within the Corporation and I consider that the appointment should be in my hands though, of course, when the appointment is made this officer will be fully responsible to the Board of Control. The post of General Manager will then be abolished.

Mr. President, I beg to move.

MINISTER OF STATE (Hon. Mr. Ogbadu): Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed

Question put and agreed to

Bill accordingly read the second time

Bill Committed to a Committee of the Whole House

House in Committee

Clauses 1 and 2

CHIEF OF NASSARAWA EGGON: Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is something which I do not quite understand, that is about the Chief Executive Officer - will he be a Northerner or an expatriate?

MINISTER OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS: A Northerner. (Applause)

Clauses 1 and 2 agreed to

Clauses 3 to 5 agreed to



NORTHERN REGIONAL LEGISLATURE

HOUSE OF CHIEFS
DEBATES

(Second Legislature)

Third Session
(First Meeting)

9th March, 1959

Price : 3d

*Printed and Published by the Government Printer, Northern Region of
Nigeria, 1959. To be purchased from the Government Press, Kaduna*

HOUSE OF CHIEFS
NORTHERN NIGERIA

Monday, 9th March, 1959.

The House met at 10.00 a.m.

PRAYERS

(THE PRESIDENT in the Chair)

PRESIDENT: His Excellency the Governor wishes to come and address this House. Is it the wish of the hon. Members that I do meet His Excellency and lead him in and that afterwards I escort him outside.

The House agreed.

The President in Procession escorted His Excellency into the House. The Governor took his seat and delivered his Speech from the Throne as follows:-

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE.

Mr. President, Chiefs of the Northern Region:

This is the last meeting of this House before the Region attains self-government. Let me therefore begin by mentioning the Constitutional changes which have taken place since I last addressed you. The resumed London Constitutional Conference agreed last year that our Region should be granted self-government on March 15th this year and that the Federation should attain independence on 1st October, 1960. These are matters of great pride to us all and we are profoundly thankful that we have reached this stage in the constitutional development of the Region in peace and friendship. My Government are fully aware of the great and heavy tasks that lie ahead and the implications of self-government were explained to you in the Government's White Paper which was laid before you and debated by you last year; its recommendations were accepted in the main by the Constitutional Conference. The stage is now set for this great event and I pray for God's help and guidance in the days that lie ahead of us.

To commemorate the attainment of self-government my Government has made arrangements for holding appropri-

ate ceremonies throughout the Region. Later, in May, it will hold further celebrations, at which Her Majesty has graciously consented to be represented by Their Royal Highnesses, the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester.

I think it appropriate that, on this occasion, I should restate my Government's policy on two important matters: the administration of justice and the Northernisation of the Public Service. Firstly, my Government attaches the greatest importance to the establishment of an independent, impartial and internationally acceptable system of the administration of justice. To achieve this, it therefore proposes to introduce, as soon as possible during the year, legislation based on the White Paper on the reforms of the judicial and legal systems, which was laid before you last December. Secondly, my Government is convinced of the need for speeding up the Northernisation of the Regional Public Service. My Government has therefore set up, under the chairmanship of the Minister of Education, a special Northernisation Committee to advise it on all aspects of the policy of Northernisation. It proposes to provide this Committee with its own executive which will be attached to the Office of the Premier. Although intending to press ahead with this policy as energetically as possible, my Government also wishes to make it clear that those officers, not of Northern origin, who are now in the Public Service, are most welcome and will not suffer from discrimination because of race, creed or place of birth.

You will once again be asked to consider the Estimates and the Minister of Finance will introduce the Annual Appropriation Law that provides recurrent expenditure, totalling nearly £15,000,000. This includes provision for the Self-Government celebrations to be held in May. In addition, a Capital Budget with expenditure of more than £8,000,000 is planned.

Whilst continuing to press on with its plans for the Northernisation of the public service at all levels, to which I have already referred, my Government fully realises the importance of retaining its existing staff. In particular, it is hoped that the proposals made by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and accepted by the Government, will encourage overseas officers to remain in the service of the Region after Self-Government. For those officers who do retire provision of £500,000 has been made in the coming year for payment of lump sum compensation. This sum will be paid from the Recurrent Estimates and is covered by ordinary revenue.

On educational matters I repeat the words I used in my Speech last year: "the objective will remain as before; that is, the provision of increasing numbers of young men and women adequately educated to serve their country in the critical years that lie ahead". To this end I expect to see a steady increase in the number of Primary schools, an expansion of Teacher Training facilities, and an increase in the number of boys and girls sitting for their School Certificate examination at the end of the year.

In a country which is developing so rapidly in every sphere of activity it is essential for local government to keep up with the times. It is even more essential that local government continues to maintain law and order and to provide basic services without which all material progress would be valueless. A balance must be struck between innovation and undue conservatism. It is my Government's policy that all local councils should progress steadily without over-rapid changes that lead to unbalance, but sufficiently fast to meet the genuine needs and wishes of the people for participation in local affairs.

With this general policy in mind it is proposed during the coming year to introduce formal representative provincial councils. These will provide proper channels through which public opinion may find expression on subjects of provincial interest, and advise both the Regional Government and Native Authorities on matters of policy.

It is also proposed to encourage the establishment of Joint Committees whereby Native Authorities jointly delegate to a committee powers and financial support so that it can provide more efficient services to the public.

In the sphere of Native Authority finance the most important subject in the coming year will be the start of the third Five-Year Development Plan which will run until 1964.

In addition my Government is taking measures to ensure that Native Authorities do not over-expend on development and then have to borrow money at high rates of interest to meet recurrent charges.

Last year I drew attention to the need for preserving that mutual trust and confidence between the people and those in authority without which no Government can hope to endure. I reaffirmed that this could best be achieved by overhauling the whole structure of

local government, by raising its standards, and by adapting it to suit present day conditions. Now that self-government is about to be attained, it is essential that the task of re-appraisal begun two years ago, should be vigorously continued. Any weakening in this will damage the prestige of the Native Authorities and endanger law and order.

In conclusion, it is essential that all persons in positions of authority, by sinking personal differences and ambitions and by acting impartially without showing favour, should work together with each other and with my Government for the greater benefit of Nigeria.

Mr. President, Chiefs of the Northern Region, may God grant you wisdom and tolerance in your counsels and guide you in the coming days.

After the Speech from the Throne His Excellency retired in procession.

PRESIDENT: First of all I should like to welcome all the Members of this hon. House. I should like also to take this opportunity to congratulate the hon. Premier, Sir Ahmadu Bello, and the Minister of Finance, Alhaji Aliyu Makaman Bida for the well-deserved honours bestowed upon them by Her Majesty the Queen. It is not usual to praise people in their presence or even during their lifetime, but, however, it is a well-known fact that in proportion to one's labour eminence is gained. I am sure that all hon. Members will share the same views as myself in this congratulation. I am hoping that the remaining Ministers, Emirs and Chiefs will be rewarded according to their merits.

The Shehu of Bornu and the Chief of Minna have sent their greetings and good wishes, and I am sure that Members will like me to send them suitable replies. In so doing I pray that the Shehu of Bornu, our beloved Friend, will have the power to come for the celebrations in May.

PAPERS LAID

THE PREMIER: Mr. President, Sir, I beg to lay the following paper on the Table of the House;

The Third Annual Report of the Northern Region Development Corporation, 1957-58.

ORDERED:

That the said paper do lie upon the table.

THE ACTING MINISTER OF ANIMAL HEALTH AND FORESTRY: Mr. President, Sir, I beg to lay the following papers on the Table of the House:

The Annual Report of the Forest Administration of the Northern Region of Nigeria for the year 1956-57.

The Annual Report of the Veterinary Department of the Northern Region of Nigeria 1956-57.

ORDERED:

That the said papers do lie upon the Table.

THE MINISTER OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS: Mr. President, Sir, I beg to lay on the Table of the House;

The Report of the Director of Audit on the incomplete accounts of the Northern Region Literature Agency for the years 1955-56 and 1956-57.

ORDERED:

That the said paper do lie upon the table.

MOTIONS

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Mr. President, Sir, I rise to move the Motion standing in my name, "That Standing Order No.4(1) be suspended in respect of the sittings of this House during the present meeting". Mr. President, Sir, as fasting for the month of Ramadan is due to start on Wednesday or Thursday, it is felt that, for the convenience of hon. Members, there will be no afternoon sittings, and that the meetings of the House should start at 9 o'clock in the morning and continue until work on the Order Paper has been completed, which could be up to 1 o'clock or 2 o'clock in the afternoon. Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move.

THE MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY: Mr. President, Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed
Question put and agreed to

RESOLVED:

That Standing Order No.4(1) be suspended in respect of the sittings of this House during the present meeting.

PRESIDENT: The House is suspended for fifteen minutes in order that Members may exchange greetings.

House suspended at 10.55 a.m. for fifteen minutes.

House resumed.

MESSAGES ON BILLS FROM ASSEMBLY**DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (AMENDMENT) LAW, 1959**

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Development Corporation (Amendment) Law, 1959" - read.

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

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time on Tuesday, 19th March.

1959/60 APPROPRIATION LAW, 1959

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "1959/60 Appropriation Law, 1959" - read.

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

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time later in the day.

SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION LAW, 1959

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

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

Question put and agreed to

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time on Wednesday, 11th March.

CONTROL & MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC FINANCES (AMENDMENT) LAW, 1959

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "Control and Management of Public Finances (Amendment) Law, 1959" - read.

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

Question put and agreed to

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time on Tuesday, 10th March.

BETTING TAX LAW, 1959

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "Betting Tax Law, 1959" - read.

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

Question put and agreed to

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time on Saturday, 14th March, or earlier if the business of the House permits.

ENTERTAINMENT TAX LAW, 1959

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "Entertainment Tax Law, 1959" - read.

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

Question put and agreed to

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time on Saturday, 14th March, or earlier if the business of the House permits.

PENSIONS (NORTHERN REGION - NEW OFFICERS)
(AMENDMENT) LAW, 1959

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "Pensions (Northern Region - New Officers) (Amendment) Law, 1959" - read.

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

Question put and agreed to

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time on Tuesday, 10th March.

PROVINCIAL COUNCILS LAW, 1959

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "Provincial Councils Law, 1959" - read.

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

Question put and agreed to

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time on Wednesday, 11th March.

GASKIYA CORPORATION (AMENDMENT) LAW, 1959

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "Gaskiya Corporation (Amendment) Law, 1959" - read.

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

Question put and agreed to

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time on Tuesday, 10th March.

ORDER OF THE DAY.

THE NORTHERN REGION 1959-60 APPROPRIATION LAW, 1959
Order for Second Reading read.

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

Copies of my annual Budget address, delivered to the House of Assembly, in both English and Hausa, have already been distributed to Chiefs and I propose, if such a course is acceptable, merely to draw attention to the more important points and those of special interest to Chiefs rather than deliver a long oration.

The economic picture is much the same as when I introduced my Second Supplementary Budget last December. The improvement in the economies of the fully industrialised countries has not yet been reflected in any rise in commodity prices on which primary producers, such as ourselves, depend so much. We hope that industrial development will however be stimulated and increase the demand for our export crops, animal products and minerals.

The Estimates themselves are set out in the manner followed since 1956, with a clear division into Recurrent and Capital Budgets.

Chiefs will observe that I am budgetting for a surplus on recurrent account of three hundred and twenty four thousand pounds. This, though small in relation to the Recurrent Budget, is in fact larger than either of the last two years. It is artificially reduced because the Estimates contain provision both for Lump Sum Compensation and the Self-Government Celebrations.

The pattern of our revenue has completely changed as a result of the adoption of the welcome report of the Raisman Commission. These new revenue allocation arrangements give us about ten per cent more revenue each year, given normal crops and sustained commodity prices. Redistribution by itself, however, as the Commission stated, cannot solve all our problems. If we are to progress further, we need more money.

We propose therefore to impose taxes on admissions to cinemas and race-tracks and on totalisator and sweepstake betting. Bills for this purpose have been laid before the House.

Chiefs will be aware that the Federal Government

announced on the 30th January that the duty on petrol would be increased by 6d. per gallon and that on diesel fuel by 9d. per gallon. These increases were imposed with the agreement of the other Governments of the Federation.

The Federal Government has also announced additional indirect taxation on various goods including spirits, beer, cloths and motor vehicles. These steps are designed to slacken the demand for consumer goods so as to help our own local industries and stop the drain on Nigeria's external reserve. These measures may also bring us some additional revenue but as the amount is so uncertain I have only taken account of the increased yield (some seven hundred thousand pounds) from duties on petrol and diesel fuel.

Thanks to these changes, recurrent revenue next year should reach fifteen million eight hundred and seventy thousand pounds. This is an increase of two million four hundred thousand pounds, or eighteen per cent, over last year.

It is not my task to dwell in detail on the various Heads of Expenditure. My colleagues will give any explanations that are necessary as their own sections of the Estimates are discussed in Committee of Supply.

Recurrent expenditure totals some fifteen million five hundred and fifty thousand pounds; an increase of twelve per cent over last year, and I would draw special attention to the increase in Education Grants-in-Aid, up by over two hundred thousand pounds. As more and more teachers are trained and schools are opened, the cost of education grants will inevitably rise rapidly each year.

Provision is made for the expenditure on Capital Account of nearly nine million pounds next year. This will be the final year of the present Five-Year Development Plan. This Plan has already transformed the face of the Region and enriched the life of our people. The figures in the Estimates illustrate a story of constant effort and endeavour.

Money to the amount of no less than five and a quarter million pounds will be taken up in loans during the forthcoming Financial Year. Four and a quarter million pounds will be in the form of a loan from the Federal Government and one million pounds will be taken up from the Northern Regional Marketing Board. This is the largest amount yet taken up in loans in any one

year and compares with three and a half million pounds this year.

The total revenue of all Native Authorities in the coming year is expected, for the first time ever, to exceed ten million pounds. This is an increase of ten per cent over the figures appearing in the present year's Estimates.

The coming year marks the commencement of the Third Native Authority Five Year Development Plan. It is estimated that the total funds which will be available for Capital Development by Native Authorities during the next five years, apart from sums received as grants, will exceed eight million five hundred thousand pounds.

The large sums of money which are now in the hands of Native Authorities both for Recurrent and Capital Expenditure place upon them, and especially on officials in charge of votes, grave responsibilities. As Chiefs will be aware, this challenge is being met by drives for increased efficiency and the intensification of staff training programmes.

Though we, like all primary producing countries, are passing through leaner times than of recent years, our financial position is fundamentally sound. We have been able to absorb the extra recurrent costs created by the coming to fruition of the Development Plan on to our recurrent estimates without imposing an excessive strain on the economy. In addition we are able to carry the cost of servicing the loans being raised for the present Development Plan. However, I must make it plain that any further large scale development after the conclusion of the present plan will inevitably have to be financed primarily from further loans. On these heavy interest must be paid and further development will itself increase our recurrent commitments.

.. We have no money to spare for non-essentials, Sir. The demands on Government are numerous. So, economy must be our watchword and we must be on constant watch for waste and extravagance.

Sir, I beg to move.

MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Sir, I beg to second.

MR. PRESIDENT: In accordance with Standing Order 65, the debate cannot take place earlier than the next day.

BUSINESS STATEMENT.

EMIR OF KATSINA: Mr. President Sir, before I move the motion for the adjournment of the House I am sure the Chiefs would like to know the business to be considered during the week.

Tomorrow Sir, Sarkin Nassarawa Eggon will move a motion appointing two Members of this House to be Members of the Committee of Selection in accordance with Standing Order 53(2). The duty of this Committee will be to appoint Members to the various Committees of the House as required by the Standing Orders. After that Mr. President the Emir of Dapai will move a motion "That this House notes with approval the policy of the Government as set out in the Speech which His Excellency has addressed to this House". The debate on this motion, Mr. President, will cover all aspects of Government policy and will give the chiefs the chance to speak on important matters concerning the government policy. When the debate on that motion is concluded, we will take the Second Reading of the following Bills:-

- (a) A Bill entitled the Northern Region Development Corporation (Amendment) Law, 1959;
- (b) A Bill entitled the Pensions (Northern Region - New Officers) (Amendment) Law, 1959;
- (c) A Bill entitled the Control and Management of Public Finances (Amendment) Law, 1959; and
- (d) A Bill entitled The Gaskiya Corporation (Amendment) Law, 1959.

On Wednesday Sir, a motion will be moved suspending Standing Order 65 to enable the debate on the Second Reading on the Bill entitled The Northern Region 1958-59 Supplementary Appropriation Law, 1959 to take place after the motion has been moved and seconded, so that you, Mr. President, will propose the question in order to allow the debate on the Second Reading and the remaining stages of the Bill to be taken. This supplementary Bill Mr. President, is a non-controversial one and in order to enable the House to get through all its stages, it is necessary to suspend Standing Order 65. After that, the debate on the main Appropriation Bill introduced by the Minister of Finance this morning will take place. The debate on this Bill Mr. President will enable Members to discuss the economic and

financial policy of the Government. When the debate on the Appropriation Bill is completed we hope to take the Second Reading of the Bill entitled the Provincial Councils Law, 1959.

On Thursday Sir, before the House goes into Committee of Supply to consider the Estimates in detail, the Minister of Social Welfare and Co-operatives will move a motion seeking the approval of this House for the pledging of Government's Credit to the amount of £1,400,000 to enable Co-operative Societies to finance their marketing operations. The whole of Thursday will be allotted to Committee of Supply and if necessary the Committee will continue on Friday.

On Saturday Sir, before the business is started, a motion will be moved enabling the House to adjourn sine die at the end of the day's sitting. We will then take the Second Reading of the following two short Bills:-

- (a) A Bill entitled The Betting Tax Law, 1959;
- (b) A Bill entitled The Entertainment Tax Law, 1959.

I should like to inform the House that, if it is likely that the Committee of Supply will not occupy the whole of the time of the House on Friday, the business proposed for Saturday will be pushed further to Friday so that the House may be able to adjourn sine die on Friday.

RESOLVED:

That the House do now adjourn. (Emir of Katsina).

House accordingly adjourned at five minutes after noon until Nine o'clock tomorrow morning.



NORTHERN REGIONAL LEGISLATURE

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

DEBATES

(Second Legislature)

Third Session

(First Meeting)

23rd February, 1959

Price : 3d

Printed and Published by the Government Printer, Northern Region of Nigeria, 1959. To be purchased from the Government Press, Kaduna.

Monday, 23rd February, 1959

The House met at Ten O'clock

PRAYERS

(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Produce Officers and Assistant Produce Officers

O.12. ALHAJI MAIWADA KANO (Wudil) asked the Minister of Agriculture; (a) how many African: (i) Produce Officers, (ii) Assistant Produce Officers and (iii) Produce Inspectors, Grade I, are there in the Produce Inspection Service.

PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: (a) (i) 2, (ii) 14, (iii) 35; (b) One Produce Officer is a Northerner and five Northerners are Produce Inspectors Grade I. There are no Northern Assistant Produce Officers.

ALHAJI ISYAKU GWAMNA: Supplementary question. Is the Minister prepared to increase the number of Produce Officers.

MR. SPEAKER: That is a new question.

Public Order Bill

O.15. M. ADAMU SHATAMBAYA (Yawuri and Gwandu South) asked the Premier: In view of the fact that the Public Order Bill is now in operation (a) would the Government consider taking further step in laying strictions on making weapons like spears, arrows, swords, guns, matchets, etc., by local blacksmiths, by introducing a licensing system therefor, and (b) in the interest of public security, to restrict their sales to unauthorised persons.

PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE PREMIER: (a) Under

the provisions of the Firearms Ordinance, 1958, it is illegal to manufacture any type of firearm except at a public armoury or at arsenals established for the purposes of the armed forces of the Crown, with the consent of the Governor-General. As regards the other weapons mentioned by the hon. Member, Native Authorities are empowered by Section 43 of the Native Authority Law, 1954, to make orders prohibiting, restricting or regulating the carrying and possession of such weapons. The Regional Government considers that no steps to impose further restrictions are necessary at the present time. (b) Part III of the Firearms Ordinance prohibits the sale or transfer of a firearm without a licence except to a registered firearms dealer or to a person who produces a licence or permit, authorising him to possess such firearms. Native Authorities will have power under Section 43 of the Native Authority Law to make orders which would in effect regulate the sale or transfer of other weapons. The Regional Government considers that no steps to impose further restrictions are necessary at the present time.

Hospital for Lafia Town

O.36. MALLAM SHEHU USMAN, SARKIN DAJI (Lafia) asked the Minister of Health; in cases of emergency and in view of the distance to Makurdi and Keffi Hospitals, would the Government consider establishing a General Hospital in Lafia Town.

PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE MINISTER OF HEALTH: No, Sir. No provision was made for such a project in the current Development Plan and no funds are available for it now.

MALLAM SHEHU USMAN: Supplementary question. When will the Minister make provision in the five-year plan.

MINISTER OF HEALTH: As soon as funds become available.

MALLAM JIBIRIN MAIRIGA: Would the Minister help the Native Authority by providing an ambulance to convey patients from this Native Authority to either Keffi or Makurdi Hospitals.

MINISTER OF HEALTH: This is the primary responsibility of the Native Authority. (Cries of "They have no money")

Payments for Ploughing Tractors

O.38. MALLAM SHEHU USMAN, SARKIN DAJI (Lafia) asked the Minister of Agriculture: (a) is the Minister aware that most farmers in Benue Province have ceased using the ploughing tractors because of the payment of £3 per acre, for the use of the tractor which is considered too exorbitant; (b) if the answer is yes, has the Minister any proposal with a view to reduce this rate from £3 to £2 per acre in order to encourage the use of the tractors.

PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

(a) The decrease so far in the demand for acreage to be ploughed by tractors this year has been caused by the reluctance of a number of farmers to pay the ploughing charge in advance. Previously this charge was paid after the harvest. Since the average profit per acre to the farmer is £15 - £20, I cannot agree that a ploughing charge of £3 per acre is exorbitant; (b) No, Sir.

MALLAM SHEHU USMAN, SARKIN DAJI (Lafia): Supplementary question. How does the Minister manage to know that the farmers make a profit of from £15 - £20 per acre? (Laughter) (Cries of "experience"). (M. ANGO SOBA: "Is the Minister a farmer?")

Sanitation in the Northern Region

O.46 MALLAM SAMA'ILA AHMED, SARKIN TSABTA (Zaria East) asked the Minister of Health: (a) Is the Minister aware of the shortage of Sanitary Inspectors in the Northern Region; (b) if so, has the Government any proposal to improve this situation in view of the fact approaching Self-Government for the Region, which will no doubt call for improved sanitation.

PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE MINISTER OF HEALTH: (a) Yes, Sir. (b) I do not see any connection between the advent of Self-Government and the need to improve sanitation. However, I am considering plans for the improvement to the School of Hygiene at Kano and hope to proceed with these as soon as funds become available. Meanwhile, as regards recruitment of additional staff, I refer the hon. Member to paragraph 87 of the Memorandum on the 1959-60 Draft Estimates.

Sanitary Inspectors-in-Training

O.47 MALLAM SAMA'ILA AHMED, SARKIN TSABTA (Zaria East) asked the Minister of Health: How many Sanitary Inspectors-in-Training have attended the Kano Hygiene School from 1956 to 1959.

PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE MINISTER OF HEALTH: Sir, 45.

Building Line Rule on Trunk Roads A

O.73 ALHAJI USUMAN LIMAN, SARKIN MUSAWA (Katsina East Central) asked the Minister of Works whether he is aware of the general discontent of the people of Katsina Emirate, in regard to the 100ft building line rule on trunk roads A, such as Yashe-Funtua Road and whether he considers the advisability of reducing it to 50ft.

PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE MINISTER OF WORKS: No, Sir. For the hon. Member's further information the building line is already fixed at 50 feet through all important towns and villages. But there are good reasons, and this include road safety, for maintaining 100 feet outside towns and villages. Funtua - Yashe is a trunk road B.

Senior Establishment of the Ministry of Land and Survey.

O.80 ALHAJI ISYAKU GWAMNA (Jos Town) asked the Minister of Land and Survey how many Northerners, Southerners and Expatriates respectively are on the Senior Establishment of his Ministry.

PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE MINISTER OF LAND AND SURVEY: There are two Northerners, sixteen Southerners and forty-five expatriates.

ALHAJI ISYAKU GWAMNA: Supplementary question. When will Northerners take over the posts mentioned?

MR. SPEAKER: This is not a supplementary question.

ALHAJI ISYAKU GWAMNA: What is the aim of the Northernisation Policy Committee?

MR. SPEAKER: This is not a supplementary question.

ORDER OF THE DAY

THE NORTHERN REGION 1959-60 APPROPRIATION LAW, 1959.

Order read for the adjourned debate on
Second Reading - (Third Allotted Day).

MINISTER OF TRADE & INDUSTRY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to digress a little before I go into the subject matter. There is nothing that deserves reply in the matters raised by the honourable Member for Kaduna Capital. The points raised by him were the usual diatribes familiar with N.E.P.U. lectures in the Sabon Gari.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, on many occasions in the past, as in his speech on Saturday, the hon. Member from Yelwa South has waved before our eyes a pamphlet written 9 years ago, as if it is the last word on the industrialisation of the Northern Region. Members will be surprised if I tell them that that particular pamphlet was lent to him by me before he made his speech in the House. (laughter) It is an out-of-date paper. May I suggest to the hon. Member that he should read the conclusions of that pamphlet on page 27. May I also suggest to him that he brings himself more up-to-date by studying the International Bank Mission Report published some four years ago. This report, written by experts, made various suggestions on economic and industrial development, and we have adopted many of these suggestions.

It is very easy to suggest that there should be planned industrialisation, but before any plan can be made, certain important factors must be taken into account. As I have already said during this Session, one very important factor is cheap electricity. Until this is available, industry is unlikely to expand rapidly. We have hopes that in the near future we shall have cheap hydro-electric power, but I must also point out to the hon. Member that many millions of pounds will have to be found to pay for such hydro-electric power schemes and we must try and attract this from overseas. We can only induce overseas investors to come to this Region if we maintain a stable economy. Let us therefore concentrate on maintaining a stable economy and creating the right atmosphere to attract investors and the skills we want to develop in this land of ours. We cannot plan to build a house without first planning the foundation. Let us therefore concentrate on the essentials and not waste time in producing a plan on paper which might look very nice but which would prove unworkable.

The hon. Member in his speech implies that there are few industries in the North. As I have previously said, let him look around the Region and see what is being produced in many parts of the Region. In May, during the Self-Government celebrations there will be an exhibition in Kaduna and the hon. Member will then be able to see for himself. He suggests also that there is no co-ordination between the various industrial projects in the North. Let me assure him that my Ministry is in close touch with all these projects and provides co-ordination when it is required. The hon. Member from Yelwa South also presses for the encouragement of Trade Associations. May I say how much I agree with him. My Ministry does all it can to get traders to combine together but I must stress that the initiative should come from the traders. If they do not join Chamber of Commerce I cannot make them do so. (MALLAM IBRAHIM IMAM: "They can be educated") The President of the Kano Chamber is in this House and I know there is no need to point him out, and I know he will happily welcome Northern members.

Mr. Speaker, with these few remarks, I would like to support the Motion.

M. MAUDE GYANI (Hausa): Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the Motion on the Appropriation Bill and in doing so, Mr. Speaker, I should like to congratulate the Minister of Finance for his efforts, I never thought he will be able to do such an onerous work, and he is the first Northerner to be appointed Minister of Finance. In congratulating him for his being the first Northerner to be appointed Minister of Finance and for his ability and experience, I should like to give some suggestions in connection with some Ministries.

Mr. Speaker, last year if you can recall, in 1957-58 (HON. MEMBERS: "Two years ago"). I was nicknamed the Minister of Ginger because of my many complaints about ginger but I have been so greatly helped by the Minister of Trade and Industry and now I have to thank him. He did his best in order to help ginger farmers and he sought my advice with a view to improving the marketing of ginger in Southern Zaria and for this reason some people were selected from that particular area with whom we went to consult the Minister. He sent an open letter to the United Africa Company, S.C.O.A., John Holt's and G.B. Ollivant but we did not come to any decision, and as a result he could not help us but showed us another way for this market that we should associate with the Commercial Firms. Mr. Davies then Director, tried his best

to help us; and for the advice given to them by the Minister of Trade and Industry, the result is that all the companies I mentioned are trying to assist us in the marketing of ginger.

There is one important suggestion that I want to put forward now and which would affect the Zaria Native Authority, that is the co-operative societies. We did our best and collected some money and deposited it in the Barclay's Bank at Zaria (Laughter) in the early part of the year in 1958, but up to now our societies have not been registered. I have used quite a number of gallons of petrol for this purpose but without success. If those concerned for the establishment of these societies in Zaria are not willing to help our area, I am sure that all these complaints which I have been bringing to this House will continue to be repeated. Those companies who are buying this ginger from us will not agree to buy if we have no societies. They will not give us any money unless they have seen that we have got some money on deposit and therefore these ginger producers in the area will not be able to store all the ginger they have until such time as it is needed because they have not got money to depend on because the ginger is not marketed overseas. If such societies are not registered and the farmers given loans they cannot store their ginger. If they have not got any loans when the time comes for them to pay their taxes they cannot do so at that particular moment. If they have no other source of income other than from the sale of ginger and they have to pay their taxes immediately they will be compelled to sell their ginger at a low price. If the Government does not take steps in this matter, I am sure that the revenue received from that part of the area from taxation will be reduced a great deal.

Mr. Speaker, I now turn to the Minister of Works. I am appealing to the Minister with regard to roads. He should consider the money that is being given by the Government grants to the Native Authorities. I mean those monies that have been granted to Native Authorities for road reconstruction. Those people from my area used to make roads by communal labour. We have worked on such roads more than three times and there are marshy areas near Rafin Sabon Sarki and Kurmin Mata where such communal labour as I have mentioned has been done and even the place was visited by the Emir of Zaria. It is now two years since that particular bridge has collapsed and we have appealed to the Zaria N.A. for reconstruction, but up to now nothing has been done and this particular road connects three feeder roads and again there are two Senior Primary Schools which are going to be built for the people of that area and

that one would be (applause)

PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF HEALTH: "Point of Order, 60(2).

MR. SPEAKER: I must say that this is one of the few Members who has addressed the House who has kept rigidly to economics. This question of roads affects the Member very seriously and affects his people very seriously. (Applause)

M. MAUDE GYANI: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, (Opposition applause)

MR. SPEAKER: I do not want any applause, thank you.

M. MAUDE GYANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my appeal to the Government for these particular roads is because the roads are important for three things. Two Primary Schools which are to be opened in that area will be opened with the approval of the Government and one is going to be opened at Kurmin Musa by S.I.M. and another one at Sabor Sarki by the R.C.M.

MR. SPEAKER: Do these details affect the matter before the House?

M. MAUDE GYANI: They really concern the economy of the country. Without roads there will be no education. If there is no road to enable the Provincial Education Officer to tour such places, it will not be possible even for the Government to authorize the building of such a school and the Self-Government we are now approaching would be useless if there is no education. That is the reason why I am appealing to the Government and particularly to the Minister of Works to take steps with regard to these roads.

Mr. Speaker, I am now turning to education.

MR. SPEAKER: I think the Member might take that up when we come to the Committee of Supply.

MAUDE GYANI: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, but I want to make some suggestions. For myself, I do not like to make speeches, but I feel that there are certain things about which I have to speak. With regard to education I want to make an appeal to the Minister of Education and at the same time congratulating him (Laughter).

MR. SPEAKER: We will deal with that when we come to the Committee of Supply (Laughter).

MAUDE GYANI: Mr. Speaker, in praising the Minister of Education, I want to suggest something

MR. SPEAKER: Later on (laughter).

MAUDE GYANI: Mr. Speaker, I am not going to be confused at all. With regard to the Ministry of Finance matters and the valuable work done, I want all the Ministers to come together, with the Premier, our leader, to consider all the genuine complaints that have been brought to this House because we are approaching one very heavy responsibility and that is self-government. They should ignore those people whose suggestions are not constructive, such people from Opposition Benches. (Interruptions). I do not come here to speak only for my constituency, but I come to speak for the Northern Region as a whole (hear, hear).

PREMIER: Mr. Speaker, it is my intention to speak at length in reply to an allegation made in this House by the hon. Member from Ilorin North since when he has disappeared into the orbit. The hon. Member has claimed that since the Government came into power nothing has been done for Ilorin. I was surprised to hear such a statement from an Alhaji and an elderly man also.

Now, Sir, I, as Minister of Works in 1952, found that a provision of £32,000 was made for an urban water supply for Ilorin (Applause). By the end of the year, the estimate went up to £90,000, and by the completion of the water supply it cost the Regional Government £350,000. Now during the same period £311,000 was spent on improvement and on tarring roads in the Province. Government has just set aside £20,000 for electrical wiring in Ilorin. Now this Government has also built a trade centre at Ilorin town which cost us £360,000, a teacher training centre at £95,000 and the Government has built a secondary school at £161,000. We financed the Voluntary Agencies' secondary schools. For a population of half a million we now pay out no less than £117,000 for grants to primary education. Now if you compare this population of half a million with Katsina which is three times as big as Ilorin, you will find a great difference. In Katsina, we only pay £31,000 grants.

The hon. Member also claimed that no loans were issued to Ilorin Province. In 1957 9 loans were made amounting to £4,250, and in 1958 32 loans amounting

to £9,465. All this is in Ilorin Emirate. Well, since the beginning of the loans, 64 loans were issued to private individuals in Ilorin amounting to £20,730. Loans for markets were also issued to Ilorin Emirate. Ilorin Town Cattle Market £9,750, Offa Market £26,000, Ote Market £12,000.

Applications for grants for roads were received up to a total of £34,394. Well, incidentally this estimate is the total estimated cost of the roads, and a grant of £29,262 had been made to Ilorin. So actually they only paid £5,000 out of their own money.

It is not true also to say that farmers in the rural areas in Ilorin do not receive any financial assistance from the Government. There are in Ilorin Province 12 registered Co-operative and Produce Marketing Societies, 9 in Ilorin Emirate and 3 in Pategi. In the current financial year, Government guaranteed bank overdrafts for those societies for a maximum of £6,100 for three-season loans and purchasing advances. This money is available to all members of registered societies without regard to their political affiliations.

Sir, I think I have made it quite clear to the House that the hon. Member has been trying to misguide the House. I think although we are politicians, whatever we do we must try to tell the truth as true facts are always available. This is no question of cheap popularity, it is true facts that I have given in order to dispel all the allegations made by the hon. Member. Thank you, Sir.

MR. R. B. OJEBÀ (Igbirra): Mr. Speaker, Sir, while I do not wish to keep the House long because so many people have spoken, but the Minister of Finance has related to us that it was with pride that he presented this Budget, and he looked to the future with confidence. Since we already know the ability of the Minister of Finance, I think we need not waste time in debating this Budget, because we have confidence in him and believe that all his proposals are genuine. There is a point that I wish to raise. It is in connection with the financial resources of the Igbirra Native Authority. For some time now, Northerners have been flocking to the Western Region to get better land on which to farm, because their own lands are fertile no longer. These people are faced with double taxation in the Western Region. I have just got a telegram from Igbirra Native Authority. May I have the permission of the Speaker to read it? (holding up a telegram),

MR. SPEAKER: I do not know what is inside it.
(Laughter)

MR. R. B. OJEBBA (Igbirra): Of course it is about what is happening to the people there. (Assent) "..... (inaudible)..... forced obtain second bicycle licence by Western Region law and similar demand for general tax. Investigate and raise matter in the Legislature." The Minister of Finance will realise that for some time now there has been a query about why the number of people who have to pay tax has been so much reduced in Igbirra. The reason given is that many people have gone to the Western Region. These people do not live there, but have their families in Igbirra, but they are forced to pay taxes in the Western Region. Since they have their permanent residence here, the Igbirra Native Authorities take them also. Their families took up this matter with the Igbirra Native Authority, but no action was taken at all. Recently our people travelled with bicycles to their farms in the Western Region, and after obtaining a licence in Igbirra, they were forced to get a licence again in that area. Since the fertility of our land is poor, the people will still continue to go to the Western Region to find suitable land to farm. But since they come from this Region and are therefore faced with double taxation, they will prefer to have their homes in the Western Region, so that there will be a very great reduction in the Native Authority's revenue. We

know very well that the Native Authorities depend on taxes for their revenue. I appeal to the Government to take this matter seriously.

With these remarks I support the Bill.

MALLAM SHEHU MAHIRU (Zaria Town) (Hausa) Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to speak on the Budget Speech. I am sure that the Budget is a worthy one, because it is for the development of the country, which is what we all want.

I am appealing to the Government to help Zaria to develop its own resources. I often get complaints from people saying that they have been forced to go for communal labour, and I feel that if the Government can help the Native Authority this will also be a great help to the people.

What I have to say on this Budget has already been mentioned by other members of this House. I would like to touch on our exports. The Government should do its best to see that our exports are valued at high

prices - for example, groundnuts, cotton, hides and skins. I am sure that if these commodities had higher prices, our wealth would increase. I know very well that during the last three years we have been encountering some difficulties in connection with our taxes, because the way the people are taxed, I feel, is not the proper way. Some people are assessed without knowledge of the amount of their income. If our industries could be improved, I feel that people would not have such difficulty in paying their taxes.
(Applause).

With these few remarks, I support the Bill.

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have already replied to some of these points raised by hon. Members in my speech on the 18th February, but I should like to deal with certain additional items which have been mentioned since that date.

In the first place, Sir, I should like to deal with the speech made by the hon. Alhaji Isyaku Gwamna, who talked about the work of my Ministry. His criticism needs some reply. In the first place, he said that our farmers have been taught nothing. I cannot take this expression of view seriously, any more than do other Members of the House. It would be wrong for anybody to get up in this hon. House and tell the House that the farmers do not get any benefit from the Agricultural Department. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Mallam Shehu Cigari, for example, was good enough to say that the assistance given to the farmers in the Rima Fadama area has increased the economic wealth of that area. The hon. Alhaji Maiwada went on to point out the increased benefit from research in groundnuts, and the increased variety of groundnuts which have been multiplied and distributed in the Region. The hon. Abdullahi Ja'afar spoke in similar terms of the efforts of this Ministry to expand irrigation work. Hon. Members will, I feel sure, agree with me that their views are more representative of the facts than Alhaji Isyaku Gwamna's irritable comments.

The hon. Member from Jos went on to say that there are many expatriates doing nothing at Samaru, and that Europeans have done nothing to introduce improved methods of agriculture. I should like to know whether the hon. Member visited Samaru in order to see the facts for himself before making this irresponsible speech. I suppose he has not done so. I should like to point out to him that the Samaru houses are not there for nothing. The buildings are not sleeping rooms as he

thought them to be. It is at Samaru that we teach students for Agricultural Assistant, Agricultural Superintendents, Instructors, Field Overseers and others, both for the Native Authorities and for the Government. Those people are spread out all over the Region to help the farmers. The hon. Member went on to say that it was high time that the farmers were given scholarships to study in England. I shall be very happy indeed to support this application if the hon. Member can produce farmers with the necessary educational qualifications.

The hon. Mallam Shehu Cigari said that he had heard that the type of groundnut produced in this country is somewhat inferior to those in other world markets. He may be interested to learn that some hundreds of different varieties are imported into this country, and are being tested for their suitability for this country, both at Samaru and elsewhere.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, he has also spoken about the very poor prices being paid for tobacco. The Hon. Member knows that tobacco prices are not a matter for my Ministry, but I am arranging for two senior N.A. officials and two members of my Ministry to visit the Nigerian Tobacco Company and to examine their requirements. If there is anything we can do to improve the already considerable return to the economy of the Region from these sources, we will do our best, and we will continue to do it.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Alhaji Musa Gari asked that more should be done for irrigation work in the Region. I can assure the hon. Member that we have this need in mind, but as he knows, the first requirement is to obtain hydrological data, and that is what we are doing at present. The Ministry is also fully aware of the need for studying the irrigation possibilities regarding hydro-electric schemes such as the proposed Jebba dams and the Shiroro Gorge dam. He also spoke about grants to the various N.A.s to help them in the improvement of roads. The Ministry will continue to examine particular applications, together with any other N.A.s', whenever we get their applications in the Ministry.

The hon. Abdullahi Ja'afa asked for more mechanised farming schemes on marsh land in Bornu and Sokoto. Intensive studies of these possibilities in Bornu and Sokoto are now in hand. ("What plans?") But it is not yet possible to say what can be done. The hon. Member has no doubt heard about the mechanised

ploughing being done at Jere and elsewhere in Bornu Province.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the intention of the Government is to welcome any good suggestion which will be of benefit to Members and to everybody in this Region. It is not fair for any Member to get up in this House and to say that that is not true. The time has come when we should drop all these unnecessary, unwarranted statements in this Honourable House.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think this is enough to cover all the points raised by the hon. Members as far as the Ministry of Agriculture is concerned. On the 18th of this month, Sir, I spoke to one hon. Member who spoke about Samaru, and I told him that he always just passes on the road without seeing what is happening, without seeing whether there is a school, without seeing anything that is bringing an increased economy to this Region. Mr. Speaker, Sir, if you will permit me, I will just say a word about what has happened in the House of Representatives in 1955. When they first began to criticize the University in Ibadan, the invitation was extended to all the Members of the House of Representatives to go round and see what was happening in the University. Mr. Speaker, Sir, seeing is believing. I shall be very glad if anyone of the Members will come round and see for himself what is happening in Samaru, and not come to this House and speak unnecessarily.

Sir, I have to support the Bill.

House suspended at 11.40 a.m.

House resumed at 11.55 a.m.

ACTING MINISTER OF ANIMAL HEALTH & FORESTRY (MALLAM KABIR): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will try and answer some of the points that have been brought up. If, however, I omit matters which any Members have raised and on which they want further information I would welcome them to my Ministry. We welcome visitors and constructive criticism.

The hon. Member from Bornu North-West mentioned the need for integrating the nomad cattle-owners into the economy of the Region. This is a very important matter and is a problem which can only be solved by degrees and in close collaboration with the Native Authorities and the leaders of public opinion in those areas where the cattle graze.