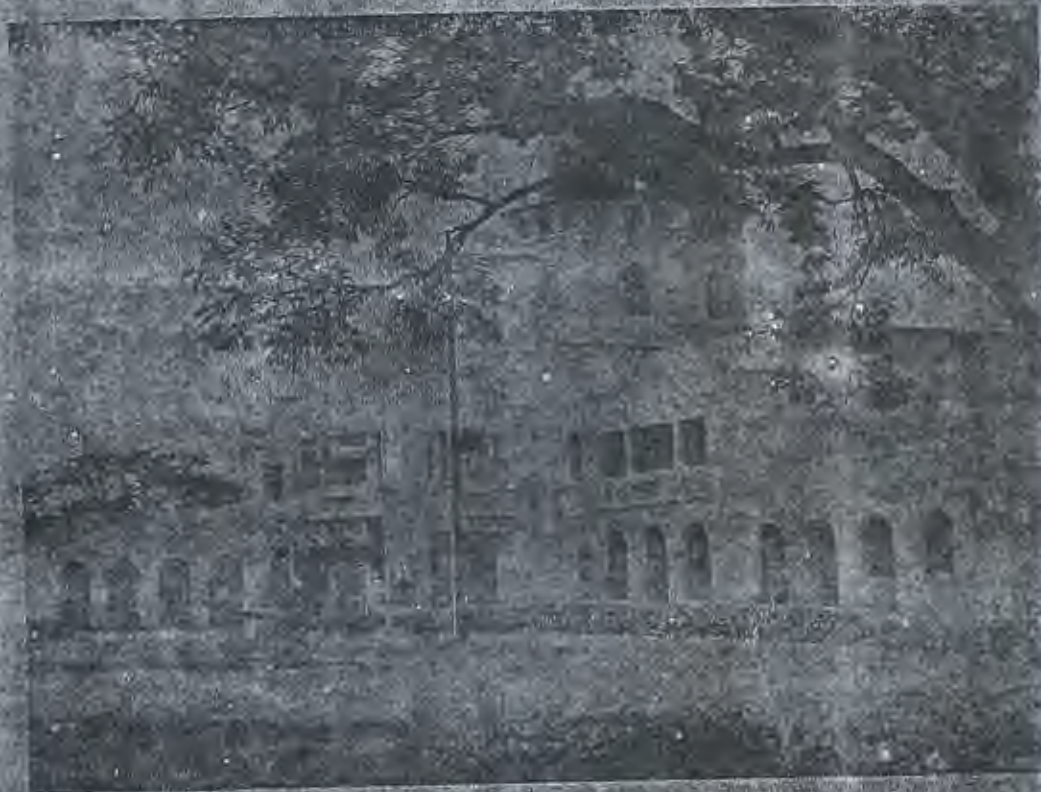




NORTHERN NIGERIA LEGISLATURE
HOUSE OF CHIEFS



PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(HANSARD)

OFFICIAL REPORT

(Third Legislature)

Third Session

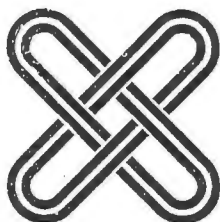
COMPRISING PERIOD 27th MARCH TO 4th APRIL, 1963

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No. 1

Wednesday
27th March, 1963



NORTHERN NIGERIA LEGISLATURE

**PARLIAMENTARY
DEBATES**
(HANSARD)

**HOUSE OF CHIEFS
OFFICIAL REPORT**

FIRST MEETING OF THE THIRD LEGISLATURE
OF NORTHERN NIGERIA

Session 1962-63

COMPRISING PERIOD
27th MARCH TO 4th APRIL, 1963

KADUNA
GOVERNMENT PRINTER, NORTHERN NIGERIA
1964

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MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF CHIEFS IN PROVINCIAL ORDER OF PRECEDENCE

Adamawa

Mallam Aliyu Mustafa, Lamid^o of Adamawa
Mallam Ngbale, Chief of Bachama
Mallam Muhammadu Tukur, Emir of Muri
Mallam Ibrahim Sambo, Chief of Zinna
Mallam Isa, Chief of Shellem
Mr Joel Mbulla, Chief of Mbula
Mallam Yiola, Chief of Longuda
Mr Tabwarakan Enoch Swade, Chief of Batta

Bauchi

Mallam Adamu Jumba, C.M.G., Emir of Bauchi
Mallam Abubakar, C.B.E., Emir of Gombe
Mallam Umaru, Emir of Katagum
Mallam Ahmadu, M.B.E., Emir of Misau
Alhaji Muhammadu Wabi III, Emir of Jama'are
Mallam Maleka, Chief of Dass
Mallam Iliyasu, Chief of Tangale-Waja
Mallam Muhammadu, Chief of Waja

Benue

Mallam Gondo Alour, Tor Tiv
Mr Adi Byewi, M.B.E., Aku of Wukari
Mr Ajene Ukpabi, Chief of Idoma
Mallam Ahmadu, Emir of Keffi
Alhaji Jibirin Mairiga, Emir of Nasarawa
Alhaji Yusufu, Emir of Lafia
Mallam Muhammadu Sambo Garbosa, Chief of Donga
Mallam Ali Ibrahim, Ukwe of Takum

Bornu

Alhaji Sir Umaru Ibn Muhammadu Elkanemi, K.B.E., C.M.G., Shehu of Bornu
Umaru Ibn Ibrahim Elkanemi, C.B.E., Emir of Dikwa
Alhaji Muhammadu, M.B.E., Emir of Fika
Mallam Mustafa Aliyu, Emir of Biu
Alhaji Umar Sulaiman, O.B.E., Emir of Bedde
Mallam Adamu, Chief of Shani
Mallam Muhammadu Mai Maina, Chief of Askira

Ilorin

Alhaji Sulu Gambari, Emir of Ilorin
Alhaji Umaru, Etsu of Pategi
Alhaji Muhammadu Sani, Emir of Borgu
Mallam Sule Ndakpotu, Chief of Sharagi
Mallam Umaru Oke-Odde, Chief of Lafiagi
Mallam Alhassan, Chief of Shonga

Kabba

Hon. Aliyu Obaje, C.B.E., Attah of Igala
Mallam Muhammadu Sani Omolori, Ohinoyi of Igbirra
Alhaji Abdu Aguye, Ohimege of Koton-Karifi
Mr D. O. Aka, Obaro of Kabba
Mallam Maiyaki, Chief of Kupa-Abugi
Chief J. Owonibi, Chief of Ijumu
Mr Mark Dada, Chief of West-Yagba.
Mallam Idirisu, Chief of Eggan

LIST OF MEMBERS—continued
Kabba—continued

Mallam Yahaya Muhammadu, Chief of Lokoja
Mallam Ibrahim Ajiye, Chief of East Yagba
Mr J. Adebayo Ikusemoro, Chief of Bunur

Kano

Alhaji the hon. Muhammadu Inuwa, Emir of Kano
Alhaji Haruna, Emir of Hadejia
Alhaji Muhamman, Emir of Gumel
Alhaji Adamu, Emir of Kazaure

Katsina

Alhaji the hon. Sir Usman Nagogo, K.B.E., C.M.G., Emir of Katsina
Alhaji Abdurrahaman, C.B.E., Emir of Daura

Niger

Alhaji Usman Sarki, Emir of Bida
Mallam Mu'azu Ibrahim, Emir of Kontagora
Alhaji Sulaiman Barau, O.B.E., Emir of Abuja
Mallam Muhammadu Bello, Emir of Agaie
Mallam Muhammadu Kobo, Emir of Lapai
Alhaji Muhammadu Bello, Chief of Paiko
Alhaji Ahmadu Bahago, Chief of Kuta
Mallam Abubakar Agwai, Chief of Wushishi
Mallam Muhammadu Abokin Mallam, Chief of Tegina
Mallam Aliyu, Chief of Kwangoma
Mallam Salihu, Chief of Kusherki

Plateau

Alhaji Abdullahi Maikano, C.B.E., Emir of Wase
Mallam Rwang Pam, M.B.E., Chief of Jos
Alhaji Ibrahim, Chief of Kanam
Alhaji Muhammadu Kwore, Chief of Wamba
Mr J. Y. Dimlong, Chief of Angas
Mallam Muhammadu Nasir Pirse Dalaham, Chief of Sura-Pyem
Mr Nyelong Longkemani, Chief of Shendam
Mallam Musa, Chief of Mada
Alhaji Abdullahi Idde, Chief of Nassarawan-Eggon
Mallam Garba Wuyep, Chief of Yargan
Mr Ajemai Dakol, Chief of Ron Kulere
Mr Pun-tel-Kinkai, Chief of Montal

Sokoto

Hon. Sir Abubakar, K.C.M.G., Sultan of Sokoto
Alhaji the Hon. Haruna, C.M.G., C.B.E., Emir of Gwandu
Alhaji Muhammadu Tukur, Emir of Yauri
Mallam Muhammadu Mera, Emir of Argungu

Sardauna

Mallam Isa Ahmadu Lamdo, Chief of Mubi
Mallam Lawan Jermani, Chief of Gwoza

Zaria

Alhaji Muhammadu Aminu, C.M.G., Emir of Zaria
Mallam Isa Muhammadu, Emir of Jema'a
Mallam Gwamna, M.B.E., Chief of Kagoro
Mallam Jibrilu, Maigwari, Chief of Birnin Gwari
Mallam Ishaya Andrew, Chief of Jaba
Mallam Kaza, Chief of Moroa

Adviser on Moslem Law

Alhaji Junaidu, Wazirin Sokoto

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GOVERNMENT OF NORTHERN NIGERIA

iii

(Formed by Sir Ahmadu Bello, K.B.E., Sarkauna of Sokoto in May, 1961 and reshuffled in August, 1963)

- PREMIER: Alhaji the hon. Sir Ahmadu Bello, K.B.E., M.H.A., Sarkauna of Sokoto
MINISTER OF FINANCE: Alhaji the hon. Aliyu, C.M.G., C.B.E., Makaman Bida
ATTORNEY-GENERAL: The hon. I. M. Lewis, Q.C.
MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Alhaji the hon. Isa Kaita, C.B.E., M.H.A., Wazirin Katsina
MINISTER OF WORKS: Alhaji the hon. Shehu Usman, M.H.A., Sarkin Maska
MINISTER OF LAND AND SURVEY: Alhaji the hon. Ibrahim Musa Gashash, O.B.E., M.H.A.
MINISTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT: Alhaji the hon. Sule Gaya, M.H.A.
MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Alhaji the hon. Ahman, M.H.A., Galadiman Pategi
MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY: Hon. Mallam Michael Audu Buba, M.H.A., Wazirin Shendam.
MINISTER OF ESTABLISHMENTS AND TRAINING: Alhaji the hon. Mustafa Isma'il, M.H.A., Zanna Dujima of Bornu
MINISTER OF ANIMAL AND FOREST RESOURCES: Alhaji the hon. Mu'azu Lamido, M.H.A., Magatakardan Sokoto
MINISTER OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS: Alhaji the hon. Muhammadu Kabir, M.H.A., Ciroman Katagum
MINISTER OF INFORMATION: Alhaji the hon. Ibrahim Biu, M.H.A.
MINISTER OF HEALTH: Alhaji the hon. Ahmadu Fatika, M.H.A., Sarkin Fadan Zazzau
MINISTER OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND CO-OPERATIVES: Alhaji the hon. Umaru Babura, M.H.A., Sarkin Fulani Ja'idanawa
MINISTER OF ECONOMIC PLANNING: Alhaji the hon. Muhammadu Bashar, O.B.E., Wamban Daura
MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Alhaji the hon. Muhammadu Nasir, M.H.A.

MINISTERS OF STATE

- MINISTER OF STATE: Hon. Mr Abutu Obekpa, M.H.A.
MINISTER OF STATE: Hon. Mr S. A. Ajayi, M.H.A.
MINISTER OF STATE: Alhaji the hon. Aliyu, O.B.E., Turakin Zazzau, M.H.A.
MINISTER OF STATE: Alhaji the hon. Umaru Abba Karim, Walin Muri, M.H.A.

MINISTERS WITHOUT PORTFOLIO

- MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO: Hon. Sir Abubakar, K.C.M.G., M.H.C., Sultan of Sokoto
MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO: Alhaji the hon. Muhammadu Inuwa Abbas, Emir of Kano
MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO: Alhaji the hon. Sir Usman Nagogo, K.B.E., C.M.G., Emir of Katsina
MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO: Alhaji hon. Sulu Gambari, Emir of Ilorin
MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO: Hon. Mallam Aliyu Obaje, C.B.E., Atta of Igala

PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONERS

- | | |
|---|------------------|
| Mallam Zanna Umaru Benisheik, M.H.A. | Adamawa Province |
| Mallam Tanko Yusufu, M.H.A. | Benue Province |
| Alhaji Dauda Belel, M.H.A. | Bauchi Province |
| Alhaji Muhammadu Magajin Garin Kazaure, M.H.A. | Bornu Province |
| Mr James C. Onwuchola, M.H.A. | Ilorin Province |
| Alhaji Sani Okin, M.H.A. | Kabba Province |
| Alhaji Aliyu, O.B.E., M.H.A., Magajin Garin Sokoto | Kano Province |
| Alhaji Salihu Muhammadu Gonto, M.H.A. | Katsina Province |
| Alhaji Yakubu Lame, Magajin Garin Bauchi | Niger Province |

PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONERS—continued

Alhaji Ndagi Faruku, M.H.A. ... Plateau Province
 Alhaji Suma'ila Ahmed, Dallatun Zazzau, M.H.A. ... Sokoto Province
 Mr Edmond Mamiso, M.H.A. ... Sardauna Province
 Alhaji Othman Ladan Baki, M.H.A., Wazirin Ayyukan Katsina ... Zaria Province

PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIES

PREMIER'S OFFICE: Alhaji Waje Abdullahi, Turakin Kano;
 Alhaji Ibrahim, Wazirin Gumel
MINISTRY OF ANIMAL AND FOREST RESOURCES: Alhaji Musa Muhammadu, M.H.A.,
 Galadiman Bussa
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE: Alhaji Hassan Ahmed;
 Alhaji Ahnadu Rufai
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION: Alhaji Abdu Anace, Magajin Garin Kontagora
MINISTRY OF HEALTH: Alhaji Dalhatu Bida
MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY: Mallam Gwani Jatau
MINISTRY OF WORKS: Mallam Muhammadu Sokoto, Wazirin Ayyuka
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND CO-OPERATIVES: Alhaji Cigari Alhassan
MINISTRY OF FINANCE: Alhaji Mu'azu Gambo, Tafidan Nunku
MINISTRY OF ESTABLISHMENTS AND TRAINING: Alhaji Muhammadu Suleiman
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION: Alhaji Muhammadu Kokori Abdul
MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS: Alhaji Tijjani Hashim
MINISTRY OF LAND AND SURVEY: Mallam Abba Masta
MINISTRY FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT: Alhaji Usman Suleiman
MINISTRY OF JUSTICE: Alhaji Umaru Mamman Ercna
MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC PLANNING: Alhaji Haliru Zarma Hong

OFFICERS AND STAFF OF THE HOUSE

PRESIDENT: Alhaji Haruna, C.M.G., C.B.E.
DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Alhaji Umar Ibn Sulaiman, O.B.E., Emir of Bedde

Acting Clerk of the House

Alhaji Isa Abubakar

Clerk Assistant I

Mallam Muhammadu Abdulmaliki

Clerk Assistant II (Acting)

Mallam Abbas Rafindadi

Hansard Editor (Acting)

Mallam Muhammadu Sabo Usman

Interpreter/Translators

Mallam Hassan Mohammed
 Mallam Ado Sule
 Mallam Muhammadu M. Abdullahi

Hausa Editor

*Mallam Na'ipi Wali

English Reporters

Mallam Muhammadu Sani Rafindadi
 *Mrs C. A. Atta
 *Mrs A. Hamman

English Reporters—continued

*Miss Victoria Rowland
 *Mr J. Saromi
 *Mr J. A. Bello

Hausa Reporters

*Mallam Ibrahim Etsu-Agaie
 *Mallam Muhammadu Isa Doko
 Mallam Muhammadu Isa
 Mallam K. Mu'azu
 Mr L. O. Raji
 Mallam Jimoh Sani

Librarian

Mallam Sani Bala

Sergeant-at-Arms

R.S.M. Abdullahi Mongu, B.E.M.
 *Seconded from other Departments.

Committee of Selection

President—Chairman
 Attorney-General
 Emir of Ilorin
 Atta of Igala
 } Nominated by Exco.

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 Shehu
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 Emir
 Etsu Pat
 Chief
 Emir
 Ohinoyi
 Etsu Nu
 Etsu Lap
 Chief
 Chief
 Emir
 Emir
 Emir

OFFICERS AND STAFF OF THE HOUSE—*continued*

Committee of Selection—*continued*

Lamido of Adamawa } Elected by the House
Emir of Lapai }

Standing Orders Committee

President—Chairman
The Attorney-General
Emir of Bedde
Chief of Kagoro
Emir of Dikwa

Public Petitions Committee

President—Chairman
Attorney-General
Emir of Argungu
Emir of Misau
Etsu of Pategi
Emir of Biu
Chief of Idoma
Emir of Wase

House Committee

Emir of Zaria—Chairman
Minister of Finance
Emir of Yauri
Chief of Zinna
Emir of Abuja
Emir of Bedde
Chief of Paiko
Ohinoyi of Igbirra

Public Accounts Joint Committee

Lamido of Adamawa
Etsu of Pategi
Emir of Gumel
Emir of Yauri
Emir of Abuja
Emir of Wase

Standing Committee 'A'

Lamido of Adamawa
Emir of Ilorin
Emir of Muri
Emir of Gombe
Emir of Misau
Emir of Keffi
Tor/Tiv
Shehu of Bornu
Emir of Fika
Emir of Bedde
Etsu Pategi
Chief of Zinna
Emir of Hadejia
Ohinoyi of Igbirra
Etsu Nupe
Etsu Lapai
Chief of Kanam
Chief of Kagoro
Emir of Kontagora
Emir of Gumel
Emir of Wase

Emir of Argungu
Emir of Abuja
Chief of Shellen
Chief of Donga
Chief of Sharagi
Obaro of Kabba
Chief of Mbula
Chief of Longuda
Chief of Dass
Chief of Takum
Chief of Shani
Chief of Batta
Chief of Awe
Chief of Lokoja
Chief of Mada
Chief of Moroa
Chief of Yergam
Chief of East Yagba
Emir of Jema'a

Standing Committee 'B'

Chief of Bachama
Emir of Bauchi
Emir of Katagum
Emir of Jema'are
Emir of Nassarawa
Chief of Idoma
Emir of Lafia
Emir of Borgu
Atta of Igala
Ohimege of Koton Karifi
Emir of Kazaure
Emir of Daura
Etsu of Agaie
Chief of Jos
Chief of Wamba
Emir of Yauri
Chief of Paiko
Chief of Kupa-Abugi
Chief of Minna
Chief of Angas
Chief of Shendam
Chief of Nassarawa-Eggon
Chief of Sura Pyem
Chief of Ron-Kulere
Chief of Shonga
Chief of Ijumu
Chief of West Yagba
Chief of Eggan
Chief of Wushishi
Chief of Tgina
Chief of Birnin Gwari
Chief of Jaba
Chief of Askira
Chief of Gunna
Chief of Kwangoma
Chief of Gwoza
Chief of Lajagi
Chief of Bunu

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE

OFFICIAL REPORT

IN THE FIRST MEETING OF THE THIRD SESSION OF THE THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NORTHERN NIGERIA APPOINTED TO MEET IN THE MONTH OF MARCH, 1963, IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, LUGARD HALL

EIGHTH SERIES

VOLUME 19

FIRST VOLUME OF SESSION 1963-64

HOUSE OF CHIEFS NORTHERN NIGERIA

Wednesday, 27th March, 1963

The House met at 9.00 a.m.

(DEPUTY PRESIDENT in the Chair)

PRAYERS

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

The following took and subscribed the Oath of Allegiance:—

- (i) Alhaji Usman Sarki, Etsu Nupe.
- (ii) Mallam Salihu, Chief of Kuserki.

Deputy President: Hon. Members, His Excellency the Governor of Northern Nigeria, Sir Kashim Ibrahim, K.C.M.G., C.B.E., has intimated to me his desire to come and address this House. Is it the wish of the House that the hon. Premier and I go and meet him and escort him in and then after his Speech has been delivered to lead him outside again?

(Cries of "Aye", "Aye").

The Deputy President then went out in procession to meet His Excellency, and escorted him into the Chamber.

His Excellency the Governor, Sir Kashim Ibrahim, K.C.M.G., C.B.E., after inspecting the Guard of Honour provided by the Queen's Own Nigeria Regiment, entered The Chamber in procession, took his seat and delivered his Speech from the Throne as follows:—

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE TO THE HOUSE OF CHIEFS

Mr. President, Chiefs of Northern Nigeria: This is the first occasion, since my appointment as Governor, on which I have the privilege of addressing this Honourable House on the planned programmes of my Government. My Government has had a successful year and it intends to increase the pace of development and raise standard of living of all the people of the North.

The House will be asked to consider the Annual Estimates and the supplementary provision for government services in the years 1961-62 and 1962-63. The Minister of Finance will also

support his Budget with an address on the fiscal and economic policy of the Government when introducing the Appropriation Bill. He will also introduce the Personal Tax (Amendment) Law.

The Ministry of Economic Planning will continue to keep the 1962-68 Development Plan under constant review. The Northern Region Development Corporation will intensify its effort to encourage industrial and commercial development. It is hoped that a sack factory will be established at Jema'a in association with a fibre plantation. More textile mills will also be established.

My Government will continue to pursue the policy of democratisation in local government to give ample opportunity to the people to take a more active part in the running of their own affairs. Further progress will be made in elected representation in Native Authority Councils.

The Provincial Councils will be encouraged to develop a sense of unity and a spirit of co-operation between the Native Authorities in each Province in order to ensure the continued development of their areas to the advantage of all. It will also be necessary to continue with the policy of close control of local government expenditure in order to enable the Native Authorities to follow a sound and uniform financial policy.

My Government will continue to pay attention to the conservation of agricultural resources and to increasing productivity. Extension services to farmers will be stepped up. The subsidised fertiliser campaigns will be continued and sprays to destroy insect pests will be made available to farmers at subsidised prices. In those areas where destruction to crops by the quelea bird is excessive, aerial spraying of roosting and nesting sites is planned.

In the areas where mixed farming is possible it will be further encouraged by giving loans to farmers for purchase of cattle and implements. Extensive trials on improved ox-drawn implements will be carried out after which large scale manufacture of proven equipment will be started. The work of tractor hiring units will also continue.

The development of tree crops particularly kola, coffee, oil palm and citrus in the Riverain Provinces which has proved so successful will be expanded. Projects will be implemented to increase the production of fish from Lake Chad, and in ponds, rivers and mining paddocks elsewhere.

The Irrigation Division has set a target of 4,000 acres for irrigated wheat and the area under irrigated rice will be brought up to 7,000 acres. Further areas suitable for irrigated farming will be selected in the Sokoto/Rima Valley and in the Hadejia and Ebeji River Valleys. The training of agricultural staff will continue. The new School of Agriculture at Kabba will be completed and the Samaru School will be extended. The goal of a Farm Training Centre in each province will be achieved by the building and opening of new centres in Sardauna, Plateau and Kabba Provinces.

The Produce Inspection Division will continue to carry out the inspection and grading of the main export crops.

The Ministry of Animal and Forest Resources will concentrate on the investigation, control and eradication of animal diseases and improve animal husbandry. The Joint International Campaign against Rinderpest has been successful and it will be further intensified.

Livestock improvement and production work will continue. A cattle breeding ranch will be built in Bornu. Cattle fattening ranches will also be set up in southern Zaria and at Mokwa.

The work on the improvement of the wool and mutton qualities of local breeds of sheep will continue at Birnin Kebbi and Katsina. A second station for the improvement of the Sokoto Red Goat will be set up in Sokoto Province.

The improvement of grazing and water supplies for livestock will be undertaken on a big scale. Range improvement work will be intensified in the Zamfara Forest Reserve and more dams and tapkis will be built. Further poultry production units will be set up in Kaduna, Riyon and Ilorin, and the poultry industry will be expanded.

A survey of the various aspects of animal industries is being carried out. Work on stock-routes and raiing facilities for trade cattle will be expanded. The Sokoto Abattoir will be opened; the Kano abattoir will be completed; and work will start on another for Kaduna. The existing Abattoirs will be provided with cold stores. The Hides and Skins Improvement service will continue and it is hoped to build a Leather Institute in the Region.

The efforts will be concentrated on the eradication of tsetse in the Hadejia, Jama'a and Katagum river valleys.

The Veterinary School on the Mandib Road will be expanded. The Forestry Division will expand its operations to increase the productivity and capital value of the forests of Northern Nigeria. The existing Pilot Fuel Plantations will be maintained and extended and further irrigated nurseries built in Bornu and Bauchi Provinces.

The work of the Regional Game Preservation Unit will include improvements to the Yankari Game Reserve and the creation of a second Game Reserve in Borgu Division.

My Government is determined to maintain the pace of educational development. A vigorous expansion will take place in co-operation with the Native Authorities and Voluntary Agencies. It is proposed that a degree of responsibility for the Administration of Primary Education will be assumed by local education authorities in a few selected areas.

Craft Schools will be upgraded to secondary level. Additional streams and more Higher School Certificate Classes will be opened. A second Provincial Girls' Secondary School will be opened at Tola in January, 1964 and some Voluntary Agency Girls' Senior Primary Boarding Schools will become Girls' Secondary Schools.

When the report of the delegation to Libya, the United Arab Republic and the Sudan on the reorganisation of Koranic and Islamic Education has been fully discussed it is hoped that the reorganisation and improvement of Koranic and Islamic Schools will be carried a step further.

My Government will continue to award scholarships to qualified Northerners. Advantage will also be taken of Technical Assistance awards offered by Foreign Governments.

More and more Northerners continue to fill the senior posts in the Service of the Region. My Government will ensure that as many qualified Northerners as are available will take up posts in the Federal Government Service, in quasi-Government Corporations and in the commercial and industrial fields.

The Ministry of Works has planned a considerable building and road construction programme. Work on the Wuya Bridge will continue. It is proposed to construct two new country type hospitals at Jalingo and Potiskum and phase three of the new General Hospital at Kaduna will also begin. Work will continue on the Women's Training College at Birnin Kebbi and on the

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second phase of the new Secondary School at Ganye. A total of 189 staff quarters, 1,472 dormitory places, 83 classrooms and 8 dining halls and kitchens will be built as additions to existing Secondary Schools and Training Colleges throughout the Region.

Construction of new water supply schemes at Bida, Birnin Kebbi, Gashua and Bama and minor extensions to the existing suppliers at Jos, Zaria and Maiduguri will be completed. Work on the new scheme at Offa will continue and it is expected to start work on the new schemes for Sokoto, Kaura Namoda and Kaduna North.

The rural water supplies programme of well sinking and drilling will continue, including development in the Sokoto and Bornu artesian areas.

Electricity will be supplied to various Secondary Schools and Training Colleges and the new Amenity Electricity Supply programme will be continued.

Plans for producing the Revised Edition of the Laws of Northern Nigeria are well under way. Further adjustments will be made in our legal and judicial systems in the light of experience gained and the recommendations recently made by the Panel of Jurists. The training of Native Court personnel will continue to be improved to raise the standard of Native Courts.

The Native Authority Police Forces and the Native Authority Prisons will once more benefit from grants of about £390,000, £20,000 respectively.

My Government will renew its efforts to make the Gaskiya Corporation run as a self-sufficient commercial enterprise.

Great emphasis will again be laid on the training of staff to man our Hospitals and Health Services. The training of dispensers will continue at the Pharmacy School in Zaria. The Maiduguri Hospitals will soon be ready for training nurses and the Ilorin Maternity hospital will shortly start training Grade I Midwives.

Our hospitals continue to be as busy as ever and sixty bed hospitals at Jalingo and Potiskum will be built.

My Government will help the Native Authorities by training health staff. The Medical Auxiliaries Training School in Kaduna has been enlarged, and the School of Hygiene in Kano will be double-streamed. Accommodation at the Community Nurses Training School will be enlarged with a new hospital. The Idoma/Igala Rural Health Projects will enter a new phase when the two Health Centres at Ankpa and

Oturkpo, which have been built, are opened. Construction of a third centre at Dekina may begin during the year.

The Yaws Campaign which has been successful will continue in other areas affected as will the Leprosy Campaign. The fight against sleeping sickness will also be intensified in the Hadejia River valley. In Sokoto Province the Mass Malaria Control Campaign will again benefit over half a million people.

Priority will continue to be given to the training of Northerners in all types of survey work. Six more senior Northern officers will join those already overseas for in-service training.

A new Town and Country Planning Bill will be introduced to facilitate the establishment in the future of Authorities similar to the Greater Kano Planning Authority.

The Ministry of Social Welfare and Co-operatives is again arranging Study Tours for Native Authority Officials and others in Britain to take place in the Summer.

My Government will once more pledge its credit to the sum of £2,500,000 for financing Co-operative Societies by means of bank overdrafts until the movement becomes self-sufficient.

Further important industrial developments will be seen in the coming year. Eight new factories, the construction of which has already started, will be completed and will, for the first time, bring the benefits of modern industry to Sokoto, Bornu and Ilorin Provinces.

The Ministry of Trade and Industry will continue to assist indigenous traders and industrialists in the management and organisation of their enterprises.

The Ministry of Information plans special campaigns which will aim at increasing the quality and quantity of farm production and livestock. Overseas publicity will continue in order to attract investors. Every effort will be made to reorganise and improve the Catering Rest Houses and to make a start on a tourist industry.

The Public Enlightenment Division will maintain its campaign against illiteracy and will continue to enlighten the general public on matters of importance to them by means of posters, leaflets and reading sheets and special classes for women. The Regional Library will continue to provide and improve lending library facilities.

Building of the new television centre in Kaduna is nearing completion and will be commissioned later this year.

Mr President, Chiefs of Northern Nigeria, these are the plans of my Government for the fourthcoming year. I pray that Almighty God will guide your work and will bless your counsels with success in furthering the happiness and prosperity of all the peoples of this great Region. (Prolonged Applause).

His Excellency then left the Chamber in the same procession accompanied by the Deputy President and the hon. Premier. A few minutes later the Deputy President returned to the Chamber and resumed business.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENT

Deputy President: A letter has been received from the President of the Northern House of Chiefs to this Honourable House which reads:—

"Hon. Ministers and Chiefs—It is with great regret that I have been unable to preside over the opening of the Budget Session this year due to a short illness. I hope however that I shall be well enough to preside over before the meeting finally closes.

I believe that it is the intention of my Deputy to express our sincere thanks to the Regional Government over its past activities and plans for the coming years, and at the same time to denounce in no uncertain terms, the recent threats upon the life of our hon. Premier, Alhaji Sir Ahmadu Bello.

I pray that the Almighty God will guide you throughout the Session.

ALHAJI HARUNA, C.M.G., C.B.E.,
Emir of Gwandu and
President of the Northern House
of Chiefs."

I am sure the House would wish me to send an appropriate message to the President thanking him for his message and at the same time wishing him a quick and complete recovery.

I would like to seize the opportunity to welcome Honourable Members to this unique Budget meeting of this Honourable House.

I have with regret to announce the death of two members of this House since our last meeting. They are the Chiefs of Takum and Mbula. May their souls rest in peace—Amen.

I would also like to extend our warm welcome to the new Member—the Etsu Nupe—he is new to this House, but surely he is not new to parliamentary debates and we all wish him to make effective contribution to the deliberations of the House.

The Emir of Daura has sent a message regretting his inability to attend the meeting of the House and wishes us a successful meeting.

I think at this moment it would be convenient to have a break. The House stands suspended for 15 minutes.

House suspended for 15 minutes at 10.10 a.m.
(House resumed at 10.30 a.m.)

PAPERS LAID

The following Papers were laid on the Table of the House:—

The Minister of Finance (Alhaji the hon. Aliyu, Makaman Bida, C.M.G., C.B.E.):

(i) Statement of the Capital Development Fund for the year ended 31st March, 1960.

(ii) The Report of the Director of Audit on the Accounts of the Capital Development Fund for the year ended 31st March, 1960.

(iii) The Director of Audit Report for the year 1961-62.

(iv) Report of the Accountant-General, Northern Nigeria, with the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March, 1962.

(v) Revenue Equalisation Fund Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st March, 1962.

The Minister of Education (Alhaji the hon. Isa Kaita, C.B.E., Wazirin Katsina):

(i) The Education (Grants-in-aid) Regulation 1963. (ii) Voluntary Agencies Building Loan Fund Accounts, 1961-62.

The Minister of Health (Alhaji the hon. Ahman, Galadiman Pategi):

Annual Report of the Ministry of Health for the year 1961.

The Minister of Internal Affairs (Alhaji the hon. Muhammadu Kabir, Ciroman Katagum):

The Gaskiya Corporation Accounts for the year ended 31st March, 1962.

The Minister for Local Government (Alhaji the hon. Sule Gaya):

Accounts of the Native Authority Motor Vehicle Insurance Fund for the year ended 31st March, 1961.

The Minister of Economic Planning (Alhaji the hon. Muhammadu Bashir O.B.E., Wamban Daura):

Seventh Annual Report of the Northern Nigeria Marketing Board.

The Minister of Information (Alhaji the hon. Ibrahim Biu):

The Accounts of the Northern Nigeria Radio Corporation for 1961-62.

The Minister of Establishments and Training (Alhaji the hon. Umaru Babura, Sarikin Fulani Ja'idanawa):

(i) The Pensions (Amendment) Regulations, 1963. (ii) The Pensions (Northern Region New Officers) (Amendment) Regulations, 1963.

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The Minister of Social Welfare and Cooperatives (Alhaji the hon. Ahmadu Fatika, Sarkin Fadan Zazzau): (i) Annual Report and Auditors' Accounts 1961-62 on Northern Nigeria Sports Commission. (ii) Annual Report 1961-62 on Activities of Social Welfare Division.

The Emir of Yauri (Mallam Muhammadu Tukur, O.B.E.): (i) Second Report from the Public Accounts Joint Committee, Session, 1962-63. (ii) Minutes of Evidence of the Public Accounts Joint Committee, Session, 1962-63.

MESSAGES ON BILLS FROM HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Constitution

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Constitution of Northern Nigeria (Amendment) Law, 1963"—read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a first time".—(Hon. Premier, seconded by the Minister of Health).

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time upon Monday, 1st April, 1963.

Electoral Law

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Electoral Law, 1963"—read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a first time".—(Hon. Premier, seconded by Minister of Economic Planning).

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time upon Monday, 1st April, 1963.

Official Secret Law

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Official Secret Law, 1963 as amended"—read.

Motion made, and question proposed "That the Bill be now read a first time".—(Hon. Premier, seconded by the Minister of Information).

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time upon Monday, 1st April, 1963.

Revised Edition of Laws

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Revised Edition of the Laws of Northern Nigeria Law, 1963"—read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a first time".—(Hon. Attorney-General, seconded by the Minister of Justice).

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time upon Monday, 1st April, 1963.

Sheriffs and Civil Process

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Sheriffs and Civil Process (Amendment) Law, 1963"—read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a first time".—(Hon. Attorney-General, seconded by the Minister of Justice).

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time upon Tuesday, 2nd April, 1963.

Penal Code

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Penal Code (Amendment) Law, 1963"—read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a first time".—(Hon. Attorney-General, seconded by the Minister of Information).

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time upon Tuesday, 2nd April, 1963.

Criminal Procedure Code

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Criminal Procedure Code (Amendment) Law, 1963"—read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a first time".—(Hon. Attorney-General, seconded by the Minister of Works).

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time upon Tuesday, 2nd April, 1963.

Evidence

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Evidence (Amendment) Law, 1963"—read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a first time".—(Hon. Attorney-General, seconded by the Minister of Justice).

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time upon Tuesday, 2nd April, 1963.

Law Revision (Preparatory General Amendments)

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Law Revision (Preparatory General Amendments) Law, 1963 as amended"—read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a first time".—(Hon. Attorney-General, seconded by the Minister of Justice).

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time upon Tuesday, 2nd April, 1963.

1963-64 Appropriation

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled, "The Northern Nigeria 1963-64 Appropriation Law, 1963"—read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a first time".—(Hon. Minister of Finance, seconded by the Minister of Education)

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time upon Friday, 29th March, 1963.

1962-63 Supplementary Appropriation

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Northern Nigeria Supplementary Appropriation (1962-63) Law, 1963"—read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a first time".—(Hon. Minister of Finance, seconded by the Minister of Works).

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time upon Saturday, 30th March, 1963.

1961-62 Supplementary Appropriation

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Northern Nigeria Supplementary Appropriation (1961-62) Law, 1963"—read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a first time".—(Hon. Minister of Finance, seconded by the Minister of Health).

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time upon Saturday, 30th March, 1963.

Personal Tax (Amendment) Law

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Personal Tax (Amendment) Law, 1963"—read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read the first time".—(Hon. Minister of Finance, seconded by the Minister of Economic Planning).

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time upon Saturday, 30th March, 1963.

Land Tenure (Amendment) Law

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Land Tenure (Amendment) Law, 1963 as amended"—read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a first time".—(Hon. Minister of Land and Survey, seconded by the Minister of Social Welfare and Co-operatives).

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time upon Tuesday, 2nd April, 1963.

Land Registration Ordinance (Amendment) Law

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Land Registration Ordinance (Amendment) Law, 1963"—read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a first time".—(Hon. Minister of Land and Survey, seconded by the Minister of Social Welfare and Co-operatives).

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time upon Tuesday, 2nd April, 1963.

Development Corporation (Amendment) Law

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Development Corporation (Amendment) Law, 1963 as amended"—read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a first time".—(Hon. Minister of Economic Planning, seconded by the Minister for Local Government).

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time upon Tuesday, 2nd April, 1963.

Northern Nigeria Marketing Board (Amendment) Law

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Northern Nigeria Marketing Board (Amendment) Law, 1963"—read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a first time".—(Hon. Minister of Economic Planning, seconded by the Minister for Local Government).

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time upon Tuesday, 2nd April, 1963.

Pool Betting (Parliamentary Authority) Law

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Pool Betting (Parliamentary Authority) Law, 1963"—read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a first time".—(Hon. Minister of Internal Affairs, seconded by the Minister of State, Hon. S. A. Ajayi).

Bill accordingly read the first time, to be read a second time upon Tuesday, 2nd April, 1963.

Provincial Councils (Amendment) Law

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Provincial Councils (Amendment) Law, 1963"—read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a first time".—(Hon. Minister for Local Government, seconded by the Minister

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Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time upon Tuesday, 2nd April, 1963.

Native Authority (Amendment) Law

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Native Authority (Amendment) Law, 1963 as amended"—read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a first time".—(Hon. Minister for Local Government, seconded by the Minister of Justice).

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time upon Thursday, 4th April, 1963.

High Court (Amendment) Law

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled, "The High Court (Amendment) Law, 1963"—read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a first time".—(Hon. Minister of Justice, seconded by the Minister of Animal and Forest Resources).

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time upon Wednesday, 3rd April, 1963.

Shari'a Court of Appeal (Amendment) Law

Message from the Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled, "The Shari'a Court of Appeal Law, 1963"—read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a first time".—(Hon. Minister of Justice, seconded by the Minister of Information).

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time upon Wednesday, 3rd April, 1963.

Court of Resolution (Amendment) Law

Message from The Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Court of Resolution (Amendment) Law, 1963"—read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a first time".—(Hon. Minister of Justice, seconded by the Minister of Social Welfare).

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time upon Wednesday, 3rd April, 1963.

Native Courts (Amendment) Law

Message from The Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Native Courts (Amendment) Law, 1963"—read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a first time".—(Hon. Minister

of Justice, seconded by the Minister of Establishments and Training).

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time upon Thursday, 4th April, 1963.

District Courts (Amendment) Law

Message from The Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The District Courts (Amendment) Law, 1963"—read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a first time".—(Hon. Minister of Justice, seconded by the Minister of Information).

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time upon Thursday, 4th April, 1963.

Official Oaths (Amendment) Law

Message from The Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Official Oaths (Amendment) Law, 1963"—read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a first time".—(Hon. Minister of Justice, seconded by the Minister of Establishments and Training).

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time upon Thursday, 4th April, 1963.

Wild Animals Law

Message from The Northern House of Assembly on Bill entitled "The Wild Animals Law, 1963"—read.

Motion made, and question proposed, "That the Bill be now read a first time".—(Hon. Minister of Animal and Forest Resources and seconded by the Minister of Internal Affairs).

Bill accordingly read the first time; to be read a second time upon Wednesday, 3rd April, 1963.

BUSINESS STATEMENT

The Attah of Igala (Hon. Aliyu Obaje, C.B.E.): Mr President Sir, in accordance with Parliamentary Practice I should like to inform hon. Members what business will come before the House during the remaining days of this week.

Tomorrow Sir, the House will debate a motion appointing members of the Committee of Selection and then take the Second Reading of a Bill entitled the Appropriation 1963-64 Law, 1963—debate on which will be adjourned until Monday, 1st April, 1963 before starting to debate the motion on the Speech from the Throne.

On Friday Sir, the House will continue with the debate on the Speech from the Throne.

On Saturday Sir, the House will take the Second Reading of the following Bills:—

- (i) The Northern Nigeria Supplementary Appropriation (1962-63) Law, 1963.
- (ii) The Northern Nigeria Supplementary Appropriation (1961-62) Law, 1963.
- (iii) The Personal Tax (Amendment) Law, 1963 and then continue with the debate on the motion on Speech from the Throne if not concluded earlier. Another

Business Statement will be announced before adjournment that day.

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

The Minister of Animal and Forest Resources (Alhaji the Hon. Mu'azu Lamido): Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

House accordingly adjourned at 11.25 a.m. until 10 a.m. on Thursday, 28th March, 1963.

Volume 19
No. 2



Thursday
28th March, 1963

NORTHERN NIGERIA LEGISLATURE

**PARLIAMENTARY
DEBATES**
(HANSARD)

**HOUSE OF CHIEFS
OFFICIAL REPORT**

(Third Legislature)
Third Session
(First Meeting)

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MOTIONS [Col. 17]:

Committee of Selection

1963-64 APPROPRIATION [Col. 18]:

Read a second time; Debate to be resumed on Monday

MOTION OF THANKS ON THE SPEECH FROM THE THRONE [Col. 23]

HOUSE OF CHIEFS NORTHERN NIGERIA

Thursday, 28th March, 1963

The House met at 10.00 a.m.

(DEPUTY PRESIDENT in the Chair)

PRAYERS

Deputy President: Order, Order—Emir of Yauri.

MOTIONS

Emir of Yauri (Mallam Muhammadu Tukur, O.B.E.): Mr President, Sir, I rise to move the Motion standing in my name "That this House do hereby appoint the following Members of the Committee of Selection in pursuance of Standing Order 59(2):—

- (i) Mallam Aliyu Mustafa, Lamido of Adamawa.
- (ii) Mallam Muhammadu Kobo, Emir of Lapai."

Mr President, Sir, these two gentlemen are very important Members of this House and therefore need no introduction to the Members and it goes without saying that they will perform the duties assigned to them by this House in accordance with the wishes of the hon. Members of this House. Mr President, Sir, I beg to move.

Chief of Paiko (Mallam Muhammadu Bello): Mr President, Sir, I beg to second the Motion asking that this House approves the nomination of Mallam Aliyu Mustafa, the Lamido of Adamawa and Mallam Muhammadu Kobo, the Emir of Lapai as members of the selection committee of this hon. House. I am sure that I am expressing the general opinion of the Members of this House when I say how much their services on this Committee is appreciated.

I would like to remind this House of the excellent performances and the Parliamentary capacities of these two gentlemen. Their contribution to the debates of this House is most outstanding and they are complete gentlemen and outstanding figures in their respective society. I do not want to indulge myself too much in praising in details what part they have played towards the well-being of this Region.

I repeat, the appreciation of the ability of the Lamido of Adamawa in Parliamentary capacity is worth mentioning and should be praised. As for the Emir of Lapai I have been associated with him since my school days, for he was among those who brought me up, as one of my teachers.

What is more we are also neighbours. This being the case, therefore, whatever I have said about him cannot be regarded as mere flattery and cannot as well be accepted in parts but in full.

The general respect from the public would certainly add to their prestige as members of this Committee, and I believe the House will have no hesitation in approving their nomination back to this Committee.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Resolved:

"That in pursuance to the Standing Order 59 (2) Mallam Aliyu Mustafa, Lamido of Adamawa and Mallam Muhammadu Kobo, Emir of Lapai, be appointed as Members of the Committee of Selection".

APPROPRIATION

1963-64 Appropriation Law

Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Finance (Alhaji the hon Aliyu Makaman Bida, C.M.G., M.H.A.): Mr President, Sir, I rise to move that a Bill entitled "The Appropriation (1963-64) Law, 1963" be read a second time.

Review of the Past Year

The financial year 1962-63 which is now ending has been the first year of our new Development Plan. It has been a year of success in which progress has been made on many fronts and it gives promise for even greater efforts to develop our economy in the future. About eight or eight and a quarter million pounds will probably have been spent on the projects in the Plan by the end of this year.

As I pointed out in my Budget Speech last March, most of this Capital Expenditure has been incurred on projects which had already begun and only to a limited extent on entirely new projects. This was, of course, essential as we could not have stopped works which had already been begun in order to start new works.

The funds for this Capital Expenditure have come largely from internal Nigerian sources. External aid has contributed only a small part, less than one million pounds. This has been due to two reasons. Firstly, a large part of the Capital Expenditure incurred has been on projects already begun for which external aid is not available. Secondly, it takes time to prepare documents in such a way as to convince foreign Governments or international bodies, that they are suitable for aid. Negotiations are, however, going on now for a considerable amount of such aid to come to us in the future.

[THE MINISTER OF FINANCE].

I should mention, Sir, that the new Personal Tax Law, brought into effect on 1st April, 1962 has proved a complete success. The Pay-As-You-Earn system has worked well and estimated revenue now amounts to £350,000 more than was originally estimated. Part of the credit for the success of this new law must, of course, go to the Native Authorities, who have successfully coped with the changes introduced by the Law. The Entertainment Tax on admissions to Cinemas and race meetings is now expected to yield twice the original estimate.

The Economic Situation

There has not been much change in the general economic position during the past year. It has been a good year for both food and export crops. As in the past year, assistance has had to be given by Government and Native Authorities to small areas troubled by floods and the loss of their food crops. Final figures for exports crops are not yet available but the groundnut crops is over 800,000 tons. This is much more than the previous maximum of five years ago. The cotton crop has also been exceptionally good, and a total of 150,000 tons of cotton lint is expected. These large crops have contributed to the revenue surplus now expected through increases in the estimated receipts from export duties and Produce Sales Tax.

The market prices of our export crops have been generally lower this year than last year, but some improvement has been noted since the time of the Cuban crisis and this, combined with the reduction in producer prices is expected to enable the Marketing Board to pay its way.

I am glad to learn that farmers are making an increased use of fertilisers and I hope that this trend will continue.

In the Industrial field progress has continued to be made. A second textile mill has commenced operation in Kaduna and another such enterprise is under construction. New proposals for establishing more industries are constantly being reviewed by the Ministry of Trade and Industry. It remains the policy of this Government to encourage the growth of industry and the participation in it of both Nigerian and overseas interests on fair and reasonable terms.

In the sphere of mining the position has not been so favourable. The price of tin declined from the level of about £950 per ton to £850 per ton. The main reason for this decline has

been the sale by the United States Government of surplus tin from its large stocks. This lower price of tin resulted in a smaller amount of revenue accruing to this Government from mining royalties.

Revenue Estimates

From this review of the economic and financial position in the year now ending, the main features of the Revenue Estimates for 1963-64 can easily be seen. The estimated revenue received through the Federal Government shows an increase of over £1,370,000. Part of this increase arises from the increased import duties on petrol, diesel oil and other goods introduced by the Federal Government last year. Another source is the increase in receipts from export duties, arising largely from the large crops of groundnuts and cotton this season. Much of the revenue from export duties is received in the following financial year and this accounts for more revenue being expected in 1963-64.

Local revenues collected directly by this Government show an increase of over £1,100,000. The introduction of the new Personal Tax system as I described earlier is one of the principal contributing factors. The record export crops this season also show results in an increase in the revenue from Produce Sales Tax, which like Export Duty, is received largely in the following financial year.

The total Revenue estimate for 1963-64 shows an increase of £2,500,000 over the estimate for 1962-63. For the first time revenue is expected to pass the £24,000,000 mark. This is a considerable achievement, an increase of revenue of three-fifths in the last four years.

I am not proposing at this stage to introduce any new revenue measures. The revenue position, however, is continually being reviewed and it is possible that I may find a need to introduce new revenue measures later in the financial year.

Recurrent Expenditure

The Expenditure Estimates for 1963-64 total £23,945,050. This is just over £2,250,000 more than 1962-63 and is again, like the revenue estimate, the largest in our history. This increase is due to development; and not to any relaxation of our economy measures. The economy measures introduced last year are still in force and will remain in force.

This question of economies must be taken up by everyone concerned with the development of our Region, including Ministers, Chiefs, Legislators, Civil Servants and the people at

large. It must money, which the people, must afford to waste inefficient work so that he really who have a part Region, to see whether of work that the resource maximum possible

In 1963-64 the Heads are over over £476,000. Maintenance W the fast pace at is growing which from the development of Government developments. under the Ministry Resources, which expanded to capabilities, some of the Ministry of arise from the I

Members will Estimates has been in order to bring points; the details explained in the members will a of the new layout

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I now turn Expenditure for Capital Estimates depicted last Ministry to rely largely on expenditure. They have drawn heavily during the past now rely on our repeated appeal economy.

In accordance the Federal Government grants to the natural resource and animal and

By way of receive over £5 States Agency for natural resource Kingdom Government

large. It must be realised that Government money, which is public money, coming from the people, must be well spent. We cannot afford to waste money on paying idle or inefficient workers, and everybody must work so that he really earns his pay. I appeal to all who have a part to play in the public life of this Region, to see to it that there is no waste, whether of work, or time, or money, in order that the resources we have can produce the maximum possible benefits.

In 1963-64 the largest increases in Ministries' Heads are over £700,000 for Education, and over £476,000 for the Ministry of Works—Maintenance Works. The first increase shows the fast pace at which the educational system is growing whilst the second increase springs from the development of our road system, the erection of Government buildings and other developments. Another large increase is shown under the Ministry of Animal and Forest Resources, which has been reorganised and expanded to cope with increased responsibilities, some of which it has taken over from the Ministry of Agriculture and some of which arise from the Development Plan itself.

The Estimates

Members will see that the layout of the Estimates has been simplified and rearranged in order to bring out more clearly the main points; the details of the changes have been explained in the Memorandum. I hope that members will appreciate the additional clarity of the new layout.

The Capital Estimates

I now turn to our proposals for Capital Expenditure for 1963-64. The position on the Capital Estimates resembles that which I depicted last March. We shall have to continue to rely largely on internal resources for capital expenditure. The difference is that, since we have drawn heavily on our accumulated reserves during the past two financial years, we must now rely on our present savings, hence my repeated appeals for the greatest possible economy.

In accordance with their Development Plan the Federal Government have agreed to make grants to the Regions to assist in financing natural resources projects such as agriculture and animal and forest resources.

By way of external grants we expect to receive over £500,000 mostly from the United States Agency for International Development, for natural resources projects. The United Kingdom Government has agreed to make a

loan to cover a large part of the cost of an additional water supply for Kaduna, which is essential for industrial and other developments here. The possibility of extending assistance from this source to other high priority projects is being explored.

Mobilisation of Reserves

I wish to inform Chiefs that the Revenue Equalisation Fund, which is held as a reserve against possible budgetary difficulties, and which was previously invested abroad, mainly in British Government Stocks, has been brought back to Nigeria and reinvested in Federal Government Stocks and Treasury Bills. Consideration is being given to repatriating more of this Region's overseas investments. This action, which is also being taken by other Governments of the Federation and Statutory Corporations, makes more funds available within Nigeria for development purposes.

Native Authorities

I will now review briefly the financial position of the Native Authorities.

The Ministry for Local Government has continued to keep a close control over the finances of the Native Authorities and a definite improvement is noticeable in the rendering of returns. It has been necessary to downgrade some Treasuries and to provide for direct Administrative supervision in cases where standards do not meet the required efficiency. The Native Authorities have made a determined effort to play their part in the implementation of the Government's major policy directions in connection with introduction of the Personal Tax Law, the National Provident Fund and the expansion of Primary Education, all of which will involve them in a formidable reappraisal of their financial resources. Care is being taken to see that Native Authorities' Development Plans are properly co-ordinated with the Government Plan.

During the past year the Ministry for Local Government, with the help of Committees drawn from Native Authorities, has revised the Financial Memoranda, the Native Authority Staff Regulations and the Directions for the Grant of Retiring Benefits to Native Authority Staff. It is hoped to publish them in the very near future in a form that will be convenient for every-day use in the Native Authorities. The Ministry for Local Government is now carrying out a detailed investigation into the revenue and expenditure of Native Authorities with the object of ensuring a better and more economical use of funds that are available to them.

Conclusion

Members will see that we are now planning an even larger expenditure than ever before, £35,000,000 by the Government and about £13,000,000 by the Native Authorities, making a total of about £48,000,000. I am confident we can meet this large expenditure; but only if we continue to exercise restraint, caution and economy, and that I can count on the support and co-operation of Chiefs in this matter.

Mr President, Sir, I beg to move.

The Minister of Land and Survey (Alhaji the hon. Ibrahim Musa Gashash, O.B.E.): Mr President, Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed

Question put and agreed to.

Deputy President: As has been the practice I will not propose the Question now. The Debate on this will commence on Monday.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Motion for an Address

Emir of Argungu Mallam Muhammadu Mera, O.B.E.): Mr President Sir, I rise to move the Motion standing in my name that this House notes with approval the policy of the Government as set out in the Speech which His Excellency has addressed this House.

It is with great pleasure that I rise today to move this very important Motion. What makes it more important is that it is the first time this House has the honour and the pleasure to move a Motion of thanks for a Speech from the Throne delivered by an indigenuous Governor.

I am sure everybody in this House is today proud of this occasion. Proud not only for the wisdom of our Government in putting a square peg in a square hole but also for the mature and honourable way our Governor has delivered his speech.

The speech is concise and full of progressive developments. If all these plans are put into action, which I am sure they all will be, the Government of Northern Nigeria has everything to be proud of. The people of this Region have always placed their confidence in our leaders and we are all happy to notice that our people have not been disappointed.

Before I sit down Mr President, Sir, I wish to make certain comments which I want the Government to pay attention to:—

The first thing I wish to speak about is Education. I am pleased to see that the Government has attached great importance to education. Many improvements have been made by

Ministry which have raised the standard of our education and for this reason the Ministry should be congratulated. However, there is one thing which I hope the Minister will consider. And that is the grant given to Native Authorities in respect of their Primary Schools. The grant is still inadequate and the regulations to be fulfilled before getting the grant are still too tight. I therefore hope that the Minister of Education will note this and improve the situation.

The next thing I want to speak about is the Northernisation policy of this Government. We are proud of the way the Government is carrying out its Northernisation policy. Everywhere we see Northerners occupying responsible positions. I wish here particularly to congratulate the Government for the appointment of a Northerner to fill the important post of the Secretary to the Premier. We are also pleased to note that the Government has made the best choice possible in giving the post to Alhaji Ali Akilu whose qualities are well known to us all. We hope God will give him courage and the determination to shoulder the heavy responsibilities of his new office.

The other thing I wish to speak about is the letter received by the hon. Premier with a threat of assassination from a certain political party. Many important people all over the country have spoken on this matter and they have again expressed their confidence in the Premier's leadership. For this reason I do not wish to say much on this. The only thing I wish to point out to the writer is that the Premier and the Northern Region are one. Whatever the Premier in person does or says he is only expressing the feelings of our people. Therefore the person wishing to kill the Premier is an enemy to the people of this Region as a whole and there is no doubt that before he can succeed he should be prepared to kill every individual person in Northern Nigeria.

Before I sit down, Sir, I wish once more to express our great confidence in the leadership of Sir Ahmadu Bello the Premier of Northern Nigeria and his Government.

With these few remarks, Mr President, Sir, I beg to move.

'Ohinoyi of Igbirra (Mallam Muhammadu Sani Omolori): Mr President, Sir, I rise to second the Motion thanking the Governor for his Speech from the Throne. I note with approval and satisfaction of Government programme of activities for the next financial year.

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We have witnessed with pride and admiration the first indigenous Governor of the Region reading a Speech for the first time ever from the Throne on this important annual occasion. We are proud of him because of his great personality and the masterly and dignified way in which the whole ceremony was conducted. We honour him not simply because we pledge loyalty to him as Governor but because he is most befitting by his high education, comportment and conduct to the great occasion we have witnessed. He is a fitting symbol of our honour, pride and importance.

Hon. Members have heard what the Government has proposed to do for us during the next financial year. The proposals cover all the branches of services provided by the Regional Government. They reflect all shades of public opinion. This careful planning reflecting all shades of opinion has characterised Government activities. This has been responsible for the praises showered on the Government both in the House and by members of the public. This is an achievement indeed and I would like and I believe I have the full support of the House, to register my most humble and deep appreciation of the way the Government has handled our affairs. The Northern Peoples' Congress Government has established, through the foresight of the hon. Premier, Sir Ahmadu Bello's leadership an unbeatable record since it came into power in 1952 in all spheres of Government activities.

It is needless commenting on the programme item by item. The various items appear each to be complete by itself. Only a team of Specialists could have done equally well. I commend to the Government to try therefore to keep up its standard and records. The address has manifested a great sense of co-operation and team work between the hon. Premier and members of his cabinet. Records of unbroken peace and stable government, records of unbeatable development and prosperity are not established without cool-headed labour.

We praise the Government for launching its 1962-68 Economic Development Plan and for stepping up democratisation of local government, with emphasis on giving the people opportunity to take active part in running their affairs through elected representation. This is a natural combination of twin developments. Man as a political animal soon starts to question the rights and wrongs of things as soon as he becomes economically stable. Political development must therefore keep pace with economic

growth because an unbalanced growth between the two can lead to serious dangers.

Vast strips of maiden lands are evenly distributed throughout the Region and as agriculture is the backbone of the Region's economy, nothing could have been wiser than the Government's proposal to give farmers facilities and encouragement in every way possible. This will enable the farmers to turn the vast uncultivated lands into farms and thereby increase our agricultural productivity. The encouragement of irrigation and growing of tree crops and above all mechanisation of farming wherever possible shows clearly that the Government has the full interest of our farmers at heart. With added acreage of a tree-crop farm and a good irrigation system a farmer can avert a possible ruin which average farmer encounters if rains fall out of time or if his seasonal crops fail for one reason or another.

By the establishment of more agricultural schools and the expansion of the Veterinary Centres the Government has demonstrated in unmistakable terms its intension to improve agricultural and veterinary services in the Region.

It is most gratifying to note Government's intension to pursue yet more vigorously the expansion of educational institutions in the Region. The public owes a debt of gratitude to Government for its tremendous feat in this field. When the Northern Peoples' Congress Government came to power eleven years ago there were school populations of 125,606 in 1952, at present the school population is 374,315, two Secondary Schools and eight Teacher Training Colleges were in existence in 1952. Today there are about fifty of each in the Region. Other educational and Technical Training Institutions have either been established or expanded. The famous Institute of Administration and Ahmadu Bello University have served to crown our educational expansion. The gigantic educational development envisaged in the Speech from the Throne is a proof of Government's continued and sustained determination to place this Region in the field of education second to none in the Federation with the shortest possible time.

The Government's policy in siting industries is commendable and I pray the Government to continue to press forward with vigour the establishment of local industries to absorb the ever increasing primary seven school leavers. This step will counter-act the influx of such people into large towns—like Kaduna, Kano or Jos in search of employment. The provision of health and other social and economic amenities

[OHINOYI OF IGBIRA]

as indicated in the Speech from the Throne is an abundant proof that truly this Government is, as in the words of Abraham Lincoln "a government of the people, by the people, and for the people".

Once again, Mr President, Sir, I would like to congratulate the hon. Premier, Sir Ahmadu Bello, his Ministers and the entire staff of their respective ministries for the Government's excellent performances and fabulous achievements. And with the approval of God and by His merciful guidance this Government shall be spared for long under the leadership of Sir Ahmadu Bello to guide our destiny and to land this great legacy of achievements down in tact to our future generations, Amen.

Mr President, Sir, I beg to second.

The Emir of Bauchi (Alhaji Adamu Jumba, C.M.G., C.B.E.): Mr President, Sir, I rise to congratulate His Excellency the Governor for the programme he has made for the development of our vast Region. In so doing, I would like to make a particular statement with regard to rumours we have heard during the session of the Northern House of Assembly that our hon. Premier has received a threatening letter from his enemies to his life.

Mr President, Sir, there is no doubt, this situation has confused the minds of the people of the whole Region; as a letter of threat of assassination is a very serious letter. Some journalists started to publish in the newspapers some meaningless and unwarranted articles; and this is not at all good. We all know that the hon. Premier's intention is to see that this country is all united. I am sure, one would be worried if one gets this sort of letter while he is doing his best to see to the progress of his country this will of course deter his progress and intention. If this sort of thing continues, I am sure the people of Nigeria will not live peacefully. Thank you, Mr President.

Chief of Minna (Alhaji Ahmadu Bahago): Mr President, Sir, I rise to thank His Excellency the Governor for his gracious Speech from the Throne. In so doing, I would like also to thank our Government which is lenient and sympathetic for its plans in the development of this Region. I would also like to thank the Government for what it plans in the expansion of every field of education and health of the people. Whatever money is spent on the health of the people the Government is not at a loss and would result as an asset in future. Public health and education are the essential things to the people and are leaders for the economy of

the country; because health is wealth and without it nothing can be done. Mr President, Sir, I would also like to thank the Government for the plans made on agriculture in this Region which is very important to our people. Mr President, Sir, agricultural products are the essential things in the World Market.

We all know that agricultural products are competitive in the world market and therefore it is the work of the Government and its employees to improve the agricultural position in order to meet the demand of high prices in the world market. I hope that the produce valuers will continue to ensure that the farmers get high prices for their produce. Moreover, I thank the Government for expanding industries in the country. This will obviously reduce and remedy hooligans in this country because unemployment invites hooliganism. We pray that God will help the Government in its deliberations for encouraging foreign investors to establish industries in this Region. These industries should be distributed throughout the Region not in one congested area which will make so many people remain in one place. We hope and pray to the Government that the establishment of these industries should be in suitable places. It is important that the Government improves the standard of wild animals in this Region as the increase of wild animals means an increase in agriculture. I hope the Government will improve our roads as without good roads the produce quality is reduced. I am grateful to the Minister of Works for the construction of Wuya Bridge. This will improve the transport in that area. I hope the Government will improve forest reserves. We know that forest is not used solely to get fire wood from it but other useful things too could be found from the forests. We hope that Niger will not be left out when the stations for railing cattle are established as we have many cattle and this station will help not only Niger but also Zaria Province. I beg to support. . . . (Interruptions). . . . I am sorry I have not yet finished what I wanted to say. So many Members spoke about the letter received by our hon. Premier. It is an envy on the part of those who wrote the letter as they see that the North is progressing in every aspect of development. The hon. Premier is doing his best to see that the North is developed and I pray for his long life and devotion to the running of our Region. I beg to support.

The Shehu of Dikwa (Mallam Umar Ibn Ibrahim Elkanemi, C.B.E., M.H.C.): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support the Motion. His Excellency's personal qualifications and abilities

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and that of the hon. Premier who recommended his appointment are well known and I need not repeat them here. His Excellency's first Speech from the Throne to this House is both historic and a masterpiece of its kind. It covers every aspect of development in every part of this vast Region and those government policies contained in the Speech when fully implemented, will not only benefit the people of this Region, but it will also be of tremendous benefit to the whole Federation of Nigeria.

It is gratifying to note that the Government is leaving no stone unturned to develop the natural resources of this Region in all its aspects. The development of kola, coffee and oil palm in the Riverian Provinces; irrigation of wheat and rice in Sokoto Rima valley and in Hadejia and Eweji River Valleys; fishing and livestock improvement projects in many parts of the Region; destruction of quela birds and other crop pests; development of artesian and other water supply projects; are the real backbones of our economic developments in this Region, and for these the Government really deserves praise and encouragement from all the people of this Region.

The Speech also contains bold social and educational projects more appropriate to the needs of a developing country. Before I sit down, Sir, I should like to say something about the letter of threat to Sir Ahmadu Bello's life. I fully associate myself with the views of the mover of the Motion but I should like to add that nobody has the power to take life but He who gives it. We all wish Sir Ahmadu long and blessed life. Sir, I support the Motion.

Chief of Paiko (Alhaji Muhammadu Bello): Mr President, Sir, I believe the whole House will agree with me that the Speech delivered by His Excellency for the first time since his accession to the new status is not only a blessing to this House but also a pride glory and honour to all the people of Northern Nigeria. In the past when the post of Governor was to become vacant we used to expect another importation from abroad. But in the opposite we are now having somebody who is not a stranger to this House and the Region as a whole in the name of Sir Ibrahim Kashim, an Hon. gentleman who has proved his quality in many capacity for the well-being of this Region. He has been lucky to have to work with the Leader who has tolerance, graciousness and God-fearing. Having mentioned the three qualities of the leader there is no need for me to reveal his name with which he is personally addressed. The leader is also fortunate as well for being surrounded by a team of Ministers

who fully well possess the attributes of sense of responsibility to guard and guide our Region.

The service of his Excellency since his accession to the new status has proved that a worth-while choice had been made by the Government. Referring to the Speech itself any one who has listened attentively and digested with interest will appreciate the Speech as true records of our achievement and accurate forecasts of our Region. I do not want to analyse His Excellency's Speech in much details for the reason that it is self-explanatory. I want to add that we in general are pleased with what he has said and we are in full support of his statements.

It is my wish to say something about the six year development plan which is hoped will be useful to all individuals in every corner of this Region. Priority of development should be given to villagers and those who live in farms. Their health should be well protected and they should get enough water. Ways and means should be devised to simplify the method of sales of foodstuffs and at good prices. Sir, I support the Motion.

The Emir of Zaria (Alhaji Muhammadu Aminu): Mr President, Sir, many Emirs and Chiefs have spoken on the Governor's Speech. I find it necessary to add something on what they have expressed. Firstly, Mr President, Sir, all the people of this country are praising the hon. Premier, Alhaji Sir Ahmadu Bello, Sardauna of Sokoto, because of his intelligence and wisdom in selecting for Northern Nigeria the first indigenous Governor who is best suited to the modern times, reputable, wise, sympathetic, reasonable, outstanding who respects people, and that is Sir Kashim Ibrahim. The previous Expatriate Governors made Speeches on occasions of the opening of the House of Chiefs, but because of their lack of proper knowledge of our customs, they did not make pleasant Speeches to the satisfaction of our hearts as our new Governor has done. We pray that Almighty God would help him in shouldering his heavy responsibility of performing his duties. (Amen).

Concerning the appointment of Provincial Commissioners, we congratulated the Premier on his wise choice in appointing these Commissioners. By appointment of these Commissioners, all employment is now handled by indigenous people. They have been recently appointed but we have already seen the benefit of their appointments.

Mr President, Sir, the Governor has clearly outlined the development of this country and

[THE EMIR OF ZARIA]

the future plans. Any sensible man can understand how this country is developing during these eleven years the Northern Peoples' Congress has been running the Government. The progress made is more than the one made during last fifty years. All these achievements are attributed to Sir Ahmadu Bello, the Sardauna of Sokoto.

Mr President, Sir, before I continue to speak on the Governor's Speech I wish to say something concerning an announcement we heard recently about the intended assassination of Sir Ahmadu Bello, the Sardauna of Sokoto. Mr President, Sir, this news shocked the minds of all the people of this country, because the Sardauna is the leader of the whole of Nigeria, not of Northern Nigeria alone. For this reason, Sir, whatever happens to Sardauna affects all the people of this country. In view of those Mr President, Sir, I pray God to protect him with His good protections. May God prolong the life of Sir Ahmadu and his just Government. Amen.

Mr President, Sir, I should like to express our dissatisfaction on how a Lagos newspaper has treated this matter. While we here are meditating about the threat, a Lagos newspaper has written an evil thing about it. I wish to bring to the notice of this particular newspaper that such comments usually lead to disunity and may make the efforts of hon. Premier in uniting the whole country difficult. We think that a good newspaper worth its salt, will not do such a thing. We therefore appeal to this newspaper to stop doing such things so that we may live peacefully in a united Nigeria.

Mr President, Sir, I would now turn to the Speech from the Throne outlining what the Government intends to do for us. I am glad to hear that the Government is establishing a sack factory at Jema'a. This will help the people of that area obtain employment, especially those who have completed their primary education.

The Farmers are now more prosperous too. I hope the Government will give them more encouragement.

I would also like the Government to intensify its efforts in the campaign against tsetse flies, so as to make our cattle more healthy and expand its Mixed Farming Programmes.

There is no doubt that the establishment of cattle fattening ranches in Southern Zaria will benefit us, to obtain enough healthy cattle. We shall do our best to support the Government in this respect. I would like the Government to speed up water Supply at Zaria, due to the in-

crease in the number of Schools and Industries.

Finally, Mr President, I wish to express my gratitude to the Northern Government for the pressure it has brought to bear upon the Federal Government with a view to the re-surfacing of the motor road from Kaduna to Zaria. I do hope that in the near future this work will be completed. I must remind the Governments on my repeated appeal on the construction of a permanent all-season road from Makarfi-Ikara-Anchau up to Dutsen-Wai. Also the road from Zonkwa-Zangon Katab-Lere up to Saminaka. This will shorten the distance to Southern Zaria.

Mr President, Sir, with these few remarks, I beg to support the Speech by His Excellency, the Governor.

Emir of Lapai (Mallam Muhammadu Kobo): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support the Motion on the floor of the House. I think this Budget is the twelfth of its kind to be delivered within the walls of this House: The twelfth one has been opened by our first indigenous Governor, Sir Kashim Ibrahim. So, Mr President, this is a unique and happy occasion for the hon. House and a pride to the whole country.

I now turn to the Speech from the Throne. I am particularly delighted to see that a sack factory is going to be established at Jama'a. That project does not only encourage commerce but also takes industry to the rural area. It may be noted that many Members have always asked that rural areas should not be neglected. At present, we note that big places are being developed at the expense of the small ones. So, Mr President, I very much welcome this change of policy. I pray that the Government will keep it up.

In the Speech, Sir, it was said that the Government will pay attention to the conservation of agricultural resources and to increasing productivity. In this field I know that the Government has established various Research Stations, it has a number of schools of Agriculture and Experimental farms, but still I would like to suggest to the Government to try another experiment. The experiment is that a school should be built for real farmers where they can learn modern techniques. You may call it the School for Farmers. This can be done by means of courses arranged for them as is done for the professional workers in the Institute of Administration. The Farmer may go to such school to learn new ideas which he can carry back to his farm and practise it with the advice of the local Agricultural instructors.

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I am very pleased to see that the Government has given full attention to the development of Tree Crops in the Riverain Provinces. In many areas, Sir, the experiments have proved successful, but the only menace comes from animal pests such as monkeys which eat up or destroy the fruits before they are picked. That is a problem which can be solved by means of Co-operation between the Government, the Native Authority and the farmers.

In educational development of the North, the Government is to be congratulated for all that it has been able to do. The achievement of University education for the North has come as a surprise not only to the foreigners but to our neighbours as well. However, I would like to say that female education is still not receiving its fair share of attention. We want to see Provincial Girls Schools all over the North.

In the Ministry of Health I observe that good provision has been made by double-streaming the Medical Auxiliary Training School, and the School of Hygiene. This provision will no doubt satisfy the need of the Native Authorities who always have to scramble for places for their candidates.

Mr President, Sir, I note that the Ministry of Social Welfare and Co-operatives is arranging Study Tours for Native Authority Officials. Speaking from experience, I would like to comment that many Native Authority officials are debarred from benefiting from such Tours due to lack of fund. It has always been difficult for the small Native Treasuries to supplement the Government study expenses which run into several hundreds of pounds per candidate.

My final observation concerns the Co-operative Societies which the Government is pledging a credit to the tune of £2,500,000. The movement is gradually taking root everywhere. The farmer member of the Co-operative Movement in the North today is happier, wealthier and physically stronger than his fellow brother who is not a member. It is up to the farmer to know that the Government has done for him what no one else can do to help him. This knowledge should imply that he pays up his loans in time and also abides by the rules of the Society.

Before taking my seat, Sir, I would like to thank all the political and traditional leaders of this country. The political leaders of this country of Nigeria have worked closely together and have co-operated in bringing peace, unity and prosperity to all the people in the country. One of our political and spiritual leaders is Sir Ahmadu Bello, the Sardauna of Sokoto and the

Premier of Northern Nigeria, who carries behind him the support and goodwill of the majority population of Nigeria.

In a recent announcement in the House of Assembly the hon. Premier declared that some political party had threatened his life. That is bad politics. That is attitude which will do no good to the unity of this country. It is our desire that those people responsible should refrain from politics of fear and intimidation. We in the North love our leaders and respect them as much as we can.

With these few remarks, Mr President, Sir, I beg to second.

House suspended at 12 noon for 15 minutes.

(House resumed at 12.15 p.m.)

Chief of Nassarawa Eggon (Ahaji Abdul-lahi Idde): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support the Speech from the throne delivered by the Governor of the North. In the first instance I would like to talk about the selection of an outstanding figure to lead this Region and to thank the Premier with his able Ministers who know what they are doing. Mr President, Sir, in the Speech, His Excellency spoke about agriculture. This is very important, more especially about the drugs for killing birds. This has greatly helped us. Secondly after the seeds started to grow and are becoming useful and good, Monkeys and Gorillas damage them. I am appealing to the Minister concerned to kill these Monkeys and Gorillas as these are most disturbing in our area—Nassarawa Eggon. My people are grateful for the reduction of the prices of fertilizers and we hear again that the money is to be reduced to half.

The Minister of Agriculture (Alhaji the hon. Mustafa Ismail, Zanna Dujima of Bornu): Mr President, Sir, I am sorry that the hon. Member does not understand. It is not said that the money is to be reduced to half but the prices will continue to be the same.

Chief of Nassarawa Eggon: Thank you very much. Mr President, Sir, in connection with health services, the Minister has done a service to this Region because his Ministry has cured so many diseases in this Region, for instance, the yaws. My people were given injections from which they benefited greatly. The injection gives them strength besides curing the diseases, and hope that this time they will be helped with the injections. I now turn to the Ministry of Education. The Minister has done a very good work, and we are grateful to him. We want more teachers.

[CHIEF OF NASSARAWA EGGON]

Turning to the Minister of Animal and Forest Resources, I wish to inform him that there has recently occurred in our area a certain type of fly which disturbs our cattle and has even started to disperse them. We would like him to bring a medicine to it.

I now turn to the Minister of Justice. We are grateful for what he has done for us especially in improving our judicial system.

Turning to the Minister of Works. We are very grateful for the tremendous work his Ministry has done. I am appealing to the Minister to help us get water supply. I will not be able to mention all the Ministries one by one, and all that I would like to say is that the whole members of the Government have done good services to us in our area.

Finally, I want to speak on the letter received by the hon. Premier. That letter has disturbed our minds. But those who have initiated this did not know the risk involved. He who knows good in the person of Sir Ahmadu Bello, Sardauna of Sokoto who is praying every day and night in the name of Allah, I am confident that any one who attempts to take away his life is bound to fail. I know the hon. Premier has got the second world in his right hand and this world in his left hand, and everybody knows that. (*Hear! Hear!*)

With these few words Mr President, Sir, I beg to support.

Emir of Misau (Mallam Ahmadu, M.B.E.)

Mr President, Sir, I rise to support the Speech from the Throne, containing the work and various activities of the Government and development programme in this Region.

Mr President, Sir, I should like to thank the hon. Premier for the very good selection he has made in appointing our first indigenous Governor. Also I should like to speak on the recent letter received by the Premier concerning a threat to his life. I am sure that God will deal severely with the person who wrote that letter. Those responsible for this should not be left alone and the Government should try to see that they are duly punished.

Mr President, Sir, we are grateful to the Government for the appointment of indigenous persons as Provincial Commissioners (*Hear! Hear!*)... The appointment of these Provincial Commissioners has further strengthened the Northernisation Policy (*Hear! Hear!*). They are responsible and we shall manage our affairs. We should all co-operate with them and all Native Authority employees will do their best

to work hand in hand with them. We all like them.

Emir of Borgu (Alhaji Muhammadu Sani): Mr President, Sir, I rise to thank His Excellency the Governor for his Speech from the Throne which he delivered to this honourable House yesterday. This speech should be upheld to heart by all chiefs and Emirs. I would like to draw your attention to this important speech, in so doing you should try to discharge your duties with honesty, sincerity and co-operation. There should be no room for any act of irresponsibility. (*Applause; Laughter*). It is essential that you move with the time it is better to keep standing than sitting for anything pushed while standing upright will move faster than one pushed when sitting. In the past this Governor was my Servant but now he is my master (*Applause; Laughter*)... And it is essential that a Servant praises his master.

I have now finished with the words praise for the Governor let me than say a few words about the hon. Premier. We shall not tolerate any act of threats. I have learnt with deep regret about the Threat to kill the hon. Premier. Premier's life and activities can be compared with this our building which we all now assemble in. The walls would be unable to stand by themselves without pillars, to us the hon. Premier is the pillar and the masses of the region the walls. If he is killed, it is not only his own loss but a region wide loss. Those who threaten to kill him were not grateful to God, as he reaches this position through the will of God. No black man can kill the Premier, all their attempts will be abortive and even a white man can not do it. (*Laughter*). Any attempt to go against the wish and destiny of God will be in vain. By the wish of God any attempt against the life of the Premier will fail. God will always protect him in his own dealings. Thank you, Mr President, Sir.

Chief of Sharagi: Mr President, Sir, I rise to support the Speech delivered to this House yesterday by His Excellency the Governor. With the consent of this Honourable House, I would like a further explanation on His Excellency's Speech on the new system of Taxation. Different methods are used by different areas in collecting taxes. But since the introduction of this new method. . . .

Mr President: Order, Order, I feel it would be better if the Chief would wait with his remarks on Taxation until we reach the Second reading of the Appropriation Bill on Taxation. At the moment, the Chief can proceed with his Speech but not on this subject matter.

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Chief of Sharagi: Thank you, Mr President. Now I would like to speak on loans given by the Government to the farmers. This loan does not reach the farmers on time and the result of it always cause inconveniences to the farmers.

On the Educational Programme of merging Native Authority Schools and Mission Schools and the question of Grants in Aid to Schools. I would like further explanation. With these remarks, Sir, I beg to support.

Chief of Wushishi: I rise to support the motion on the Speech from the Throne. The Speech from the Throne shows that this country is our own and the Governor is an indigenous person whose appointment is a great wisdom. His speech clearly demonstrates his personality. The Speech from the Throne is well meant. The government's Six-Year Development Plan on agriculture is very good. In this country there are many people and we have plenty of forests. In Niger Province, there are plenty of forests but no sufficient people are employed to work there. I hope the Government will endeavour to improve this province.

Turning to the Hospitals, we have many dispensaries but we have no Government general hospitals. Although my area is very far away from any Government General Hospital, yet we have got some missionary hospitals where our people suffer great difficulties before they can get treatment. We want the Government to help us and build a General Hospital for us. We have good roads in our area.

Now, turning to the threat of assassination of the hon. Premier, we know that in every evil thing done there must be repercussion. Those people who wanted to kill the hon. Premier did not create him. He is created by God and any attempt to assassinate him by any people or group of people will, God's willing, fail. God created prophets and all these sorts of threats have been attempted on them but through the grace of God none of them was injured. The hon. Premier's ancestors also have been subjected to such threats but none of them was injured because they were created by God and all they did was for God. The hon. Premier has been created by God and all the work he is doing is for the benefit of his people and an attempt to kill him must fail. Mr President, Sir, it is clear in my heart, as in the words of the Premier, when he said "I am not praying for long life but for a peaceful end". We all pray that God may spare his life and may he end peacefully. God will bless the hon. Premier for his work for the benefit of his people. *(Applause)*. And those who plan this evil intention, may

God pay them in their own coins. *(Amen)*. We are not at all afraid by this threat as it is not a new thing, and I am sure, the Almighty God will not leave his people in such a situation of danger. May God bless the hon. Premier. *(Prolonged Applause)*.

Emir of Jama'are (Mallam Muhammadu Wabi) (Hausa): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support the Motion on the Speech from the Throne. We are lucky to have an indigenous Governor who does not discriminate. We support him and his Government for all the Plans they have made.

On the question of the assassination of the hon. Premier, I must tell this House that those people who have this intention did not create the hon. Premier and it is certain that if we should lose the hon. Premier, it means as if one has lost his hand. We all know where the Premier comes from and his position in life.

We all know that he has done a great work not only in the North but throughout Nigeria and other countries and we cannot do without him; if we lose him this will be a great loss which I am sure will endanger our people. That small group—rather minority group I will call them, the Almighty God will not give them chance to fulfil their promise. I pray to Almighty God to extend his life to live longer than expected. *(HON. MEMBERS: Amen! Amen!)*.

The Chief of Jos (Mallam Rwang Pam): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support the Speech from the Throne which His Excellency the Governor of Northern Nigeria has delivered to this House. I am grateful to God, that Sir Kashim is the first Northerner to be appointed to this very important post. Mr President, I am sure, no one could get such a very important post without God's permission; and as such, I pray that The Almighty God will help our indigenous Governor to lead us in the right path. We also thank the hon. Premier of Northern Nigeria, Alhaji Sir Ahmadu Fello and his Ministers in the Government. And we thank the Almighty God who placed Sir Ahmadu on his big post to lead Northern Nigeria. Mr President, Sir, Sir Kashim Ibrahim is the only Northerner to qualify for the post of the Governor and we all know that Sir Kashim has done quite a great deal of work to all the people in Northern Nigeria and that is what has led him to secure this post. This is a thing of pride for himself, and not only for himself but for the whole of Northern Nigeria, and this will certainly be a historical affair in the whole of the North. We pray Almighty God to guide him in all his activities in Northern

[THE CHIEF OF JOS]
Nigeria. Mr President, Sir, in His Excellency's Speech from the Throne he mentioned that Northerners are to be given important positions in this Region. Mr President, Sir, right from the hon. Premier of Northern Nigeria, Sir Ahmadu Bello together with his Ministers and Provincial Commissioners and down to the smallest boy of this Region to all I say may God help us. All of us are working hard towards the improvement of our vast Region and which has developed greatly. And this is due to the efforts and good leadership of our leaders and which brought us to live peacefully, and economic improvement has been shown clearly. Mr President, it is pleasing to see that we are living peacefully as of one father and one mother, and I hope we will continue to do so.

Mr President, Sir, I would like to comment on the letter of threat written by a minority section or an individual that plans are on hand to assassinate our Honourable Premier of Northern Nigeria. Although my colleagues in this House have already spoken on this I would like myself to comment on this matter. Mr President, Sir, whatever has been planned is all rubbish, and is something which is like a dream. Everybody knows very well that our Honourable Premier wherever he goes he embraces every person in this Region. This Region, Mr President, has diversity of people tribes, customs and religion; but still yet, wherever the hon. Premier goes on tour he plays and jokes with everybody and the people of every corner of this Region don't like to depart from him because they love him. Mr President, Sir, I must say that our hon. Premier has united the whole Region and it has become one family.

At this juncture I would like to ask a question. Those people who want assassinate the Premier, what has he done to them? Is it a fault for the hon. Premier to be in his capacity as Premier? Or is it an offence to try and help and unite his people together? Again, is it an offence because he loves all his people and shows no discrimination? Mr President, Sir, those minority groups who are trying to plan this; I am sure the Almighty God will not give them chance to succeed [HON. MEMBERS: *Insha Allahu*] The hon. Sir Ahmadu Bello, with God's help and guidance will continue to lead us as he used to do, and I am sure nothing will happen. Mr President, Sir, those ambitious minority group must fail.

Now, Mr President, I turn to the Speech

from the Throne delivered by His Excellency the Governor. I would like to speak on Agriculture.

I refer to the Speech by His Excellency regarding agriculture. He has spoken about irrigation and that reminds me of a place in Plateau Province—Ta Hoss. Indeed we are very grateful for introduction of irrigation scheme there. We know that upon the introduction of a new thing people will not understand it, and when the work started some people say only potatoes will be for trading purposes. We thank the Minister of Agriculture in suggesting to the people to plant anything for sale or for other uses. Now the people have started to plant several things as they have been advised. I hope that the Government will continue to see for the development of such an area as it is a marshy area and good for irrigation. I now turn to Education, and it is very pleasing to note in His Excellency's Speech that the Government will help Voluntary Agencies to develop and raise the standard of their schools to Girls Secondary Schools. It is clearly shown that the Government intends to pursue its education policy not only for boys but also for girls and I hope that the Government will open more secondary schools for girls; if possible to open secondary school for girls in every province. It is interesting to note that the Government will continue to train Native Authority court staff; because justice is the standing pillar of peace. Without justice every person will do whatever he likes and law will mean nothing. Justice is very good in preventing doing evil things. We thank the Minister of Justice for his effort in touring and seeing for himself the activities of the Native Authority Courts. This is very helpful and very encouraging. It is just like a person visiting his boys at the farm, the visit will certainly encourage them. We thank the Minister for such a good job, and hope that he will continue to do so. We are grateful for the grants that are to be given to the Native Authority Police Forces—I think it is about £390,000. This will encourage the work of the Native Authority Police because they look after the welfare of the people. If there is no Police Force people will find it difficult to live because thieves will disturb them. These Police Constables go round and look after the people at night.

Mr President, Sir, I now turn to the industries. Indeed industries are useful, and they reduce unemployment. A lot of people will learn to do a certain type of trade. People who are formerly jobless and have been wondering for employment now have jobs, and will

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finally become good citizens. The hon. Premier will encourage these people to establish industries in our area. This we think will greatly help us because all the people will become employed.

The Governor has mentioned something about educational tours. This is very helpful indeed because a person who goes to places will know more than a person remains in one place. A person who does not travel does not know what is good. Such tours will help greatly in enlightening the people. We hope the Government will encourage such educational tours.

Finally, Mr President, Sir, I wish to say something. This is a special request to the Minister of Health. In Plateau Province there is a Maternity and Welfare Training Centre. The Maternity where children are born, is also the same place where children are treated. Now what we fear is that these young children who are treated here together with the newly born babies, will in fact affect the newly born babies. This is not the fault of the Doctor, or lack of care on his part. The Doctor is doing very good work and he is very helpful to the people at all time. What I would like the Minister to do is to see to it that these sick children are not treated in the same place with the newly born babies. It may be that the Minister will answer me that this has been included in the six year Development Plan. But I do not know. What I want the Minister to consider is that the health of the people is more important than any amount of money no matter how small the health may be. With these few remarks, Mr President, Sir, I beg to support the Motion.

Chief of Wamba (Mallam Muhammadu Kwore): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support the Motion on the Speech from the Throne delivered by His Excellency the Governor. I will not waste time, but I should like to express my profound gratitude to the hon. Premier and his colleagues the Ministers for their good work during the past year, and I pray to God to help them in their deliberations. (Amen).

Mr President, Sir, I would like to say a few words on the letter that has been written to the hon. Premier. This letter is not for the hon. Premier alone but for us who live in Northern Nigeria. Whatever is going to affect the Premier must affect all of us. I am sure nobody has the power to take away the life of the hon. Premier, only by Him who has given the life. I am also sure that any person who tries to attempt to take away his life will surely fail. I wish the hon. Premier long life and prosperity.

Now I wish to turn to the Minister respon-

sible for industries. It is mentioned in the Speech that industries will be brought to our area. Our Native Authority is a Federated one and we shall be grateful if one industry can be established there. The reason is that our people are becoming more and more in number and that we have no industry. We were told sometime that they would bring an industry but nothing has been received.

I should also like to speak on water supply. In the past we used to get water by digging wells but this system has been stopped. I appeal to the Minister of Works to help the people in Wamba with water supply. I remember I brought this matter before and I think the Government will now consider doing something about it.

Chief of Bunu (Mr Joseph Ikusemoro): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support the Speech from the Throne. I thank the Governor, the Premier and other Cabinet Ministers for the loyal service they rendered to the people of this Region. It is a fact that Northern Region got its Self Government in 1959 but the real Self Government does not become effective until the colonialists have started to leave and our people started to replace them. No doubt, to me this shows the end of the colonial era. The appointment of the Governor is a matter of pride to the people of this Region. I wish him long life and many years in office to deliver his Speech to this House. The Government has done many things to develop this Region so I see no Ministry to be blamed. I hope that the opposition will understand their mistake and ignorance so that they will revert back to the Government, because their complaints are not very important. Since their complaints have already been given attention and done like building Schools, Craft Schools, Electricity, Native Authority Roads have been taken over by the Government and there is nothing not done, so I see no reason why the opposition will complain more bitterly.

I look forward to seeing when the flying Doctor will work under the Ministry of Health. The finance of this Region is sound and reliable but with the austerity measures coupled with the new system of taxation some local articles are increased in prices. I would like to appeal to the Minister if he will in the near future increase mileage allowance payable to the members of this House because it is very difficult to maintain a car. The price of petrol has increased and the cost of maintenance is also very high.

My thanks go to the Attorney-General and

[CHIEF OF BUNU]
the Minister of Justice. The legal circus of this Region is good to admire. Therefore I think the Ghana Government will come to Northern Region to study the legal system. That Country is notorious for its preventive and detention Act which is incompatible to human rights. However I would like the Minister of Justice or the Attorney-General to put a Law whereby burglary will be dealt with in the same way as a murder, because if the thieves enter a house of somebody they have the determination of killing a person not only to take his properties. I could remember that one time they enter my house carrying gun and cutlass and I wonder what they wanted me to carry in defence. Therefore everybody found with this offence must be hanged. I am grateful to the Northern Government for all it did in education, but I very much deplore the attitude and role played by the teachers in Kabba Division. How can a teacher living at the mercy of Government strive against providence? In my opinion, I want the Ministry of Education to check these teachers as the Government staff are being looked after.

I want the Ministry of Animal and Forest Resources and the Ministry of Economic Planning that if an industry is to be built in Kabba Division, it should be built in Bunu because that area is rich in forestry.

We in Kabba are very grateful to the Minister of Agriculture and we shall be looking forward to seeing him on the day he will come to open the Agricultural School in our Province.

With these comments, I beg to support.

Chief of Kagoro (Mallam Gwamna): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support the Speech delivered by His Excellency the Governor. Before I continue, I'll praise the Governor himself. I have noted attentively how he sat down on the Throne, how he delivered his speech so nicely and this has entirely led my thoughts to congratulate the Northern Government for selecting such a person as Sir Kashim Ibrahim to work in a high office such as Govern-

nor of Northern Nigeria. May God bless him. With regard to the Government policy, when I read the address carefully and listened to the address from the Throne carefully I understand that the Government has a good plan by which our Region will prosper, and for this we are grateful to the Government.

Mr President, Sir, about the Sack Factory that is to be established Jema'a, the Government has done a very good thing. This is a place where there are large number of Primary School leavers who are left without work and by the establishment of this Factory they will be able to have some jobs to do and I believe that the work will be very successful.

About Agriculture, Sir, I am very happy with the plans the Government is trying to implement, and my congratulation also goes to the Ministry of Animal and Forest Resources for the caring of animals. This is a very important thing because they are most essential to the growth of a country like this Region. This has become something of encouragement to the people who regard farming as a mean profession. I know whatever the Government advises the farmers they will accept it.

Deputy President: Order, Order. The moment of interruption has come. Debate will continue tomorrow.

The Minister of Land and Survey (Alhaji the hon. Ibrahim Musa Gashash, O.B.E.): Mr President, Sir, I rise to move that the House do now adjourn.

The Minister of Animal and Forest Resources (Alhaji the hon. Mu'azu Lamido, Magatakardan Sokoto): Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

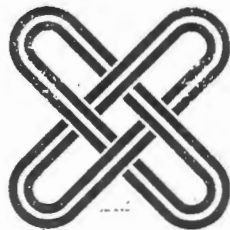
Question put and agreed to.

House accordingly stands adjourned at 1.50 p.m. until 9.00 a.m. Friday, 29th March, 1963.

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Volume 19
No. 3

Friday
29th March, 1963



NORTHERN NIGERIA LEGISLATURE

**PARLIAMENTARY
DEBATES**
(HANSARD)

**HOUSE OF CHIEFS
OFFICIAL REPORT**

(Third Legislature)

Third Session

(First Meeting)

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HOUSE OF CHIEFS NORTHERN NIGERIA

Friday, 29th March, 1963

The House met at 9.00 a.m.

(DEPUTY PRESIDENT in the Chair)

PRAYERS

ADJOURNED DEBATE ON THE MOTION OF THANKS

Deputy President: Order, Order. Adjourned debate. When the House adjourned yesterday, the Chief of Kagoro has the floor so I would now ask him to continue with his speech.

Chief of Kagoro (Mallam Gwamna M.B.E.): Mr President, Sir, I rise to continue with my speech on the Motion on the Speech from the Throne. In his Excellency's Speech from the Throne, mention was made of democratising the Local Councils. This policy of the Government is praise-worthy and it is best suited to our Region. We are all happy with it. Anyone who doesn't want to move with the time, would be left behind.

In the course of my speech, I touched the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Animal and Forest Resources. We are very happy for the progress so far being made. But the question of loans to farmers has not been properly conducted as the loans are usually granted late.

Mr President, Sir, we will be happy if loans could be given to farmers in time before the rainy season begins. It might be said that some people are not able to repay for these loans; but those who have paid should be given. I also like to comment on agriculture. I will be very grateful if a Farm Training Centre is opened in my area; whereby people of this Region will be taught modern ways of farming. Mr President, we are very grateful to the Ministry of Education and we would be happy if girls' education could be extended. We would like also modern secondary schools to be opened in abundance. Because we like boys' education and girls' education to go hand in hand. We do not hope to see any gap between boys' education and girls' education. We also praise the work being done by the Ministry of Information which enlightens the people of this vast Region by recruiting people from various countries of the world so as to come and enlighten our people; and this will help the economy of this Region. Finally, Mr President, I would like to comment on a letter of threat to assassinate our hon. Premier, Sir Ahmadu Bello. Mr President, this situation we

leave it to God. No person has any power to kill Sir Ahmadu Bello because no person has created Sir Ahmadu Bello and as such no person can take his life. We only leave that to Almighty God. Mr President, Sir, whoever likes to assassinate Sir Ahmadu is an enemy of this Region and God will judge between us and him. The intention of this person will fall on him. Ours is to pray "May Almighty God grant Sir Ahmadu Bello long life and that person's intention to fall on to him he who plans it" With these few words, I support the Motion.

The Emir of Wase (Alhaji Abdullahi Maikano, M.B.E.): Mr President, Sir, I rise to add my thanks to the hon. Premier, Sir Ahmadu Bello, the Sardauna, together with his Ministers. Sir Ahmadu is a person with the blessing of God in all his deliberations and on things he plans to do. We all know that God has selected a real person of the North to become the first Governor of this Region. Mr President, Sir, Sir Kashim Ibrahim is the person we have confidence and we are lucky for his selection to be the first indigenous Governor; and everywhere in this world the selection is welcomed. I will not make long Speech on this as most of my colleagues have already done so. On the Speech from the Throne delivered by His Excellency, I would like to press on two things—that is farming and grazing. It is clear that agriculture has been expanded in this Region greatly; but still there is room for improvement. It is clear also that we are working hard on grazing. We should look after these two professions and try persistently on them; otherwise we would loose cattle in this Region. I praise the Ministry of Animal and Forest Resources, for the part she is playing in connection with immigration or roaming from one place to another by the Fulani of this Region; I would like this plan to be encouraged—that is by supplying the Fulanis with grazing areas and dams. If such things are increased in the North, in the far end of the North and in every corner of the North; Fulani cannot leave their homes and go to other places in search of food for their cattle. We all know that if they have grazing areas in their settlement and water supply; they will not leave their homes and even if they like to move from one place to another it will not be a long distance.

If grazing areas are made available and enough water supply, we shall have the Cattle Fulanis always near us, and their presence near us in quantity means extra income for the Region. We all know that we like the Cattle Fulanis not only because of their milk, butter and meat but

[THE EMIR OF WASE]

because of a lot of things. Mr President, Sir, I beg to support.

But also for the Jangali Tax. The main need is the prestige of the country. I hope that such a scheme at Rahama in Saminaka will be extended to other places. Mr President, Sir, in connection with the recent matter from the devils to assassinate Sir Ahmadu Bello—if one would look back about his ancestors one would find that this is not surprising although it is merely a speech. So many attempts and plans had been made to assassinate his ancestors but God so kind had made them all in vain. Also, at present most of the people have realised the affairs of the Northern Peoples' Congress, Government and all the promises which it made have been fulfilled and some are actively on although not yet finished towards helping the people. This had been mentioned by a friend of mine, but I pray that God will strengthen the Government's determination for the development of this Region. I thank and wish God's guidance to Sir Ahmadu Bello and his Ministers in their affairs and at the same time thank the civil servants for their loyal service to this Region. Mr President, Sir, I beg to support.

Chief of Lafiagi (Mallam Umaru Oke Ode): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support the Motion of Thanks for the Speech from the Throne. The Speech is historical in that it comes from an indigenous Governor, in the name of Sir Kashim Ibrahim. I offer my hearty congratulations to him. May his term of office be a happy one and may it add more to the already existing peace, happiness and prosperity of the Region. The Speech contains the Government activities of the past year as well as its plans for the coming year. The Speech unmistakably portrays the Government's understanding of the Region's problems and also its sincere desire to get them solved. I wish the Government God's guidance in all its activities and undertakings. We do appreciate the Government's efforts in the various aspects of administration of this Region and hope that there will be no relaxation. Nevertheless, I would like to make a few comments.

Education—An Hon. Member of this House had earlier stated that he wished that the Government would give more in the way of grants to the Native Authorities on Education. I fully support the Hon. Member's views. As a result of the new policy, most of the Native Authorities and Voluntary Agencies have been left with the problem of finding more money to bridge the difference. I do feel that these bodies should

have been given more time. Small Native Authorities and Voluntary Agencies may find it difficult to meet the extra cost, and this may perhaps lead to either packing up by some of the Voluntary Agencies or the employment of less qualified teachers by both. I would like to give a typical example of what I am driving at. It is now the Government's policy to give grants of £5 per pupil. There are some teachers that earn over £200 per annum and there will be no sufficient money to pay them. With the improved high standard of education, this system will be very much insufficient. I personally feel that in all Primary Schools only Grade II teachers will be employed, no matter whether junior or senior primary schools. The Educational Authorities know very well that most Grade II teachers receive over £300 per annum. I hope that the Government will review this matter and do something about it. What I personally feel may be as a result of this; it may force some of the Voluntary Agencies to pack up and Native Authorities may be forced to recruit inferior teachers. For this reason, I feel I should speak on this, and I hope that the Government would look again into this matter.

Agriculture—At the moment we have Agricultural Schools training Agricultural Assistants. My request from the Government is that I hope it will not be long before we have a school actually training farmers. It will certainly strengthen the economy of this country, and it will also help to absorb hundreds of Primary VII school leavers.

Works—I am glad to say that work on the bridges about which we had been worrying the Minister has already begun, and he has qualified for my congratulations. We thank the Government very much. But one other help is the Sharagi-Bacita road. Any official visit to the Nupe Division of Ilorin would be incomplete without Bacita. This is the only road linking us with this very important establishment. It is also vital because the bulk of food to feed Bacita would come through the same route. Finally, it is the shortest route to Ilorin. It is therefore appropriate that Government should undertake the construction of this road immediately, before Bacita becomes too big to be fed by the local production.

Assassination Letter—Finally, I would like to reflect on the notorious letter written on the life of our beloved Premier. The news was as shocking as it was surprising.

I had never thought for a moment that there are still savages left in these parts of Africa, because only savages will resolve to have their problems settled by assassination.

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Anyway, they should know that they are not only the enemy of the person they intend to kill but enemies of Northern Nigeria. They have no doubt betrayed themselves as failed politicians. They have failed on the political platform and have therefore resorted to force. Surely they are cowards and should be ashamed of themselves. We have no doubt that the same failure met on the political platform awaits them in their mischievous plan. They should know that neither the Premier nor the Giant North would submit to any form of threats. May God protect the Premier's lieutenants. Long live Sir Ahmadu Bello and long live his Party. I wish him and his colleagues many and happy terms of office.

Aku of Wukari (Mr Adi Byewi, M.B.E.): I rise to support the Motion on the Speech from the Throne.

In the first place I should like to associate myself with the previous speakers in congratulating the Hon. Premier and his Government for their wise choice of Sir Kashim Ibrahim as the first indigenous Governor of Northern Nigeria.

The Governor's Speech has shown various developments already made and what the Government intends to do in the future.

In implementing these developments I hope the rural areas will not be neglected, particularly in the field of industries. Establishment of industries in the rural areas will help to keep at home, young school leavers who are now moving from villages to Kaduna and to other industrial towns in search of employment.

Mr President, Sir, where industry is not possible in the near future, I suggest establishment of Craft Schools.

I am very pleased to note that Government intends to create more Game Reserves in some other parts of the Region. If it is possible I suggest there should be one in each Province. Unless this is done and the Government also legislates against indiscriminate hunting particularly night hunting, our grandchildren may not see or know some kinds of wild animals and birds, e.g., Crown Birds are becoming very rare.

About study tours. Unless the Government will help the smaller Native Authorities financially, their staff will never have the opportunity of going to Overseas.

About the fight against Sleeping Sickness I hope the Government will do something about tsetse flies in Sarkin Kudu area of Wukari District. This area is noted for its numerous tsetse flies. As a result of this Tax in this area is

collected only during the dry season when bush fires clear the bush.

About attempt on Sir Ahmadu's life, I will only say that the evil that men do lives after them. May God reward the intending assassinator in his own coin.

Chief of Idoma (Mr Ajene Ukpabi): Mr President, Sir, it will seem a surprise to the people here to see me with one eye. Before I go on to the Speech from the Throne I have to thank the Premier and his cabinet Ministers.

About the assassination of his life many members of this House have spoken about this but I would like to add my own comments. This malice must and will continue to reflect on those who planned to do it. It is possible to say but it is impossible to act. This evil planning started since 1960 during the Royal Visit which prevented Princess Alexandra from continuing her tour to some parts of the Region and I could remember specifically that Benue Province, my own Province was the one. Whatever happens God is omnipotent. During the term of His Excellency's Office I have to thank him for his indefatigable effort as a well deserved Governor of the North. Since the appointment of the Governor he has almost toured all parts of the Region. I therefore wish him long life and peaceful tenure of office to continue with the ambitious steps he has initiated to enhance the progress of this Region.

I also have to thank the Minister of Health for the fulfilment of his work. He made it possible to build many hospitals, Medical Clinics and Medical Training Schools.

Turning to the Minister of Works I have to thank him also for taking over the Rural Water Supply in my area. I have to appeal to him to pay more attention to see that water supply is improved so as to supply the cattle market. The cattle market in my Division is not functioning well because of lack of water.

To the Minister of Trade and Industry I have to appeal to him to see that one of those proposed factories is built in Awai.

This does not only affect my Division in Benue Province but also Kabba Province. Once we have our own factory nearby, the children who are going about in search for employment elsewhere will no longer go. Fortunately for us Sir, we have coal at Orukpa in my Division which has been estimated by geologists to yield about 4 million tons. I am therefore appealing to the Minister to persuade his colleague in the Federal Cabinet so that a factory will be opened and our children will remain at home.

[THE CHIEF OF IDOMA]

Turning to the Ministry of Animal and Forest Resources, I would like to appeal to the Minister to see that the present cattle market in my division functions properly in order to stop our people from wandering as far as to Eastern Region where they encounter a lot of hardship. Some middlemen may think that this will only benefit the cattle traders in my Division, but nevertheless it will benefit even the middle-men themselves by reducing the suffering they encounter when going as far as to the Eastern Region. With these few points, Mr President, Sir, I beg to support.

Chief of Donga: I rise to support the Motion on the Speech from the Throne. We have learnt all that the Government intends to do for us during the coming year in the different Ministries. This is a wise plan and most progressive and we are very grateful for that. I would like to say a few words concerning the Ministry of Animal and Forest Resources and that is whether it would be possible for the Minister to send someone to tour the Provinces and lecture on "Cruelty to Domestic and Wild Animals". I am sure the Minister knows exactly what to do. We are also grateful for Rinderpest Campaign started by the Ministry which is going on very well.

My other point is in connection with the plot to assassinate the hon. Premier. It is better we leave this matter at this stage. We have not been able to find any fault in the Premier and all that he does is in consultations with his Ministers. I am wondering what fault the Premier has committed. We thank the Premier for his leadership and we pray that Almighty God will protect him. (*Applause*): When we attained Self-Government we never thought we could reach our present stage and through his leadership we are enjoying our freedom peacefully. Mr President, Sir, with these few words, I beg to support. May God save the life of our hon. Premier, Alhaji Sir Ahmadu Bello, the Sardauna of Sokoto. With these few remarks, I beg to support the motion.

Chief of Awe (Mallam Umaru Usman): Mr President, Sir, I am most grateful for the chance you have given me to speak. My first point is to thank our indigenous Governor, Sir Kashim Ibrahim, for his Speech from the Throne. My second point is to thank the hon. Premier of Northern Nigeria, Alhaji Sir Ahmadu Bello and his Ministers for their wisdom, goodwill and good intention to lead our North and for selecting Sir Kashim Ibrahim to be our first indigenous Governor. With this,

I am grateful to the hon. Premier and all his Ministers. My third point is about the threatening letter of assassination, which was written to our hon. Premier, Alhaji Sir Ahmadu Bello. I am sure the Sardauna is a popular person and a very important soldier of the Sarkin Musulmi. At present, the Sardauna and even in the past, is an important person in the North. It is our full heart prayers that any attempt on his life will surely fail.

Mr President, Sir, not long ago, there was rumours that some minority group of a certain Political Party tried to overthrow the Government of the Northern Peoples' Congress. I must emphasise that with God's help and guidance, all their attempts will be in vain.

Mr President, Sir, I thank all the Ministers for their co-operation and helping the hon. Sir Ahmadu Bello in leading the Region to the present development with honesty and sincerity of purpose. I now want to appeal to the Minister of Health. In the Speech from the Throne, His Excellency mention buildings of hospitals, as such, I would like the Minister of Health to establish a Maternity hospital in our area. Mr President, lack of this Maternity hospital is endangering the life of so many housewives. I hope the Minister of Health will help us. Mr President, Sir, I beg to support.

The Emir of Lafia (Alhaji Yusufu II): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support the motion before the House on the Speech from the Throne which was delivered on the 27th of March, by His Excellency the Governor, Sir Kashim Ibrahim. Mr President, Sir, as my colleagues have already spoken, there is no need for me to make a lengthy speech. I would like only to say that the Speech delivered by His Excellency the Governor is a very comprehensive one and we fully support it. We are very happy also to have our first Governor to be an indigenous Northerner and he has done excellent work in the North, before taking this appointment. And I am sure he will continue to help in expanding the Government activities. It is something very gratifying not only in this honourable House, but also in the whole Northern Region of Nigeria. Everyone who hears the Speech of the Governor, wherever he may be, will be very proud and very happy about it. I am now turning to the agricultural development which His Excellency mentioned in his Speech from the Throne. I am very happy about this and also am expressing my thanks to the Minister of Agriculture for the assistance granted to the farmers in the Region, particularly in my own Division. I hope he will

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continue to do the same this year—to help us with machines which will help our farmers very much. Turning to the Minister of Social Welfare and Co-operatives, I am thanking him for the formation of co-operative societies in my own Division. I also praise the former Minister of Social Welfare and Co-operatives who laid the foundation of the Co-operative Society. I can well remember that he was the first to give us the suggestion and advice for the formation of Co-operative Societies; we accepted his advice and the farmers are now reaping the benefits. This is a very happy situation and I hope they will continue to get more help from this Ministry in many years to come; as we have seen the useful purpose of this Co-operative Society. I am now turning to the Minister of Health. Although, Mr President, the Minister has already restricted me with his secret letter before I came here (*laughter*), yet I am going to speak. I know he has done so to prevent me from speaking; still what I want to speak about is to urge him to build a General Hospital which he had promised. We are very happy. We received a letter promising that we shall be getting a hospital in 1966-67. I am still appealing to the Minister to shorten the time. Referring to the Ministry of Education, we are grateful to the Minister of Education more especially about the Craft School opened in my Division which is now progressing and our children are benefiting thereby. It is high time for me to turn an appeal to the Minister of Animal and Forest Resources about grazing reserves in my province. I wish that the Minister will help farmers greatly in this matter. With regards to the letter received by Sir Ahmadu Bello, this is just a mere impotent threat and nothing else. This is something which every Northerner should be very worried about. It is the Almighty Who kills somebody when time comes but not a human being. It is just like a dream and we curse anybody who has written such a letter which will disturb the peace of the country. We pray for long life and prosperity for the hon. Premier and his Ministers because of their valuable service to this country. With these remarks, I beg to support.

Chief of Nasarawa (Alhaji Jibrin Mairiga)

I rise to thank the hon. Premier and his Ministers for the excellent work they are doing to this Region. I also thank them for their intelligence for their selection of a Northerner in the person of Sir Kashim Ibrahim to be a Governor. I am not going to make a lengthy speech about this since my colleagues have already spoken on this issue but only to wish

him God's guidance in the performance of his duty. I am suggesting to the Government that the Governor should have a sort of special dress to wear especially on certain important occasions. In his Speech from the Throne, His Excellency has explained the activities of the Government at present and in the future. May God give him time and chance in this responsibility.

Turning to the Minister of Health. I thank him very much (*applause*...). Health is very important to human beings, and I am appealing that more beds should be provided to the General Hospital in my area. There are so many patients attending the hospital, and therefore necessitates an assistant to the Doctor. This Assistant will help the Doctor to perform the duties in the hospital while at the same time the Doctor will have the chance of touring.

I hope still the Minister will not forget about the promise he made to build a General Hospital in every constituency. I know that it is going to be provided generally, but I hope it will be built in Nassarawa constituency.

About the threatening letter of assassination of the hon. Premier. As all the Chiefs have spoken about this threatening letter then there is no need for me to say very much about it. But there is something which I think ought to be done about this. To say that the hon. Premier is to be assassinated, it is not the hon. Premier alone, it is the whole of Northern Nigeria and those people who wanted to assassinate the hon. Premier wanted to kill the whole people of this Region. (*Applause*). Because the hon. Premier is like an engine in a car and we the people of this Region are like the body and the tyres of that car. Everybody knows that a car will not move if the engine is out of order. I suggest that an intensified inquiry should be made in order to find out where this letter came from. We hope that God will deliver in our hands those responsible for it and put them before the court for trial. I am sure if they are found the hon. Attorney-General will not allow any of them to go free, and I am convinced that he will have them severely punished.

There are some individuals who after committing an offence, try to abscond. This is a matter which affects the Federal Government and I do not want to go into detail about this. Such people try by every possible means to go to a foreign country to evade punishment. I suggest that we must be firm and see that they are returned back.

I now turn to the Minister of Works. I thank the Minister very much because he has rendered

[CHIEF OF NASARAWA]
much useful work by digging more wells in my area. But about roads, I think there are many roads which need repairs. Survey work has already been completed on the road between Keffi to Nassarawa, but we do not know the time when the work on this will start. This is something which is worrying us, because my people come to me asking me when work will actually begin. I hope the Minister will explain to me the time or the year when the work will start so that I may have something to say to those who are eager to know at home.

I am thankful to the Minister of Education because of the School we are to get in Nassarawa Division. We are very happy indeed to hear this announcement. Nevertheless, schools should be built, because we have very many children going to schools and we also want them to have something to do. But the Government and the Native Authority cannot provide them with jobs unless industries are established, and they can thereby get something to do, and this will help them. With these few remarks I thank the Government.

Deputy President: Order! Order! I think it is now a convenient time for a recess. The House is suspended for 15 minutes.

House suspended at 10.25 a.m. for 15 minutes.

House resumed at 10.40 a.m.

Deputy President: Order! Order. House now resumes—Emir of Keffi.

Emir of Keffi (Mallam Ahmadu): I rise to support the Motion on the Speech from the Throne. I do not want to make a long speech but I would like to say that a wise selection has been made by the hon. Premier in appointing our present Governor, and we are very grateful for this. I would also like to thank the Government for all that has been done to my area. I have one point to raise and that is in connection with the General Hospital at Keffi. There are no beds for important people. I could remember sometime when I was ill, the Doctor at Keffi had to give me a note to come here for treatment and I believe that had there been beds for important people, I would not have come to Kaduna. I would also like the Minister to assist us by sending some European Lady Nursing Sisters. Mr President, Sir, as I said before, I do not want to make a long speech but I must say something in connection with the letter about the assassination of the Premier. Those people who wrote the letter, I believe, have no good records of the history of their ancestors and we all regard this letter as

nonsense. We have learnt from our grandfathers that in the dynasty of Shehu Usman Dan-Fodio there would be someone who will rise to greatness and lead his people to the appearance of Mahdi. (*Applause*). Now the time has come and we saw Sir Ahmadu leading his people and believe that this is the man we have heard of. We pray that Almighty God will protect him. Mr President, Sir, I beg to support.

Chief of Ron Kulere (Mr Ajemai Dakol): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support the Speech from the Throne delivered by His Excellency the Governor, Sir Kashim Ibrahim. In the Speech I note that some improvement will be made with regards to farming in this Region. This, Mr President, is very gratifying indeed. But, I would like to bring some of our complaints relating to Pankshin town for the inadequacy of farming lands. And that is why our people are immigrating to other parts of the Region each year. Therefore, I hope the Minister concerned will look into this sympathetically. Mr President, Sir, I would also like to speak on the question of Craft School. This is very important indeed; because if one Crafts school is established in our area—Pankshin; this will prevent our boys wondering about and becoming hooligans. Mr President, Sir, on the question of hospitals, we are very grateful to the Government, because in each Province there is one or two General Hospitals. And in our area Pankshin we are grateful to the Government as a provision has been made to open General Hospital early this or next year. I wish to urge the hon. Minister to accelerate the building of this hospital. Mr President, on the question of the threatening letter sent to the Premier of Northern Nigeria, Alhaji Sir Ahmadu Bello, this is very wonderful indeed, because whoever wrote this letter—is not assassinating the hon. Premier alone, but also killing the Northern Region of Nigeria as a whole. And for that, I pray to the Almighty God to return direct to him whoever wrote this letter the evils of his plans. May God grant long life to the hon. Premier and his Ministers and prosperity to the Northern Region of Nigeria and may God help the hon. Premier—Amen.

Chief of Bunu:—*Rose from his seat.*

Mr President: I think you have already spoken.

Chief of Bunu (Mr J. Adebayo Ikuse-moro): Yes Sir. I spoke yesterday, and now I want just to voice one point.

Mr President: Then would you quote the Standing Order or is it a Point of explanation. Anyhow go on.

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Chief of Bunu (Mr J. Adebayo Ikuse-moro): Mr President, Sir, yesterday I rose to support the Motion on the Speech delivered by His Excellency the Governor; but today I rise to speak on behalf of the entire people of Kabba Division about the threatening letter of assassination of our beloved hon. Premier of Northern Nigeria, Alhaji Sir Ahmadu Bello, the Sardauna of Sokoto.

Mr President: Well you said you are going to raise a point of explanation; but you don't seem to be making any explanation.

Chief of Bunu (Mr J. Adebayo Ikuse-moro): Mr President, Sir, if you allow me, I would like to continue on the point.

Mr President: You were given opportunity yesterday and it was up to you to have used that opportunity. Since you failed to make best use of the opportunity, I think you have nobody to blame.

The Premier (Alhaji the hon. Sir Ahmadu Bello, K.B.E., Sardauna of Sokoto): Mr President, Sir, I rise to speak on behalf of myself and on behalf of members of the Government. . . . (*Interruptions*). . . Interpreter, if you can't do it, I will translate my speech myself, as I am good at it (*Applause*).

I am grateful, Mr President, for all what the hon. Members have said about the appointment of our new Governor. It is true that my colleagues have given me such a good advice for the appointment of Sir Kashim Ibrahim. Sir Kashim is not new to us and is also not new to the Government service. Therefore, it is a great pride that such an experienced Northerner is appointed to such a high post. We wish him God's guidance to carry out this responsibility. Many Chiefs expressed their appreciation to the Government. We are grateful for their understanding of the affairs of the Government. It is a fact that the work of the Government is a very difficult thing because the funds the Government has cannot satisfy the need of everyone, and for this there is a time that some people praise the Government while others are disappointed. We are happy to note that the Emirs and Chiefs have combined dis-appointment and pleasure and made all into pleasure.

Several Chiefs raised points concerning the activities of Ministries. I hope that during the debate on the Appropriation Bill when we come to the Committee Stage on each Ministry, Ministers will try to answer the points raised, and I am sure that each Minister is pleased to

the appreciation expressed about him. I heard that a certain Chief suggested that the Governor should be provided with a uniform. To my understanding even during the olden days, before the advent of the Europeans, when we were ruling ourselves, the Sultan used not to have a different uniform from that of the Emirs of Katsina, Zaria or Bauchi when he appointed them. We have our own type of dress in the North which is very good and the dress is even copied and envied by some people.

In my own opinion Mr President, Sir, it doesn't matter what the Governor, the Premier, or the Emir puts on, all that is therefore needed is that each one of them should be humble. It is therefore not fine dress or golden dress that makes a person to be important, what makes him so is his humility and faith in God. But it all depends on the wishes of the Members of the House of Assembly and also of this House, whether this is possible or not.

Finally, many Members spoke about the letter I received. Even those who did not say something are anxious to speak, and I know that they are still thinking about it. As I earlier told the House of Assembly that receiving such a letter is only an example of one of many such things which every leader should accept and endure. The letter does not at all upset me, it strengthened me instead.

But what has actually been worrying me since the announcement of the receipt of the letter is the number of letters, telegrams, cables and delegations from almost all the Provinces that I have received, not only from this country but also from other parts of the world. This worries me because of causing other people to put themselves into great inconvenience, and this should not have been the case. There are in fact some people who have asked me that they would like to come into Kaduna yesterday or today, so that the assassination could happen in their presence.

Mr President, Sir, with due respect to Bornu people, I am sorry to say that they did not consult me before they came into Kaduna. However that has proved that the North is one thing. No one knows when a person is going to die, and the person to be assassinated does not know when he is going to be assassinated. That person who intends to kill me does not know, and was not consulted by God when he created me—the person he wanted to assassinate. Well when we die we shall be with our ancestors. We all know that there were Prophets, Saints and Pious people before us, and where are they now? They are all dead. I think even in the eyes of

[THE HON. PREMIER]

God they are above us, and yet have gone. So we must go when the day comes. I pray that we should die peacefully, and God will bless us. (*Hear! Hear!*) No one knows when this will happen to him. Therefore, I am appealing to all the people to calm their minds in the knowledge that nothing will happen to me.

Mr President, Sir, I should like to take this opportunity to appeal to the Southern Newspapers on what they have been writing. All that I want to do is to unite the country and live in peace, and I do not want to be the cause of breaking law and order in this country. There are people who are relatives, friends and others who will not take kindly such things that have been written. I wish to explain that not people from Sokoto alone are in the Civil Service. In the last letter I received, I was accused of an offence that no person is to be given a job in the North unless he is a Northerner. If that is why I am going to be assassinated, well, I am all for it.

Therefore I strongly advise such newspapers to desist from such publication as it will not be beneficial to the unity of the South and the

North. I have received several letters of that nature, but I do not care about them. I am very grateful to the Emirs and Chiefs for all that they have said in this House. I hope we will continue to work in the interest of our people. (*Applause*).

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Resolved:

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

Adjournment

The Minister of Education (Alhaji the hon. Isa Kaita, C.B.E., Wazirin Katsina): Mr President, Sir, I rise to move that the House do now adjourn.

The Minister of Finance (Alhaji the hon. Aliyu, Makaman Bida, C.M.G.): Mr President, Sir, I beg to second.

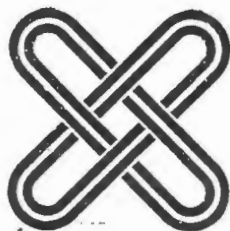
Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

House accordingly stood adjourned at 11.25 a.m. until 9.00 a.m. Saturday, 30th March, 1963.

Volume 19
No. 4

Saturday
30th March, 1963



NORTHERN NIGERIA LEGISLATURE

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(HANSARD)

HOUSE OF CHIEFS OFFICIAL REPORT

(Third Legislature)

Third Session

(First Meeting)

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HOUSE OF CHIEFS NORTHERN NIGERIA

Saturday, 30th March, 1963

The House met at 9.00 a.m.

(DEPUTY PRESIDENT *in the Chair*)

(PRAYERS)

Mr Deputy President: Order! Order! I would now call upon the Clerk to read the Order of the Day.

Supplementary Appropriation (1962-63)

Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Finance (Alhaji the hon. Aliyu, Makaman Bida, C.M.G., C.B.E.): Mr President, Sir, I rise to move that the Bill entitled the Supplementary Appropriation (1962-63) Law, 1963 be read a second time.

Chiefs will see from the Supplementary Estimates that the additional provision amounts to £3,269,036. This is only a gross figure. If the sums of £2,000,000 provided as a contribution to the Capital Development Fund, and the amounts covered by savings and additional revenue are deducted from the total, the net additional provision is reduced to under £450,000, the greater part of which is statutory expenditure. If the House approves this Bill the authorised total expenditure for the financial year will be nearly £23,000,000, excluding payments to the Capital Development Fund, but due to Ministries spending less than has been authorised it is expected that actual expenditure will not in fact exceed £22,000,000.

The revised revenue estimate is £24,000,000 which is over £2,000,000 above the approved estimate. The increase is due mainly to a rise in the revenue received through the Federal Government, particularly from the Export Duty on groundnuts and the Import Duties on diesel fuel and general goods. Amongst local revenues, the "Pay-As-You-Earn" system of Personal Tax is now expected to produce revenue exceeding the original estimate by £350,000.

The expected surplus of revenue over expenditure is, therefore, about £2,000,000. This is most gratifying because the original estimate surplus was only £149,125.

I wish to take this opportunity to confirm to Chiefs the promise I made last year, that if it is shown that any Native Authority has suffered a loss of tax revenue as a result of the introduction

of the Personal Tax Law this year, Government will make good that loss. Action is being taken to collect the necessary information in order that payment can be arranged where a loss is proved to have occurred.

I do not intend to go into details of the additional provision being sought, as my colleagues will be pleased to explain any points which may arise. I should like, however, to mention the largest item of expenditure under a Head controlled by my Ministry, Pensions and Gratuities, under which an additional sum of £382,300, has been provided for lump sum Compensation. This large provision is necessary; because more overseas officers are retiring and also because, as a result of a change in the accounting system, expenditure has been charged to this vote at an earlier stage than before. A large part of the expenditure is to cover the 90 per cent advances of Lump Sum Compensation already made to Special List 'B' Officers and is not new expenditure. This sum is partly offset by a saving of £50,000 from Gratuities-Statutory.

With this explanation, Mr President, Sir, I beg to move.

The Minister of Animal and Forest Resources (Alhaji the hon. Mu'azu Lamido): Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

Deputy President: In accordance with Standing Order 70, I will now propose the Third Reading.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the third time and passed.

Supplementary Appropriation, (1961-62)

Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Finance (Alhaji the hon. Aliyu, C.M.G., C.B.E.; Makaman Bida.): Mr President, Sir, I rise to move that the Bill entitled "The Supplementary Appropriation (1961-62) Law, 1963" be read a second time.

The total amount which this Bill seeks to appropriate in respect of the year which ended on 31st March, 1962, is three hundred and eight thousand and eighty-eight pounds. For reasons explained in the Memorandum on these Estimates, the figure of net Supplementary Provision is less, namely two hundred and

[THE MINISTER OF FINANCE]
eighty-two thousand, one hundred and eighty-four pounds.

Due to savings being made on some Sub-heads in the original Estimates, actual expenditure during the year fell considerably short of the total provision made in the Approved Estimates for the year. Actual Revenue for nineteen sixty-one to sixty-two amounted to over twenty-one million pounds while actual expenditure on recurrent services amounted to approximately nineteen million pounds. There was therefore a surplus of just over two million pounds which helped in financing Capital expenditure during the year.

My colleagues will be pleased to give more detailed explanations which may be required or to answer any questions which may arise in the course of the debate.

Mr President, Sir, I beg to move.

The Minister of Trade and Industry (Hon. Michael Audu Buba): Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

Deputy President: This Bill too is like the first one—a Money Bill. In accordance with Standing Order 70, I will now propose the third reading.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the third time and passed.

Constitution of Northern Nigeria (Amendment) Law, 1963

Order for Second reading read.

The Premier (Alhaji the hon. Sir Ahmadu Bello, K.B.E., C.B.E., Sardauna of Sokoto): Mr President, Sir, I rise to move that the Bill entitled the Constitution of Northern Nigeria (Amendment) Law, 1963, be read a second time.

The object of this Bill is to alter the provisions of sections 36 and 48 of the Constitution of Northern Nigeria so as to make the Director of Public Prosecutions, in the exercise of his powers under the Constitution, subject to the directions of the Attorney-General of the Region. This amendment is similar to the one made by the Federal Government in the Nigerian Constitution Second Amendment Act, 1962, which was approved by our Legislature during its meeting in November last year.

During that meeting, I indicated the intention of the Regional Government to introduce this Bill at the Budget Session of the Legislature, to amend our Constitution, and effect a change in the powers of the Attorney-General of the Region, following the Federal Government's legislation with regard to the powers of its Attorney-General.

The Director of Public Prosecution is an office in the public service of the Region. His powers under the constitution include, among other things, the authority to begin and prosecute criminal proceedings begun otherwise than by him, and to discontinue any criminal proceedings before judgment is given. The essential feature of the Constitutional amendment introduced by this Bill before the House is that there should be responsibility to the Regional Legislature for prosecutions. At present the Director of Public Prosecutions is legally answerable to no one except to himself for his decisions or the consequences of their implementation. It is desirable, however, that the Director of Public Prosecutions should be bound to receive directions generally with regard to policy from one who is responsible to the Legislature for the acts of his Ministry or Department. It is a constitutional convention which is well established in Commonwealth countries, and which is accepted in this country, that a Minister is responsible to Parliament for the acts of the public servants of his Ministry. When this Bill is passed into Law, the effect of the change will not be immediate because at present the positions of both the Director of Public Prosecutions and the Attorney-General are held by the same person. However, the aim is that when the office of the the present Attorney-General becomes a political one as is the case at present in the Federal Government and in the Governments of the other two Regions, the office of the Director of Public Prosecutions will be held by a civil-servant and the position of the Attorney-General will be solely that of a Regional Minister.

Sir, I beg to move.

The Minister of Animal and Forest Resources (Alhaji the hon. Mu'azu Lamido): Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

Deputy President: Committee when?

Hon. Premier: Now, Sir.

House resolved itself into Committee of the whole House.

Clauses

The Attorney-General (Q.C.): Mr President, it is required of this House that the Bill passed by the Federal House of Representatives for amendment of the Constitution voting were that Members of the House should vote the number of votes and pro

Hon. Premier: permission of the hon. House for the vote may

Deputy President: P the House that [MEMBERS OF] obtain the vote reading.

Question agreed.

Question put.

Ayes—73.

Noes—Nil.

The Attorney-General (Q.C.): Mr President, it is vital that the correct number of Members of the House vote on this Bill. The number of Members of the House should vote a majority of the whole House should vote a majority of the whole House to recount or the

Deputy President: Pr correct number

Ayes—77.

Noes—Nil.

Bill accordingly read a second time of the whole House.

(F

Clauses 1-3—

Bill to be reported.

Bill reported third time and Noes, Nil.

(House in Committee)

Clauses 1-3—agreed to.

(House resumed)

The Attorney-General (Hon. I. M. Lewis, Q.C.): Mr President, Sir, under the Constitution it is required that two-thirds of the Members of this House should vote before this Bill is passed. There was a misunderstanding in the Federal House last year when a Constitutional amendment was being made and the numbers voting were not recorded. I would propose that Members of this House should vote and the numbers of their votes be recorded in the votes and proceedings of this House.

Hon. Premier: Mr President, Sir, with the permission of the House, I should like the hon. House to go back into Committee so that the vote may be taken.

Deputy President: I think it is agreed by the House that we should go back to Committee. [MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE: Yes]. I will first obtain the votes of Members on the second reading.

Question again proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Ayes—73.

Noes—Nil.

The Attorney-General (Hon. I. M. Lewis, Q.C.): Mr President, Sir, there is a miscounting. It is vital that before this Bill is passed we have the correct number of votes recorded. It is essential that at least two-thirds of the possible Members of the House should vote upon this Bill. The number of votes now is not sufficient. It is required that at least seventy-six Members should vote and it is therefore necessary to recount or the Bill cannot be passed.

Deputy President: On recounting, the correct number of votes are:—

Ayes—77.

Noes—Nil.

Bill accordingly committed to the Committee of the whole House.

(House in Committee)

Clauses 1-3—agreed to by voting.

Bill to be reported.

(House resumed)

Bill reported without amendment; read the third time and passed by voting—Ayes, 77; Noes, Nil.

Electoral Law, 1963

Order for Second Reading read.

The Premier (Alhaji the hon. Sir Ahmadu Bello, K.B.E., Sardauna of Sokoto): Mr President, Sir, I rise to move that the Bill entitled the Electoral Law, 1963 be read a second time.

Section 16 of the Constitution of Northern Nigeria requires that elections to the Northern House of Assembly should be conducted in a manner prescribed by the Legislature and subject to the direction and supervision of the Electoral Commission of the Region. The purpose of the Electoral Law, 1963 is to give effect to these requirements of the Constitution and to embody in a statutory form the existing provisions relating to the conduct of elections. The Bill follows closely these electoral regulations as amended from time to time and which have on the whole been found satisfactory in practice. It thus embodies the experience gained in the various elections held in the Region and the solutions to some of the difficulties encountered in the past. Some of the provisions of the Bill are similar to those in the new Federal Electoral Law.

The significant changes introduced in this Bill are contained in Clauses 8, 9, 12, 17, 34 and 138. Clauses 8 and 9 provide that the appointments of Electoral Officers and Returning Officers should be made by the Public Service Commission, instead of by the Governor as laid down in the existing Electoral regulations. This change is necessary because it has been held by the Federal Supreme Court that such officers were officers in the Public Service and consequently their appointments should be made by the Public Service Commission. Since Electoral Officers are officers in the Public Service the Minister of Finance, in consultation with the Electoral Commission, should also determine what fees and remunerations should be paid to persons appointed to carry out election duties. The sum to be paid by a candidate in the form of a deposit has been increased from £75 to £100 because the organisation and conduct of elections cost the Regional Government a great deal. However, as in the existing regulations only a candidate who fails to obtain one-fifth of the total number of votes cast in a constituency forfeits his deposit. Any deposit which is not returnable to the candidate is paid into the general revenue of Northern Nigeria.

[THE DEPUTY PRESIDENT]

The provisions of this Bill are safeguards against unfair elections. When the Bill becomes Law it will ensure that elections in this Region are always held in an orderly manner in the interest of both the voters and those who aspire to win their support.

Sir, I beg to move.

The Minister of Works (Alhaji the hon. Shehu Usman, Galadiman Maska): Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Etsu Nupe (Alhaji Usman Sarki): Mr President, Sir, I am supporting the Bill. But I have got one or two observations to make. Firstly, about the appointment of Electoral Officers. It has been said that Electoral Officers should be appointed by the Public Service Commission. Well, the motive behind this is agreeable. Some of those Electoral Officers are originally Native Authority employees. I am not saying that this happens only in the North, but it is throughout the whole country. Some of these Officers are originally Native Authority or Local Government employees. But what will happen then if the Public Service Commission appoints someone to be Electoral Officers, who is a Native Authority employee? During the period of his appointment does it mean that the Native Authority will stop paying him or to be paid by the Government at the same time? . . . [HON. PREMIER: Yes]. . . . I wish hon. Premier good luck and the officers.

Secondly, the hon. Premier said that the deposit should be raised to £100. He is thinking of the cost to the Government, but I am thinking this deposit should be raised to stop irresponsible people from going to elections. Therefore, I rather suggest two points—(1) either make it £150 or (2) £200. (*Prolonged Applause*).

Chief of Minna (Alhaji Ahmadu Bahago): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support this comprehensive Bill, and also to thank the Government and the officials that have prepared this Law, because this Bill when passed, will help to reduce interruptions in election affairs.

The method of appeal contained in the Bill is well designed. It is also said Mr President, Sir, that the deposit is rather reasonable, which will ensure people to realise that they are responsible to stand for election.

I appreciate one section which will enable blind or some other people who are unable to site the ballot boxes how they should be helped

to cast their votes. I also appreciate one section therein which allow police officers to help polling officers to cast their votes at any convenient time. I appreciate another section which allows the extension of period when it is considered that there will be any disturbances on election day. And also one section which makes it clear that only people to be appointed polling agents are those people living in this Region. That if chanced will help proper polling agents instead of importing some other agents from other Regions. Such imported agents used to cause trouble. I also appreciate one section which prevents a man to go to another polling station to vote. Because if this section was not provided, some people after been disqualified from voting in their polling station will go to another polling station where they are known in order to have privilege there.

Mr President, Sir, as I have already said that the Bill is comprehensive, I do not think there is anything for argument or any doubt about it. I beg to support.

Emir of Misau (Mallam Ahmadu, M.B.E.): Mr President, Sir, I have a question. The hon. Premier has said that these electoral officials would be appointed by the Public Service Commission. What I do not understand is this that whether Native Authority polling agents are to be independent or will they continue to be Native Authority officials. In fact at what places would the supervision take place?

The Premier (Alhaji the hon. Sir Ahmadu Bello, K.B.E.): Mr President, Sir, the first question of Etsu has been agreed to what I have explained that the officers will have two payments. This is connected with the question of the Emir of Misau. Whether these officers appointed are Government officers or employed by Native Authorities, it is the Government who appointed them. It may be that the Administrative Officer may suggest that this kind of work deserves such and such a person and the Native Authorities will send to Kaduna for approval.

The appointment will not be made from members of other areas but from the names of those sent for approval.

The Etsu has suggested that a deposit be raised, I am happy to say that at the moment there is one of my friends listening in the gallery. Even in the House of Assembly someone has suggested a rise of about £200 but the Opposition said that the Government wanted to

do this because off, for this measure.

I hope by Bill we shall and to change

Bill according

Mr President

Hon Premier

*House resolved
Whole House*

Clauses 1-

Clauses 5-

Clauses 8-

Clauses 13-

Clauses 31-

Clauses 44-

Chief of Minna

This clause evidence, We to the ballot lorry involved broken and th

Hon. Premier K.B.E.): The

Clauses 44-

Clauses 50-

Clauses 59-

Clauses 63-

Clauses 72-

Clauses 77-

Clauses 80-8

Clauses 86-8

Clauses 89-9

Clauses 93-9

Clauses 99-1

Clauses 103-

Clauses 109-

Clauses 115-

Clauses 120-

Clauses 128-1

Clauses 134-1

Clauses 139-1

Clauses 143-1

Clauses 147-1

Clauses 154-1

Clause 160—

First Schedule

do this because the Government is already well-off, for this reason we decided to take a moderate measure.

I hope by the time we come to amend this Bill we shall be so well-off to meet the demand and to change its skill.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

Mr President: Committee when?

Hon Premier: Now, Sir.

House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole House.

(House in Committee)

Clauses 1-4—agreed to.

Clauses 5-7—agreed to.

Clauses 8-12—agreed to.

Clauses 13-30—agreed to.

Clauses 31-43—agreed to.

Clauses 44:

Chief of Kuta (Alhaji Ahmadu Bahago): This clause has debarred one from giving evidence, Well, may I know what will happen to the ballot papers in the boxes carried by a lorry involved in an accident, having the boxes broken and the ballot papers scattered?

Hon. Premier (Alhaji Sir Ahmadu Bello, K.B.E.): They will not be counted.

Clauses 44-49—agreed to.

Clauses 50-58—agreed to.

Clauses 59-62—agreed to.

Clauses 63-71—agreed to.

Clauses 72-76—agreed to.

Clauses 77-79—agreed to.

Clauses 80-85—agreed to.

Clauses 86-88—agreed to.

Clauses 89-92—agreed to.

Clauses 93-98—agreed to.

Clauses 99-102—agreed to.

Clauses 103-108—agreed to.

Clauses 109-114—agreed to.

Clauses 115-119—agreed to.

Clauses 120-127—agreed to.

Clauses 128-133—agreed to.

Clauses 134-138—agreed to.

Clauses 139-142—agreed to.

Clauses 143-146—agreed to.

Clauses 147-153—agreed to.

Clauses 154-159—agreed to.

Clause 160—agreed to.

First Schedule—agreed to.

Second Schedule—agreed to.

Third Schedule—agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

(House resumed)

Bill reported without amendment; read the third time and passed.

Official Secrets Law, 1963

Order for Second Reading read.

The Premier (Alhaji the hon. Sir Ahmadu Bello, K.B.E., Sardauna of Sokoto): Mr President, Sir, I rise to move the second Reading of a Bill entitled "Northern Nigeria Official Secrets Bill".

Before I proceed to examine the Bill, I should like to give briefly some background information on what Legislation existed before and after Independence for the protection of Federal and Regional Official Secrets. Before Independence and up until August, 1962, when the Federal Parliament passed a Federal Official Secrets Bill, the Federal and Regional Governments depended on the English Official Secrets Acts, 1911 and 1920, read in conjunction with the Official Secrets Ordinance, to safeguard their Official Secrets. With the passing of the Federal Official Secrets Bill last August, Federal Secret matters came for the first time under the protection of a Law enacted in this country.

The Federal Government amended its Official Secrets Act, 1962 in December last year so as to enable the Regional Governments either to continue to operate as was previously the case, or to make their own Official Secrets Laws to safeguard Regional matters.

I am sure Members will agree that rather than depending on the English Official Secrets Acts and the Official Secrets Ordinance it would be better and in keeping with the sovereign status of the country, if Northern Nigeria enacted its own Official Secrets Law, complementary to the Federal Official Secrets Act, 1962.

The purpose of the Bill is simple. It is intended to provide for the security and public safety of Northern Nigeria by protecting the Government against espionage, abuse and neglect by those allowed access or entrusted with the safety and custody of official secret information. This is provided for in Clause 3.

Clause 4 makes it an offence for a person to prejudice the security of Northern Nigeria in certain specified ways in any place designated by the Governor as a protected place. An unauthorised inspection or photographing of a protected place, would for instance, constitute an offence under this Clause.

[THE HON. PREMIER]

Clauses 5, 6 and 8 give certain powers to the Nigeria Police of requiring information, issuing search warrants and arresting without warrant. These are powers which may be needed if the security and public safety of Northern Nigeria are to be properly preserved. I should like to stress that these powers are not new. They are exactly complementary to the powers granted to the Nigeria Police in the Federal Official Secrets Act, 1962 in respect of Federal matters. Similar provisions are contained in the English Official Secrets Acts under which Nigeria used to operate as already indicated.

Clause 7 provides penalties for offences contrary to sections 3 or 4 and requires the written permission of the Director of Public Prosecutions before any proceedings are begun. I will be moving in Committee an amendment to Clause 5 to provide the same penalty as is provided in the Federal Official Secrets, Act, 1962.

There is nothing controversial in this Bill. It confers no unusual powers on either the Government or the Police. It represents in fact, the minimum powers that any democratic Government would need if it is to maintain adequately security and public safety within the area of its authority.

Sir, I beg to move.

The Minister of Education (Alhaji the hon. Isa Kaita, C.B.E., Wazirin Katsina): Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Chief of Nassarawa Egon (Alhaji Abdullahi Idde): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support this very important Bill. Because I am sure anything that has no secret in it brings danger to the country. For this reason if this Law is to be enforced it will protect us from so many things. I therefore wish the Government to encourage the Native Authorities as to take the same course. Mr President, Sir, I beg to support.

The Emir of Lapai (Alhaji Muhammadu Kobo): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support this important Bill introduced by the hon. Premier. We are well aware that some section of the public want to know what the Government is doing and the activities of the Native Authorities. They also want to know what the officials are doing and what kind of decision has been made by the Executive Body; so that they can spread the information to all sort of people in a bad way. Such people's agents spread the information before actions on the decision are

arrived at. Mr President, Sir, dignity and stability of the Government depend to the large extent on how much success has been achieved in collecting information. With these words, I beg to support the Bill.

Etsu Nupe (Alhaji Usman Sarki): Mr President, Sir, I rise to welcome this Bill and I think this Bill is overdue; but I have one point to raise in connection with Clause 4 where it says—

"4. (1) A person who, for any purpose prejudicial to the security and public safety of Northern Nigeria."

Well, I do not know how he will be assessed, on the Prejudicial conduct of a person. I would rather prefer unauthorised person rather than prejudicial. So I think the Honourable Premier would look into this matter and enlighten us or to find a way out to delete the word "prejudicial" and substitute "unauthorised person". My second point is in Clause 8 the word "public officer". Does it mean a police officer or a public servant? I would like to have explanation for these two points.

The Premier (Alhaji the hon. Sir Ahmadu Bello, K.B.E., Sardauna of Sokoto): Mr President, Sir, the Emir of Nassarawa said that he would like a similar Bill to affect the Native Authorities. I would like to inform him that similar Bill for the Native Authorities will be brought by the Minister for Local Government before this House adjourns. Nevertheless, this Bill will not prevent us from prosecuting Native Authority officials—if anyone contravenes this official Secrets Law. Therefore what he wants is coming. Etsu Nupe said that this Bill is timely and overdue. I would like to assure him that the Bill is already in existence. I would like to inform him that we want to have our own not only to be in same line with the English Official Secrets Act. And if I may say so, the Etsu himself introduced a similar Bill in the Federal Parliament, and it was passed into Law (*Laughter*). He also spoke on Clause 4(1) about the word "prejudicial". I like him to look at Clause 4 properly and it is exactly the same as the Bill passed by the Federal Parliament. He also likes to know what Public Officer means. I would like him to look at Clause 2(1). It is there in the definition.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Mr President: Committee when?

The Premier: Now, Sir.

House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole House.

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Bida): M
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(House in Committee)

Clauses 1-9—agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

Bill reported without amendment; read the third time and passed.

Personal Tax (Amendment) Law, 1963

Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Finance (Alhaji the hon. Aliyu, C.M.G., C.B.E., Makaman Bida): Mr President, Sir, I rise to move that a Bill for a Law to amend the Personal Tax Law, 1963, be read a second time. The Personal Tax Law has now been in force for a year, and I am happy to be able to inform Members that it has brought in considerably more revenue during the year than I thought would be the case twelve months ago. It is nearly always found, however, that a new Law on a complicated subject such as tax needs a number of amendments in the light of practical experience, and this is the case with this Law.

The purpose of the changes proposed is to bring the Law into line with changed circumstances, to simplify procedure, and to safeguard Government interests. I will now, Sir, with your permission, describe briefly the effect of the clauses in the Bill.

* Clauses 2, 3, 6 and 7 rectify anachronisms and anomalies in regard to Residents and Provincial Boundaries.

Clauses 5 and 9 provide that when a taxpayer objects to an assessment or appeals against it he shall nevertheless pay his whole tax forthwith and receive a refund if his appeal is successful.

Clauses 8, 10 and 12 rationalise dates and time limits for payments and appeals.

Clause 11 repeals section 40 of the Law, which is no longer required in view of the changes proposed in Clauses 5 and 9 above.

Clauses 13 and 14 provide respectively for Penalties for an employer who collects Pay As You Earn money but fails to pay it to Government, and for a person who fails to give notice of his income to the Commissioner.

Finally, Clause 15 provides that the foregoing amendments shall not affect assessments made before 1st April, 1963.

Before I conclude, I would like to say how grateful I am to Native Authorities for their helpful co-operation in operating the new tax system. There are bound to be difficulties during the transition, when one rich trader is still assessed under the old system while another is

assessed under the new: but these difficulties will disappear when enough staff are trained to apply the new system to all rich traders. That will not be for a few years yet, and in the meantime I know that Chiefs will do everything they can to ensure that any minor difficulties which arise are smoothed over.

Sir, I beg to move.

The Minister of Works (Alhaji the hon. Shehu Usman, Galadiman Maska): Mr President, Sir, I beg to second.

The Emir of Nassarawa (Alhaji Abdullahi): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support this Bill. This Bill is very personal to everyone and is enjoyed by everybody, because taxes are deducted from people's salaries without any difficulties. By paying monthly deducted salaries; one would be happy to see that he pays tax without any difficulty to wait at the end of the year to pay large sum of money. I would like to ask a question on the money shared by Government, and Native Authorities per tax payer and I have seen so many instances that those to pay their taxes through the Hamlets or their respective Divisions are also included in this Bill. What is what I am asking for their share.

The Emir of Misau (Mallam Ahmadu, M.B.E.): Mr President, Sir, I rise to thank the Minister of Finance for the plans he has made in getting money and the people to pay their taxes without any difficulty. I would like also the Minister to employ as many staff as he can get to see this Law is followed. Because I know those who pay tax through Pay As You Earn system are the people whose salaries range from £150 a month and above. And anybody who is less than that is left out. I think this is the question asked by my colleague the Emir of Nassarawa. I know the Minister has got money plenty; but I am sure many people in the Government Services do not pay taxes. Our people are paying their own any time when it is due. But anyhow, Mr President, we appreciate this Bill introduced by the Minister of Finance. With these few words, I beg to support (Laughter).

Chief of Lokoja (Mallam Yabaya Muhammadu): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support this Bill and also the amendments introduced by the Minister of Finance. We appreciate these amendments; particularly in Clause 5 which amends Section 29 of the Principal Law. Of course this amendment will reduce the present difficulties and unnecessary appeals on tax assessment. Therefore since

[CHIEF OF LOKOJA]

amendment is inserted there is nothing to be worried about; yet to prolong the period to pay such taxes, so many people appeal against the assessment. But having this Clause now such appeals would stop.

Etsu Agaie (Mallam Muhammadu Bello): Mr President, Sir, I rise to thank the Minister of Finance. The only point I will raise is in connection with some people who are not counted in some areas. At one time or another, they say that they are counted in Kaduna or somewhere else. This confuses the issue greatly. And therefore I ask what line of action would be appropriate. I beg to support.

Chief of Jos (Mallam Rwang Pam): I rise to support the Pay As You Earn scheme introduced by the Government and wish to thank both the Minister of Finance and the Government for their ability to introduce such a plan. Formerly, a salary earner pays less or higher taxes, but now with the introduction of such a system he pays correct taxes. Certainly this is a very good plan. Next then I turn to the taxes of traders, and Native Authority employees. The system introduced helps greatly to solve the situation. It is true that no progress can be made in any country without this system. Many people from rural and urban areas demand electricity or water supply and many other amenities, they also ask about wells to be sunk. All these things could not be made without money. This system of Pay As You Earn is a correct system. Mr President, Sir, I wish the Government will introduce ways and means of taxation. With these remarks, I support.

Chief of Kagoro (Mallam Gwamna): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support this Bill. This Bill is very important for it increases the financial position of the Government. The Pay As You Earn system is certainly good to the salary earners, but it is very difficult for traders. I hope the Government will introduce a new system for levying tax on traders. I therefore beg to support.

The Minister of Finance (Alhaji the hon. Aliyu, C.M.G., C.B.E., Makaman Bida): Mr President, Sir, I rise to thank Emirs and Chiefs for their contribution towards this Bill. At the same time, I would like to point out that this is not a new Bill. All the same, I notice all they say (*Applause*).

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Deputy President: Committee when?

The Minister of Finance: Now, Sir.

(*House in Committee*)

Clauses 1-15 proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

(*House resumed*)

Bill reported to the House; read the third time and passed.

Business Statement

The Emir of Ilorin (Mallam the hon. Sulu Gambari): Mr President, Sir, as promised by my colleague, the Atta of Igala last Wednesday. I should like to inform the hon. Members what business will come before the House during next week.

On Monday Sir, the House will debate the Second Reading of the Appropriation 1963-64 Law, 1963 and if time permits take the Second Reading of the following Bills:—

The Revised Edition of the Laws of Northern Nigeria Law, 1963.

On Tuesday, Sir, the House will debate three Motions on Capital Estimates for 1961-62, 1962-63 and 1963-64 and a Motion pledging of Government's Credit to the amount of £2,250,000 to the Co-operative Societies before taking the Second Reading of the following Bills:—

(i) The Sheriffs and Civil Process (Amendment) Law, 1963.

(ii) The Penal Code (Amendment) Law, 1963.

(iii) The Criminal Procedure Code (Amendment) Law, 1963.

(iv) The Law Revision (Preparatory) General Amendments) Law, 1963.

(v) The Evidence (Amendment) Law, 1963.

(vi) The Land Tenure (Amendment) Law, 1963.

(vii) The Land Registration (Amendment) Law, 1963.

(viii) The Development Corporation (Amendment) Law, 1963.

(ix) The Marketing Board (Amendment) Law, 1963.

On Wednesday Sir, the Minister of Finance will move a Motion to amend first Schedule to Control and Management of Public Finances Law, 1958, after which the House will then take the Second Reading of the following Bills:—

(i) The Court of Resolution (Amendment) Law, 1963.

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- (ii) The Pool Betting (Parliamentary Authority) Law, 1963.
- (iii) The Provincial Councils (Amendment) Law, 1963.
- (iv) The High Court (Amendment) Law, 1963.
- (v) The Sharia Court of Appeal (Amendment) Law, 1963.
- (vi) The Wild Animals Law, 1963.

On Thursday Sir, the House will take the Second Reading of the following Bills:—

- (i) The Native Courts (Amendment) Law, 1963.
- (ii) The District Courts (Amendment) Law, 1963.
- (iii) The Official Oaths (Amendment) Law, 1963.

- (iv) The Native Authority (Amendment) Law, 1963.

It is hoped that the House will adjourn *sine die* on that day provided all the businesses on the Order Paper have been completed.

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

The Attah of Igala (Mallam the hon. Aliyu Obaje): Mr President, Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

House accordingly adjourned at 11.25 a.m. until 10.00 a.m. on Monday, 1st April, 1963.

Volume 19
No. 5



Monday
1st April, 1963

NORTHERN NIGERIA LEGISLATURE

**PARLIAMENTARY
DEBATES**
(HANSARD)

**HOUSE OF CHIEFS
OFFICIAL REPORT**

(Third Legislature)
Third Session
(First Meeting)

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- 1963-64 APPROPRIATION [Col. 105]:
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- MOTION [Col. 105]:
Capital Development Fund

HOUSE OF CHIEFS NORTHERN NIGERIA

Monday, 1st April, 1963

The House met at 10.00 a.m.

(DEPUTY PRESIDENT in the Chair)

PRAYERS

Appropriation (1963-64) Law, 1963

Adjourned Debate on the Second Reading.

Question again proposed.

Deputy President: Order, Order. May I remind hon. Members that the debate on this Bill should, as far as possible, be restricted to the Financial and Economic policy of the Government.—Etsu Lapai.

Etsu Lapai (Mallam Muhammadu Kobo): Mr President, Sir, I rise to speak on the Appropriation (1963-64) Law, 1963 which makes a provision for a total expenditure of £35,000,000.

Before I make any observations, Sir, I would like to express words of appreciation of the services of Mr Marshall the former Attorney-General. Mr Marshall has worked in the capacity of Attorney-General since parliamentary government was introduced and practised in Northern Nigeria. He has served efficiently and satisfactorily more than any European officer has done in these Legislative Houses. I am very pleased to see that the Government has prepared for him a new suitable job. In his place, I welcome Mr Lewis, who, I hope, will serve the North as his predecessor has done.

In connection with Revenue preparations, I wish to congratulate the staff of the Ministry of Finance for having introduced a new arrangement for Revenue Collection. If one looks through the Estimates one will notice that every officer has his name pinned down against the item for which he is responsible. This is the first time that such preparations have been effected. That is a good idea that the Native Authorities may copy if possible.

On the Expenditure side, I am glad that the Minister of Finance has said again that the economy measures introduced last year are still in force and will remain in force. There is no doubt that the economy measures have brought more money for both the Government and the Native Authorities to spend on Social Services. I now appeal to the Hon. Members of this House to heed the stern warning of the

Minister of Finance when he said in his Speech. I quote Sir:—

“It must be realised that Government money, which is public money, coming from the people, must be well spent. We cannot afford to waste money on paying idle or inefficient workers, and everybody must work so that he really earns his pay”.

I hope we shall always remember this note.

Again, Mr President, I wish to thank the Deputy President of this House for the satisfactory way he is acting and conducting the meeting of the House. I wish our President, Albaji Haruna, the Emir of Gwandu, a speedy recovery from his short illness.

I now go back to the Budget Speech ably delivered by the Minister of Finance, Alhaji Aliyu Makaman Bawa. I have no criticisms but observations to make on the Revenue side. I notice that the introduction of the new Personal Tax System has brought a large increase to the Government fund. The Government has taken a wise step in introducing the system. We very much appreciate the way that the Government is encouraging the growth of industry in the North. The textile mill opened the day before by the Hon. Premier, Sir Ahmadu Bello, is another big step forward. The Nortex, I think, should receive the congratulations of this House for having established such a huge factory in so short a time. The Nortex has displayed the quality and variety of stuff to be produced in the Mill. Such stuff has caught everybody's attention. We wish the Nortex and all such allied companies success and prosperity.

Turning to Education I wish to thank the Minister of Education as his Ministry is on the priority list of development. Every authority is today bent on spending more money on education as it is the key to enlightenment and progress. By recent regulations it looks as if the burden of the primary education will increasingly fall on the shoulders of the Native Authorities. It will be unfair for the Government to pay attention to higher education only leaving the basic education in the hands of the local Government. Primary education is the foundation of all types of education. That foundation should be made sound and strong so as to get talents selected to higher institutions. I hope the Minister of Education should come to the aid of the Native Authorities whenever they are in need.

My last observation concerns the Ministry of Animal Health and Forest Resources. Animal Resources is an important part of our natural wealth. I thank the Government for the preventive measures taken to get the cattle rid of rinderpest. There is no doubt that the health

[ETSU LAPAI]

of the cattle has improved a great deal. Perhaps the Minister is aware that big herds of cattle that usually pass through Riverain areas to the other Regions are beginning to find new homes in the Riverain Provinces. The more cattle live in the Provinces the more benefit will accrue to both the Government and the Native Authorities. I hope that the Government will provide sufficient amenities to the Fulani Cattle-owners so as to keep them as settlers within the North.

With these observations, I support the Bill on the Appropriation (1963-64) Law. (*Loud Applause*).

Chief of Paiko (Alhaji Muhammadu Bello): Mr President, Sir, I am glad to have been chanced to speak on this Bill. Before proceeding on my remarks I would like to say we are completely confident in the ability of the Minister of Finance, in preserving the finances of the Region.

I also wish to congratulate him, his staff and all other persons who took part in the framing of 1963-64 Estimates. As once a Native Treasurer I know how difficult it is to compile an Estimate and as such I hereby express my deep appreciation to the task so ably and so successfully executed. Mr President, Sir, only five years ago our Revenue and Expenditure—that was in the financial year 1957-58 was approximately £13,000,000. Since then, Sir, it is noticeable that there has been a continuous rise in the Revenue and expenditure, for in the last financial year for which figures are available that is 1962-63 our Revenue and expenditure are in the neighbourhood of £20,000,000 and £21,000,000 respectively. These figures show that in the past five years there has been a two-fold increase in our Revenue and Expenditure. That is a very remarkable achievement, Sir, for a Region depending mainly on primary production. In this respect I would like to say how thankful we are to farmers of this Region because they are the back-bone of our economy.

Finally, Sir, it is gratifying to note that the Government is contemplating a very comprehensive plan in economic expansion as well as taking a bold step to develop the whole of the resources available to this Region. In connection with this, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that there seems to be deposits of oil, gold and limestone in this Region and I think if an effort is made these resources can be explored. I support the Bill.

Chief of Kuta (Alhaji Ahmadu Bahago): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support this comprehensive Bill. With regard to the existence of the Bill, the successful and useful development programme reached in this Bill it is not controversial. I hope and appeal to the Government to try once more to do more than what it has already achieved throughout the rural and urban areas in the North. We appreciate the Bill and all that it contains therein. I therefore wish to congratulate the Minister of Finance and his staff for their ability and successful efforts in discharging their duties. I also wish to remind the Minister of Health that the Minna General Hospital requires extension especially making rooms for female and male patients. I thank the Minister of Works and want him to help us with a bridge to be constructed between Gwari and Lapai as the two Native Authorities have not sufficient funds available to construct the bridge. Large sums of money have been spent along the Niger river for the construction of the bridge but all in vain. With these remarks I wholeheartedly support the Bill.

(We have inadvertently been addressing the Chief of Kuta as Chief of Minna throughout this Session. From now on he is to be known and addressed as Chief of Kuta.—Editor).

Chief of Sharagi (Mallam Sule Ndakpotu) Mr President, Sir, I rise to support this system of Pay-As-You-Earn. This new system of Pay-As-You-Earn, Sir, is a very good system and very useful to the workers. This system which the Government has introduced has brought about the loss of revenue to Native Authorities. For example, Native Authorities used to collect taxes from workers and senior officers in commercial firms; but this system has enabled Government to collect the taxes. And this even includes Native Authority employees whose salaries are £126 per annum or above.

Only 20 per cent of the total amount collected will be given to Native Authorities and even when this is done it will mean loss of revenue to small Native Authorities. That is why I am asking for special help for small Native Authorities, that the present percentage be raised. With these few words I support the Bill.

Chief of Idoma (Mr Ajene Ukpabi): Mr President, Sir, I support this very important Bill. In supporting the Bill, I have to thank the Hon. Premier for his natural sense of ruling and his ability to appoint the right person in the right position such as the Minister of Finance.

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The question of finance is very important and therefore it needs a reliable person who would look after the financial transaction of the Government property. Though the Minister of Finance may appear to be unpopular among us, because he has not allowed us to get more money than we require, definitely he is doing the right thing for us and our young ones coming up. All of us should support this Bill, because money not only comes from Government but from everyone of us.

I have to appeal to the Minister of Health to pay an even greater attention to our Medical Services. I would like him to employ experienced people as is the practice in Britain. The Government should see that in future such experienced people do not go out to contest elections. I know they are not allowed to go out to do so in Britain, if I am not mistaken. (*Laughter*). When the elections come and they go out to campaign for them, then their work is bound to suffer.

Mr President, Sir, I would like to appeal to the Minister of Justice and Internal Affairs to check the constant accidents now occurring in the Northern Region. While we are still here many people have lost their lives as the result of motor accidents. It is really true that the person who has been killed will not be able to come to defend himself as he is gone for ever. It is also true to say that the cause of the accidents might be attributed to mechanical faults. But sometimes two drivers do meet in a narrow bridge and in an attempt to cross the bridge accident results and so many people have to die. When the drivers come to defend themselves they say that the cause of the accidents was due to the fact that the motor was defective, whereas they have pursued themselves into a small bridge. After giving money to the Police they are set free or their driving licences are suspended for six months and they are seen again on the roads after the expiration of that period.

I suggest that it is wiser to impose heavy punishments, such as ceasing their licences for ever. This period of six months is too short, because they usually feel that after six months they will come again. I would suggest that better ways and means be devised to check these reckless drivers. Because of this I would appeal to the Ministers responsible to do something about it. The police should be sincere and fight against the drivers. I beg to support.

Chief of Nassarawa-Eggon (Alhaji Abdullahi Idde): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support this Bill and also to praise the work done by the hon. Premier Sir Ahmadu Bello the Sardauna of Sokoto and his Ministers.

Before I go on I have an appeal to make. Although my request may appear to be the responsibility of the Federal Government, I wish Honourable Members would listen to this request, and I hope I will not be mistaken. In Nassarawa Eggon there was one story which I learnt when I was a small boy. If this thing is properly looked into I am sure it will not only benefit the people of Nassarawa but the whole of Northern Nigeria as a whole.

The Europeans have been talking about the availability of Petroleum and Kerosine in Nassarawa-Eggon and in 1959 several of them came to the area. After their stay for about six months they tried to discover it and later they told us that they would come and start work after two years but up to date there has been nothing done. For this reason I am appealing to the Hon. Minister to look into this matter.

Turning to the Ministry of Agriculture—I am sure no person could survive without food. I should like to appeal to the Minister concerned to find ways and means of improving the farming methods by which Bennisseed, Cotton, Groundnuts, Palm Kernel and other crops are produced. I hope the Minister will take necessary steps to ensure that the most up to date methods of farming are introduced to the Region in order to boost up the revenue of Native Authorities.

I will like to extend my thanks to the Minister of Health, and will simultaneously request him to take immediate steps to see that my people are protected from yaws. If this can be done before the beginning of the rainy season, the period during which its occurrence is commonest, I should be most grateful.

I also thank the Minister of Land and Survey. May I know what the Minister is doing about the settlements which sprang up in the last few years but which have not appeared on the Map?

I also thank the Minister of Education. May I know how soon it will take to provide every division with a Secondary School?

It is also essential to thank the Minister of Justice. It is of extreme importance that all Presidents of Native Courts do attend the courses which are at present being run at Zaria specifically for them. The course of immense benefit. I hope it could be organised in the Provinces for that would save us the trouble of going all the way to Zaria, where the Emir always entertain us lavishly.

My thanks also go to the Minister of Animal and Forest Resources. I should be most grateful if the Minister would arrange to have

[CHIEF OF NASSARAWA-EGGON]
dams built in my area so as to minimize water shortage especially during the dry season. This will ensure that our animals get water throughout the year.

The Minister of Works also deserves my congratulations for the able way in which his Ministry has discharged its responsibilities.

I also thank the Minister of Information. My appeal to the Minister is that now that we have a very popular Governor, I should be grateful if printed photographs of the Governor is widely distributed so that each household has at least a copy.

I also thank the Minister of Internal Affairs for his usual suggestions which help us a great deal.

I feel I cannot end my comments without turning to the Ministry of Trade and Industry. I should like to appeal to the Minister to establish an Industry in Akwanga Division because our Primary School leavers are leaving the Division and going to other parts of the Region to seek for work. This is simply because there is no work for them and have therefore nothing to do. I am sure if a Factory is established the boys will not face any difficulty in securing a job in the Division.

Etsu Nupe (Alhaji Usman Sarki): Mr President, Sir, I only rise to support the Second Reading of the Appropriation Bill. This Bill, Mr President, which has been ably presented to the House shows nothing but that the Minister knows his job and is genuinely doing it. Well, I do not want to go any further because there are many critics, but let me go back to the Minister of Economic Planning. I know the Minister is dynamic, progressive and responsible, and I want to bring a point to his notice.

Since I took office as Etsu Nupe, I found certain problems. These problems I think have not been brought to the notice of the Minister before these problems are in connection with money loaned to farmers. Well, I appreciate very much the motive behind giving money to the farmers. But, in my humble opinion, if we want the people of this country to progress, and develop by themselves, arrangements should be made whereby the farmers of this Region earn their living comfortably. It is not so much on the money or monies given to ordinary farmers, but I wonder how they can make use of such money. Well, I rather suggest that industries should be established; so that the people can work and earn their living—rather than giving them hand cash. Usually farmers

come to Kaduna to get money, but when the Ministry fails to get the money loaned to farmers back, the Ministry send letters and pressing the Native Authorities concerned—and that is not fair. I know quite a lot of money is spent in this way and there is little hope of recovering it now. In Bida Emirate for example, there are a lot of such people—well I don't know what to do with them. Money was given to them; but they are not able to repay it back. Well, Mr President, rather than giving them all these moneys; why can't we try and mobilise this money to establish industries in Bida Emirate. There are a lot of prospects there. For example we have plenty rice, jolof rice industry, and fishing industry can be successful projects. I don't say that farmers don't get benefits; but the benefits are very comparatively small. I now turn to my Old Friend, the Minister of Works. Well, I appreciate very much what his Ministry is doing; especially in Bida (*Hear! Hear!*). I now want to congratulate him for the good works being carried out in Bida; but I am sure, I hope he will finish his good work which was well started by tarring Mokwa-Bida road. I appreciate what has already been done, because about three or four months ago a Representative of a contracting Firm came to Bida to survey and continue the tarring of roads. We were all very happy and a lot of people greeted this man and we choose a very good site for him to put up his camp. We were all glad about this; but to our utter disappointment and disgust the Representative of the Contracting Firm came back and said "Your Government will not allow me to do the work", and the contract has been withdrawn. I think the Minister should think again and have a second thought on this matter. I am not saying that what the Minister has done is bad; but yet I am trying to remind the Minister about this and bring this to his hon. notice. Bida people are looking forward to seeing this road tarred. We have our own Minister who loves us and we love him and next election we will elect him if he stands for the elections in Bida. I now turn to the Minister of Education, a very nice, slender Minister. Mr President, we like to have a glance of his face in Bida for even once. Because I think his presence in Bida will go along way in inspiring the morale of staff and students. He should have nothing to fear in Bida Emirate and in the name of all that is fair and just, I am appealing to him that he should come to Bida. And even the hon. Emir of Katsina will support me (*Prolonged Applause*).

Mr President, Sir, I beg to support (*Applause*).

Chief of Lafiagi: I rise to support this Bill. In doing so, I would first of all thank the

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Minister of Finance for his good work in connection with the Estimates. Through his hard work the year emerged with more revenue for the Government. This is a great credit to the Minister and I wish him much more success in the future. I have got a few comments to make. First request is about the new system of taxation—i.e. the Pay-As-You-Earn. It is quite true that the Government has increased its funds by this system but certainly the Native Authorities have been short of what they expected. I would like to remind the Minister that before the introduction of this system, most of the Native Authority employees in high positions paid very highly in taxation and all the money collected were paid to the Native Authority Treasury. But with the introduction of the new system, the Native Authorities are only entitled to 20 per cent of the revenue collected. I think, that anything like this requires a typical example for the people to understand it better. For instance, I knew of one Native Authority employee who used to pay £37 before the introduction of the new system while in the new system he pays over £60. In the old system the amount of £37 went to the Native Authority but with the present system the Native Authority is entitled to only about £14 from the amount of over £60. Therefore, the Minister will see that even at 50/50 the Native Authority is still at a loss. This may not matter with the big Native Authorities but this is a little bit difficult to the smaller Native Authorities. I therefore appeal to the Minister that a review be made on this new system.

The second request is in connection with the Minister himself. The Minister is our neighbour and the last time he visited our area was that when the hon. Premier was Minister for Local Government. We all know that the Minister is always very busy but we request that when time permits he will pay a visit to our area. We would really be grateful for such a visit. (*Applause*).

I now turn to the Minister of Information. I quite appreciate the efforts of the Minister of Information and of his assistants. I have a point to make in connection with a section of his Ministry and that section is the Enlightenment Division. The Minister knows that there are two parts to adult education or any type of education. The first is to make people literate. This is not difficult; at least not as difficult as the other one. The other one is to keep them literate. That could have got an answer to my request if I had referred this matter to the Ministry but I feel it desirable to refer this to the Minister at this moment

instead of such a matter brought to the section itself. The matter is about the language of instruction in Adult education and reading materials. The instruction is in Nupe but we have got no reading materials and I am therefore appealing to the Minister that we be allowed to revert to Hausa. With this, Mr President, Sir, I beg to support.

If the answer to my question is going to be that there are some other people who are experiencing the same difficulties, therefore I won't be the only person to benefit in my area. The local language is used in giving instructions. Nupe is the language used, but the follow-up reading materials are lacking. There used to be newspaper or monthly bulletins in Nupe in conjunction with the Hausa-Jakadiya. The Hausa were also in Nupe and I can remember there was also another Hausa magazine. I am certain *Nna Nyintu* is no longer seen.

My appeal to the Minister is that if he will allow, I suggest that we would prefer to use Hausa language in every respect and drop the present local language in favour of Hausa. I fully support these views because someone literate in Nupe in Nigeria, who has a friend in Jos, can never write to his friend in Nupe. Supposing the friend is literate only in Hausa he will not be able to read the letter written in Nupe. What will be the solution to that problem? I therefore appeal to the Minister that the language of instruction in my area should be changed to Hausa. There are two advantages in reverting to Hausa. Ready materials will be easy to obtain, and the small class we have got will be sufficient. With these few remarks, I beg to support.

Etsu Agaie (Mallam Muhammadu Bello): Mr President, Sir, I rise to thank the Minister of Finance. He has done an excellent work, because the work concerning finance is a big job, for this I thank him again.

I am grateful to the Minister of Health and thank him. I am appealing to him because of expectant mothers' lives. Some of these expectant mothers encountered great difficulties in getting to hospital to deliver. I remember recently four women died in this state owing to lack of transport.

I support the speech of the Emir of Bida concerning the loans given to the farmers. But there is hardship in this. The reason for this is that there is a long process in operation at present. I would suggest that the loans should be given to the Native Authority, when the money is handed to Native Authority and before

[ETSU AGAIE]

the loans are given to the farmers, investigations can then be made before issuing out. Because under the present method some people who apply for loans are not qualified. Such people have great difficulty to repay the loans. With these few remarks, I beg to support.

Emir of Borgu (Alhaji Muhammadu Sani): Mr President, Sir, I rise to thank the President. I thank everybody here, and I wish the Emir of Gwandu a speedy recovery.

I now wish to turn to the Minister of Health. Is he here? . . . [GOVERNMENT BENCH: Yes!] (Laughter). He has tried very hard for us in Borgu because we have got a hospital at Bara, one at Mokwa and another one at Konkoso. For this I thank him very much indeed. He has done an excellent work on health in this Region.

One of my friends, the Minister of Works . . . (Laughter). . . . I have on several occasions brought the complaints of my people to him, especially Western Borgu. My people have no drinking water because there are no wells. Cattle do not survive where there is no water. Therefore I appeal to him to visit us within seven days from today. (Laughter). With these few words, I beg to support.

Emir of Misau (Mallam Ahmadu, M.B.E.): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support the Bill, and before I go on I have something to say about the appointment of Provincial Commissioners. We have benefited indeed by their appointment. We thank the hon. Premier and his Ministers who have appointed these Provincial Commissioners. By this I do not mean that the Residents are valueless (Laughter). . . . Since their appointment they have tried very hard by touring various places.

For this reason we are grateful to the hon. Premier, and thank the Provincial Commissioners. May God guide the hon. Premier and his Ministers. It is now clear that the tax paid is about 80 per cent compared with the 5s previously paid on the tax as can be seen from the Estimates. This is really good.

We thank the Minister for Local Government for helping and guiding us in the financial affairs of our Native Authorities.

Turning to the Minister of Education, I should like to thank him for double-streaming the classes in the Primary Schools mainly to develop the progress of education as a whole in this Region. It is now understood that it is the intention of the Government that every boy and girl in the Primary Schools must reach

Standard Seven, and I support the Government's intention in this respect.

About the Salaries of Teachers, I observe that every teacher earns his salary commensurate with his qualification. I hope their salaries should be increased as education is the back-bone of every development in the modern world. Nobody can be an Agriculturist without education. I always wonder about those people who mention that there are many school leavers who do not have jobs to do. Our Country is an Agricultural Country so I think these school leavers should be sent to Agricultural School to learn farming so that they don't only sit in offices or work in Factories as some members have suggested. Supposing these boys go to offices then who will farm to produce for us the food to eat? How shall we get products like Groundnuts, Cocoa, Soya beans, Cotton, etc.? It will be a worthy thing if more Agricultural Schools are opened. We thank the Minister of Agriculture and should like him to be paying us occasional visits so that the people may be familiar with him (Laughter). . . . We only hear over the radio that he has gone to Gornbe, Ganye and other neighbouring towns (Laughter). We really need his advice although we have an Agricultural Officer at Azare.

I thank the Minister of Health in his endeavour to eradicate cerebro-spinal meningitis, which is a horrible disease. Many people usually die because of this horrible disease but this year only three people died. About Leprosy—we are grateful that there is a Leprosy Assistant who tours the Emirate giving people medicine and as a result about 300,400 have been treated. I would like to appeal to the Minister that more Hospitals be built.

Turning to the Minister of Economic Planning. This Minister is really ambitious as he tours European Countries and other neighbouring countries to find new methods and techniques of improving our Factories. I was highly impressed by the activities I saw two days ago in the Nortex. I hope he will maintain his efforts.

To the Minister of Trade and Industry, I beg to appeal that we have nothing of industrial aspect in Gombe and I hope that he will establish some industries in my area. I can even say that this Minister never pays a visit to my area (Laughter).

Turning to the Minister of Information—I can say that this is our regular Friend (Laughter). . . . because he pays us some occasional visits.

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We also thank the Minister of Social Welfare and Co-operatives, Sarkin Fadan Zazzau, as he is giving us loans. But I want these loans to be increased to farmers who have already paid back what they were given. Though some people don't repay the loans, I think those who have paid will be given again. I now turn to the Minister of Animal and Forest Resources. I thank the Minister, because he is giving us money to sink well in the Fulani. . (*Interruptions*)

The Premier (Alhaji the hon. Sir Ahmadu Bello, K.B.E., Sardauna of Sokoto): Mr President, Sir, I would strongly protest against the interpretation—as I think it would be wrong to say 'Wells are being dug in us we the Fulani; the correct thing is 'Wells are being dug for Fulani' (*Laughter*).

The Emir of Misau: Mr President, Sir, we thank the Minister of Animal and Forest Resources for the campaign he has launched against the Rinderpest. When this disease is wiped out; this will increase the number of our cattle and we will also continue to get langali tax increased rapidly. Therefore we like the Minister to give us more help for our cattle. I now turn to the Minister of Land and Survey. Although, we do not understand his work properly; and we never saw him in our Division, we like to see him very much in my area and explain to us his Ministry's work (*Laughter*). We thank the Minister of Internal Affairs, because he always tours and sees us and he is helping us greatly in training our Native Authority Police Force and prison Warders as they are always undergoing courses being run by the Government. We hope he will continue to help us. With these remarks I support the Bill.

The Attah of Igala (The hon. Aliyu Obaje, C.B.E.): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support the Motion before the House. In so doing I should like to draw the attention of the Government and the Ministers to the rumours now circulating outside this House.

The Minister of Health (Alhaji the hon. Ahman Galadiman Pategi): On point of Order, Mr President. The Hon. Member himself is a Minister.

The Attah of Igala (The hon. Aliyu, Obaje C.B.E.): Mr President, Sir, on point of explanation, I would like to bring to the notice of the Ministers that I am surprised.

The Etsu Nupe (Alhaji Usman Sarki): On point of explanation, Mr President, the Hon. Member is a Member of the Executive Council, and as such he will just put the question; but not to talk at length.

The Attah of Igala (The hon. Aliyu Obaje, C.B.E.): Mr President, Sir, I beg to withdraw (*Hear! Hear!*).

The Emir of Jama'are (Mallam Muhammadu Wabi III): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support this Bill and to thank the Minister of Finance who has presented this Bill. I am also thanking the Minister of Education and his staff. My appeal in connection with the Ministry of Education is that we have so many schools that need to be expanded and we also like the Minister of Health to help us with Health Centres. Mr President, Sir, we have no roads in our area, and in this connection we want the Minister of Works to look into this matter. Mr President, Sir, the Minister of Economic Planning and the Minister of Agriculture, were never seen in our area but the Minister of Education has gone and so the Hon. Premier. Another Minister who hails from our area—the Minister from Katagum pays visits to us regularly. I have spoken to him about our Prison Yard. I complained but I think this is due to insufficient funds. Mr President, Sir, with these remarks I support.

Waziri of Sokoto (Alhaji Junaidu): Mr President, Sir, I rise to thank the Government more especially about its plans to spread Islamic education in Northern Nigeria. I would like to speak about the introduction of religious knowledge in Junior Primary Schools. I hope that the Government will be sending teachers for a course of training at Kano. Formerly some people were sent for six months course but this is inadequate. I see that the syllabus for teaching Islamic and Koranic education is very good but we need to get more trained teachers. Those we have at present are very few and therefore I appeal to the Minister that more teachers be sent for such courses as are being done in other fields of education programme. It is important not to neglect the Islamic part of educational programme. With these remarks I beg to support.

The Chief of Nassarawa (Alhaji Jibirin Mairiga): Mr President, Sir, I rise to thank the Minister of Finance and his colleagues with regard to this year's estimates. This has obviously shown his experience and good work and I pray Almighty that the Minister will remain in office for a long time (*Applause*). I thank the Minister of Health for the work done by his Ministry. I would only like to point out to him that he should remedy the issuing of licences to those hawkers who sell medicine. They are given licences to sell medicines such

[CHIEF OF NASSARAWA]
as quinine but surprisingly enough you see them with syringes while they are not Doctors. I would also like to see that the licences are given to Northerners who are sympathetic about the North.

I am thankful to the Minister of Works for the services he has rendered in establishing and distributing urban and rural water supplies. I am also appealing to him for the construction of roads. We want our roads to be repaired and maintained. It is very difficult to cross bridges during rainy season in my area and I appeal to the Minister to see to this.

On the Minister of Education, I am very thankful to him for the improvement of education in the North. I learnt that the Government is to assist the Native Authorities. This is a very good plan, but what I am thinking about is the question of the shortage of teachers at the Teacher Training College Keffi and I want the Minister to establish a school at Nassarawa so as to get sufficient teachers. When this is done we shall be pleased. With these few remarks, I thank the Minister of Finance.

Aku Uka of Wukari (Mr. Adi Byewi, M.B.E.): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support the Bill and to thank the Minister of Finance. I have a question to ask. The Native Authorities have prepared a list of traders who have completed their forms and sent to the Commissioner of Revenue in Jos, but up till now we have heard nothing. As the financial year is now ended, may we know what to do in this case?

Deputy President: I think it is now a convenient time for the House to be suspended for 20 minutes.

House suspended for 20 minutes at 11.57 a.m.

(House resumed at 12.20 p.m.)

Chief of Wushishi (Mallam Abubakar Agwai): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support this Bill that has been brought before us. We are also happy with the Minister of Finance, his colleagues and the Government as a whole. This Bill on the whole has explained the money allocated to every Ministry. Apart from that I have few remarks to make. I wish to extend my gratitude to the Minister of Agriculture and his staff for the plans made with regard to agricultural development of this Region. Mr President, Sir, the Minister of Agriculture has dealt with the complaints which we brought to his notice about the improvement of irrigation scheme at Rugan Kawo in Wushishi district.

Apart from that I am thanking the Minister of Education for the plans he has made as regards to Primary Schools. That will be of great help to every school leaver and will give every child the chance to obtain a certificate on reaching Senior Primary Class VII. The raising of standards envisaged in the plan is highly commendable. But the most important appeal I want to bring before the Minister is on the method of distribution of grants to schools. In the past every teacher who obtained Grade II certificate was paid this grant, but now it is altered. Grants are now being paid only on the number of pupils; and every class is expected to have a Grade II teacher. Mr President, the grants being paid to Native Authorities in respect of teachers' salaries are not enough. This is my appeal to the Minister, because previously building grants are also given insufficiently, and we want the grants now to be increased. What we want is a new method of giving grants which will ensure better treatment to Native Authorities. But I would like the Minister to refer back to previous method, because not all the Native Authorities can afford to pay money for teachers and buildings of schools. We all know that some Native Authorities are small and some are big, and that is why I appeal to the Minister. I now turn to the Minister of Health. Surely, he has done a lot of good work more especially in Niger Province. We really appreciate the work the Minister has done in the North, opening new hospitals and recruiting doctors to work in this country. It is better to name him "*Sarkin Yakin Lafiya*". Mr President, Sir, the Minister of Health has wiped out so many kind of diseases, because if we look at the new babies that are born nowadays—they are born healthier than before and they grow up healthy. The diseases that affect the adults are now being wiped out. We are thanking the Minister, even though, we want him to help us in our division and provide us with a General Hospital at Kontagora and a Maternity Centre at Wushishi—that is my appeal to the Minister. Now, to the Minister of Works, on his services more especially in Niger Province. I really know that he would claim that he has done more work there. He has given us enough roads, water supply and electricity. [AN HON. MEMBER! Oh that is a Federal Supply] Mr President, Sir, the Minister of Works has done a lot for us; but still yet we want him to look into rural areas and to see that these rural areas get pipe-borne water supply. We like him to find ways and means to help us, because it is from the smaller villages that bigger ones

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develop. As such, if he finishes bigger towns, he should do his best to look into rural areas. I now turn to the Minister of Establishments and Training. I thank the Minister for the plans he has for recruiting staff of all kinds to come forward and work for us; because if there are no staff—no work can be carried out. I know he is trying; but still we want him to get us more experts to come to the Northern Nigeria and train more Northerners. We are also grateful to the Minister of Justice. Surely the Ministry of Justice is working very hard and it's one of the best Ministries, because without the Law and dispensing of Justice no country can prosper. I realise that the Ministry is new and the staff preparing the laws are all new; therefore, I want the Minister to find means whereby anybody who works on the Judicial Service is given encouragement, because Judicial Service is another type of Administrative Service—and without justice there can be no administration.

Chief of Kagoro (Mallam Gwamna): Mr President, Sir, I rise to praise the Government and also to thank the Minister of Finance and his staff for the good preparation of the current estimates. I have nothing to criticise although I have a little complaint. It is necessary to thank the Government for the progress made in the last few years, more especially on the success achieved in the field of leprosy treatment. I wish also to thank the Missionaries who have done much in the campaign. In the field of education, everybody knows that a considerable progress has been achieved. We are thankful to the Government. I now turn to the Ministry of Works. We are very grateful to learn that the roads are being built and a bridge at Wuya is a great help to this Region. I am appealing to the Minister about the road from Kwoi-Jos joining Keffi and Jos-Enugu roads. I will not relax in making this request until something is done about these roads. Absence of good roads in this area deter considerable progress. I turn to the question of farms raised by my hon. friend the Emir of Misau who said that he was wondering about unemployment while we have farms. It is true that we have fertile farms but our children are not interested in farming. It is better for the Minister responsible for enlightenment to build a school so as to help our children to take keen interest in farming. Lack of interest in farming in this Region will greatly make the Region less prosperous. With these remarks, I support the Bill.

Chief of Sura-Pyem: Mr President, Sir, I rise to praise the Government of this Region for the good services done during the year. I would like to thank the Minister of Works and appeal for roads in my area. Also in turn to the Minister of Agriculture. Agriculture is wealth not only in this country but to the whole world and this Region has shown keen interest in agriculture. I want a school for farmers be built in my area so as to educate the farmers. I now turn to the Minister of Education. I had wanted to meet the Minister in his office to discuss a certain matter with him but I am compelled to discuss it here. The matter is about the school in my area which was closed down about March last year. I appeal to the Minister to re-open this school which was having an enrolment of forty pupils. So with these remarks, I support the Bill.

The Attorney-General (The hon. I. M. Lewis, Q.C.): Mr President, Sir, I thank the Emir of Lapai for the kind words he used about my predecessor Mr Marshall and also for the good wishes to myself.

I would like to deal now with two matters raised by hon. Chiefs about criminal proceedings.

The Chief of Bunu the other day suggested that the penalty for burglary should be death. Whilst I am sure that all hon. Members sympathise deeply with his recent burglary, this is not a reason in itself for increasing the penalty. If a person commits robbery, that is to say threatens a person with death or instant hurt when taking his goods, he is liable under the Penal Code to a penalty of up to ten years imprisonment, and if he does so at night in certain circumstances with up to fourteen years imprisonment, and if he uses a weapon to threaten he may be sentenced to life imprisonment. The problem therefore is not that of an inadequate penalty but how to catch such criminals.

I turn now to the more serious matter raised by the Chief of Idoma, namely, the problem of bringing to justice the motor driver who drives dangerously and causes death. The Government fully appreciates this problem. It is a matter that has caused us much concern. I have already had discussions with the Commissioner of Police about this matter, and the hon. Minister of Justice and myself intend to have further discussions with the Commissioner of Police to see what we can do about it. I appeal to all hon. Chiefs for their help, because one of the main problems is obtaining

[THE HON ATTORNEY-GENERAL]
the necessary evidence. Passengers on these lorries frequently say that they can remember nothing about the accident or else they disappear altogether. If hon. Chiefs can bring home to their people that it is a public duty to come forward and tell the police all they know about such accidents and give evidence in court at the subsequent trial this will materially help the proper administration of justice.

So far as the question of disqualifying drivers is concerned the courts already have the power to do this. It is a question of their using these powers to disqualify or suspend a driver's licence for much longer than they are at present doing when they find a person guilty of a motoring offence under the Road Traffic Ordinance, 1947 or the Road Traffic Regulations, 1948. I must remind Hon. Chiefs that most Native Courts have got powers under that Ordinance or those Regulations, so that it is a question of their exercising their powers in their discretions much more firmly by imposing longer periods of disqualification or suspension than they are at present doing.

The Minister of Animal and Forest Resources (Alhaji the hon. Mu'azu Lamido, Magatakardan Sokoto): Mr President, Sir, I am very grateful to the Members of this Honourable House for the keen interest they have shown in the work of my Ministry. Sir, I would like to reply to some of the points raised by the Honourable Members.

Sarkin Kuta and Aku of Wukari wanted more game reserves so that more wild animals can be preserved. Sir, I have already submitted a Bill for the revised Wild Animals Preservation Law to the House of Assembly and the Bill will come before this House as well. When that Bill becomes Law, more wild animals can be protected under the Law.

Sarkin Kuta also wanted the Government to help the Native Authorities to create more Forest Reserves. Sir, the staff of my Ministry are always ready to help any Native Authority in the creation of more Forest Reserves.

Sarkin Kuta finally wanted cattle railing points in Niger Province. Sir, the main reason for railing cattle is to save them from the suffering and loss of weight when they are walked for very long distances from the North to the South, the railing points are therefore mostly situated in the far North. The cattle of Niger Province are not very far from the Southern markets.

The Etsu Lapai and Sarkin Nassarawa wanted monkeys which destroy crops in their Emirates to be killed. Sir, usually the Native Authority can arrange with local hunters to kill such monkeys but if the monkeys become a major problem, then my Ministry will certainly look into ways of destroying these monkeys.

The Chief of Bunu wanted a Saw Mill to be established at Bunu. Sir, the establishment of Saw Mills is a matter for commercial companies and my Ministry cannot dictate to such companies where they should site their Mills, but if the Bunu Native Authority wishes to encourage any company to establish a Saw Mill in its area, then my Ministry will give every assistance to such companies to go to Bunu.

The Emir of Zaria asked the Government to intensify its efforts in the campaign against Tsetse Flies. Sir, my Ministry has done a lot in this field and we have an extensive programme of tsetse eradication in the 1962-68 Development Plan. The Tsetse Units of my Ministry are now working in both the northern and the southern Zaria as well as other places in the Region. But I should like to inform the hon. Members of this House that the eradication of Tsetse is not an easy task at all, it involves the spending of a lot of money and once work starts in one area, all the flies must be eradicated before the Unit can move to another area, this takes a lot of time.

The Och' Idoma wanted the cattle market in his division to be improved, Sir, this will be done. (*Laughter and Applause*).

Some hon. Members appreciate the efforts of my Ministry as regards the ways in which we are trying to improve the lot of the Fulani Cattle Rearers in this Region. Three of them, namely Emirs of Lafia, Wase and Etsu Lapai asked that more grazing facilities be made available for these Fulanis in their Areas. Another member the Chief of Nassarawa-Eggon asked me to provide water supply for Cattle in his Area. Sir, it is the intention of my Ministry to do everything possible to provide such amenities all over the Region for the welfare of the Fulani Cattle Rearers and in the interest of the Economic development of the Region. But with the limited funds available for such projects, Sir we can not do them all over night, it must be done gradually. Anyhow, I have noted your requests.

Finally, Sir, I should take the opportunity to express my sincere thanks to all Native Authorities for the full co-operation given to my Ministry with regards to the International Joint Campaign against Rinderpest in this Region.

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Sir, we have a successful campaign throughout the Region and nearly 5,000,000 heads of Cattle have been vaccinated against rinderpest in the Region since the campaign started last October. I am sure that we will be second to none in this International Campaign (*Hear! Hear!*) and this success is only made possible by the genuine co-operation of every one concern in the Region.

Sir, I beg to support.

The Minister of Education (Alhaji the hon. Isa Kaita, C.B.E., M.H.A., Wazirin Katsina): Mr President, Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Members for the complementary remarks that many of them have made on the activities of my Ministry during the past year. I am also grateful for their confidence in the achievements we hope to make during the coming year. I am particularly grateful to the hon. Ohinoyi of Igbirra for calling attention to the vast progress that has been made since our party came into power.

I am sorry that the Emir of Argungu and the Chief of Lafiagi are dissatisfied with the grants given to Native Authorities in respect of their primary schools. I think it is true to say that there is never enough money for education in any country but I can say that my Ministry has been, on the whole, generously treated in the Budget. It is my hope that in the future we shall be able to increase the grants to Native Authorities in respect of primary schools but I hope the hon. Members will remember that the Government has great financial responsibilities for other forms of education notably, Teacher Training, Technical and Secondary Schools. If there is any particular feature of the regulations which have a restricting effect on development of primary education I hope that the Chiefs will bring this to my attention. Several Members stressed the importance of girls education. I entirely agree with them. It is our policy to spread secondary education for girls as widely as possible and we have big plans for achieving this.

The Chief of Sharagi spoke about merging Native Authority and Mission schools. I hope he does understand our plans. Briefly our plan is not to merge different types of schools but to put all primary schools under one authority in a particular area. We believe that if primary education is to develop more widely it is necessary to introduce genuine system of public education run by local education authorities. We hope to set up two or three such authorities next year with the rest to follow

after we have had the experience of how this is to work.

I would like to thank the hon. Alhaji Junaidu the Waziri of Sokoto for his appreciation on the work of my Ministry on Islamic Education. I entirely agree with him that we must have more teachers for Arabic teaching in Primary Schools. I agree with him too that the teachers must be trained on the right method of teaching. My Ministry is doing everything possible to make this possible. With this aid in view the Sokoto Training College is established and I hope many more will follow.

The Chief of Sura Payem was not happy that a school in his area has been closed. If the hon. Chief would care to go to my office to give me all the facts I will be very pleased to look into the matter.

Mr President, Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Chiefs.

The Minister of Agriculture (Alhaji the hon. Mustafa Ismaila, Zanna Dujima of Bornu): Mr President, Sir, I rise to express my appreciation for the compliments which have been paid by Members of the House for the work of my Ministry. The Ohinoyi of Igbirra and the Emir of Dikwa with admirable brevity summed up the aims of the Ministry of Agriculture's development plans. The Chief of Minna referred to the need to maintain high prices for our agricultural exports. One of the best ways to ensure this is by the maintenance of standards of quality for which our produce is well renowned in world markets. The work of the Produce Inspection Division of my Ministry is directed to this end and I have recently approved the addition of benniseed to those crops which are already the subject of compulsory inspection.

The Emir of Lapai, the Emir of Lafiagi, the Chief of Kagoro and the Emir of Wase referred to the necessity of establishing facilities for the training of farmers, I would respectfully invite their attention to the Development Plan in which is outlined a scheme for the establishment of a Farm Institute in each Division in the individual farmers in modern techniques. With regard to the control of monkeys and baboons; this is primarily the responsibility of Native Authorities but Pest Control staff can be made available to train Native Authority staff in the most effective method of destruction, i.e., by sodium arsenite poisoning. The Emir of Nassarawa also raised this point and mentioned the cost of fertilizers. I am glad to be able to inform him that the degree of subsidy on superphosphate and sulphate of ammonia

[THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE] will remain unchanged this year and this will mean that they will be available to farmers at the same price as last year. The Emir of Nassarawa also has asked for financial assistance to improve the produce evacuation roads in his Emirate. His request is noted.

The Chief of Jos spoke about the extension of irrigation. In the Capital Budget which will be considered by this House within the next few days further financial provisions have been made for the specific expansion of irrigation in Plateau Province.

I now wish to reassure the Chief of Bunu that I shall, God willing, be present to perform the opening ceremony of the School of Agriculture, Kabba in the second week of this month.

The Chief of Pankshin spoke about the lack of farming land in his area. I am fully aware of this and that the remedy lies in introducing a more intensive form of farming. One of the ways in which this can be achieved is by the liberal use of artificial fertilisers which my Ministry has made readily available at greatly reduced prices.

I agree with the hon. Emir of Misau and the Chiefs of Kagoro and Surape that young men should take more interest in farming and go back to the land instead of drifting into towns and looking for jobs in offices and workshops. My Ministry spares no effort in attempting to make farming more attractive through the introduction of labour saving devices for cultivation and lifting water for irrigation as well as other methods.

I am to assure the hon. Members that my Ministry spares no effort in an attempt to make farming more attractive not only to the common man but also to the Chiefs alike. Already the foundation has been laid by the hon. Premier, the Sardauna of Sokoto by making a very large farm at Bakura in Sokoto Province and it is the intention of my Government to introduce modern farming, mechanisation as well as other methods to improve agriculture in this Region.

The Minister of Health (Alhaji the hon. Ahman, Galadiman Pategi): Mr President, Sir, in rising to reply to some of the points raised by the Emirs and Chiefs, I would like to begin by thanking all the Emirs who have expressed their appreciation of the good work done by the staff of my Ministry and I would also like to assure them that my Ministry will continue to do hard work for the benefit of the public in order that everybody everywhere in

the Region should enjoy sound health. I am very pleased that many Emirs and Chiefs have taken so great an interest to say something about my Ministry and this reminds me of the Hausa saying "That Health is Wealth".

Many of them have appealed that they want more medical and health facilities. The Government will do whatever possible to see that their requests are met. The Chief of Jos raised the question that there has been congestion in Jos Hospital. He said that the Children and expectant mothers are mixed together in one Ward. I would like to assure the House that Jos Division is the luckiest Division in the whole of Northern Nigeria because it has more medical and health facilities. There are the following institutions:—

- (1) Child Welfare Clinic—Grant by Government.
- (2) Native and Local Authority where ante-natal clinic and grade II midwifery is carried out but no delivery at the clinic.
- (3) There is the General Hospital with the Grade II Midwifery Training Centre and it also has a maternity Ward.
- (4) Sir, there is the Plateau Nursing Home where deliveries are carried out as well as an ante-natal clinic and medical facilities for the children of senior service personnel.
- (5) There is a Roman Catholic Hospital which is a grade II midwifery training centre, it also has a children's ward and a delivery ward and again ante-natal clinic is carried out. There are also out-patient facilities.
- (6) There is the Roman Catholic Nursing Home at Sonwa and on ante-natal clinic, this is near Bukuru. It has a maternity ward and deliveries are carried out there.

Now to come to the point raised by Sarkin Nassarawa and Sarkin Minna, . . . ro, I am sorry, Sarkin Kuta. They both asked for extensions to Keffi and Minna Hospitals respectively. Their requests have been noted.

Aku of Wukari has asked whether the Government would eradicate the Tsetse Flies in Sarkin Kudu area. Both the Ministry of Animal and Forest Resources and my Ministry will consider this.

Sarkin Awe and Sarkin Wushishi both asked if the Government will build maternity centres in their areas. This is the responsibility of the Native Authorities and the Government is ready and willing to assist them by capital and recurrent grants.

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The Sarkin Lafia who has asked the *Ministan Lafiya (Laughter)* to build a hospital in his area and who went as far as saying that he received a letter from either my Ministry or myself giving him an assurance, I do not think that he is correct. It might be that he has seen something in the six-year Development Plan but however, if funds are available, it is most likely that his request will be met before the end of the six-year Development Plan.

Sarkin Lapai has asked whether we can give him more vacancies in the medical training school here in Kaduna. We have already increased our double intake in the school and if he has a boy of required qualification, I would like him to come and discuss this point in my Ministry.

Sarkin Nasarawa-Eggon has asked if 'Yaws' campaign could be carried out in his area. I would like to tell him that the Medical Field Unit Team is now going round the Provinces and Divisions and I hope that they will soon come to his area. They are equipped with every necessary drug.

Lastly, Sir, Sarkin Nassarawa again raised the question of Drug Licences. This is the responsibility of the Provincial Secretaries. They are the people who issue licences and it is the duty of the police to take into the Court anybody they have seen without licences and at the same time it is the duty of the Native Authority Police to assist. So, I appeal to the hon. Emirs and Chiefs to co-operate with the Regional Government on this point. When they find anybody without licence, giving injections, they can take him to the court and they should be severely punished.

The Minister of Finance (Alhaji the hon. Aliyu, C.M.G., C.B.E., Makaman Bida): Mr President, Sir, I wish to thank all the Chiefs for the kind remarks they have made on me and my work. I would like to assure them that their unanimous support of the Appropriation Bill will serve as an impetus and encouragement for me to continue to do my duty—which is to find money in whatever way possible and wherever possible for the development of this Region and to see to it that whatever money is available is being put to the best practice. Mr President, Sir, I want to reply to one point raised by three Chiefs. This concerns the Personal Tax Law which was passed in this House last year. The Emirs of Lafagi, Sharagi and particularly the Emir of Misau raised this

point. The Emir of Misau gave the impression that the new Tax Law was introduced in order to enrich the Government at the expense of the Native Authorities. This is not so, I am sorry. The new system is of course, considered to be more efficient than the old system. But it is not the intention and will never be the intention of the Government to deprive the Native Authorities of their revenues. As I explained before in the House of Assembly that Government will make good any short-fall in tax revenue due to Native Authority as a result of this new Law if it is proved that there has, in fact, been any loss, the Government will make good the loss.

The Akt of Wukari also complained that the Assessment Forms for Wukari Traders have not been returned. The Aku will appreciate that the new tax system has only very recently come into operation. Until staff is trained, the number of cases that can be handled is limited. During the past year, Jos has handled 1,000 cases from six provinces. This will explain that 2,500 will be handled in 1963-64. This will include 24 from Wukari. On the 19th of December, 1962, Wukari Native Authority was informed that no wealthy traders in Wukari were being assessed in 1962-63 and that the Native Authority should assess them as Community Tax. Mr President, Sir, I am grateful.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

The Deputy President: As this is a money Bill, this House would not go into Committee Stage in accordance with the Standing Order 70.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the third time and passed.

MOTIONS

The Minister of Finance (Alhaji the hon. Aliyu, C.M.G., C.B.E., Makaman Bida): Mr President, Sir, I rise to move the Motion Standing in my name on the Order Paper:—

Be it resolved:

"That this House authorises the expenditure from the Capital Development Fund of an amount not exceeding £864,921 for the several services required under the following Heads, details of which are set out in the Second Supplementary Estimates of Northern Nigeria, 1962-63, which have been laid before this House:—

[THE MINISTER OF FINANCE]

Head 291—Roads Development	£	127,000
Head 292—Buildings—Ministry of Works		7,716
Head 293—Urban Water Supplies	—	
Head 295—Loans Expenditure		426,878
Head 296—Other Capital Expenditure		303,327
Total		<u>864,921</u>

Mr President, Sir, this is just the usual Motion by which the Capital Development Fund is introduced and Sir, I beg to move.

The Minister of Trade and Industry (Hon. Michael Audu Buba, Wazirin Shendam): Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Resolved:

“That this House authorises the expenditure from the Capital Development Fund of an amount not exceeding £864,921 for the several services required under the following Heads, details of which are set out in the Second Supplementary Estimates of Northern Nigeria, 1962-63, which have been laid before this House:—

Head 291—Roads Development	£	127,000
Head 292—Buildings—Ministry of Works		7,716
Head 293—Urban Water Supplies	—	
Head 295—Loans Expenditure...		426,878
Head 296—Other Capital Expenditure		303,327
Total		<u>864,921</u>

The Minister of Finance (Alhaji the hon. Aliyu, C.M.G., C.B.E., Makaman Bida): Mr President, Sir, I rise to move the Motion Standing in my name on the Order Paper:—

Be it resolved:

“That this House authorises the expenditure from the Capital Development Fund of an amount not exceeding £53,578 for the several services required under the following Heads, details of which are set out in the Third Supplementary Capital Estimates of Northern Nigeria, which have been laid before this House:—

Mr President, Sir, this Motion is just similar to the first one which has just been passed by this hon. House.

Sir, I beg to move.

The Minister of Agriculture (Alhaji the hon. Mustafa Isma'ila Zanna Dujirna of Bornu): Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Resolved:

“That this House authorises the expenditure from the Capital Development Fund of an amount not exceeding £53,578 for the several services required under the following Heads, details of which are set out in the Third Supplementary Capital Estimate of Northern Nigeria, 1961-62, which have been laid before this House:—

Head 280—Roads Development	£	—
Head 281—Buildings—Ministry of Works		—
Head 282—Urban Water Supplies	—	
Head 285—Other Capital Expenditure		53,578
Total		<u>53,578</u>

The Minister of Finance (Alhaji the hon. Aliyu, C.M.G., C.B.E., Makaman Bida): Mr President, Sir, I rise to move the Motion Standing in my name on the Order Paper.

Be it resolved:

“That this House authorises the expenditure from the Capital Development Fund of an amount not exceeding £11,214,805 for the several services required under the following Heads, details of which are set out in the Capital Estimates of Northern Nigeria, 1963-64 which have been laid before this House.”

Mr President, Sir, this Motion is just similar to the other two Motions which have been passed by this hon. House.

Sir, I beg to move.

The Minister of Animal and Forest Resources (Alhaji the hon. Mu'azu Lamido, Magatakardan Sokoto): Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Resolved:

“That this House authorises the expenditure from the Capital Development Fund of an amount not exceeding £11,214,805 for the several services required under the following Heads, details of which are set out in the Capital Estimates of Northern Nigeria, 1963-64, which have been laid before this House.”

	£		£
Head 270—Capital Estimates: Staff and Other Charges ...	843,645	Head 289—Other Capital Ex- penditure: Ministry of Trade and Industry ...	106,745
Head 271—Roads Develop- ment ...	1,190,850	Head 290—Other Capital Ex- penditure: Ministry of Edu- cation ...	547,580
Head 272—Rural Water Sup- plies ...	529,600	Head 291—Other Capital Ex- penditure: Ministry of Health ...	169,870
Head 273—Urban Water Supplies ...	1,616,430	Head 292—Other Capital Ex- penditure: Ministry of Land and Survey ...	136,320
Head 274—Buildings: Agricul- ture ...	296,300	Head 293—Other Capital Ex- penditure: Administration ...	2,000
Head 275—Buildings: Veteri- nary ...	230,300	Head 294—Other Capital Ex- penditure: Ministry of Internal Affairs ...	5,240
Head 276—Buildings: Edu- cation ...	683,540	Head 295—Other Capital Ex- penditure: Ministry of Works ...	30,000
Head 277—Buildings: Health ...	436,900	Head 296—Other Capital Ex- penditure: Ministry of Finance ...	908,485
Head 278—Buildings: Social Welfare and Co-operatives ...	667,100	Total ...	<u>11,214,805</u>
Head 279—Buildings: Infor- mation ...	137,000		
Head 280—Buildings: Admi- nistration ...	185,300		
Head 281—Buildings: Esta- blishments and Training ...	46,000		
Head 282—Buildings: Internal Affairs ...	79,980		
Head 283—Buildings: Justice ...	10,900		
Head 286—Other Capital Ex- penditure: Ministry of Agri- culture ...	1,429,900		
Head 287—Other Capital Ex- penditure: Ministry of Animal and Forest Resources (Live- stock Branch) ...	834,880		
Head 288—Other Capital Ex- penditure: Ministry of Animal and Forest Resources (Fores- try Branch) ...	89,940		

The Minister of Education (Alhaji the hon. Isa Kaita, C.B.E., Wazirin Katsina): Mr President, Sir, I beg to move that the House do now adjourn.

The Minister of Finance (Alhaji the hon. Aliyu, C.M.G., C.B.E., Makaman Bida): Sir, I beg to second.

The House accordingly adjourned at 1.45 p.m. until 10.00 a.m. on Tuesday, 2nd April 1963.

Volume 19
No. 6



Tuesday
2nd April, 1963

NORTHERN NIGERIA LEGISLATURE

**PARLIAMENTARY
DEBATES**
(HANSARD)

HOUSE OF CHIEFS
OFFICIAL REPORT

(Third Legislature)
Third Session
(First Meeting)

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HOUSE OF CHIEFS NORTHERN NIGERIA

Tuesday, 2nd April, 1963.

The House met at 10.00 a.m.

(DEPUTY PRESIDENT in the Chair)

PRAYERS

Deputy President: Order! Order! Personal explanation—Rwang Pam.

The Chief of Jos (Mallam Rwang Pam, M.B.E.): Mr President, Sir, I am pleased as you allow me to correct my speech, which was wrongly recorded. In the course of my speech it was recorded that I said "Young children, babies and women sleep in one place in the Jos General Hospital". Mr President, Sir, I did not mention Jos General Hospital at all. I only mentioned the General Hospital at Barakin Ladi, outside Jos. I also mentioned the good work being done there; except that I mentioned that the Maternity section of the Hospital is small. I also said something about the children who are of course new babies they are combined together in one Ward. We also discussed the matter with the doctor when I went there and at the end of our discussion I promised that I should appeal to the Minister to see whether a separate Ward would be provided for smaller children. That was all what I have said about the Barakin Ladi Hospital not Jos Hospital. It was not something very serious. Mr President, Sir, I am pleased for the opportunity you have given me to correct my speech and I hope the hon. Members would not think about this again. I am grateful for the work the Ministry of Health is doing. That is my correction, Sir.

MOTIONS

Control and Management of Public Finance

The Minister of Finance (Alhaji the hon. Aliyu Makaman Bida, C.M.G., C.B.E.): Mr President, Sir, I rise to move the Motion standing in my name, as follows:—

Be it Resolved:

"That in accordance with subsection (5) of section 14 of the Control and Management of Public Finances Law, 1958, part III of the First Schedule to the law is hereby amended by the deletion opposite to the words "Personal Advances Fund" of the figures "one million seven hundred and fifty thousand" and the substitution therefore of the figures "one million two hundred and fifty thousand".

That purpose of this Motion is simply to reduce the amount allocated to the Personal Advances Fund by £500,000, to one and

£250,000. This will not, of course, increase the actual cash resources of the Government, but it will mean that this sum will become part of the general reserves. It is no longer required in the Personal Advances which are outstanding has been much reduced. As many expatriate officers have left the services they have been paid their lump sum compensation and the advances previously made against this compensation have been cleared. Secondly, the scheme for Government officers*) to obtain car on hire purchase is producing the intended effect of releasing for other uses Government funds previously tied up in advances. The Native Authorities participating in their own scheme will soon begin to see the benefits of this themselves.

Mr President, Sir, I beg to move.

The Minister of Works (Alhaji the hon. Shehu Usman, Galadiman Maska): Mr President, Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Resolved:

"That in accordance with subsection (5) of section 14 of the Control and Management of Public Finances Law, 1958, part III of the First Schedule to the law is hereby amended by the deletion opposite to the words "Personal Advances Fund" of the figures "one million seven hundred and fifty thousand" and the substitution therefore of the figures "one million two hundred and fifty thousand".

Pledging of Government's Credit

The Minister of Social Welfare and Co-operatives (Alhaji the hon. Ahmadu Fatika, Sarkin Fadan Zazzau): Mr President, Sir, I beg to move the Motion standing in my name as follows:—

Be it resolved:

"That this House approves the pledging of Government Credit to the amount of £2,250,000 to enable Co-operative Societies to finance both the cultivation of their individual members' crops and the marketing operations of their produce by means of Government guaranteed overdrafts."

Members are fully aware that the Regional Government is determined to encourage the development of farmers' Co-operative Societies by all possible means including financial facilities until the Co-operative Movement acquires self-sufficiency. There is a provision of £2,000,000 in the Regional Six Year Development Plan for the establishment of a Co-operative Bank. Towards this objective, a specialist in Co-operative Banking has been assigned to explore the best way of organising and running the bank. As the numbers of primary societies and produce marketing unions increase, the need

[THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND
CO-OPERATIVES]

for more and more working capital becomes necessary.

In 1961-62 and 1962-63, you approved the pledging of Government Credit to the tune of, £1,700,000 and £2,000,000 respectively, for 1963-64, I am now asking the House to approve £2,250,000.

I am sure that hon. Members will agree with me that without this financial assistance, our fast Region's agriculturists will be handicapped and agricultural production greatly hampered. Not only in this country but also in most parts of the world where agriculture forms the backbone of rural economy, Co-operative Societies are initially sponsored and financed by Governments. Some of the members are aware that expatriate firms are now withdrawing from produce marketing, just in order to give chance for indigenous organisations and traders.

Finally, I assure the hon. Members that the field staff of the Co-operative Division of my Ministry are doing their utmost to get loans punctually repaid. It is hoped that the members of this House will continue to give their support and all possible assistance to Co-operative Staff and Committee members of societies in this direction. Mr President, Sir, I beg to move.

The Minister for Local Government (Alhaji the hon. Sule Gaya): Sir, I beg to second.

Chief of Kuta (Alhaji Ahmadu Bahago): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support this Motion. I thank the Government for taking keen interest in the welfare of its people.

Mr President: Will the hon. Member speak louder?

Chief of Kuta (Alhaji Ahmadu Bahago): Thank you. I would like to appeal to the Minister that when such funds are available, to use his good offices and see that the money is used profitably and I hope that the Minister of Economic Planning will see that the Marketing Board persuades investors to come to this country. It would be encouraging to our farmers if they get good markets for their products. I beg to support.

Etsu Nupe (Alhaji Usman Sarki): Mr President, Sir, I really find it difficult to support this resolution without explanation from the Minister which I think may make me change my stand. The Minister said in his resolution that Government should pledge credit of over £2,000,000 but in his introduction he did not mention where that money should come from. No pledging could be made without giving

introduction. Will this money come from the Government or from the banks or somewhere else? The second question is that I would like to know the amount which has been spent before, and how much has been repaid because he said that the Field staff of his Ministry are doing everything possible to get the money repaid. It will be very interesting if we know how much and what percentage has been repaid to Government. That is all my request. But I will then like to bring suggestions. It is very well that money is given to farmers but what about the actual people who do the farming?

I would rather suggest that the Minister should see that farm implements are purchased and given to farmers instead of the raw cash now being given to them. The Field Staff could then teach the people how best to use them. I think that there is another suggestion worth looking at. The Minister said that he is inviting an expert in Co-operative Banking. I want to ask the Minister that he should also invite an expert on Farm Implement, to come to the North. These are the two suggestions I would like the Minister to consider.

Emir of Misau (Mallam Ahmadu, M.B.E.): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support the Motion moved by the Minister. We used to get the money from the Co-operative Societies. There are branches which distribute the money to the farmers. There is a Government Officer who goes to the bank to receive the money but the farmers are not given the money in time, and it is not always possible for them to pay their labourers. The labourers sometime charge 10s and £1 during the harvest. But our people do not receive the money by the time they want it.

Any person who fails to pay the money which has been loaned to him should be asked to do so. I thank the Minister, and I think he will help us. I beg to support.

Chief of Nassarawa-Eggon (Alhaji Abdul-lahi Idde): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support this very important Motion. This money helps the common people, the farmers. There is always difficulty in obtaining new loans. If £2,000 is given to the farmers, and only £1,000 is recovered, loans would not be granted to them until they have repaid the remainder. This money was distributed to many people, some have paid theirs and others have paid only part of it and they have all been told that they should not take loans because some people have not paid. This will bring inconvenience to others. I am appealing to

the Minister to send his staff to check what is going on with the instalments of the people who have not refunded the money given to them. I think, if this is done it will help us.

About the farm machineries, these have not been provided in Nassarawa. I would like the Minister to see to it.

Emir of Jama'are (Mallam Muhammadu Wabi III): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support the Motion moved by the Minister. As my colleagues have said, since the Co-operative Society began we have never heard anything of it in my area. People who are given loans have been distributing them among themselves but we have never been given in Jama'are. This will help the farmers very greatly. We should not be forgotten because we have always supported the Minister. I support this Motion.

Tor Tiv (Mallam Gondo Alour): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support the Motion which have been moved by the Minister. I have one question. When Government sends the money to the Co-operative Societies will it be sent to the Native Authority Treasuries? Because in some cases money was sent out to farmers without the knowledge of the Native Authority. If this money is sent to the Native Authority Treasury and the farmers go to the treasury to get it, the Native Authority will be fully aware of what has happened with the money. Sometimes the farmers get the loan and the Native Authority is not aware of this, whereas later on the Government will write to inform the Native Authority to help to recover the money. (*Laughter*). If the Native Authority

Authority will help the Government to see that prompt settlement is made. I am therefore appealing to the Minister to see to this. I beg to support.

Chief of Wushishi (Mallam Abubakar Agwai): Mr President, Sir, I rise . . . [HON. MEMBERS: Please speak louder] . . . I rise to support the Motion by the Minister of Social Welfare and Co-operatives. I have some observations to make. The Co-operative Society usually does not get any loan until when the society has been registered; it can then get loan to distribute among its members. My suggestion to the Minister is that before any society is registered he should send his staff to see some of the facts. Because in some cases most of the people who are given loans are not really farmers.

My second point is, this. I do not know whether this concerns the society but it concerns the farmers. It is about the hire purchase of

tractors. We paid about two-thirds of the hire purchase but the people came and ceased the tractors saying that the full money has not been paid. Is there anything to be done before a hire purchase is made, if there is to be any direct agreement from Headquarters? Or will the Headquarters of the Co-operative Society be aware of this agreement? Because when the hire purchase Company have taken their tractors, the farmers were discouraged. For instance those people who have paid two-thirds of the instalment and the tractors were taken away from them and the money they have paid was not refunded to them, and nothing has been done about it. I would like the Minister to look into this matter.

With these few remarks, I support the Motion.

Chief of Sharagi (Mallam Sule Ndakpotu): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support this Motion. I am very grateful to the Minister because the farmers have benefited from these loans. But the only difficulty arises from the time they have to refund the money. In our area we have people who obtained loans and when they are to refund the money they always refused to pay them. The Society Registrar will receive the money from each district and takes the money to the bank. I am appealing to the Minister to see that some of his staff get the money from the farmers since they will issue receipt to them.

With these few remarks, I beg to support.

Emir of Abuja (Alhaji Sulaimanu Barau,

the Ministers of Economic Planning and Social Welfare and Co-operatives. I am to express my profound appreciation of what they have done.

Last year when the United Africa Company stopped buying produce we were unable to find new buyers. Mr President, Sir, I was worried how our people could be able to pay their taxes. I brought this matter to the Ministers of Economic Planning and Social Welfare and Co-operatives, although I was about to be late, we received their assistance in giving loans to the farmers. The loans were given and they bought the produce themselves. We intended previously to take our produce to Port-Harcourt where we hope that we will make much profit.

We hope to gain. I therefore rise to contribute my thanks to the Minister for the co-operation I get from his Ministry. We would like to finish paying our loans earlier before the new season.

Chief of Idoma (Mr Ajene Ukpabi): I rise to support this very important motion. The reason why I call the motion very important is that these loans will greatly encourage our farmers in devotion to their activities. Without these loans some of those elderly persons who cannot maintain their farms go to Western Region to get minor works to do. That is why I say that the Motion is very important. Anyway, we should not blame the Etsu of Nupe because he has been away from the Region for sometimes and does not seem to have the idea of what is going on. We have very few people now at home. Some of these people will not be able to get loans, and sometimes they experience great difficulty in paying their taxes because they could not have the means to maintain their farms through which they could get income to pay. Therefore through these loans, tax collection will become simple. I have again to appeal to the Minister on one point; and that is, the question of repayment of the loans. If it will be possible to increase the time of repayment, then, it will be possible for the farmers to recover the payments in time so that in the following year, they will be able to get a new one. Those who fail to pay at the appointed time, should not be given a new one and it does not mean that they have to do away with the one outstanding against them. They should pay it even by force. Usually, farmers used to lose their farm crops and therefore do not have the profit derived from the amount loaned to them although in the other coming year the crops yield properly and they gain a lot. This is my appeal to the Minister and with these remarks, I beg to support.

Chief of Birnin-Gwari (Mallam Jibirilu Maigari): I rise to support this motion. This money given to the farmers has proved very useful indeed, and I would like to appeal to the Minister to send his staff to Birnin Gwari to guide the people there in the way best adopted to the use of this money. I have some questions to put to some Ministers. Will it be possible for me to ask them?

Deputy President: If it is in connection with this motion, you can do so.

Chief of Birnin Gwari: It is not in connection with the motion but nevertheless I hope Mr President will allow me. I support the motion.

Emir of Agaie, (Mallam Muhammadu Bello): Mr President, Sir, I rise to thank the Minister of Social Welfare and Co-operatives for the help he has been giving to the people of

this Region. When the time comes for collection of taxes, those who get the loans pay their taxes earlier than those who do not get the loans and who experience some difficulties before they pay their taxes. My suggestion is that those who pay their loans in time should be given a fresh one and those who do not pay should not be given and this method will serve as an advantage to those who fail to pay.

Chief of Paiko (Alhaji Muhammadu Bello): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support the motion and to put up some suggestions to the Minister. If the answer to my first question is in negative I should like to make some suggestions.

I would like to know if it is the rule of the Ministry to give loans to the farmers without consulting the Native Authorities? If the answer is negative then I may put two suggestions. Firstly that before loans are given to the farmers all Native Authorities should be consulted. Because the Native Authorities know the right people to whom such loans should be granted.

Secondly in the middle of the season each individual farmer should be checked to know how he is using his money. I remember last year we passed a Law here enabling farmers to be taken to the Courts for the failure in recovering such loans. So it will be of great advantage if Native Authorities are consulted before the farmers are granted loans.

The Minister of Social Welfare and Co-operatives (Alhaji the hon. Ahmadu Fatka Sarkin Fadan Zazzau): Mr President, Sir, I rise to express my thanks and gratitude to the Chiefs who have spoken for the appreciation on the activities of my Ministry. I am sure that a fair number of hon. Members have spoken and the others who want to speak are expected to speak on almost similar things.

First of all I want to reply to the points raised by Etsu Nupe. The hon. Member, O'chi Idoma, in his remarks said that the Etsu has been away for a long time and has very little idea of what is going on in our vast Region. In the points raised by him, he spoke about the pledging of the Government's Overdraft. It is an overdraft from a Commercial Bank under Government guaranteed arrangements, and this House is asked to approve the pledging of Government's Credit, and there is nothing unusual in this respect.

I am sure when he comes to this House again he will speak with entirely a different voice.

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Now the Emir of Misau. In reply to his remarks on the use of pre-season loans to farmers, this seasonal loan is paid for everything connected with farming. Such as purchase of farm implements, fertilisers, labour, seeds, even food stuffs such as rice, etc. that are grown by the farmers are exhausted as it does so usually happen during the rainy season.

Turning to the points raised by the Chief of Nasarawan Eggon, distribution of pre-seasonal loans has an approved policy (a) Societies which have repaid 75 per cent of the previous year's loans, become qualified for new loans. (b) In case of individual farmers only a farmer who has completely repaid is eligible for a new loan; therefore it is not possible for an individual farmer who is a defaulting member to receive a loan even if a loan is granted to his Society by my Ministry.

Turning to the Tor Tiv. I think the hon. Member is talking apparently about other types of loans. However, it is against the Co-operative principles for a Native Authority or any constituted body to interfere with the responsibility of the committee of the Society. It is laid down in the bye-laws that members of the Committee are empowered to ask a member to return the loan approved for him if he is not using it for the approved purpose. If the Registrar of Co-operative Societies knows that members of some Societies do not use the loans for the right purpose, he will certainly take legal action against them in order to recover the fund.

Now turning to the points raised by the Chief of Sharagi. It is the duty of the Assistant Registrar of Co-operatives to collect repayments and pay to the bank. If an Assistant Registrar refuses to do so, there must be a reason which involves certain amount of risk. My Ministry does not allow Inspectors to handle money, for reasons which are in the interest of the public, so as to protect the Inspectors and also the Government guaranteed funds.

Now turning to the points raised by the Chief of Idoma. It is not possible to extend the period of repayments. As conditions of the agreement made with the commercial banks do not allow such extension. The loan is on a short term arrangements. However, the possibility of the longer period of repayments in some parts of the Region may be investigated in consultation with the staff of the Ministry of Agriculture.

The points raised by Sarkin Paiko. I think, have been clearly answered in my previous replies. That the Native Authorities or any Constituted bodies are not allowed to interfere with the affairs of Societies concerning the responsibility of their elected Committees.

Mr President, Sir, I hope these few replies have clarified all the points raised by the hon. Members, and I once more thank them for their appreciation for the wonderful activities rendered by the staff of my Ministry.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Resolved:

"That this House approves the pledging of Government's Credit to the amount of £2,250,000 to enable Co-operative Societies to finance both the cultivation of their individual Members' crops and the marketing operations of their produce by means of Government guaranteed overdrafts."

Revised Edition of the Laws of Northern Nigeria, 1963

Order for Second Reading read.

The Attorney-General (Hon I. M. Lewis, Q.C.): Mr President, Sir, I rise to move that a Bill for a Law to provide for the preparation, printing and publication of a Revised Edition of the Laws of Northern Nigeria and for purposes connected therewith be now read a second time.

Hon. Chiefs will recall that last year two Bills were brought before them to deal with preparatory general amendments to the law Revision which it was intended should be carried out as soon as a suitable person could be appointed to be the Law Revision Commissioner. I am glad to be able to inform the House that the former Attorney-General, Mr H. H. Marshall, who is well known to all of you, has agreed to be the Law Revision Commissioner for Northern Nigeria and with his experience of the legislative enactments of this Legislature and of the various constitutional changes that have occurred during his tenure of office he should find this task very much easier than any other person. The necessity for law revision needs no emphasis by me if any hon. Chief has endeavoured to look up a Law on any particular matter because he will have discovered that most of our important Laws enacted since 1952, when first Regional Laws came into being, have been amended many times. Moreover to find what the Law is, it is not sufficient to look at the Laws of Northern Nigeria alone but one must go back to the Laws of Nigeria published in 1948

[THE HON. ATTORNEY-GENERAL]
for those enactments there set out which are deemed to be Regional Legislation and to the annual volumes of subsequent years which similarly contain enactments deemed to be Regional legislation. The Federation of Nigeria and Western Nigeria have already carried out their own law revision and at present a Law Revision Commissioner is preparing a Revised Edition of the Laws of Eastern Nigeria.

Mr President, Sir, one important matter to which I should draw attention is that the appointed day for the purpose of this Bill is the 1st of May, 1963 and that means that all legislation enacted prior to that date will be included in the Laws to be contained in this Revised Edition. It means therefore that all Bills that are passed at this Budget Meeting of the Legislature will be included in the Revised Edition provided that we ensure that they are printed and published before the 1st of May. As Mr Marshall is already working in England upon this Law revision this should ensure that we obtain an up-to-date Revised Edition of our Laws as it is possible to get.

The terms of reference in this Bill upon which the Law Revision Commissioner will work are similar to those under which other Law Revision Commissioners of the Federation have recently carried out their respective tasks, save that the opportunity has been taken to incorporate in the Bill a few new provisions to deal with certain technical difficulties which they encountered and which it is hoped will now be avoided. I would finally like to say that the task of the Law Revision Commissioner will be greatly eased by the help which the Government of Northern Nigeria has received from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology by the loan of one of their Harvard graduate Fellows, Mr F. A. O. Schwarz, who in 1961-62, did a great deal of preparatory work in my Chambers upon this Law revision. We are indeed grateful both to him and to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology for this help.

Mr President, Sir, I beg to move.

The Minister of Justice (Alhaji the hon. Muhammadu Nasir): Mr President, Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

The Emir of Lapai (Mallam Muhammadu Kobo): Mr President, Sir, I want to comment on the Bill moved by the hon. Attorney-General. Mr President, Sir, this is the first time a Bill has been presented to this House to

approve the appointment of somebody to work as a Law Revision Officer. It is the duty of this House to discuss the bill and pass it into law. When the bill becomes law it is up to the Executive Council to appoint anybody it likes. It is not our power to appoint the Commissioner for Law Revision. And as I am a layman, or not a law student, Mr President, we want explanation from the Attorney-General.

Chief of Kuta (Alhaji Ahmadu): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support this very important Bill, and to thank our Government for introducing this Bill and to its efforts for establishing this very important Office of Law Revision. I am also to congratulate the officer so appointed and wish him a successful stay in discharging his duties. I do welcome and appreciate Section 14 of the Bill which provides authority for distribution of the copies of the revised laws to those concerned and also to make copies available for sale to departments and public. Of course this will make and keep the public informed of the Laws and it is likely that this effort will limit the number of criminals who come before courts defending themselves by saying that they are ignorant of the Law. And of course those who may be aware of the law will know how to obey them.

Mr President, Sir, I beg to support.

Chief of Bunu (Mr J. Adebayo Ikusemoro): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support this Bill. I am also taking this opportunity to congratulate the hon. Attorney-General, Mr I. M. Lewis, on his appointment. I have had a cordial association with him when I was a clerk in his Department. In fact, Mr President, I appreciate the work of this gentleman, and I wish him success as the former Attorney-General has done, Mr H. H. Marshall. In fact, Mr President, Mr Lewis is always frank and a kind officer. It is gratifying that the Government and the Attorney-General have given consideration for the revision of our laws in this Region. Because in true democratic countries, it is necessary that a country revises its laws to suit with the development and changes in life of its people. I am grateful to the Government and wish to say that this is the appropriate time to introduce this Bill. With these remarks, I beg to support.

The Attorney-General (Hon. I. M. Lewis, Q.C.): Mr President, Sir, I thank the Chief of Bunu for his kind words. The Government fully appreciates the necessity of having a

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regular revision of the laws and it is desirable to have our laws revised every ten to fifteen years as now it is fifteen years since there was a revision of the laws of Nigeria which *inter alia* affected Northern Nigeria. Now to deal with the point raised by the Emir of Lapai, I would like to say that we have followed exactly the practice that has been adopted in all the previous revisions of the laws in the Federation and that is to say we have appointed administratively the Law Revision Commissioner and having commenced work on the revision of the laws we have made his formal legal appointment in the Bill when it is brought before this Legislature. The reason for this is that by so doing we ensure that we get as up-to-date an edition of the laws as it is possible to do. The hon. Chiefs will remember in my speech on the second reading that I drew attention to the fact that the appointed date for the purposes of this Bill is the 1st May, 1963, that is to say only some twenty-nine days ahead. As soon as possible after that date the Law Revision Commissioner who has been working on this project for some months will send the proofs to the printer in England and we hope that if all goes well, we may receive, sometime next year, the final edition of the revision of the Laws. If we waited until the Bill is passed, to make the appointment of the Law Revision Commissioner, we would have had to wait much longer for the final edition and by that time it would be out of date. The Chief of Kuta raised the question of the distribution of copies of the Revised Edition of the Laws and hon. Chiefs will note specific provision has been made regarding that and it is intended that they should be distributed to all people in public offices who need them. In addition there will be copies for sale to the general public.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

The Deputy President: Committee when?

The Attorney-General: Now, Sir.

House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole House.

(House in Committee)

Clauses 1-7—agreed to.

Clauses 8-15—agreed to.

Schedule—agreed to.

(House in Committee)

Bill reported without amendment; read the third time and passed.

House suspended for 15 minutes, at 11.40 a.m.

(House resumed at 12.05 p.m.)

Mr President: Order! Order! House now resumes.

Sheriffs and Civil Process (Amendment) Bill, 1963

Order for Second Reading read.

The Attorney-General (Hon. I. M. Lewis Q.C.): Mr President, Sir, I beg to move that a Bill for a Law to amend the Sheriffs and Civil Process Ordinance be now read a Second time.

This Bill makes two very minor amendments to Section 52(2) of the Sheriffs and Civil Process Ordinance, and is necessary because in that section which deals with the sale of property in execution of a judgment when such property is a right of occupancy under the Land Tenure Law, 1962, a reference is made to the "consent" which is required under that Law to be given whilst in fact, not only is the term "consent" used but also the word "approval" and it is necessary to have exact cross-references on this technical subject. The correction of "Ordinance" to "Law" is necessary because the previous reference was to the Land and Native Rights Ordinance which has now been repealed and replaced by the Land Tenure Law, 1962 to which the reference should now be made.

Mr President, Sir, I beg to move.

The Minister of Justice, (Alhaji the hon. Muhammadu Nasir): Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Mr President: Committee when?

The Attorney-General: Now, Sir.

House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole House.

(House in Committee)

Clauses 1 and 2—agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

(House resumed)

Bill reported without amendment and read a third time and passed.

Penal Code (Amendment) Law, 1963

Order for second Reading read.

The Attorney-General (Hon. I. M. Lewis, Q.C.): Mr President, Sir, I rise to move that a Bill for a Law to amend the Penal Code Law, 1959 be now read a second time. Hon.

[HON. I. M. LEWIS, Q.C.]

Members will recall that last year the Panel of Jurists re-visited Northern Nigeria and as a result of recommendations which they made, the statement was made by Government of additional adjustments to the Legal and Judicial Systems of Northern Nigeria. In that statement in Paragraph 30 the Panel of Jurists recommended that the penalty for being drunk in a public place should be increased and Government having accepted that recommendation now brings forward this Bill to increase the provisions in respect of drunkenness in a public place under Section 401 of the Penal Code so that in place of the possibility of punishment amounting to seven days imprisonment or a fine of one pound or both, there shall be substituted the possibility of imprisonment up to three months or a fine of £50 or both, and to increase the penalty if a person is not merely drunk but conducts himself in a public place in a disorderly manner or is incapable of taking care of himself, from the possibility of imprisonment for one month or a fine of £3 or both to the possibility of imprisonment for six months or a fine of £100 or both. The opportunity is taken to increase the penalties for drunkenness in a private place in a similar way to the last ones that I mentioned. Clause 2 of the Bill amends Section 141 of the Penal Code so as to make absolutely clear that it is *not* an offence to refuse to take an oath or make a solemn affirmation in judicial proceedings as is provided in section 230 of the Criminal Procedure Code, as doubt had arisen as to whether section 141 of the Penal Code as at present worded could be said to constitute that an offence and this was never intended. Mr President, Sir, I beg to move.

The Minister of Justice (Alhaji the hon. Muhammadu Nasir): Mr President, Sir, I beg to second; in so doing, I wish to point out Government's intention in connection with those who take alcoholic drinks and conduct themselves in a disorderly manner. In this country everybody knows that alcoholic drinks are prohibited to all Moslems; and those who are not Moslems for them to take alcoholic drinks and cause the breach of the peace is not good. For this reason, the Government has seen that a fine of £1 or seven days imprisonment will not stop anyone taking alcoholic drinks. That is why the punishment has been extended to three months imprisonment or a fine of £50. And if anybody takes alcoholic drinks and behaves in a disorderly manner causing a breach of the peace; the punishment will be increased from one month

imprisonment or a fine of £5 to six months imprisonment and £100. I am sure the Hon. Chiefs know the best way to eradicate alcoholic consumers and I wish them to support the Bill.

Question proposed.

Chief of Nassarawa Eggon (Mallam Idirisu): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support this very important Bill. It is a fact that before this law was introduced and, at that time if anybody wanted to cause a breach of the peace, he would go and take some small quantity of alcoholic drinks; at that point, he will approach the person to whom he wanted to insult and say to him all sorts of bad names. Mr President, Sir, if this law comes into being, it will bring many changes. Moreover it has extended the punishment imposed previously. Therefore, I am grateful for this new provision; as it will bring more peace to the people. I therefore support the Bill.

Chief of Idoma (Mr Ajene Ukpabi): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support this Bill. But as the Chief of Nassarawa Eggon has already mentioned what I wanted to say, there is no need for me to make a lengthy speech. I would like to make comments on some people who try to make flavour when they take wine. These people behave very disorderly; and when they appear before courts the only words they will voice out is that 'it is alcoholic'. And when somebody insults someone; some people may say 'all right it is alcohol' don't do it again; or don't do so next time. In the past the punishment of £1 or seven days imprisonment did not serve any purpose; because these wine consumers don't mind paying £1. And as such they go and drink so as to behave in a disorderly manner. They even say 'all right—it is just a £1'. That is why I support this increase of punishment and also the fine as it will bring peaceful living; and will reduce quarrels with neighbours. Before anybody contravenes this law, he will think of the heavy punishment. Mr President, it does not matter, even those who are allowed to drink they should not drink to such an extent as to cause breach of the peace and become hooligans. With these remarks, I beg to support.

Chief of Sura-Pyem (Mr Mark Hirse Dalaham): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support the Bill moved by the Hon. Attorney-General. I know that taking alcohol by Moslems is prohibited. Again on the question of drinking, whenever someone drinks he will go and call other people bad names just for the sake of causing breach of the peace. But as this Bill

has been introduced such kind rubbish will decrease a lot. We hope it will not be long before the Bill becomes effective. I beg to support the Bill.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Mr President: Committee when?

The Attorney-General (Hon. I. M. Lewis, Q.C.): Now, Sir.

House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole House.

(House in Committee)

Clauses 1-4 agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

Bill reported without amendment; read the third time and passed.

(House Resumed)

Bill reported to the House; read the third time and passed.

Land Tenure (Amendment) Law, 1963

Order for Second Reading Read.

The Minister of Land and Survey (Alhaji the hon. Ibrahim Musa Gashash, O. B. E.): Mr President, Sir, I rise to move the Second Reading of a Bill entitled "A Bill for a Law to amend the Land Tenure Law, 1962."

This Bill amends the Land Tenure Law, 1962 in five minor respects. Clause 2 amends section 13 of the Law so that the grant of easements by the occupier of the right of occupancy may only be made with the consent of the Minister. The object of this is to enable all easements to be referred to my Ministry so that they can be charted on the Land Cadastre in the Survey Division.

Clause 3 amends section 27 of the Land Tenure Law, which section refers only to Customary Rights of Occupancy. In the Laws as at present, the section only relates to transfers of Customary Rights of Occupancy between natives and non-natives. That is, no transfer can be made without my consent. This is to prevent the alienation of Land to non-Northerners.

Nothing was said in the Law, however, about transfers of land between natives and other natives. This matter was dealt with in the old Land and Native Rights Ordinance by the regulations published in the third schedule thereto, but these were repealed when the Land and Native Rights Ordinance was repealed.

It is therefore desired to amend section 27 of the Land Tenure Law in order to provide for the procedure in the case of the transfer of land between Northerners. In the cases where property is sold by or under the Order of the High Court, then the consent will be given by me. In all other cases of the transfer of land between Northerners, only the approval of the Native Authority is required. This means that customary land transactions between Northerners can be dealt with, as now, by village Heads, District Heads, Chiefs or Emirs according to the custom of the Native Authority.

In Clause 4, the opportunity is taken to amend section 34 so as to substitute a reference to the Cinematograph (Licensing) Law, 1962 which became Law since the Land Tenure Law was enacted.

In Clause 5, amendments are made to section 42, which section restricts power of sale under a court order, to make it quite clear that it applies to rights of occupancy which are subject to a statutory condition that the holder will not alienate the right of occupancy without the consent or approval of the appropriate authority.

In Clause 6, an erroneous reference in the Schedule is deleted.

Mr President, Sir, I beg to move.

The Minister of Animal and Forest Resources (Alhaji the hon. Mu'azu Lamido, Magatakarda of Sokoto): Mr President, Sir, I beg to second.

Chief of Kuta (Alhaji Ahmadu Bahago): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support this important Bill. We know that our produce could not be successful without land. Land is therefore the foundation of our income. It is therefore, best and just to see that the land is used not in a wrong way. The land must be restricted that it is used in a good way. With these remarks I support.

Chief of Idoma (Mr Ajene Ukpabi): Mr President, Sir, I am not going to say much, but I only want to thank the Minister because this matter affected my area. It will really release us from a lot of trouble from our own side. I only want to thank the Minister. It is a wise topic. 'Na gode'.

The Minister of Land and Survey (Alhaji the hon. Ibrahim Musa Gashash, O.B.E.): Mr President, Sir, I have to thank the Chiefs and Emirs who have spoken on this Law. I want to assure them that all the good pieces

[THE MINISTER OF LAND AND SURVEY] of advice they have given will be taken into consideration whenever we come to make any amendment to any Regulations. I would like to make it clear that as far as the Law is concerned, it does not make any big change to the customary right, as it only provides a suitable situation whereby the chiefs, and District Heads will exercise their powers delegated to them so that the people may benefit from this. The Government is always trying to make it easier for them so that they may live peacefully.

Question proposed.

Deputy President: Order! Order! Committee when?

Minister of Land and Survey: Now, Sir.

Bill accordingly committed to the Committee of the Whole House.

(House in Committee)

Bill immediately considered in Committee.

Clauses 1-6—agreed to.

Bill to be reported

Question put and agreed to.

(House resumed)

Bill reported without amendment; read the third time and passed.

Land Registration (Amendment) Law, 1963

Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Land and Survey (Alhaji the hon. Ibrahim Musa Gashash, O.B.E.): Mr President, Sir, I rise to move the Second Reading of a Bill entitled "A Bill for a Law to amend the Land Registration Ordinance".

The Land Registration Ordinance as already amended provides that all court judgments in land matters are registrable in the land registry of my Ministry. There are, however, difficulties in registering court judgments relating to customary rights of occupancy owing to plans and maps of customary rights of occupancy not being available. However, as far as my Ministry is concerned, we only require to register court judgments in the cases of land held under statutory rights of occupancy. The effect of this Bill is to confine the registration of court judgments in land matters to those in respect of land held under a statutory right of occupancy only.

Mr President, Sir, I beg to move.

The Minister of Economic Planning (Alhaji the hon. Muhammadu Bashir, O.B.E., Wamban Daura): Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Deputy President: Order! Order! Committee when?

The Minister of Land and Survey (Alhaji the hon. Ibrahim Musa Gashash, O.B.E.): Now, Sir.

Bill accordingly committed to the Committee of the Whole House.

(House in Committee)

Bill immediately considered in Committee.

Clauses 1-2—agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

(House resumed)

Bill reported without amendment; read the third time and passed.

Development Corporation (Amendment) Law, 1963

Order for Second Reading read

The Minister of Economic Planning (Alhaji the hon. Muhammadu Bashir, Wamban Daura): Mr President, Sir, I rise to move that the Bill entitled the Development Corporation (Amendment) Law, 1963, be read a second time.

This short Bill provides for the change of the title of the Development Corporation from Northern Region Development Corporation to Northern Nigeria Development Corporation which is in accordance with constitutional changes, and will also make identification easier when the title is used abroad. Outside Nigeria of course, the title Northern Region Development Corporation gives no indication of the country to which the Corporation belongs. Members will recall that a similar change was effected in the title of the Marketing Board by the Northern Region Marketing Board (Amendment) Law, 1961. Consequently, the present Bill also substitutes the term Northern Nigeria Marketing Board for Northern Region Marketing Board in Section 2 of the Northern Region Development Corporation Law.

Sir, I beg to move.

The Minister of Land and Survey (Alhaji the hon. Ibrahim Musa Gashash, O.B.E.): Sir, I beg to second.

Chief of Kuta (Alhaji Ahmadu Bahago): Mr President Sir, I rise to support this important bill and to thank the Government for

providing the new title for the Development Corporation with the Marketing Board. These new names are very good ones and I hope the Minister will see that both the Marketing Board and the Development Corporation are discharging their usual useful services, for the rising of our standard of living in this Region and other parts of the world.

With these remarks I beg to support.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

Mr President: Committee when?

The Minister of Economic Planning:

Now, Sir.

House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole House.

(House in Committee)

Clauses 1-6—agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

(House resumed)

Bill reported without amendment; read the third time and passed.

Marketing Board (Amendment) Law, 1963

Order for the Second Reading read.

The Minister of Economic Planning (Alhaji the hon. Muhammadu Bashir): Mr President, Sir, I rise to move that the Bill entitled the Northern Nigeria Marketing Board (Amendment) Law, 1963 be read a second time.

This Bill seeks to add ginger, coffee and castor seed to the commodities under the control of the Marketing Board. The Board has had this under consideration for some years, and is of the opinion that it could now successfully undertake the marketing of these new crops. The advantages of bringing new export crops under the Board's control are, I think, obvious. A stable producer price, season by season, gives confidence and encouragement to the farmer, and provides the incentive to increase the annual size of the crop more rapidly. Further cash crops are established, perhaps in areas at present somewhat deficient in export cash crops thereby providing an additional source of income to more farmers and increasing the country's overseas earnings. Lastly the buying system is standardised and speculative buyers are kept out of the trade.

If the Marketing Board is to buy these additional crops it will be necessary to amend Section 32(2) of the Law which lays down that

"The reserves of funds in the account of any commodity or commodities shall not be used to pay for or in connection with the purchase, processing, transporting, storing or cleaning of any other commodity". Obviously it will be necessary for the Board to find the money to finance the marketing of the new crops from somewhere, and so Clause 2 of the Amendment Law will enable them subject to my approval apply for funds at present in the accounts of other commodities to pay for the marketing of the new commodities for a limited period only.

I am confident that this widening of the sphere of the Marketing Board's activities will bring increased prosperity to many farmers and be of general benefit to the economy of this great Region, and of Nigeria as a whole.

Sir, I beg to move.

The Minister of Land and Survey (Alhaji the hon. Musa Gashash): Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

The Chief of Kagoro: Mr President, Sir, I rise to support the amendment to this Bill and also to express my appreciation to the foresight of the Government in bringing this amendment. This will, undoubtedly, be a very good assistance to farmers in this Region. I have heard that *ginger* has been mentioned in this Bill and I know that this crop is mainly grown in Southern Zaria. It is the most important crop in my own area. Previously owing to the lack of consumers, the farmers of my area do not grow this crop for fear that they will have no markets for them, but I am now glad that this important crop is included in this amendment. The inclusion of this crop in the Bill will not only help the farmers in my own area alone but also the whole farmers in this Region. With these few remarks, I must thank the Minister of Economic Planning for his good work.

The Emir of Lafiagi: Mr President, Sir, I rise to support this amendment and in doing so, I would like to draw the attention of the Minister to the fact that one important crop grown in my area is not included in the amendment to this Bill. That is *Sheanuts*. It is important that this fruit should be included in this Bill. There are very many trees of this crop in my area and the only local use made of this crop is the making of *Sheanut Oil*. The most important use of the oil is for lighting bush lamps. But with the introduction of hurricane lamps and kerosene, its use is becoming less

[THE EMIR OF LAFIAGI]
and less; and whereas it forms the most important trade of my people. I am quite sure that if this crop is included, my people will be very happy indeed. I am therefore appealing to the Minister to see whether it would be possible to do so. With this, Mr President, Sir, I beg to support.

The Minister of Economic Planning (Alhaji the hon. Muhammadu Bashir): Mr President, Sir, I have heard what the Chief of Kagoro has said. He suggested that owing to lack of market for ginger, the farmers in his area are not growing the crops. I would like to assure him that the Amendment to this Bill which includes ginger will encourage the farmers to grow more of it and I will give them an assurance that a ready market is now available for their crops. It is the policy of the Government to do all it can to help the farmers in order to get good markets for their crops. All we can, now say, is that we do pray for luck.

The Emir of Lafiagi made mention of Sheanut. He suggested also that this crop should be included into this Bill. I would like to assure him that "Slowly but Surely" that crop too would be included.

We have very many crops which are good in the world Market. For example we have *Giginya* and *Goruba*, and we shall continue to investigate where to get World Market.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Mr President: Committee when?

The Minister of Economic Planning (Alhaji Muhammadu Bashir, O.B.E., Wamba Daura): Committee now, Sir.

House resolved itself into the Committee of the House.

(House in Committee)

Clause 1—agreed to.

Clause 2—agreed to.

Clause 3—agreed to.

Schedule agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

(House resumed)

Bill reported without amendment—read the third time and passed.

Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Law, 1963

Order for Second Reading read.

The Attorney-General (The hon. I. M. Lewis, Q.C.): Mr President, Sir, I rise to move that a Bill for a Law to amend the Criminal Procedure Code Law 1960, be now read a second time. Hon. Members may think that this looks a somewhat formidable Bill and that we are proposing a lot of amendments to the Criminal Procedure Code but nearly half the provisions are dealing with one point, namely, making clear that Native Courts will be guided by the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code in all cases except when a provision deals specifically with another court. This is necessary because doubts have arisen as to whether the Native Courts were meant to be guided by a number of provisions which previously referred only to Magistrates' Courts or the High Court and we have now substituted in those provisions by which we wish the Native Courts to be guided the term "Court" rather than "Magistrates Court" or "High Court" as the case may be.

Clause 2 of the Bill is necessary to take account of the changed Constitutional position because under Section 54 of the Constitution of Northern Nigeria only the Judicial Service Commission can appoint to the office of Justice of the Peace.

Clauses 3, 4 and 5 increase the powers of Magistrates Grades I, II and III so as to bring them into line with the powers of Native Courts of Grades B, C and D. This was recommended by the Panel of Jurists on their return last year and accepted by Government in paragraphs 28 and 33 of the Statement by Government on the additional adjustments to the Legal and Judicial Systems in Northern Nigeria.

Clauses 13, 21 and 25 make clear that when an accused person is examined by a court this only takes place if the accused agrees to be so examined and after the effect is explained to him. Moreover, it specifically provides that when this procedure is adopted, any evidence which the accused does choose to give shall not be on oath. He has his opportunity to give evidence on oath if and when he is called upon to enter upon his defence.

Clause 22 provides that when a person is committed for trial to the High Court by a Magistrates Court and he submits a list of witnesses to the Magistrate which he wishes to be called, then he will be liable to pay the fees for Summonses and the expenses of those witnesses unless the Magistrate in his discretion otherwise orders. There is already provision for this in summary trials by a Magistrate under section 163 of the Criminal

Procedure Code and this Amendment to Sections 177 and 178 will provide complementary provisions where a Magistrate is holding a preliminary enquiry.

Clause 23 makes it clear that the right of a legal practitioner to appear in the High Court and the Magistrates' Court is now derived from the Legal Practitioners Act, 1962, of the Federation and the provision is left in as a useful guide to people dealing with our own Criminal Procedure Code.

Clause 26 merely makes clear that under section 236 any evidence an accused gives can be used not only at the trial but taken into consideration at the preliminary enquiry itself, if there is one.

Clause 27 is necessary because in the Northern Region High Court (Amendment) Bill, which hon. Members will be asked to consider later at this session, we have removed the back-stop so to speak of English practice and procedure in criminal matters which previously existed when there was a gap in the provisions of our Code. It is thought that this is undesirable and that we should rely upon the provisions of our Code alone and accordingly, this Clause 27 puts into substantive form the practice that has always been followed, in accordance with the English practice, of enabling the Director of Public Prosecutions or his representative to call additional witnesses or ask to have witnesses re-examined if, in the opinion of such prosecutor, it is necessary in the interests of justice. The amendment to section 237 accordingly makes this a specific right of the Director of Public Prosecutions and not dependent upon the discretion of the Court.

Clauses 28 and 29 amend sections 280 and 281 so as to provide that the procedure for giving Notice of Appeal shall be the same in Native Courts as in Magistrates Courts and at the same time enables the appellant to set forth his grounds of appeal in his own words provided that he supplies sufficient particulars to give the respondent due notice of his grounds of appeal, though he may still use the specific grounds that previously he was required to use.

Clauses 32 substitutes a new section 364 of the Criminal Procedure Code so as to enable service fees to be waived by the court as well as enabling, as is already the case, the court to order expenses of witnesses to be paid by Government. It further enables a Magistrate to make an Order for the expenses of witnesses

to be paid who are to give evidence in the High Court after the committal of the accused by the Magistrate and not only, as at present, to pay their expenses in the Magistrates' Court.

I have now dealt with almost all the clauses of the Bill and those which I have not touched on either directly or indirectly, are merely correcting minor errors which have been discovered in the Criminal Procedure Code.

I would like to take this opportunity of telling hon. Chiefs that though we have had to make a number of amendments to the Criminal Procedure Code during its two-and-half years in operation, the practical working of the Criminal Procedure Code in the Courts has proved to be very satisfactory and all the Native Courts which are only guided by so many of its provisions are doing their best to follow its provisions and every year sees more members of the Native Courts attending the special courses on the Criminal Procedure Code, which are so excellently run at the Institute of Administration at Zaria, and by so doing, adding the benefits derived from expert instruction to their own practical knowledge of the working of the Code.

Mr President, Sir, I beg to move.

The Minister of Justice (Alhaji the hon. Muhammadu Nasir): Mr President, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Mr President: Committee when?

The Attorney-General (Hon. I. M. Lewis, Q.C.): Now, Sir.

(House in Committee)

Clauses 1-8—agreed to.

Clauses 9-12—agreed to.

Clauses 13-27—agreed to.

Clauses 19-27—agreed to.

Clauses 28-32—agreed to.

Clauses 33-35—agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

(House resumed)

The Attorney-General (Hon. I. M. Lewis, Q.C.): Mr President, Sir, I beg to report the Bill from the Committee of the Whole House without amendment, and beg 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.

Law Revision (Preparatory General Amendments) Law, 1963

Order for Second Reading read.

The Attorney-General (Hon. I. M. Lewis, Q.C.): Mr President, Sir, I rise to move that a Bill for a Law to amend or repeal certain written laws in force in Northern Nigeria for the purpose of bringing such laws into accord with the Constitution of the Federation of Nigeria and the Constitution of Northern Nigeria and with the other written laws of Northern Nigeria preparatory to a revision of the Laws of Northern Nigeria as a whole, be now read a second time.

Honourable Chiefs will recall that at the August Meeting of the Legislature last year, the Law Revision (Preparatory General Amendments) Law, 1962 was enacted containing a number of amendments which it was considered desirable to make before the Law Revision was undertaken and that subsequently in November an amending Bill was passed correcting a number of erroneous references in that Law. Honourable Chiefs will also be aware of the Revised Edition of the Laws of Northern Nigeria Bill placed before them at this Budget Meeting with the specific purpose of formally appointing the former Attorney-General, Mr Marshall, as Law Revision Commissioner. As a result of further research prior to the final preparation of the revised edition of the laws, the additional amendments which are set out in the Schedule of this Bill are proposed to correct errors that at present remain in our laws or to bring our laws into line with the present Constitutional position. (These are for instance changes of title such as from "Supreme Court" to "High Court" and in respect of "Departments" which have now become parts of "Ministries", and two new definitions in the Interpretation Ordinance of "Legal Practitioner" and "Military Forces" and would explain that these only incorporate into our legislation the definitions that already exist in respect of Federal matters. I also draw attention to the amendment to section 3(g) of the Liquor Ordinance as we are thereby removing what was in the past discriminatory legislation as there are now no longer British Non-Commissioned Officers' Messes in the Royal Nigerian Army but N.C.Os, whether British or Nigerian, all share the same Mess and that is why the word "British" is deleted. But no matters of

substance are dealt with here save that the opportunity has been taken to amend section 8 of the Unsettled Districts Ordinance so as to provide there the specific matters on which the onus of proof shall lie on a person charged with an offence of having entered an unsettled district. This is to correct a provision which was previously perfectly legal, but is now, in its present state, in conflict with section 21 (4) of the Constitution of the Federation of Nigeria. As I have stated, the other changes are not matters of great substance and I do not think honourable Chiefs will wish me to take up their time by dealing with them as they speak for themselves.

Mr President, Sir, I beg to move.

Minister of Education (Alhaji the hon. Isa Kaita, C.B.E., Wazirin Katsina): Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Mr President: Committee when?

Attorney-General: Now, Sir.

House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole House.

(House in Committee)

Clauses 1-6—agreed to.

Schedule agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

(Mr President resumed Chair)

Bill to be reported without amendment and read a third and passed.

Evidence (Amendment) Bill, 1963

Order for Second Reading read.

The Attorney-General (Hon. I. M. Lewis, Q.C.): Mr President, Sir, I beg to move that a Bill for a Law to amend the Evidence Ordinance be now read a second time. Hon. Members are well aware that at this Budget Session of the Legislature, the Government is bringing before them the implementation of proposals made by the Panel of Jurists on their return visit last year and accepted by Government in its statement on the additional adjustments to the Legal and Judicial Systems of Northern Nigeria. In that statement in paragraph 14, the Panel recommended that the principle of guidance so far as Native Courts are concerned, which at present applies to the Evidence Ordinance, should in some basic provisions of that Ordinance be changed to make them binding upon Native Courts. This has been done in Clause 2 of the Bill in respect

of judicial proceedings in criminal causes or matters in respect of the burden of proof and I would emphasise that whilst the six sections there referred to will, when this Bill becomes Law, be binding on all Native Courts in criminal causes or matters, this will not alter in any way the fact that in respect of the other provisions of the Evidence Ordinance all Native Courts will continue to be guided by them.

In the Criminal Procedure Code (Amendment) Bill which hon. Members have just dealt with at this Meeting of the Legislature, amendments have been made to sections 159 and 169 so as to indicate that under those provisions no oath shall be administered to the accused for the purpose of examination and accordingly it is necessary to amend section 179 of the Evidence Ordinance which as amended by the Law Revision (Preparatory General Amendments) Law, 1962, only provided a cross-reference to section 230 of the Criminal Procedure Code by incorporating a reference to these two sections 159 and 169 as well as to section 235 which was previously in error omitted because, subject to these four sections all oral evidence given in any proceedings is given upon oath or affirmation.

Mr President, Sir, I beg to move.

The Minister of Trade and Industry, (Hon. Michael Audu Buba, Wazirin Shendam): I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

Deputy President: Committee when?

The hon. Attorney-General: Now, Sir.

House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole House.

(House in Committee)

Clauses 1-3—agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

(House resumed)

Bill reported without amendment; read the third time and passed.

Adjournment

The Minister of Education (Alhaji the hon. Isa Kaita, C.B.E., Wazirin Katsina): Mr President, Sir, I beg to move that the House do now adjourn.

The Minister of Land and Survey (Alhaji the hon. Musa Gashash, O.B.E.): Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

House accordingly adjourned at 1.45 p.m. until 10 o'clock tomorrow, Wednesday, 3rd April, 1963.

Volume 19
No. 7



Wednesday
3rd April, 1963

NORTHERN NIGERIA LEGISLATURE

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(HANSARD)

HOUSE OF CHIEFS OFFICIAL REPORT

(Third Legislature)

Third Session

(First Meeting)

CONTENTS

- COURT OF RESOLUTION (AMENDMENT) LAW, 1963 [Col. 139]:
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- POOL BETTING (PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY) LAW, 1963 [Col. 139]:
Read a second time; read the third time and passed
- PROVINCIAL COUNCILS (AMENDMENT) LAW, 1963 [Col. 142]:
Read a second time; read the third time and passed
- NORTHERN REGION HIGH COURT (AMENDMENT) LAW, 1963 [Col. 144]:
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Read a second time; read the third time and passed
- WILD ANIMALS LAW, 1963 [Col. 147]:
Read a second time; read the third time and passed

HOUSE OF CHIEFS NORTHERN NIGERIA

Wednesday, 3rd April, 1963

The House met at 10.00 a.m.

(DEPUTY PRESIDENT *in the Chair*)

PRAYERS

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Court of Resolution (Amendment)
Law, 1963

Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Justice (Alhaji the hon. Muhammadu Nasir): Mr President, Sir, I rise to move that the Bill entitled the Court of Resolution (Amendment) Law, 1963 be now read a second time.

Mr President, Sir, when I come to move the second reading of the Northern Region High Court and Sharia Court of Appeal Amendment Law, I would say more about the Court of Resolution. Mr President, Sir, this Court is meant to settle disputes in jurisdiction between the Sharia Court of Appeal and the High Court. This short Bill, Sir, amends section 6 of the Principal Law so as to provide for the procedure for referring conflict of jurisdiction between the two Courts to the Court of Resolution.

This amendment is in accordance with the procedure and therefore, Sir, I beg to move.

The Minister for Local Government (Alhaji the hon. Sule Gaya): Mr President, Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Deputy President: Committee when?

The Minister of Justice: Now, Sir.

House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House.

(House in Committee)

Clauses 1 and 2—agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

(House resumed)

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill reported without amendment; and accordingly read the third time and passed.

Pool Betting (Parliamentary Authority)
Law, 1963

Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Internal Affairs (Alhaji Muhammadu Kabo, Ciroman Katagum): Mr President, Sir, I rise to move the reading of the Pool Betting (Parliamentary Authority) Law, 1963.

The object of this Bill is to confer authority on the Parliament of the Federation of Nigeria to enact Legislation to control Pool Betting Business in Northern Nigeria and to impose a tax thereon.

The effect of this Bill is that it will allow the Parliament of the Federation to control Pools Betting until such time as the Northern Nigeria Government has prepared a Law of its own and the subject of Pools Betting is a difficult one. Pools Betting is firmly established in the Region, it is impracticable to ban it since any ban could easily be evaded, and therefore the only possible step to take is to control it and tax it. The position in regard to Islamic Law has been examined by the Highest Authority who advises that the step proposed is in order.

Sir, I beg to move.

The Minister of Justice (Alhaji the hon. Muhammadu Nasir): Mr President, Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Etsu Nupe (Alhaji Usman Sarki): *(Prolonged Applause):* Mr President, Sir, I don't need to say anything about this Bill, because it had been my babe. *(Laughter)* But I want to ask a question. I don't know whether the Government has now decided what to do with the money accruing from the tax collected from pools business?

Emir of Misau (Mallam Ahmadu, M.B.E.): Mr President, Sir, I would like to ask the Minister a question. As it is said in the Islamic Law that Pools Betting is prohibited and is against the Islamic Law; and as the Minister said that the position in regard to Islamic Law has been examined by the Highest Authority who advises that the step proposed is in order, well, I want to know the Highest Authority who advised that Pools Betting is in order.

The Minister of Internal Affairs (Alhaji the hon. Muhammadu Kabir, Ciroman Katagum): Mr President, Sir, Etsu Nupe asked what would happen to the money collected on Pools Betting. If he could well remember, he himself introduced such kind of Bill, when he was the Minister of Internal Affairs in the Federal Parliament; and he knows where he put the money when the Federal Government received it. *(Applause).*

[THE MINISTER OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS]

The Emir of Misau said that he wants to know the Highest Authority who examines this Law and found that it is in order. I would like to inform him that this Bill was sent direct to the Grand Khadi who examined it. Before this Bill was prepared, many people fell into the habit of doing Pools Betting because of the profit they earned. It is very difficult to prevent the majority of the people from doing this Pools Betting, as to prohibit them would make them encounter many difficulties.

Question again proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Mr President: Committee when?

The Minister of Internal Affairs (Alhaji the hon. Muhammadu Kabir, Ciroman Katagum): Now, Sir.

House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole House.

(House in Committee)

Mr President: Clause 1.

Chief of Tegina: Mr President, Sir, I rise to support this Motion. My only question is about Pool Betting. Does this only concern the Pool Betting or every kind of betting; because I can remember in Kamuku such things happen. So, I would like to know if this only concerns one place or there is a licence for this.

The Minister of Internal Affairs (Alhaji the hon. Muhammadu Kabir, Ciroman Katagum): Mr President, Sir, I think the Chief is talking about gambling. There is a provision for this in the Penal Code. Here we are referring to the Pool Betting.

Clauses 1-2—agreed to.

(House resumed)

Bill reported without amendment; read the third time and passed.

Provincial Councils (Amendment) Law 1963

Order for Second Reading Read.

The Minister for Local Government (Alhaji the hon. Sule Gaya): Mr President, Sir, I rise to move that the Bill for a Law to amend the Provincial Councils Law, 1959 be now read a second time. Sir, the purpose of this Bill is to amend certain sections of the principal Law so as to bring it into accord with recent developments in the Provincial Administration.

The Provincial Councils are destined to play an important role in our administrative system. It is therefore necessary that the Provincial Commissioners who are not only the Chief representatives of the Regional Government in the Provinces but also Ministers of State, are given positions befitting their status on the councils. This Bill provides for amendment of the Provincial Councils Law, 1959 so as to provide that the Chairman of each Provincial Council shall be the Provincial Commissioner of the Province concerned.

At this stage, Sir, I must say how grateful I am to the first chairman of these councils through whose expert guidance the councils have made wonderful progress. By introducing this change, we do not mean to deprive the councils of the rich experience of these gentlemen and in order that they may be retained in the Councils this Bill provides that in addition to the Chairman there shall in future be a statutory vice-chairman of each Provincial Council. The first vice-chairman of each Provincial Council will be appointed by me and I intend to exercise this power to appoint as vice-chairmen the former chairmen who are not members of the Government. Subsequent vice-chairmen will be elected by the members of the each Council amongst themselves. As this is a non-controversial and straightforward Bill, I am confident it will have the support of the whole House.

Mr President, Sir, I beg to move.

The Minister of Social Welfare and Cooperatives (Alhaji Ahmadu Fatika, Sarkin Fadan Zazzau): Mr President, Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Chief of Kuta (Alhaji Ahmadu Bahago): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support this Bill. In appointing these Provincial Commissioners to be Chairmen of Provincial Councils, I myself realise that it will help them and I know they will do well. I am sure the Provincial Commissioners will get to learn how to handle the Chiefs of the Provinces without any difficulties. It will also help them to solve some of the simple appeals made by some Native Authorities.

Provincial Council is a very important Council in the Province, because it teaches other Native Authorities what their counterparts in other Provinces are doing. In addition it shows the progress made by the Government in the Province. With these few words, I beg to support.

Chief of Jos (Mallam Rwang Pam, M.B.E.): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support this very good plan proposed by the Government. This plan proposed by the Government is a very good one, because it will help the Provincial Commissioners as my colleague has just said to deal with the people in the Provinces without any difficulties because they are in charge of the Provinces. Every Native Authority in the Province has a representative in the Provincial Council, therefore every suggestion brought in by the Members of the Council will be simple to the Provincial Commissioner because he is already aware of what is happening in the Province.

It is also pleasing to hear from the Minister for Local Government that the former Chairmen of the Provincial Councils will be appointed to be the Vice-Chairmen of the new Councils, because they have already had experience in the former Councils; they have been in this office for a long time.

Mr President, Sir, the Government has made a very good plan which will help greatly in the function of Provincial Council. I beg to support.

Emir of Misau (Mallam Ahmadu, M.B.E.): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support this Bill. The appointment of Provincial Commissioners as Chairmen of the Provincial Councils is very appropriate. The only thing I wish to say is that there are many representatives in the Councils and this will enable the Commissioner to deal with the people easily. The new arrangement will free us from accusation of maladministration, etc and any decision made by the Councils would not be said to have been influenced by the Emirs. The Minister has now made our position clear of these unnecessary comments. I beg to support.

Emir of Borgu (Alhaji Muhammadu Sani): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support this Bill. The appointment of Provincial Commissioners as Chairmen of Provincial Councils is very good indeed. There is something I wish to say about this. For instance, if an Emir or a Chief falls ill, is it the Provincial Commissioner who is going to act on his behalf? Mr President, Sir, I beg to support.

Emir of Nassarawa (Alhaji Jibirin Mairiga): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support the Bill. In supporting the Bill, I have a question to ask the Minister. What is the difference between the Vice-Presidents nominated by the Council and those appointed by the Minister?

Emir of Jama'are (Mallam Muhammadu Wabi III): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support this Bill. I know that our work has now been assigned to the Provincial Commissioners, because we previously undertook this task, and for this reason I support.

The Minister for Local Government (Alhaji the hon. Sule Gaya): I should like to express my gratitude to the Chiefs of Kuta and Jos for their appreciation of the work of my Ministry. The Emir of Borgu has brought suggestion concerning the Native Authority Councils. I would like to draw his attention to one fact that we are now discussing Provincial Councils. However, I wish to advise him that provision is normally made in the Standing Orders of individual Native Authority Councils for the point he has raised. And he may wish to advise his Native Authority Council to make a provision in their Standing Orders if they have not done so already.

The Emir of Nasarawa wanted to know the difference between the Vice-Chairman that I am to appoint and the one to be appointed by the Councillors themselves. As a matter of fact there is no difference in the work of these Vice-Chairmen, but the provision sought is to enable me to appoint the existing Chairmen in view of the provision for the Provincial Commissioners to be Chairmen of Provincial Councils. The experience of these gentlemen who have brought the Councils to their present standard should not be lost. Hence I seek power to appoint them.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Deputy President: Committee when?

The Minister for Local Government: Now, Sir.

House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole House.

(House in Committee)

Clauses 1-4—agreed to.

(House resumed)

Bill reported without amendment; read the third time and passed.

Northern Region High Court (Amendment) Law, 1963

Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Justice (Alhaji the hon. Muhammadu Nasir): Mr President, Sir, I rise to move that the Bill entitled the Northern Region High Court (Amendment) Law, 1963, be read the second time. Mr President, Sir, in

[THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE]
the report submitted by the Panel of Jurists last year a recommendation was made that the appropriate appeal court should review some cases transferred or reported to the Appeal Court. Of the Panel, Sir, I shall say more when this hon. House is considering the Native Courts (Amendment) Bill. Clause 2 in this Bill confers the necessary power in the High Court to review cases referred to it. The Clause also make some consequential amendments.

Clause 3 amends section 35 of the Law to limit the application of English practice and procedure. This hon. House, Sir, yesterday approved while considering the Criminal Procedure Code (Amendment) Law, 1963 introduced by the hon. the Attorney-General that English criminal practice and procedure should cease to apply in Northern Nigeria.

Clause 4 amends section 35A in order to make it clear that the Court of Resolution only intervenes where there is a conflict of jurisdiction between the High Court and the Sharia Court of Appeal and not as a result of an appeal by a party against a High Court decision.

Clause 5 is an amendment to clarify an apparent inconsistency between section 58A of the Law and section 280 of the Criminal Procedure Code. It is now made clear that the High Court may extend the time prescribed by the Criminal Procedure Code for giving notice of appeal except in respect of sentences of caning.

Mr President, Sir, this is a very simple Bill and I beg to move.

The Attorney-General (Hon. I. M. Lewis, Q.C.): Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Deputy President: Committee when?

The Minister of Justice: Now, Sir.

House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole House.

(House in Committee)

Clauses 1-2:

Chief of Jos (Mallam Rwang Pam): Mr President, Sir, I rise to ask a question on clause 2(a) where it requires the deletion of sections 13, 14 and 15 and to be substituted with section 12 and 14. May I know whether this is from the Penal Code or from the Law Book? That is what I want to ask the Minister of Justice, and I would like him to make the point clear.

Are these changes then from the Penal Code or from other Laws? That is what I am asking the Minister to clarify. Mr President, Sir, I support the Bill.

The Minister of Justice (Alhaji the hon. Muhammadu Nasir): Mr President, Sir, the change in figures is to comply with amendments in other Laws when they are amended. That is why we have to change them here in order to agree so that we have the same thing included.

Clauses 1 and 2—agreed to.

Clauses 3-5—agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

(House resumed)

Bill reported without amendment; read the third time and passed.

Sharia Court of Appeal (Amendment) Law, 1963

Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Justice (Alhaji the hon. Muhammadu Nasir): Mr President, Sir, I beg to move that the Bill entitled the Sharia Court of Appeal (Amendment) Law, 1963 be now read a second time.

Mr President, Sir, the amendment in this Bill is to implement the recommendations of the Panel of Jurists. Clause 2 amends Section 3 of the Shari'a Court of Appeal Law. Firstly by amending sub-section 1 by using the same phrase to Section 66 of the Native Courts' Law 1956. Secondly, by providing in black and white that the Court has the power to punish for contempt of Court.

Clause 3 amends section 4 of the Law by increasing the number of judges from two to three in addition to the Grand Khadi and the Deputy Grand Khadi.

Clause 4 has firstly a similar amendment as in Clause 2(a), and secondly adds a new subsection (4) to section 11 to confer power in the Court to review cases reported to it under the Native Courts Law, 1956. A similar amendment is made in the Northern Region High Court Law.

Clause 5 amends section 14 of the Law to make it clear that the Court of Resolution only intervenes when there is a conflict of jurisdiction between the Shari'a Court of Appeal and the High Court and not as result of an appeal by a party from a decision of the Shari'a Court of Appeal.

Mr President, Sir, this Bill is non-controversial and I beg to move.

The Minister of Economic Planning (Alhaji the hon. Muhammadu Bashir, O.B.E., Wamban Daura): Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Mr President: Committee when?

The Minister of Justice: Now, Sir.

House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House.

(House in Committee)

Clauses 1-2:

Chief of Paiko (Alhaji Muhammadu Bello): Mr President, Sir, I want to ask a question on Clause 2(a). May I know if somebody who is an accused person also commits contempts of court in the same court that is trying his case, can that Court try him for the contempts?

The Minister of Justice (Alhaji the hon. Muhammadu Nasir): If an accused person is found guilty of contempt of Court, the judge can send him to prison and also can try his case. But in smaller courts, the Judges are empowered to take the case to the Provincial Courts.

Clauses 1-2—agreed to.

Clause 3—agreed to.

Clauses 4-5—agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

(House resumed)

Bill reported without amendment; read the third time and passed.

Wild Animals Law, 1963

Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Animal and Forest Resources (Alhaji the hon. Mu'azu Lamido, Magatakarda of Sokoto): Mr President, Sir, I rise to move that a Bill entitled the Wild Animals Law, 1963 be now read a second time.

Sir, the purpose of this Bill is to bring up-to-date the present Wild Animals Preservation Ordinance (Chapter 232) which was made in 1916. Because the present Ordinance is out of date and not suited to modern conditions, the Committee for the Preservation of Wild Life, which is an Inter-Regional Committee set up by the Council of Natural Resources, started the revision of the Ordinance in 1959. This Bill which is now before the House is the

result of the Committee's work and it has been accepted by the other Regions and the Federation as well, with such minor amendments as are necessary in each Region to suit local conditions. This means, Sir, that there will be a basically uniform Wild Life Law throughout the Federation.

Sir, what the Bill is designed to achieve are clearly explained under Objects and Reasons at the end of the Bill. I do not therefore intend to take up the hon. Members time by repeating what is already written. But I would like to draw attention to the fact that most, if not all, of our Wild Animals are now in danger of extinction, simply because of uncontrolled hunting which is now going on throughout the Region. Everybody can remember that not long ago, if one travelled about in the Region, one could see a lot of game in the Country side, but now one can see nothing, because most of the game have been killed off or driven away by the hunters.

Sir, we all realise the importance of our Wild Animals, which are not only part of our heritage, but also constitute an important natural resources. It is therefore proper and fitting that we should make legislation to preserve our wild animals and ensure efficient control over their hunting. Sir, the Bill which is now before the House is designed to give both the Government and the Native Authorities better control of hunting and also means of raising more revenue than is possible under the present Ordinance.

Finally, Sir, I should like to appeal to all the Members of this hon. House to give their fullest support and co-operation to the implementation of this Bill when it becomes Law. Sir, I beg to move.

The Minister of Information (Alhaji the hon. Ibrahim Bui): Mr President, Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

The Chief of Kuta (Alhaji Ahmadu Bahago): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support this Bill and also to thank the Government for its introduction. Of course, this one is of economic interest and will prevent or rather reduce frequent accidents in hunting. When hunting is restricted, no doubt, our wild animals will increase considerably. I hope that monkeys will be included in the list as they are dangerous to crops. With these remarks, I beg to support.

Etsu Lapai (Alhaji Muhammadu Kobo): Mr President, Sir, I am on my legs to speak in support of the Bill before the House. The

[CHIEF OF KUTA]
 object of the Bill has well been explained by the mover of the motion. I must say that hunting to a great many people in this country is another way of earning livelihood. Very few people go hunting for the sake of sport only. In my own Native Authority area a good number of farmers become hunters after having gathered the crops in. They use all sorts of things for this purpose. They use the gun, the spear, the arrow and the trap. Most of the animals they kill are sold to earn money. People with dane-guns have to license their guns by paying authorised fees to the Native Authority. That is the state of affairs as far as the hunters in my local administration area are concerned.

I turn now to the Bill itself. In Clause 4, we have in the First Schedule the list of prohibited animals. Among the list are Chimpanzee and Gorrilla which I consider to be some kind of monkeys or farm pests which the farmers should try to destroy.

In Clause 6, animals have been specified in the Second and Third Schedules and described as specially protected and protected animals respectively. In the Second Schedule is to be found Colobus monkey, which, I believe is another type of monkey. I would like to suggest, Sir, that since the Government has provided Game Reserves where every animal can live and multiply at ease the farmers be given authority to destroy animals that are considered to be pests or harmful. Clause 7 says that the Minister may grant a licence to any person to hunt specially protected animals or protected animals. I think for the convenience of applicants for licence, the Minister should delegate his power to all the Native Authorities who can charge fees to augment their treasuries. It may take much longer time for an application to go through all the formalities to reach the Minister who is to give the licence. In my Native Authority area there are more than 200 owners of dane-guns who yearly take a ten-shilling licence which permits them to hunt with the guns. I hope the Government may think over this matter again.

Clause 33 deals with restriction on killing of fish by means of poison or dynamite or explosive. It should be known that fish killed by means of poison loses its nice taste when cooked for meal. Also fish killed by means of dynamite or explosive becomes poisoned and dangerous for eating. Hundreds of fish lose their lives at one stroke by means of the use of explosive.

Clause 44 gives permission to destroy animals if necessary. In my area of administration there is a case in point. There is a village known as Yawa on the Niger. For the past two years they have battled with Hippopotami that go about in a small herd. They have stopped the people from fishing at their convenience. They have destroyed their crops such as maize, beans, cassava and sweet potatoes grown along the bank. They have appealed to me, but in vain, to help drive away the animals. Since the Hippopotami are protected animals no permission has been given to kill them although permission has been sought from the right quarters.

I summarise my points into three categories:—

(a) Game Preservation should be done by creating more game reserves as in Bauchi and Borgu.

(b) Wild animals are a danger to our economy. Some of them eat groundnuts or cotton, some eat yams, corn and cassava whilst others like monkeys eat and destroy any crop. So we either have the wild animals without the crops, and vice versa.

(c) The authority to hunt or kill wild animals by means of licence should be delegated by the Minister to the Native Authority concerned, so that the fees charged should form part of Native Authority revenue.

Mr President, Sir, with these observations I support the Bill.

Chief of Sharagi (Mallam Sule Ndakpotu): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support this Bill. In the first place I have a question to ask the Minister although I have heard an hon. Chief spoke about it. It is about the authority to be given to people to kill animals. The Minister should delegate this authority to Native Authority, because sometimes these wild animals threaten the lives of the people. Some of these wild animals live in the area that has been preserved and they are dangerous to the people. With these few observations, I support the Bill.

Chief of Paiko (Mallam Muhammadu Bello): Mr President, Sir, the Government is to be commended for introducing this very important Bill, because in five years' time Northern Nigeria's wild animals should have eventually disappeared. At the moment, the number is being eliminated by day or by night.

It is also pleasing to note that traps are prohibited. Such method of hunting is rather

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notorious and dangerous. Many hunters lose their lives through such method of hunting if the wild beast managed to escape. I would like to suggest that in each Province many reserves should be created. But hunters should be allowed to chase and kill snakes and monkeys because they are dangerous to our lives and crops.

Chief of Idoma (Mr Ajene Ukpabi): Mr President, Sir, although I am one of the best hunters, but I feel very happy to support this very important Bill. It is a fact that in some areas, especially in my area, there are many wild animals but we can not get them as before. Even the young boys coming up will not know these animals because they are being killed at a rapid rate as Sarkin Paiko has just said.

If these wild animals attack anyone I do not know whether it will be possible for that person to kill the animal in self-defence without obtaining the necessary permit to do so. I do not know whether there is such a provision in the Law to guide the people against this. For instance, if a hunter meets a wild animal accidentally and in an attempt to escape he killed the animal, would it not be sufficient to accept his evidence without asking him to obtain the permit? I feel it will be a wise thing if that provision is inserted in the Law. As I cannot see properly, I do not know whether there is any clause in the law about this, and if there is one, I suggest to the Minister that such provision should be made to this effect. With these few remarks, I beg to support.

Chief of Jos (Mallam Rwang Pam, M.B.E.): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support this Bill. The Government has been good enough to introduce this Bill at this appropriate time. Because if our wild animals are not preserved there will be none left in the future. What I want to say, is not to oppose the Bill but to bring forward some suggestions. Everybody knows that hunting is widely practised in Northern Region. Everybody is aware that in every District or Division hunting is a part of the custom and traditions of the people who are used to it. After collecting all their harvest the people gather themselves and go out for hunting. This does not affect the young people alone, but it also affect the older people as well; they all go out to hunt animals. Therefore, Mr President, Sir, will there be a list of animals, prohibited and unprohibited from being hunted? If this is not clarified fully to the people when they enter into the Game

Reserve they will be prosecuted. They would argue that they have been used to hunting in that forest and say they do not know the reason why they are prohibited from hunting there. For this reason, I want to know from the Minister the process whereby the people will be fully aware of this Law and to know the types of bush where such hunting is illegal.

Mr President, if this is done I believe that no body will go there and hunt the wild animals.

Chief of Tegna (Mallam Muhammadu Abokin Mallam): I rise to thank the Government for introducing this Bill. Of course wild animals are suffering greatly day and night. It is true that one goes around the bush hunting these animals and this is very inconvenient to the animals. Will it be possible to adopt the suggestions made by some Chiefs as already there are some hunters with guns, arrows, spears and snares and of course there are some with even torch lights who usually go in the night to hunt these animals.

Chief of Kagoro (Mallam Gwamna, M.B.E.): I rise to support this motion and to show my gratitude to the Government in this connection. I have not so much to say because the previous speakers had already said what I wanted to say. It is true that there are many wild animals in this country and they form part of our natural resources. In the past no one bothered because people were hunting with bows and arrows and these weapons did not hurt the animals so much, but nowadays there are guns and many other weapons that greatly hurt them.

This Bill will remove the previous danger to the lives of the wild animals because it will protect them. One thing that worries me is that there are some hunters who regard hunting as hereditary.

I also welcome the idea of giving the indigenous hunters licences.

Such people used to go in groups of about 100 to 300 people into the forest for hunting. What step does the Minister propose to take in this connection. I would like a clarification on this. With these few remarks, I beg to support the Bill.

The Deputy President: Order! Order! I think it is now a convenient time for break.

House suspended for 15 minutes at 11.45 a.m.

(House resumed at 12.05 p.m.)

Emir of Misau (Mallam Ahmadu, M.B.E.): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support this Bill. Everybody likes to eat hunted meat but it is an offence to the Government. Hunting has been

[EMIR OF MISAU]

done for quite a long time. I could remember an instance when many people, about 3,000 of them, from Kano, Misau and other places gathered for such hunting. Before the closure of the hunting, one person died. I had to go out with the aid of police to restore peace. Certainly this hunting used to bring enmity between people. What I am not clear about is, are instructions being given to village hamlets, village heads, district heads or chiefs to deal with such things? At present the amount payable for the licence is only 10s and I suggest to the Government that if indeed the people are in need of hunting the licence be increased to £10. I am not clear about those listed as protected and those not protected in the schedule.

With these remarks, I support the Bill.

The Chief of Nassarawa (Alhaji Jibirin Mairiga): Mr. President, Sir, I rise to support this Bill about wild Animals. Of course, it is very important to preserve the lives of the wild animals. To my own understanding of this Bill, licences will be directly issued by the Minister. I am suggesting to the Minister whether it would be possible to delegate any of his powers to a representative of his in the provinces so as to make it easy for the issuing of licences. Northern Nigeria is a vast region and those who want to hunt are many.

In Clause 9, you will find that no person shall hunt any female prohibited animal, and in Clause 11 there is a provision for self-defence, if the animal tries to harm him. For instance if a hunter sees a buffalo in a forest and he is unaware that the buffalo is with a young one, what will happen to the hunter when he unintentionally shoots the young buffalo in an attempt to escape from the buffalo? Will it be taken under the law that he has committed any offence? Because he was only trying to avoid the buffalo from killing him. With these few words I beg to support.

The Minister of Animal and Forest Resources (Alhaji the hon. Mu'azu Lamido, Magatarkadan Sokoto): Mr. President, Sir, I am very grateful to the Chiefs for their deep appreciation with regard to my Ministry and this Bill in particular.

I now wish to give reply to some of the points raised by the Hon. Chiefs. Etsu Lapai and Chief of Sharagi have appealed whether I will delegate my power to the Native Authorities in giving out licences for the destruction of wild animals that constantly threaten the people, so that the Native Authorities will benefit

from the revenue collected. Well this is a question of giving more revenue to the Native Authorities. But it is my intention that as soon as this Law comes into operation and is passed in this House, I will delegate the power to issue permit to those staff of my Ministry residing in the Provinces.

Etsu Lapai also mentioned the destruction of crops by apes and monkeys which are protected animals. Clause 44 will give the remedy to this request. He also expressed the destruction caused by Hippopotamus, Clause 44 is also applicable. This also answers the Chief of Sharagi's question about the killing of wild animals and their young ones. It is very pleasing for me to say that if application for killing of such dangerous animals is made permission will be given.

The Chief of Sharagi asked why these animals have been protected. The objects for the protected animals have already been mentioned by me during the Second Reading of the Bill and it has been made clear the objects and reasons for making this Law. There is no doubt that without the protection of wild animals, in a few years time our wild animals would be exterminated.

The Chief of Idoma asked what would be the remedy for those wild animals that threaten the lives of the people. Clause 44 is also applicable here.

Sarkin Jos has asked the way by which the people will understand this Law. I would like to say that the usual method used by the Government to bring to the people any new legislation will be followed in implementing this Law. Very shortly, we are going to introduce some pamphlets in order to inform the people of our reserves and protected areas. Sarkin Jos also asked whether there will be reserves for the animals which will be protected. There is a provision in Clauses 12 and 29, and these Clauses give the power to the Government and Native Authorities to establish game reserves which will be prohibitive to hunting.

The Chief Tegina advised that the skins of wild animals such as leopards and some other animals should be inspected. I am very glad to hear this. There is a provision in Clause 36 to this effect.

The Chief of Kagoro has explained about the customary hunting in which the hunters used to go in a crowd. He asked which method is to be applied by the hunters. Mr. President, Sir, there is a provision being made under Native Authority Law, Clause 37, sub-section 10 and also clause 43, sub-sections 3, 9 and 10.

The Emir of Misau asked the reasons why these animals are so protected in clauses 2 and 3 and asked whether hunting of them is prohibited. The answer is 'yes'—they are protected from the hunters.

The Emir of Nassarawa suggested that the delegation of power be given to my Ministry. I have already covered this in my answer. Since in clause 11 a person is given a sentence on trespass for killing animals and in clause 9 killing of wild animals is not allowed. He also asked what would happen if he met a female animal? My answer to that is that a human life is more precious than that of an animal.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Mr President: Committee when?

The Minister of Animal and Forest Resources: Now, Sir.

House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole House.

(House in Committee)

Clauses 1-3—agreed to.

Clauses 4-11—agreed to.

Clauses 12-14—agreed to.

Clause 15:

Etsu Nupe (Alhaji Usman Sarki): This clause, 15, states that Game Reserve Officer shall have the power of District Judge. Well, it is really rather frightening and I do not know actually what the clause means. Does it mean that the officer can sign cases himself, though I know clauses 12-14 provide that he should enquire about the circumstance, but after the enquiry could he sign by himself or take the offender to the Court?

The Minister of Animal and Forest Resources: The reason why this Law is framed is in order to see that the Game Reserve Officer has every right whatsoever in the discharge of his duty.

Clause 15—agreed to.

Clause 16:

Etsu Nupe (Alhaji Usman Sarki): Clause 17. I have heard the hon. Minister saying "baya shiga; baya shiga"; but this clause shows that if a person takes the case to the Court it can be taken as offensive. May I therefore ask through you, Mr Chairman, that the Attorney-General should make the position clearer?

The Attorney-General (Hon. I. M. Lewis, Q.C.): The provision in Clause 15 that a game Reserve Settlement Officer shall have the powers of a District Judge is to enable the Game Reserve Settlement Officer when he is holding an enquiry under Clause 14 to hear evidence on Oath, which he would not otherwise be able to do without the provisions of Clause 15.

If a person is dissatisfied with the findings of the Game Reserve Settlement Officer, he has under Clause 17 the right of appeal to a District Judge, that is a person who has been appointed specifically to be a District Judge and he then has a further appeal from him to the High Court.

Etsu Nupe (Alhaji Usman Sarki): Thank you.

Clauses 16-24—agreed to.

Clauses 25-32—agreed to.

Clauses 33-35—agreed to.

Clauses 36-43—agreed to.

Clauses 44-52:

Etsu Nupe (Alhaji Usman Sarki): Clause 44, Sir. Where it is said; "that a protected animal or other wild animal shall be captured or destroyed, the Minister or such officer as he may appoint for the purpose may authorise any person to kill or capture such animal". But in the same Clause, Sub-section (c) which "specify the period for which the authority is valid provided that such period shall not exceed three months at any one time;" Mr President, Sir, in my humble opinion, I would have thought that this three months period is too short because it is a very risky business. If one wants to hunt a game or rather a sort of a wild game, he may take about a month to go about it before he could do anything at all. Of course, the Minister has never done such a thing... (Laughter)... and I feel that if this three months period is extended it would be very helpful since it now becomes necessary that one cannot hunt any animal without the authority of the Minister.

The Minister of Animal and Forest Resources (Alhaji the hon. Mu'azu Lamido, Magatakardan Sokoto): Mr President, Sir, if the three months are over and the hunting could not take place, then another permit could be given.

Chief of Wushishi: Mr President, I have a question regarding Clause 48: Where it said, "Where in any proceeding under the provisions

[CHIEF OF WUSHISHI]
of this Law, or of any regulations made hereunder, any fine is imposed the court may at its discretion direct that when any such fine is paid a sum not exceeding half the sum so paid shall be awarded to any person having given information leading to the conviction of the offender".
 I would like to know how this money will come out.

The Attorney-General: (Hon. I. M. Lewis, Q.C.): The hon. Chief has asked a question which was also asked in the other House and the Answer is that this is a discretion which is vested in the Court and enables the Court to give to an informer up to half of the amount of the fine with which the Court has punished the Offender. The reason for this is that it is very difficult to enforce these Game Laws and it is therefore necessary to appeal to the General Public to give every assistance to the authorities to catch these poachers. This is meant to encourage them to perform that public duty.

Chief of Wushishi: I am not clear, Sir. My question is not why, but how is the money going to be paid out from the Court to the Informant?

The Attorney-General: (Hon. I. M. Lewis, Q.C.): If the Court gives a fine of say £10 and decides that the informer's services are worth £5, that is the maximum that they could give him. When the offender pays the fine, the Court will give the informer the £5 which should have been declared in open court to be his award when judgment is given in the case.

The Chief of Wushishi: Mr President, Sir, I am still not clear. What I would like to

say is that the money or the fine when paid to the court, the offender will be issued with a receipt and once that is done, the money would be paid into the treasury. I was wondering how this money could be paid to the informant without preparing any voucher?

The Attorney-General: This is purely Court administrative procedure and I suggest that the hon. Chief sees the hon. Minister of Justice so that he may explain to him very clearly what he should do.

Clauses 44-52--agreed to.

Clauses 53-55--agreed to.

First Schedule--agreed to.

Second Schedule--agreed to.

Third Schedule--agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

(House resumed)

Bill reported without amendment; and accordingly read the third time and passed.

The Minister of Economic Planning (Alhaji the hon. Muhammadu Bashir O.B.E., Wamban Daura): Mr President, Sir, I beg to move that the House do now adjourn.

The Minister of Social Welfare and Cooperatives (Alhaji the hon. Ahmadu Fatika, Sarkin Fadan Zazzau): Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

House accordingly adjourned at 12.50 p.m. until 10.00 o'clock tomorrow, Thursday, 4th April, 1963.

Volume 19
No. 8

Thursday
4th April, 1963



NORTHERN NIGERIA LEGISLATURE

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(HANSARD)

HOUSE OF CHIEFS^o OFFICIAL REPORT

(Third Legislature)

Third Session

(First Meeting)

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HOUSE OF CHIEFS NORTHERN NIGERIA

Thursday, 4th April, 1963
The House met at 10.00 a.m.

PRAYERS

(DEPUTY PRESIDENT *in the Chair*)

The Deputy President: Order, Order—
Motion.

MOTION

Adjournment

The Minister without Portfolio (Mallam the hon. Sulu Gambari): Mr President, Sir, I beg to move the motion standing in my name on the Order Paper for today, namely:—

Be it resolved:

“That this House at its rising this day do adjourn sine die, provided the business on the Order Paper is completed.”

The Attah of Igala (Mallam the hon. Aliyu Obaje): Sir, I beg to second.

The Deputy President: Before I put the question, I would like to inform all the hon. Members that I am expecting Mr President, towards the end of this sitting to come and close the Session.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Resolved:

“That this House at its rising this day do adjourn sine die provided the business on the Order Paper is completed.”

The Deputy President: I would now ask the Clerk to proceed to read the Order of the Day.

Native Courts (Amendment) Law, 1963

Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Justice (Alhaji the hon. Muhammadu Nasir): Mr President, Sir, I rise to move that the Native Courts (Amendment) Law, 1963, be read the second time.

Mr President, Sir, my Government in 1958 invited a Panel of Legal experts consisting of the Chief Justice of the Sudan, the hon. Sayed Mohammed Abu Ranat, Mr Justice Mohammed Sharif, Chairman of the Pakistan Law Commission, Professor J. N. D. Anderson of the School of African and Oriental Studies and the Director of advanced Legal Studies, University of London. These are experts from overseas. Locally the members of this distinguished gathering were the hon. Shettima Kašhim, the Waziri of Bornu, as he then was, now His

Excellency the Governor of Northern Nigeria. The hon. Mr Peter Achimugu, who was at one time a highly respected Minister in this Government and a devoted christian and now Provincial Court Judge and Mallam Musa Bida, then Chief Alkali of Bida and now a Provincial Court Judge. This Panel, Sir, was charged by my Government with an onerous responsibility of reviewing our legal and judicial systems.

The Panel of Jurists, Sir, submitted its report to the Government in September 1958 and the recommendations contained therein as set out in a White Paper laid before the Legislative Houses in December, 1958, were accepted by the Government.

One of the recommendations was that the same Panel, after a period of approximately three years, should return to the Region in order to review the progress and advise on any further changes that might prove necessary.

As we all know, Sir, this Government immediately started to implement the various recommendations. The undertaking of these revolutionary and important judicial and legal reforms was acclaimed by world legal opinion as one of the most outstanding achievement in this field in our times. After approximately three years the Government invited the members of the Panel of Jurists to reassemble and review progress as suggested by the Panel. This they did in May 1962.

Sir, my Government gave no specific terms of reference and the members of the Panel were invited to study critically all aspects of our legal and judicial systems in all fields and to advise the Government as they think fit. It is part of these recommendations as stated in the White Paper entitled *“Statement made by the Government of Northern Nigeria on Additional Adjustments to the Legal and Judicial Systems of Northern Nigeria”*, that necessitates this Bill.

Mr President, Sir, with this background the Bill before the House is very simple to understand. Simple though it is very important.

Mr President, Sir, Clause 2 puts in new definitions; the most important, being that of *“Alkali”*; *“Inspector of Native Courts”* and *“Provincial Commissioner”*.

Clause 3 substitutes the word *“Resident”* which is now out of date and puts in *“Provincial Commissioner”*. Clause 4 puts in new sections 4 and 5. The new section 4 recognises a Vice-President of a native court and also provides that the quorum of the court may be fixed in the Warrant or by rules of court. The new section 5

[THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE] provides that alkalai, presidents, vice-presidents and court members are to be appointed by the native authority; the others were appointed by Residents. All appointments however are, as hitherto, subject to approval either by the Judicial Service Commission or myself. The approval of the Judicial Service Commission or myself will only be given if the candidate is suitable for such appointment in the sense that he has the requisite qualifications and integrity.

In the same way as appointments must be approved likewise the dismissal, suspension, transfer or reduction in emoluments must have the approval of the Judicial Service Commission or myself. This provision which is in a new section 5A under clause 5 of this Bill is intended to give judicial officers security of tenure of office and that sense of independence which is necessary for the impartial administration of justice. This section is not new but has been worded in such a way that the various responsibilities are clearly stated. It is clearly stated that the native authority may take disciplinary action under the staff regulations other than reduction of salary without prior approval. The Alkali or other judicial officer must realise that the intention is not to give him a free hand to do as he wishes but to have tighter control over him so as to ensure justice to the individual in the same way as his security is ensured.

Subsection (9) of the new section 5A provides that the Judicial Service Commission or myself may direct native authority to take disciplinary action where the native authority has failed or neglected to do so.

A new section 5B authorises me to delegate any or all of my powers.

Clause 8 of the Bill makes subsection (1) of section 37 more general.

Clause 9 deals with evidence of person not subject to the jurisdiction of native courts hitherto such evidence could only be taken before a Magistrate or District judge or officers of such court now with my permission such evidence may be taken before a native court.

Clause 10 repeals Part VIII of the Law and substitutes a new Part VIII incorporating sections 32 and 33 which are repealed by Clause 7.

The new Part provides for the appointment of officers to be known as inspectors of native courts and provides that native courts shall when required submit reports of cases to such inspectors and give such inspectors access to native courts. The new Part also gives

supervisory powers over native courts to inspectors of native courts and empowers such inspectors by order to stay the hearing of any cause or matter in a native court and to transfer such cause or matter to another native court or to a District Court or Magistrate's Court or the High Court. In fact most of the powers previously vested in Administrative Officers.

These officers are officers in my Ministry and when sufficient number of them is appointed they will be responsible for all supervision of native courts. In addition to their supervisory duties they will be responsible for some of the teaching programmes for native courts staff. The inspectors will also collect whenever possible various native laws and customs with a view to understanding the various native laws and customs better and when desirable codifying them. In discharging their duties these officers have only one yard stick and that is "justice".

Clause 11 amends section 60 so as to provide that Provincial Courts may sit in two or more divisions.

Clauses 12 and 15 make provision for Ilorin Provincial Court to have members as those of Plateau, Kabba and Benue Provinces.

Clauses 13 and 14 provide that the powers formally vested in the Resident under sections 63 and 64 now be given to inspectors.

Clause 16 deals with appeals from order or sentence in cases reported under section 58 or 58A.

Clause 18 creates the new Government native courts as recommended by the Panel to be called Area Courts. These Courts shall consist of a sole judge who shall be a public servant: The court will be graded by the Governor. An Area Court may be urban or rural.

My Government, Sir, is determined to have judicial systems comparable to any other anywhere and will continue vigorously with its efforts to have the best courts and to have the best men sitting in them.

Mr President, Sir, I beg to move.

The Minister of Internal Affairs (Alhaji the hon. Muhammadu Kabir, Ciroman Katagum): Mr President, Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Chief of Paiko (Mallam Muhammadu Bello): Mr President, Sir, I have a question to ask the Minister. From whom comes the recommendation of an Alkali whose appointment

seeks the approval of the Judicial Service Commission or the Minister of Justice in the first instance?

Chief of Nassarawa-Eggon (Alhaji Abdullahi): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support this Bill, and also to thank the Government for its wisdom in appointing the Panel of Jurists to investigate into our Judicial System. Indeed legal and judicial systems are modern things which need to change with the modern set ups. Therefore this amendment is necessary in view of the changes in the country. I have not got something very important to add rather than to thank the Minister and his staff who have prepared this Bill.

Chief of Idoma (Mr Ajene Ukpabi): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support the Bill. This amendment is really very important, especially in those areas mentioned. This will increase the standard of honesty of the work carried out in the Native Courts. When people know that they are under supervision they will try to discharge their work properly.

I have to thank the Minister for bringing this new arrangement. There is one point which I should like to be made clear to me. That is in Section 5(3) the case of transfer. Members of the Court and the president are at present included in the same warrant. But it is possible for the President of the Court to be transferred from one place to another in a Division, but his name appears in the same warrant with the members within the same area. It will be wise if the President who is eligible for transfer from place to place be issued with a separate warrant indicating the Division where he will be transferred. With these few points, I beg to support.

Etsu Lapai (Alhaji Muhammadu Kobo): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support the Bill. I thank the Minister for explaining fully what the Bill is about. But I have a comment to make on *Clause 18—Part IXA—Area Courts. Section 70D (1)—The Governor in Council may by order establish native courts which shall be called Area Courts. In Section 70E(1)—An Area Court shall consist of a sole judge, who shall be appointed to the court by the Judicial Service Commission, and shall be called an Area Court judge. Section 70E (2)—Area Court judges and all staff of Area Courts shall be public officers in the public service of the Region.* By these provisions the Area Courts are going to be established and staffed by the Government and yet they will be called Native Courts. My argument Sir, is that the word "Native" should be deleted from the Section

70D(1) and then it will mean that Area Courts will be Courts to be established and run by the Government.

Chief of Jos (Mallam Rwang Pam, K.B.E.): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support the Bill and in doing so I wish to thank the Minister of Justice for introducing this new system of judicial court. Justice is one of the things that brings peace to the country if it is properly administered in the right manner. I understand that this Law concerns the Native Courts and I also think that it should concern the Alkali Courts and other traditional courts.

Well, Mr President, as courses have been provided for the Alkalis and Chiefs where they undergo training in Judicial proceedings and Local Government respectively, I would suggest that a similar course be provided for the Emirs and Chiefs whereby they could be trained on the Legal matters so as to enable them to follow the proper judicial proceedings.

I have a question on Section 2A where it is provided that a Legal Practitioner should be inserted, would it be possible that this Legal Practitioner should be deleted? Because it would be one and the same thing as provided in the Act of 1962. I would also like to know what is meant by Legal Practitioner since these Courts are Native Courts. I would like clarification on this.

The Minister of Justice (Alhaji the hon. Muhammadu Nasir): Mr President, Sir, the Chief of Paika would like to know who recommends the appointment of Alkali and whether it is the responsibility of Native Authority Council to recommend.

The answer to that; it is not only the recommendation of the Native Authority Council it is also the duty of a Native Authority to appoint an Alkali and for us to approve. The same applies to the appointment of a President or a Member of a Court. This is in the new Section 5. The Chief of Nassarawa Eggon has appreciated the work of the Government and in particular the staff of my Ministry. My Government is thankful to the hon. Chiefs who have shown their appreciation. He has also thanked the Panel of Jurists. My Government is most grateful to the Panel.

The Chief of Idoma said that the appointment of Native Court Inspectors will strengthen the justice of the Region. This is the intention of my Government on questions of Court Warrants appointing Members of the Court or President, consideration is being given to whether separate warrants are necessary.

[THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE]

The Emir of Lapai suggested that the word "native" should be deleted as it is not suitable to use the word "native court" for Government Court. To us the native court and the provincial court and magistrate court are all the same and one thing. As we sit here in this House we and the government are all natives. The Chief of Jos raised the point of teaching Emirs and Chiefs judicial work. I know the local government course for Chiefs includes the judicial aspect of their responsibility, but if we are able to get some Inspectors of Courts it would be possible to arrange for a special course in connection with this, so as to avoid the necessity of calling Chiefs away from their respective emirates for long. The hon. Chief would also like to know about the Legal Practitioners. The change of the definition is necessitated by the Legal Practitioners Act, 1962 which is the law now governing legal practice. The portion remains the same. Legal practitioners are not allowed in native courts.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

The Deputy President: Committee when?

The Minister of Justice: Now, Sir.

House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole House.

(House in Committee)

Bill immediately considered in Committee.

Clauses 1-9—agreed to.

Clauses 10-20—agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

(House Resumed)

Bill reported without amendment; read the third time and passed.

District Courts (Amendment) Law, 1963

Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister of Justice (Alhaji the hon. Muhammadu Nasir): Mr President, Sir, I rise to move that the Bill entitled the District Courts (Amendment) Law, 1963 be read the second time.

Mr President, Sir, Clause 2 amends section 13 (1) of the Law in order to limit the jurisdiction of the District Court with a Senior District Judge presiding where jurisdiction has been conferred on such Court by the Land Tenure Law, 1962, to cases where the capital value of the land in dispute does not exceed £500.

Clause 3 is a consequential amendment in respect of other District Courts.

Clause 4 inserts a new section 56A empowering the Court to order interim attachment of the Defendant's property.

Clause 5 inserts section 84A, similar to section 105A of the Northern Region High Court Law, 1955, so as to provide that the court may award costs to or against a public officer personally or to or against the Government in cases where a public officer in respect of his official capacity is represented by a law officer, Crown Counsel or other person authorised by the Attorney-General.

Mr President, Sir, I beg to move.

The Attorney-General (Hon. I. M. Lewis, Q.C.): Mr President, Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

The Deputy President: Committee when?

The Minister of Justice: Now, Sir.

House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole House.

(House in Committee)

Bill immediately considered in Committee.

Clauses 1-5—agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

(House Resumed)

Bill reported without amendment; read the third time and passed.

Native Authority (Amendment) Law, 1963

Order for Second Reading read.

The Minister for Local Government (Alhaji the hon. Sule Gaya): Mr President, Sir, I rise to move the Second Reading of the Bill entitled "The Native Authority (Amendment) Law, 1963".

The Bill seeks to amend certain sections of the principal law so as to bring them up-to-date. Section 2 of the Bill for example, corrects errors in Section 9 of the Law which arose, but were overlooked at the time, when the law was revised in 1960.

There is a need to amend section 63 of the Law so as to make it clear that more than one Advisory Committee can be appointed. At present only one Advisory Committee can be appointed under this section and this prevents my establishing any additional advisory Committees where they may be necessary.

Section 4 of the Bill seeks to strengthen the requirement of Financial Memoranda. This is necessary in view of the regrettable mounting cases of non-compliance with Financial Memo-

randa in recent years. The amendment is designed to make it clear that the Financial Memoranda approved by the Government are binding and must be strictly adhered to in the use made of public funds.

The need to protect Native Authorities against would be conspirators and betrayers is of great importance. Section 6 of the Bill amends section 106 of the Law by increasing the penalty for conspiracy against a Native Authority from one year to two years. This section of the Law is also amended so as to enable Native Courts to try cases arising under this section could only be tried by the High Court. Section 7 includes a new section 106A in the Law making it an offence for any member or employee of a Native Authority to betray the secrets of the Native Authority. The offence is punishable by a fine of £400 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or both such fine and imprisonment. However, before proceedings are taken for an offence against this section it is obligatory to get the consent of the Director of Public Prosecutions.

With the passing of the Provincial Administration Law, No. 2 of 1962, powers given to Administrative Officers under section 150 of the Native Authority Law passed into the hands of Provincial Commissioners and District Officers while the Provincial Secretaries are left out. Section 8 is designed to correct this anomaly. It seeks to delete the words "District Officer" from section 150 and to insert the words "Administrative Officer" so as to empower a Provincial Secretary to take action under section 150.

Sections 5 and 8 merely correct minor printing errors in sections 105 and 146 of the Law.

Mr President, Sir, I commend the Bill to the House.

The Minister of Economic Planning (Alhaji the hon. Muhammadu Bashar, Wamban Daura): Mr President, Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Chief of Kuta (Alhaji Ahmadu Bahago): Mr President, Sir, I rise to support this important Bill and also to thank the Government for its ability and capability in introducing it.

The Deputy President: Will you please speak louder?

Chief of Kuta (Alhaji Ahmadu Bahago): At the same time I thank the hon. Premier,

Alhaji the hon. Sir Ahmadu Bello, for his good leadership. Our Government is ready to take any good advice at all times given to it. No doubt this Bill will be of immense benefit to the Native Authorities. Clause 7 and the subjects therein are welcomed. Mr President, Sir, I beg to support.

Etsu Agaie: Mr President, Sir, I rise to thank the Minister for Local Government for introducing this Bill. But I have one question which worries me greatly and that is about the delay encountered when a new Member of a Native Authority Council is to be appointed.

If a member of a court dies and it becomes necessary to make a replacement, the usual procedure is to recommend somebody to the Provincial Secretary who would then pass on that recommendation to the Minister for his approval. This appears to me to be a long process and it usually takes considerable length of time before such an approval is received in the Province. I think this system is very inconvenient.

The Minister of Economic Planning (Alhaji the hon. Muhammadu Bashar, O.B.E., Wamban Daura): Mr President, on point of explanation, Sir. The Interpreter should say "The Minister for Local Government and not the then Minister for Local Government".

Chief of Agaie: Why I said this is that the delay takes about three to four months before an approval is received from the Headquarters. I wish the Minister would look into this matter.

Etsu Lapai: (Mallam Muhammadu Kobo): Mr President, Sir, my comments are with regard to Clause 7 new section 106A where it says "(1) No person being a Member of a Native Authority or person employed by a Native Authority shall—(a) transmit any classified matter to a person to whom he is not authorised on behalf of the Native Authority." In my own Native Authority area there are more than 50 members, some of them are literate and some semi-educated and very few of them can understand English. I believe that this is so with so many areas. Under this condition, I think it will be difficult to protect official information.

Some members have requested the Minister to look into this matter. It will be better to convert such Members to an advisory Capacity only. As for Native Authority staff the employees who are directly affected are the Chief

Official Oaths (Amendment) Law, 1963*Order for Second Reading read.*

The Minister of Justice (Alhaji the hon. Muhammadu Nasir): Mr President, Sir, I rise to move that the Bill entitled the Official Oaths (Amendment) Law, 1963 be read the second time. I am particularly happy to see that the President, is recovered from his sickness. We are grateful for the Almighty God. Mr President, Clause 2 of the Bill repeals and substitutes new sections 2 and 3 of the principal law. The purpose of the amendments is to take account of the changed constitutional position. With the coming into force of the Provincial Administration Law, 1962, Ministers were appointed who were not Members of the Executive Council. The two new sections prescribe the oaths necessary for a Minister who is a Member of the Executive Council and for a Minister who is not a Member of the Executive Council.

Clause 3 gives the wording of the respective oaths. Clause 4 amends part II of the second schedule to the Principal Law to make it possible for the Governor to take the oath of allegiance or the oath of office before the Chief Justice or before the Grand Khadi or before both of them instead of as at present before the Chief Justice only.

Mr President, Sir, I beg to move.

The Minister of Social Welfare and Co-operatives (Alhaji the hon. Ahmadu Fatika, Sarkin Fadan Zazzau): Mr President, Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Etsu Nupe (Alhaji Usman Sarki): Mr President, Sir, I hope that it will not be long before the House closes.

The Minister of Justice (Alhaji the hon. Muhammadu Nasir): Mr President, Sir, with all due respects to the hon. Chief, I do not know what he really means.

Question put and agreed to.

Mr President: Committee when?

The Minister of Justice: Now, Sir.

House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole House.

(House in Committee)

Clauses 1 and 2—agreed to.

Clauses 3 and 4—agreed to.

Bill to be reported.

(House resumed)

Bill reported without amendment; and read the third time and passed.

The Premier (Alhaji Sir Ahmadu Bello, K.B.E., Sardauna of Sokoto): Mr President, Sir, I beg to move that this House do now adjourn *sine die*. In moving this I wish to express my thanks to the Chiefs for their support to the Government and also to express my appreciation for what has been said about the Governor. The Chiefs are aware that the Census has been nullified and therefore has to be re-organised. I hope that the Chiefs will give their sincere support to its success. We have never questioned our integrity and for this I do not want anybody to feel that we are increasing the figures so as to increase our strength. Everybody knows that in the North we have the tax assessment figures and that village heads and district heads know quite exactly the number of people in their areas. We quite agree and believe that these figures are fair. We pray to Almighty that He continues to guide us in the best way. Mr President, I beg to move that this House be adjourned *sine die*.

The Sultan of Sokoto (Sir Abubakar, C.B.E.): Mr President, I beg to second. In seconding I wish to congratulate you Mr President for your quick recovery from illness and appear with us here. I feel I have to thank my fellow Chiefs for their patience and contributions to the debates of this hon. House. It is clear that five years ago it was hard for the Chiefs to speak in this House. But now one would tempt to say that Chiefs' contribution to the debates is very high. Mr President, I pray that the Blessings of God and the glory of Shehu Usman Mujaddadi, the Reformer, be with all Members of this hon. House, in the towns, villages, hamlets, and all our people (Amen! Amen!). And May the Almighty God, grant us peace, prosperity and tranquility (Amen! Amen!) (*Prolonged Applause*).

Question proposed that this House do now adjourn sine die.

Mr President: Before I put the question, I would like to thank my Deputy for the work which he has done during the business of the House (*Hear! Hear!*). I am also grateful to all hon. Members and the staff of the Legislature for their usual co-operation, despite the fact of the heat—we finish our debate. *Allah ya kaiku gida lafiya (Amen! Amen!).*

*Question again proposed.**Question put and agreed to.*

House accordingly adjourned sine die at 12.10 p.m.