



NORTHERN REGIONAL LEGISLATURE

HOUSE OF CHIEFS
DEBATES

(Second Legislature)

Third Session

(First Meeting)

9th March, 1959

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HOUSE OF CHIEFS
NORTHERN NIGERIA

Monday, 9th March, 1959.

The House met at 10.00 a.m.

PRAYERS

(THE PRESIDENT in the Chair)

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

The House agreed.

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

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE.

Mr. President, Chiefs of the Northern Region:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

PAPERS LAID

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

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

ORDERED:

That the said paper do lie upon the table.

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

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

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

ORDERED:

That the said papers do lie upon the Table.

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

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

ORDERED:

That the said paper do lie upon the table.

MOTIONS

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

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

Question proposed

Question put and agreed to

RESOLVED:

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

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

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

House resumed.

MESSAGES ON BILLS FROM ASSEMBLY

DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (AMENDMENT) LAW, 1959

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

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

Question put and agreed to.

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

1959/60, APPROPRIATION LAW, 1959

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

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

Question put and agreed to

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

SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION LAW, 1959

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

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

Question put and agreed to

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

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

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

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

Question put and agreed to

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

BETTING TAX LAW, 1959

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

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

Question put and agreed to

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

ENTERTAINMENT TAX LAW, 1959

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

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

Question put and agreed to

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

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

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

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

Question put and agreed to

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

PROVINCIAL COUNCILS LAW, 1959

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

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

Question put and agreed to

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

GASKIYA CORPORATION (AMENDMENT) LAW, 1959

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

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

Question put and agreed to

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

ORDER OF THE DAY.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Chiefs will be aware that the Federal Government

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sir, I beg to move.

MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Sir, I beg to second.

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

BUSINESS STATEMENT.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

RESOLVED:

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

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



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Tuesday, 10th March, 1959.

The House met at 9.00 a.m.

PRAYERS

(MR. PRESIDENT in the Chair)

MOTIONS.

COMMITTEE OF SELECTION.

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

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

Mr. President, I beg to move.

EMIR OF BEDDE: Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

RESOLVED:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

being considered for Northerners, This is indeed initiative.

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

Question proposed.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Mr. President, I support. (Applause)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

general public. (Applause)

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (AMENDMENT) LAW, 1959 -

Order for Second Reading read.

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

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

Question proposed

Question put and agreed to

Bill accordingly read a second time

Bill committed to a Committee of the whole House

(House in Committee)

Clauses 1 - 3 agreed to

(House resumed)

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

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

Question proposed

Question put and agreed to

Bill accordingly read a third time and passed

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

House suspended for 15 minutes at 10.25 a.m.

House resumed.

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

Order for Second Reading read.

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

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

Sir, I beg to move.

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

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

Bill committed to a Committee of the Whole House.

House in Committee.

Clause 1 to 3 agreed to

House resumed

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

be read a third time and passed.

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

Bill accordingly read the third time and passed.

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

Order for Second Reading read.

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

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

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

Sir, I beg to move.

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

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the second time.

Bill committed to a Committee of the Whole House.

House in Committee

Clauses 1 and 2 agreed to

Clauses 3 and 4

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

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

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

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Member is satisfied?

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

Clauses 3 and 4 agreed to.

Clause 5 agreed to

House resumed

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

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

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the third time and passed.

THE GASKIYA CORPORATION (AMENDMENT) LAW, 1959.

Order for Second Reading read.

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

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

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

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

Mr. President, I beg to move.

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

Question proposed

Question put and agreed to

Bill accordingly read the second time

Bill committed to a Committee of the Whole House

House in Committee

Clauses 1 and 2

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

MINISTER OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS: A Northerner. (Applause)

Clauses 1 and 2 agreed to

Clauses 3 to 5 agreed to

House resumed

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

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

Question put and agreed to

Bill accordingly read the third time and passed.

RESOLVED:

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

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



NORTHERN REGIONAL LEGISLATURE

HOUSE OF CHIEFS

DEBATES

(Second Legislature)

Third Session

(First Meeting)

11th March, 1959

Price : 3d

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Wednesday, 11th March, 1959

The House met at 9.0 a.m.

PRAYERS

(THE PRESIDENT in the Chair)

NOTICES OF MOTIONS AND ORDERS OF THE DAY.

Suspension of Standing Order 65.

THE EMIR OF KATSINA: Mr. President, Sir, I rise to move the Motion standing in my name;

That Standing Order 65 be suspended in respect of the Northern Region 1958-59 Supplementary Appropriation Law, 1959 to enable the debate on second reading to take place immediately after the motion has been proposed and seconded. Sir, I beg to move.

AKU OF WUKARI: Mr. President, I beg to second.

Question proposed

Question put and agreed to

RESOLVED:

That Standing Order 65 be suspended in respect of the Northern Region 1958-59 Supplementary Appropriation Law 1959 to enable the debate on second reading to take place immediately after the motion has been proposed and seconded.

THE NORTHERN REGION 1958-59 SUPPLEMENTARY
APPROPRIATION LAW, 1959.

Order for Second Reading read.

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

Chiefs are aware, Sir, that the Law now requires that any recurrent expenditure in excess of that authorised in an Appropriation or other Law must be covered by Supplementary Estimates passed by the Legislature. Two such Supplementary Estimates have been passed by the Legislature in the current financial year.

During the period between one session of the

Legislature and another there are bound to be items of unforeseen urgent expenditure which it would not be in the best interests of the public to delay. Chiefs will recall that I am now empowered to authorise such expenditure up to a quarter of a million pounds providing I include it in the Supplementary Estimates later submitted to the Legislature for approval. In paragraph 9 of the memorandum accompanying these estimates are listed the amounts I have so authorised.

It will be noted, Sir, that it is proposed to pay into the Capital Development Fund the sum of two million, two hundred and thirty one thousand pounds. This is made up of the two million pounds loan from the Marketing Board which the House approved by Resolution last December, and two hundred and thirty-one thousand pounds being the Region's share of sequestered Enemy Assets. Account is also taken here of the half a million pounds awarded to this Region by the Constitutional Conference because we have had less than our due share of revenue from import duties (other) as a result of the way the derivation principle has been applied.

As usual, my Colleagues are prepared to give further information on any points Chiefs may wish to raise in Committee of Supply.

Sir, I beg to move.

MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed
Question put and agreed to
Bill accordingly read the second time
Bill committed to a Committee of the Whole House.

House in Committee.

HEAD 223 - PREMIER'S OFFICE

Question proposed that the sum previously voted for the services of Head 223 - Premier's Office - be increased by £20,335.

£20,335 for Head 223 - Premier's Office - agreed to.

HEAD 226 - COMMISSIONER IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

Question proposed that the sum previously voted for the services of Head 226 - Commissioner in the United Kingdom - be increased by the sum of £1,150.

£1,150 for Head 226 - Commissioner in the United Kingdom - agreed to.

HEAD 228 - JUDICIAL

Question proposed that the sum previously voted for the services of Head 228 - Judicial - be increased by the sum of £1,829.

£1,829 for Head 228 - Judicial - agreed to.

HEAD 233 - MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

Question proposed that the sum previously voted for the services of Head 233 - Ministry of Education - be increased by the sum of £172,940.

£172,940 for Head 233 - Ministry of Education - agreed to.

HEAD 234 - MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Question proposed that the sums previously voted for the services of Head 234 - Ministry of Finance - be increased by the sum of £249,336.

£249,336 for Head 234 - Ministry of Finance - agreed to.

HEAD 236 - PAYMENTS TO THE CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

Question proposed that the sums previously voted for the service of Head 236 - Payments to the Capital Development Fund - be increased by the sum of £2,231,000.

£2,231,000 for Head 236 - Payments to the Capital Development Fund - agreed to.

HEAD 237 - PENSIONS AND GRATUITIES

Question proposed that the sum previously voted for the service of Head 237 - Pensions and Gratuities - be increased by the sum of £35,000.

£35,000 for Head 237 - Pensions and Gratuities - agreed to.

HEAD 240 - MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS

Question proposed that the sum previously voted for the service of Head 240 - Ministry of Internal Affairs - be increased by the sum of £4,810.

£4,810 for Head 240 - Ministry of Internal Affairs - agreed to.

HEAD 248 - MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY

Question proposed that the sum previously voted for the service of Head 248 - Ministry of Trade and Industry be increased by the sum of £7,000.

£7,000 for Head 248 - Ministry of Trade and Industry - agreed to.

HEAD 250 - WORKS RECURRENT - MAINTENANCE WORKS

Question proposed that the sum previously voted for the service of Head 250 - Works Recurrent - Maintenance Works - be increased by the sum of £7,000.

£7,000 for Head 250 - Works Recurrent: Maintenance Works - agreed to.

HEAD 252 - WORKS EXTRAORDINARY

Question proposed that the sum previously voted for the service of Head 252 - Works Extraordinary - be increased by £6,010.

MINISTER OF FINANCE: I rise to move the Motion standing in my name "That consideration of Head 252 - Works Extraordinary - do include the examination of the Capital Estimates and approval of the following Heads of Capital expenditure as listed in the Motion:-

Head 280	Roads Development	£178,993
Head 281	Buildings, Ministry of Works	78,378
Head 287	Other Capital Expenditure	27,000
	Total	£284,371
		=====

Head 286 - Loan Expenditure - is not included in the Motion because no additional provision is required under this Head. Chiefs will be aware that under Rule 7 for the Operation of the Capital Development Fund, all expenditure from the Fund is subject to approval by Resolution of the Legislative House. Chiefs will, I think, agree with me that it is appropriate to consider this expenditure under Head 252 - Works Extraordinary - after all Heads in the Recurrent

Estimates have been taken. Sir, I beg to move.

Question proposed

Question put and agreed to.

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

HEAD 280 - ROADS DEVELOPMENT

Approved.

HEAD 281 - BUILDINGS: MINISTRY OF WORKS

Approved.

HEAD 286 - LOAN EXPENDITURE

Approved.

HEAD 287 - OTHER CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

Approved.

Question proposed "That the total shown under Heads 280, 281, 286 and 287 be approved".

Question put and agreed to.

£6,010 for Head 252 - Works Extraordinary - agreed to.

Question proposed that the total of the Schedule be £2,736,410.

Question put and agreed to.

Question proposed that the Schedule be the Schedule to the Bill.

Question put and agreed to

Clauses 1 and 2 agreed to.

Preamble agreed to.

Question put and agreed to.

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

Question put and agreed to.

House resumed.

MINISTER OF FINANCE: Mr. President, Sir, I beg to report the Bill from the Committee of the Whole House

without amendment and to move that the Bill be read a third time and passed.

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

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read for the third time and passed.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

THE NORTHERN REGION 1959-60 APPROPRIATION LAW, 1959.
Adjourned Debate on Second Reading (9th March, 1959).

Question proposed.

ETSU LAPAI: Mr. President, Sir, I wish first to congratulate the Minister of Finance in presenting to the House a true economic picture which is bright and uncoloured. Nothing that was unpleasant was hidden from us.

We are aware of the new industries that are springing up in some places, but it is overseas investments which will help to speed up industrialisation in this country. So long as our Government is stable and our Region continues to enjoy peace and tranquillity, so long we can expect capital from other parts of the world. It seems to me that in the industrialisation race among the Regions of Nigeria, the North has achieved great things beyond our expectations. People in other Regions see and know more of the North than we know of their own countries; in that case it is possible that our plans and initiatives may be used or copied in advance of our time.

The Government has done well in raising indirect taxation on spirits, cloth, beer and motor vehicles. Apart from raising the revenue, it is a step taken to protect our local industries from unfair competition from overseas.

Turning to the expenditure side, I am happy to see that more money is to be spent on education because of the rapidly increasing number of schools. I notice too that female education is receiving its proper attention nowadays. I would like to see more secondary schools for girls.

As far as the Government plan is concerned, I always thought that the plan for the Native Authority

concoincided with the Government, since the Native Authority receives grants-in-aid from the Government, but according to the statement by the Minister of Finance, next year will be the final year of the present Government's five-year plan. On the other hand, it marks the commencement of the Native Authority five-year development plan. This means, if I am correct, that the Native Authority Five-Year Development Plan is one year ahead of the Government.

As for capital expenditure, if one travelled about in the North, one would see the good work being done on road construction and bridge reconstruction. Many roads have been broadened and bridges made permanent. One would also see hundreds of buildings in the important towns of the Region. One would notice also rural water supplies which have brought new life to millions of homes. People who have for years suffered from lack of water, now have plenty of water to drink, to wash themselves and their clothes, and to give to their animals. Such people in the rural areas have become happier and richer than before. I therefore say, Mr. President, I beg to support the Budget. (Applause)

THE CHIEF OF PAIKO: Mr. President, Sir, I rise to support with satisfaction the Second Reading of the Bill. The Bill is unique; it is as national and progressive as it is encouraging and satisfying, and it can be welcomed in any Legislature. It is therefore necessary for me to congratulate the Minister of Finance for the way he has shouldered his heavy responsibility. We are lucky to have got him as the first Minister of Finance. The Government has made a wonderful improvement, worthy of praise, requiring policy and development in each Ministry. It has proved itself an efficient Government and we hope it will always be efficient in carrying out successfully programmes laid down in the Ministries.

We are pleased to have noted that the Government will encourage the development of Co-operative Societies in the Region, but yet I should like to criticise the services of Co-operative Societies as being not well extended in most provinces of the Region. If I am not correct in saying so, I turn to the Minister concerned to refute my statement. Mr. President, Sir, I am now reserving my detailed comments until we come to the Heads of each of the Ministries. I beg to support. (Applause)

ATTA OF IGALA: Mr. President, Sir, I would request to comment on the hon. Minister of Finance's speech and in particular on his appreciation of the economic situation in which he states that on the development of manufactu-

ring industries lies our greatest hope for the future prosperity of our country.

May I remind the hon. Members that in 1841 the explorer, Commander Allen, found our people smelting iron at Idah. At this date, the world's great industrial powers were only just starting their industrial programme, build around such basic industries as coal, iron and steel. In fact such countries as Japan were only just emerging from a fully agricultural economy. Hon. Members will know that we have here in the North one great geological advantage which to date has not been seriously studied: that of having very high grade iron ore, with coal fields next to each other. To this can now be added the possibility of hydro-electric power to run the smelting furnaces. With such natural advantages it is surely time that we in our turn gave serious thought to the fact that there is no single industry or building programme we can propose without knowing that a very large percentage of the capital cost of any such project will go in purchasing iron in one form or another. Members who have visited the Kaduna textile factory will be well aware of this fact.

Tin, columbite and other minerals are mined in this country for export. Yet the mineral ore on which all industries depend is left lying dormant in our ground of Northern Nigeria, whilst we continue to purchase at great expense thousands of tons of manufactured iron and steel per year.

In fact, we even export thousands of tons per year of scrap iron at, I might say, less than one quarter of the cost we originally paid for it, in order that the Iron and Steel Industries of other countries may resmelt it into further iron and ship it back to us again - not, of course, at the price we sold it.

The hon. Minister of Finance states quite rightly that our economy is based on export crops, animal products and minerals, which in turn come back to this country as a high priced product with a label. Given the basic industries factories for processing, such material can be produced here, and I am quite sure that our printing industry can manage to produce the necessary labels.

It is surely a basic principle of the programme of development suggested by the hon. Minister that, whenever possible, we manufacture as much of the material required as possible in our own country and, by so doing, form the basic industries first to enable us, as we build up our secondary industries, to utilize our own mineral wealth and give employment to hundreds of our own people.

Our cotton production has been followed by the actual manufacture of cloth thereby reducing the cost to the people. Our great cattle producing areas are soon to be served by abattoirs. But iron, coal and cement are all to be found in the North and at times can be found close to each other.

The question of cement I know is being looked into by experts, but I want now to suggest that the other basic minerals of coal and iron should be studied by experts with the view of setting up our own iron smelting works.

I realise that such a project would involve a large capital outlay even using the smallest production unit possible, but my contention is that such a project if run as a commercial venture, would quickly recover its capital outlay from profits and yet still be able to produce this absolutely vital material for future development at less cost than we are at present paying for it from abroad, and at the same time enable us to build up numerous secondary industries using iron, e.g. railway posts, sleepers, agriculture equipments, basins for our food, iron beds for our rooms, hospitals, schools, hotels, electric poles, cargo barges, motor parts, bridges and the like, knives et cetera.

We are now facing the responsibilities of Self-Government and the world will be watching our progress as we advance towards economic stability and to reach this goal we must be fully prepared, eager in fact, to shoulder the responsibilities which await us. We shall never be considered a powerful nation if this basic industry is not fully developed. I am not a war monger (Laughter) but Japan, Germany, England, America and Russia have become powerful nations owing to the development of their coal, iron and steel industries, for they could support themselves with their iron equipment. Surely our greatest economic asset is in our mineral wealth being developed hand in hand with our agricultural progress - one complementary to the other.

I suggest, Emirs, Chiefs and hon. Ministers that the motto "Made and Produced in Northern Nigeria" can become a fact only if we make every effort to develop our basic industries as quickly as is economically possible.

May I hope that the hon. Minister of Land and Mines and the hon. Ministers of Finance, Trade and Industry and the hon. Minister for Local Government will bear this suggestion in mind in considering further development. May I suggest that money can

be borrowed from the Northern Region Marketing Board, the Northern Region Development Corporation and the part of all the N.A. investments overseas put together will give birth to this iron industry envisaged.

Mr. President, Sir, I beg to support this Bill.

CHIEF OF KAGORO (Hausa): Mr. President, Sir, I rise express my appreciation of the estimates and our congratulations to the Minister of Finance and his staff who co-operated in doing this work. It is not my intention to talk a lot at this time, but I must comment on education. I really appreciate the provision of funds for grants in aid of education. Mr. President, Sir, it is true that we must pay attention to education in this Region. It is also the policy of the Government to see that Northernization is a reality and really we cannot carry on with the Northernisation Policy unless our people have the requisite qualifications. We are eager to see more schools built in the Region and to see that those established schools are encouraged and expanded. At this point I have got to thank the Government for the grants they have made to the voluntary agencies, which is really an encouragement for them to carry on their good work. We must thank the voluntary agencies for their determination to help our people. They are always happy to see that the Government is giving them support and when the Government lets them get their grants in time they become happy. The co-operation between the Government and the voluntary agencies is a great help to voluntary agency education in this Region, and with this I support the estimates.

OHINOYI OF IGBIRRA: Mr. President, Sir, I deem it an honour to have been privileged to speak in support of the Appropriation Bill which is by itself momentous being the last land mark in our march towards Self-Government for this Region.

Within the next few days, this great Region shall be self-governing by the Grace of God and, for the first time, a Northerner in the person of Sir Ahmadu Bello, our beloved Premier, will preside over the Executive Council of the Region. This is stupendous, weighing the pace at which this marvel has been achieved.

MINISTER OF HEALTH: Point of order 64.

PRESIDENT: Yes the Minister is right. You must keep to the point. I have allowed the hon. Member considerable latitude. The hon. Member must keep to the point.

OHINOYI OF IGBIRRA: In the field of education I had expected that the Government would make a hint about the possibility of establishing a higher institution of learning to synchronise with the attainment of Self-Government. I pray the Government should think over this matter with due consideration. We are glad to hear the economy of the Region is basically sound and if this economy is stable, the Government should start to think along the lines of taking advantage of our good fortunes. Self-Government means only political freedom. Now that our economy is sound we should expand our educational system and industrialise or rather we grow into intellectual bankruptcy and economic slavery in the future.

Mr. President, Sir, I beg to support the Appropriation Bill.

PRESIDENT: Does the Minister wish to reply?

MINISTER OF FINANCE: No, Sir.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the second time.

PRESIDENT: Committee?

MINISTER OF FINANCE: Thursday, Sir.

PROVINCIAL COUNCILS LAW, 1959

Order for Second Reading read.

MINISTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT: Mr. President, Sir, I rise to move that the Bill entitled the Provincial Councils Law, 1959 be read a second time. Chiefs will have already read the objects and reasons for this Bill and no doubt have studied the debate on it in the House of Assembly. I will not, therefore, deliver a lengthy introduction to it but only draw attention to the salient points that have arisen during the debate last month.

The Bill seeks to implement the first stage of the policy given in the White Paper on the Hudson Report and approved by this House in the Budget Session of 1957. That is to say, it provides for the establishment of Provincial Councils with consultative, deliberative and advisory powers only. Three or four provinces in the Region have already informally established Councils of this type and there is no doubt that, though only advisory, they have proved of great value in establishing a provincial spirit and outlook on matters

that are of provincial concern.

Various suggestions have been made about the composition of the Councils. This subject was very carefully discussed by the Commissioner, Mr. R. S. Hudson, with representatives of all shades of public opinion - both in the provinces and at Regional Headquarters. Government sees no reason to change the Commissioner's recommendations, adapted where necessary due to alterations in provincial boundaries. These recommendations are to be found in Appendix 'D' of the Hudson Report. In this connection there have been some suggestions that Chiefs should be excluded from the membership of these Councils. I wish to make it quite clear that Government considers it essential to enlist for these Councils the aid of the great experience and wisdom of the Chiefs who are an essential part of our society and Government system.

There has also been much discussion on the subject of a Chairman. Provision has been made in clause 5 of the Bill for the appointment of the Chairman. In the first instance he will probably be the Resident whose duty it will be to launch the Council and guide it through its maiden voyage; thereafter, the Governor in Council will consult the Council before he makes the appointment.

Local government Councils should be created only to meet a real need, not to give the impression of development. The Government believes that in the post-war years there has developed a genuine need, especially in the social and economic fields, for a body to debate and advise on provincial policy. Mr. President, Sir, it is to provide for such a body that this Bill is now placed before the House.

Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move.

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND CO-OPERATIVES: I beg to second.

Question proposed

ETSU LAPAI: Mr. President, Sir, I rise to associate myself with the Bill which has been introduced into the House. This type of Provincial Council is not a new thing in Niger Province because we have been accustomed to it and we have seen how valuable it is. Its use depends on how the members of such councils have been allocated from the various corners of the province. There are Chiefs and there are member of N.A. councils and there are elected members and therefore

every N.A. in the province has been used to having its representative in such councils. By so doing, all the complaints of the people can be understood and expressed, and that, of course, cannot happen here in Kaduna direct. What I hope for this House now is that any advice suggested by such Councils should be looked at and considered properly by the Government. If matters coming out from such Councils are neglected by the Government, as we have already started to see in Niger Province, the members of the Council would not be encouraged to attend the meetings of such Councils.

EMIR OF MISAU: Mr. President, Sir. We have got such a Council in Bauchi Province, and this Council used to hold its meetings every six months. I have one question in this connection. There is one thing I would like to know, and that is whether this Council will continue to function as it does, or, as rumours are already spreading, will the N.A. staff of the Forestry and Agriculture be taken over by the Provincial Councils?

CHIEF OF JOS: Mr. President, Sir, I rise to support the Bill for the Provincial Councils, because these Provincial Councils will continue to advise the Government. They will consult the Government on matters that are concerning the public, and on the progress of the people as a whole. Mr. President, Sir, there is evidence that the Provincial Councils will be of great value to the public. Their use will be that they will bring together even the smallest native authorities in each province, so that there will be one Council for the Province, and they will also bring together the different tribes so that they can live together in peace and tranquillity. They can mix together in their Councils in friendship for the prosperity of the people in each Province, and those small N.A.s which do not know what the other N.A.s are doing will be able to get together and act as one. Without doubt the Government has considered carefully the question of the establishment of these Provincial Councils. I hope their establishment will be hastened to enable them to start discussing things which will be to the benefit of the public. (Applause)

CHIEF OF KAGORO: I rise to support this Bill, because it will do a great deal in bringing together the smaller N.A.s and the bigger N.A.s in the Provinces. But there is only one thing which is not clear to me. According to what I have read from the Hudson Report, I have been made to understand that there are some staff who would be transferred to the Provincial Councils, for instance, from the Forestry, the Veterinary Departments. I am

aware that in our N.A. we solely depend on Forestry. Now if the Forestry Department is taken over by the Provincial Council, how can we get revenue in the N.A.? If it is true that the Forestry will go into the hands of the Provincial Councils, then the Government should find a way whereby we can get our revenue. If we can get revenue, then it is all right.

I have been impressed by the fact that formerly it was suggested that the N.A.s and Chiefs would not be members of these Councils, but later the Government has decided that the Chiefs and N.A.s should be members of these Councils, and in fact this is a very good suggestion indeed. The Emir or the Chief is the father to his subjects. It is always better that the Chief or the Emir should be there to see what is being carried out by the people.

I support the Bill. (Applause)

MR. PRESIDENT: Does the Minister wish to reply?

MINISTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT: Mr. President, Sir, I rise to express the appreciation of the Government on the support given to this Bill by the Emirs and Chiefs of this House, but I would like to make two points clear about the fears expressed by the Emir of Misau and the Chief of Kagoro. I want to assure them that there is nothing to fear in this Bill, because when the Hudson Report was brought to the Government, the Government listened to the complaints and fears of the people of the Region before taking any steps. It is for this reason that this Bill is introduced. It is in Clause 7 of this Bill that the work of these Provincial Councils will be found. Therefore, I want to assure them that there is nothing to fear in this Bill.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the second time.

Bill committed to a Committee of the Whole House.

House in Committee.

Clauses 1 and 2 agreed to

Clauses 3 - 5 agreed to

Clauses 6 - 8 agreed to

Clauses 9 - 11 agreed to

House resumed

MINISTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT: Mr. President, Sir, I beg to report the Bill from the Committee of the Whole House without amendment, and move that it be read a third time

and passed.

MINISTER OF STATE: (Mallam Mu'azu Lamido). Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read the third time and passed.

BETTING TAX LAW, 1959

Order for Second Reading read.

MINISTER OF FINANCE: Mr. President, Sir, I rise to move that the Bill entitled the Betting Tax Law, 1959, be read a second time.

Sir, this is one of the two Bills on entertainment tax legislation being presented to the House. The proposal to impose a tax on entertainment has received detailed consideration in recent years and the present indications are that the potential revenue from this source has increased to an extent to justify its imposition. Its effect, of course, will vary from province to province.

This particular Bill makes provision for a tax on betting at race meetings in the North. It will only apply to bets placed on a totalisator at an approved race meeting and to monies contributed to a lottery or sweepstake at such a meeting. In each case, the tax will amount to five per cent of the money paid. I do not expect that large sums will be obtained but it is a tax from which the receipts should mount in the future.

Detailed arrangements for its application will be published in due course in the Regional Gazette in the form of regulations.

Sir, I beg to move.

MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

Bill committed to a Committee of the Whole House.

House in Committee

Clauses 1 and 2 agreed to
Clauses 3 - 6 agreed to
Clauses 7 - 9 agreed to
Clauses 10 - 12 agreed to

House resumed

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

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

Question proposed

Question put and agreed to

Bill accordingly read the third time and passed.

ENTERTAINMENT TAX LAW, 1959
 Order for Second Reading read.

MINISTER OF FINANCE: Mr. President, Sir, I rise to move that the Bill entitled The Entertainment Tax Law, 1959, be read a second time.

Sir, this is the second of the two Bills on Entertainment Taxation. It makes provision for a tax on admission to certain entertainments.

Chiefs will note, Sir, that the tax in the case of cinematograph exhibitions will be one penny on every payment of up to sixpence, a penny on the next sixpence paid and a further penny on every additional sixpence of part of sixpence paid. In the case of race-meetings the tax will be ten per cent of the gross proceeds received from payments for admission to the course.

Sir, I expect that, at the rates proposed, we shall get something in the nature of twenty four thousand, pounds, the lion's share, some twenty thousand seven hundred pounds, coming from the tax on cinemas. This sum appears insignificant when put for example against the millions we receive in statutory allocations from the Federal Government, but I should emphasise our need for every pound if we are to carry out our obligations to expand and maintain our social services and also that this is a tax whose receipts should mount yearly as more cinemas are built, reflecting the growing prosperity of the Region.

Sir, I beg to move.

MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Sir, I beg to second.

Question proposed

Question put and agreed to

Bill accordingly read a second time.

Bill committed to a Committee of the Whole House.

House in Committee.

Clauses 1 and 2 agreed to.

Clauses 3 - 5 agreed to

Clauses 6 - 9 agreed to

Clauses 10 - 12 agreed to

First and Second Schedules agreed to

House resumed

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

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

Question proposed

Question put and agreed to

Bill accordingly read the third time and passed.

RESOLVED: That the House do now adjourn. (Minister of Finance).

House adjourned accordingly at thirteen minutes past eleven a.m. until nine o'clock tomorrow morning.