

# Debates in the Eastern House of Assembly

Wednesday, 8th of February, 1950

Pursuant to notice the Members of the Eastern House of Assembly met in the Garrison Hall, Enugu, at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, the 8th of February, 1950.

## PRESENT

### OFFICIAL MEMBERS

- The Chief Commissioner, Eastern Provinces,  
Cdr. J. G. Pyke-Nott, C.M.G., R.N.
- The Secretary, Eastern Provinces,  
Cdr. S. E. Johnson, R.N.
- The Resident, Calabar Province,  
Mr H. J. S. Clark.
- The Acting Resident, Rivers Province,  
Mr A. B. Westmacott.
- The Acting Resident, Onitsha Province,  
Mr R. B. Cardale.
- The Acting Resident, Cameroons Province,  
Mr G. R. Osborn.
- The Acting Secretary (Finance), Eastern Provinces,  
Mr J. G. Mackenzie.
- The Deputy Director of Medical Services, Eastern Provinces,  
Dr D. Murray.
- The Acting Deputy Director of Education, Eastern  
Provinces,  
Mr W. E. Holt, O.B.E.
- The Deputy Director of Agriculture, Eastern Provinces,  
Mr M. Park.
- The Acting Deputy Director of Public Works, Eastern  
Provinces,  
Mr C. E. Andreae.
- The Acting Senior Crown Counsel, Eastern Provinces,  
Mr G. G. Briggs.
- The District Officer,  
Mr R. A. Stevens (Extraordinary Member).

## UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS

- The Member for Urban Areas other than Port Harcourt,  
Reverend O. Efiang, O.B.E.
- The Member for Professional, Salaried and Wage-earning  
Classes,  
Mr E. N. Egbuna.
- The Member for African Commercial Interests,  
Mr G. H. H. O'Dwyer.
- The First Provincial Member for the Onitsha Province,  
Mr P. E. Chukwurah.
- The First Provincial Member for the Owerri Province,  
Mr M. W. Ubani.
- The Provincial Member for the Ogoja Province,  
Dr F. A. Ibiam, O.B.E.
- The First Provincial Member for the Calabar Province,  
Mr Asuquo Okon.
- The Second Provincial Member for the Cameroons Province,  
Galega, Fon of Bali.
- The Second Provincial Member for the Onitsha Province,  
Mr C. D. Onyeama.
- The Member for Urban Aspect of Life in Port Harcourt,  
Mr G. C. Nonyelu.
- The Second Provincial Member for the Owerri Province,  
Mr D. N. Achara.
- The Provincial Member for the Owerri (Rivers) Province,  
Mr H. Buowari Brown, O.B.E.
- The Member for Educational Interests,  
Mr A. Ikoku, O.B.E.
- The Second Provincial Member for the Calabar Province,  
Mr Nyong Essien.

## ABSENT

## OFFICIAL MEMBERS

- The Resident, Ogoja Province,  
Mr P. M. Riley.
- The Resident, Owerri Province,  
Mr J. S. Smith.

## UNOFFICIAL MEMBER

- The First Provincial Member for the Cameroons Province,  
Mr J. Manga Williams, O.B.E.

**Prayers**

At the request of the President, Reverend O. Efiang, O.B.E., the Member for Urban Areas other than Port Harcourt, opened the proceedings of the House with prayers.

**Confirmation of Minutes****His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

The Minutes of the last meeting having been printed and circulated to all Members, is it your pleasure that they should be confirmed?

“Aye”.

**Administration of Oaths**

The following took the Oath as Members of the House:—

Mr H. J. Clarke, Resident, Calabar Province.

Mr A. B. Westmacott, Acting Resident, Rivers Province.

Mr R. B. Ordale, Acting Resident, Onitsha Province.

Mr G. R. Osborn, Acting Resident, Cameroons Province.

Mr R. A. Stevens, District Officer (Extraordinary Member.)

Dr D. Murray, Deputy Director of Medical Services, Eastern Provinces.

Mr C. E. Andreae, Acting Deputy Director of Public Works, Eastern Provinces.

**Papers Laid****The Secretary, Eastern Provinces:**

Sir, I beg to lay on the table the papers appearing in my name in the Order of the Day.

**The Acting Secretary (Finance), Eastern Provinces:**

Sir, I beg to lay on the table:—

The Report of the Standing Committee on Finance for the period December, 1949 to February, 1950.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

The question is that the Report of “The Standing Committee on Finance for the period December, 1949, to February, 1950”, be adopted. Will those in favour say “Aye” and those to the contrary “No”.

The “Ayes” have it.

**The Acting Deputy Director of Education, Eastern Provinces:**

Sir, I beg to lay on the table the following paper standing in my name:—

The amended Regulations No. 6 of 1950 made under the Education Ordinance No. 39 of 1948.

**The Deputy Director of Medical Services, Eastern Provinces:**

Sir, I beg to lay on the table the paper entitled:—

Sessional Paper No. 28 of 1949: Statement of the Conclusion of the Government on the Report of the Commission on the Private Practice of Medicine and Surgery by Officers of the Department of Medical Services, Nigeria.

## Questions

**The First Provincial Member for the Owerri Province  
(Mr M. W. Ubani):**

12. To ask the Secretary, Eastern Provinces:—

(a) How many miles of roads are maintained by (i) Public Works Department and (ii) Native Administrations throughout the Eastern Provinces?

(b) What is the total annual cost by each Department?

(c) How many Trunk (A) and Trunk (B) Roads are maintained in each Province of the Region?

(d) Native Administrations are reimbursed by the Government for the maintenance of Trunk (B) Roads how much is the total cost of such reimbursements in each Province?

*Answer—*

**The Secretary, Eastern Provinces:**

(a) (i) 1,600 miles.

(ii) Approximately 5,700 miles.

(b) The total annual cost to the Public Works Department was £105,000 in 1948-49.

(c) Province	Trunk A	Trunk B N. A. Maintained
Calabar ... ..	1	6
Onitsha ... ..	2	5
Owerri ... ..	1	12
Ogoja ... ..	1	6
Rivers ... ..	1	4
Bamenda ... ..	1	—
Cameroons ... ..	1	1

There are only three Trunk Roads A

(i) Port Harcourt, Aba, Owerri, Awgu-Nsukka.

(ii) Onitsha-Enugu-Abakaliki-Mamfe-Bamenda.

(iii) Calabar-Mamfe: but they go through all Provinces as shown above.

(d) Reimbursements to Native Administrations by Provinces in 1948-49.

	£
Calabar ... ..	1,568
Ogoja ... ..	1,912
Cameroons ... ..	238
Rivers ... ..	981
Owerri ... ..	2,535
Onitsha ... ..	1,538
Total ... ..	£8,792

**The First Provincial Member for the Owerri Province  
(Mr M. W. Ubani):**

15. To ask the Secretary, Eastern Provinces:—

(a) Is the Government aware that the rapid growth of hooliganism in Nigeria is becoming dangerous to the safety of life, property and good name of law-abiding citizens of this country?

(b) It is true that hooliganism may be said to be found in other parts of the world but that is no excuse for its rapid growth and practice in Nigeria. In view of its evil effect upon the national integrity of a people what steps does Government contemplate to adopt for checking this vice in order to save Nigeria from "mob-rule" even when Nigeria gains her self-governing status?

*Answer—*

**The Secretary, Eastern Provinces:**

(a) Government is aware that in some of the larger towns there has been an increase in hooliganism particularly by adolescent youths.

(b) Government is punishing and will continue to punish persons who break the law. It is considered however that much valuable preventive work might be done by the establishment, as in most of the large towns of Great Britain and in Lagos, of boys' and girls' clubs. These clubs, voluntarily organised and controlled by patriotic citizens are able to direct the interests of young persons from anti-social pursuits into more healthy channels and Government would naturally give every encouragement to the establishment of such clubs in the Eastern Provinces.

**Motions**

**The Secretary, Eastern Provinces:**

Sir, I beg to move the following:—

"Be it resolved: That the Report of the General Conference  
"making recommendations for the review of the  
"Constitution be referred to a Select Committee of this  
"House for its recommendations and report to this  
"House".

Members of this House, Sir, are aware of the recent sitting of the General Conference held at Ibadan to make recommendations for the purpose of revision of the existing Constitution of this country and Members of this House have before them a copy of those recommendations. It is, Sir, only right and proper that all Unofficial Members of this House shall have the opportunity of tendering their views and advice on a document of such paramount importance to the future of this country. It was not every Member of this House who had the opportunity of taking part in the Conference, neither will it be possible for every Member of this House to take part in the proceedings when this matter is tabled

the principal Ordinance whereby Local Government Councils are included in the terms of that section. A very simple measure, Sir, and I commend it to the House.

**The Resident, Calabar Province:**

Sir, I beg to second.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

If no Member wishes to speak on the principle of the Bill, I will put the question. The question before the House is that this House do advise His Excellency that this Bill is acceptable in principle to this House. Will those in favour say "Aye" and those to the contrary "No".

The "Ayes" have it.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

The House will now resolve itself into Committee to consider the Bill, clause by clause.

*Enactment.*

*Clause 1.*

*Clause 2.*

*Clause 3.*

*Title.*

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

*The House will now resume.*

**The Secretary, Eastern Provinces:**

I beg to report that the Bill entitled "An Ordinance to amend the Interpretation Ordinance" passed through Committee without amendment.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

The question before the House is that this House do advise His Excellency the Governor that the Bill entitled "An Ordinance to amend the Interpretation Ordinance" is acceptable. Will those in favour say "Aye" and those to the contrary "No".

The "Ayes" have it.

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CINEMATOGRAPH ORDINANCE, 1933**

**The Secretary, Eastern Provinces:**

Sir, I beg to move the following:—

"Be it resolved: That this House do advise His Excellency the Governor that the Bill entitled 'An Ordinance to amend the Cinematograph Ordinance, 1933' is acceptable in principle".

This Bill, Sir, seeks to widen the definition of the word "poster" as it occurs in the principal Ordinance, and in effect it brings film slides into the terms of the Ordinance. At present the Ordinance

only includes films and posters as at present defined as liable to censorship. I submit, Sir, that this is a very necessary amendment. Nobody will dispute the necessity of censorship of films; it is logical therefore that in the exhibition of cinematograph shows, which have a universal public, film slides should be equally subject to censorship, and for very obvious reasons. The Bill makes provision also for a further amendment to section 8 of the principal Ordinance which in effect renders the exhibition and display of posters, which now includes film slides, liable to censorship. Sir, I commend this very necessary Bill to the House.

**The Acting Resident, Rivers Province:**

Sir, I beg to second.

**The Second Provincial Member for the Onitsha Province  
(Mr C. D. Onyeama):**

May I point out that in view of the new Laws of Nigeria, I very much fear that this Ordinance will have to be amended somewhat. In the main Cinematograph Ordinance, 1933, and in the marginal note, you will find reference to Ordinance No. 20 of 1933. I think that the laws have now been recast, and you will find that this Ordinance is now a chapter in the new laws. It is no longer No. 20 of 1933. I am certain that the Senior Crown Counsel could help us out. I think that as it now stands there must be an amendment made before the question is put.

**The Acting Senior Crown Counsel, Eastern Provinces:**

My learned friend is quite correct. It is Chapter 32 in the new laws, but I think he will find that this matter has been taken care of in the Authentication of Ordinances Ordinance. There is there power to make the necessary amendments but it would do no harm to make an amendment now, and it is a simple amendment.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

Would the Member be prepared to put his amendment in the Committee stage?

**The Second Provincial Member for the Onitsha Province  
(Mr C. D. Onyeama):**

Certainly, Sir.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

The question is that this House do advise His Excellency the Governor that the Bill entitled "An Ordinance to amend the Cinematograph Ordinance, 1933" is acceptable in principle. Will those in favour say "Aye" and those to the contrary "No".

The "Ayes" have it.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

The House will now resolve itself into Committee.

**The Second Provincial Member for the Onitsha Province  
(Mr C. D. Onyeama):**

I rise to move that the figures "1933" be deleted, and the title be "An Ordinance to amend the Cinematograph Ordinance".

**The Secretary, Eastern Provinces:**

That is acceptable since in the new laws it is just the Cinematograph Ordinance and nothing else. I suggest, Sir, that it might be extended to cover the whole title of the Ordinance, namely, "The Cinematograph (Colony and Protectorate) Ordinance" to make it complete.

**The Second Provincial Member for the Onitsha Province  
(Mr C. D. Onyeama):**

The title will then be "An Ordinance to amend the Cinematograph Ordinance (Colony and Protectorate)".

**The Secretary, Eastern Provinces:**

At the risk of being tedious, I suggest that the words "Colony and Protectorate" come between the words "Cinematograph" and "Ordinance".

**The Acting Senior Crown Counsel, Eastern Provinces:**

Sir, it is only necessary to say "The Cinematograph Ordinance" and it is unnecessary to put in "Colony and Protectorate" which are put in all the laws here, not because it is part of the title, but so that the reader at a quick glance may know that the Ordinance applied to the Colony or Protectorate, or to both. My learned friend's original amendment, Sir, was correct.

**The Second Provincial Member for the Onitsha Province  
(Mr C. D. Onyeama):**

I should like to point out, Sir, that the second amendment came from the Government side, and not from me.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

Your amendment is withdrawn?

**The Secretary, Eastern Provinces:**

Certainly, Sir.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

The question is that the title be amended by the deletion of the figures "1933".

Agreed.

**The Provincial Member for the Owerri (Rivers) Province (Mr H. Buowari Brown, O.B.E.):**

I suggest that the comma be deleted and a full stop inserted.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

Does the Member want that incorporated in the amendment? I think it would follow automatically. Would the Member propose that amendment as the House has already committed itself and the question has been put on one amendment.



**The Provincial Member for the Owerri (Rivers) Province (Mr H. Buowari Brown, O.B.E.):**

It has been mentioned already, I gather, by my friend on the other side.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

I think the Member can rest assured that it would follow automatically.

**The Provincial Member for the Owerri (Rivers) Province (Mr H. Buowari Brown, O.B.E.):**

I accept that.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

The question is that the title as amended stand part of the Bill.

Agreed.

*Enactment.*

*Clause 1.*

*Clause 2.*

**The Second Provincial Member for the Onitsha Province (Mr C. D. Onyeama):**

I move the following amendment to clause 2. The deletion of the figures "1933" in the first line and the deletion of the following words appearing in the marginal note "Ordinance No. 20 of 1933" and the insertion in their place of the words "Cap. 32".

**The Secretary, Eastern Provinces:**

That is quite acceptable, Sir.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

The question before the House is that clause 2 should be amended by deleting the figures "1933" in the first line and deleting the following words in the marginal note "Ordinance No. 20 of 1933" and in place of these words substituting "Cap. 32". Those in favour say "Aye" and those to the contrary "No".

The "Ayes" have it.

*Clause 3.*

*Title.*

*The House will now resume.*

**The Secretary, Eastern Provinces:**

Sir, I beg to report that the Bill for "An Ordinance to amend the Cinematograph Ordinance, 1933", has passed through Committee with three amendments.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

The question before the House is that this House do advise His Excellency the Governor that this Bill is acceptable to this House, with three amendments recommended in Committee. Will those in favour say "Aye" and those to the contrary "No".

The "Ayes" have it.

A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE NIGERIA TOWN AND  
COUNTRY PLANNING ORDINANCE (CAP. 155)

**The Acting Secretary (Finance), Eastern Provinces:**

Sir, I beg to move the following:—

“ Be it resolved: That this House do advise His Excellency  
“ the Governor that the Bill entitled ‘ An Ordinance to  
“ ‘ amend the Nigeria Town and Country Planning  
“ ‘ Ordinance (Cap. 155) ’ is acceptable in principle ”.

Sir, this Bill has two purposes. First, it provides that the powers now vested in the Governor in Council under various sections of the Ordinance, as stated in clause 2 of the Bill, shall instead be vested in the Governor, and that the powers vested in the Financial Secretary under section 74 of the Ordinance shall likewise be vested in the Governor instead. It has been found that the constant reference to the Governor in Council, requesting exercise of these powers, is inconvenient and makes it difficult to implement effectively and fully the object of the Ordinance, that is, the replanning, improvement and development of parts of Nigeria. These difficulties, it is considered, would be remedied, or reduced, by decentralising and simplifying the working of this rather complicated Ordinance. But this cannot be done without amendment of the Ordinance as powers vested in the Governor in Council cannot be delegated. If the powers now vested in the Governor in Council, and the Financial Secretary, are vested instead in the Governor, then the Governor may, where necessary delegate these powers. Clause 2 of this Bill now before this House therefore amends the relevant sections of the Ordinance by deleting the words “ Governor in Council ”, and “ Financial Secretary ” wherever they occur and substitutes therefor the word “ Governor ”.

The second purpose of this Bill is to make provision to enable the Governor to approve expenditure, by a Planning Authority, which is not included in the approved estimates or the approved supplemental estimates of the Planning Authority. A Planning Authority may, during the course of a financial year, find that it is necessary to incur expenditure which was not foreseen when the estimates and the supplemental estimates were prepared. Clauses 3 and 4 amend the Ordinance, for this purpose. Clause 3 is a necessary consequential amendment of sub-section (4) of section 65 of the Ordinance. Clause 4 of the Bill provides a new section of the Ordinance, section 66A which enables the Governor to authorise a Planning Authority to expend money appropriated for any one purpose in the estimates or the supplemental estimates on any other purpose which is also included in the approved estimates or the approved supplemental estimates; and secondly to approve expenditure for any specific purpose, by a Planning Authority, which is not included in the approved estimates or supplemental estimates. This expenditure may be either additional

expenditure under an item already in the estimates or expenditure under a new item of expenditure not in the estimates.

I commend this Bill to the House.

**The Deputy Director of Medical Services, Eastern Provinces:**

Sir, I beg to second.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

If no Member wishes to speak on the principle of the Bill, I will put the question. The question is that this House do advise His Excellency the Governor that the Bill entitled "An Ordinance to amend the Nigeria Town and Country Planning Ordinance (Cap. 155)" is acceptable in principle. Will those in favour say "Aye" and those to the contrary "No".

The "Ayes" have it.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

The House will now resolve itself into Committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

*Title.*

**The Acting Senior Crown Counsel, Eastern Provinces:**

I propose, Sir, the deletion of the words "Cap. 155" in the title, for the same reasons as in the previous Bill.

**The Acting Secretary (Finance), Eastern Provinces:**

Sir, I beg to second.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

The amendment is to delete the words "(Cap. 155)".

Agreed.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

The question before the House is that the title as amended stands as part of the Bill. Those in favour say "Aye" and those to the contrary "No".

The "Ayes" have it.

*Enactment.*

*Clause 1.*

*Clause 2.*

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

*The House will now resume.*

**The Acting Secretary (Finance), Eastern Provinces:**

Sir, I beg to report that the Bill for "An Ordinance to amend the Nigeria Town and Country Planning Ordinance (Cap. 155)" passed through Committee with one amendment.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

The question before the House is that this House do advise His Excellency the Governor that this Bill is acceptable to this House, with one amendment recommended in Committee. Will those in favour say "Aye" and those to the contrary "No".

The "Ayes" have it.

A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE FURTHER TO AMEND THE  
CRIMINAL CODE ORDINANCE

**The Acting Senior Crown Counsel, Eastern Provinces:**

Sir, I beg to move the following:—

“ Be it resolved: That this House do advise His Excellency  
“ the Governor that the Bill entitled ‘ An Ordinance  
“ ‘ further to amend the Criminal Code Ordinance ’ is  
“ acceptable in principle ”.

This, Sir, is a very simple Bill and has a very obvious meaning. It is of course well known that the Police, Prison Officials and Soldiers are in a very special position as regards law and order, and they therefore have to be protected both from themselves and from the general public in matters such as disaffection and incitement to disaffection. This Bill in effect brings Nigerian law into line with British law on the subject. (The Incitement to Disaffection Act, 1934, and the Police Act of 1919). There is only one minor other point to which I would like to refer and that is in the new section that is put into the Criminal Code, *i.e.*, paragraph (c) of sub-section 1 of section 46A; it states that if the offender under this section is a Police Officer or Prison Officer, he forfeits all his pension rights. That, in effect, is a statement of existing law. If a Police Officer or a Prison Officer is convicted, he is liable to have his pension rights extinguished, but it is permissive at present. This section makes it mandatory. It is tying up the law more tightly.

**The Acting Resident, Onitsha Province:**

Sir, I beg to second.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

The question is that this House do advise His Excellency the Governor that the Bill entitled “ An Ordinance further to amend the Criminal Code Ordinance ” is acceptable in principle. Will those in favour say “ Aye ” and those to the contrary “ No ”.

The “ Ayes ” have it.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

The House will now resolve itself into Committee.

*Enactment.*

*Clause 1.*

*Clause 2.*

**The Member for Educational Interests (Mr A. Ikoku, O.B.E.):**

I beg to move that in clause 2, section 1, sub-section (c), eighth line “ shall forfeit all pension rights ” between the words “ shall ” and “ forfeit ” should be inserted the words “ in addition ”.

**The Acting Senior Crown Counsel, Eastern Provinces:**

Sir, with due respect to my friend, I do not think it can have any other meaning than “ in addition ”, because if the man has committed an offence, the Magistrate or the Judge has no power to make such an order without finding him guilty of the offence.

It is true that he might be sentenced to one day's imprisonment, but it would still be in addition. I think it means in addition and it is unnecessary to put in those words.

**The Member for Educational Interests (Mr A. Ikoku, O.B.E.):**

Sir, I withdraw the amendment in the light of the explanation.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

The question is that clause 2 stands part of the Bill?

Agreed.

*Title.*

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

*The House will now resume.*

**The Acting Senior Crown Counsel, Eastern Provinces:**

Sir, I beg to report that the Bill entitled "The Criminal Code (Disaffection) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1950" passed through Committee without amendment.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

The question before the House is that this House do advise His Excellency the Governor that this Bill is acceptable to the House. Will those in favour say "Aye" and those to the contrary "No".

The "Ayes" have it.

**The Secretary, Eastern Provinces:**

Sir, may I announce to the House that the Finance Committee will meet next Monday, the 13th February, at 10 a.m. in the Secretary (Finance's) Office, and also that the Area Development Committee Meeting, of which all Members have had prior notice, will take place at 4 p.m. on Monday afternoon, and not at 10 a.m. as it appeared in the notice.

**The Member for Urban Areas other than Port Harcourt (Rev. O. Efiang, O.B.E.):**

Sir, after consulting the Unofficial Members and advising the Secretary (Finance), it has been agreed that Finance Committee will take place at 10 a.m. on Tuesday next, and not on Monday.

**The Secretary, Eastern Provinces:**

I apologise; I did not realise that the Unofficial Members had changed their minds.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

Finance Committee then will meet at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, 14th February, and the Area Development Committee could continue after that if it has been adjourned from Monday evening.

**The Secretary, Eastern Provinces:**

May I let the House know that the reason that the Area Development Committee has been timed for 4 p.m. on Monday is because the Development Secretary will not arrive in time to hold the meeting any earlier.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

The Development Secretary has a very tight schedule and is finding some difficulty in fitting in visits to all the Headquarters.

**The Member for Urban Areas other than Port Harcourt (Rev. O. Efiang, O.B.E.):**

We appreciate that, Sir.

**The Provincial Member for the Ogoja Province (Dr F. A. Ibiam, O.B.E.):**

Sir, there have been certain papers laid on table, and I should like to know if they are going to be debated in this session. I refer to the papers laid by the Acting Deputy Director of Education and the Deputy Director of Medical Services.

**The Secretary, Eastern Provinces:**

On a point of explanation; with regard to the second paper, I am instructed to say that it is merely laid on the table and that any Member is quite within his right to table a resolution that that paper shall form the subject of a debate.

**The Provincial Member for the Ogoja Province (Dr F. A. Ibiam, O.B.E.):**

May I do so now, Sir. I propose that Sessional Paper No. 28 of 1949; Statement of the Conclusion of the Government on the Report of the Commission on the Private Practice of Medicine and Surgery by Officers of the Department of Medical Services, Nigeria, shall form the subject of a debate during the present session of this House.

**The Secretary, Eastern Provinces:**

May I suggest, Sir, that the Member give notice of the proposed resolution to the Clerk of the House.

**The Member for Educational Interests (Mr A. Ikoku, O.B.E.):**

May I second that, Sir.

**The Secretary, Eastern Provinces:**

May I speak as to the first paper referred to. I am sure my friend the Deputy Director of Education will give us the exact name of it, but we all know the main Ordinance to which reference is made. It is provided therein that the Governor in Council may by regulation add to, vary, amend or revoke the Regulations in Schedule A and any regulations so made shall be laid first on the respective tables of the Houses of Assembly and then on the table of Legislative Council. I do not think there is any necessity to make it the subject of a debate.

**The Member for Educational Interests (Mr A. Ikoku, O.B.E.):**

On a point of explanation, I do not know what this No. 6 of 1950 refers to.

**The Acting Deputy Director of Education, Eastern Provinces:**

It refers to the Grants-in-Aid amending Regulation No. 6 of 1950, and it contains a regulation amending the tables 3 and 4 and Regulation 14.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

Members are aware that this paper has been laid on the table and that it is available for them at any moment?

**The Secretary, Eastern Provinces:**

Sir, I would be only too happy to discuss this problem with my friend and make clear the implications.

**The Member for Educational Interests (Mr A. Ikoku, O.B.E.):**

I should have thought that copies of the paper should have been circulated to the Members.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

There are regulations made by the Governor in Council which are laid on the table by the orders and rules of this House; they can be made the subject of debate by a resolution of a Member—at least I think so, but that can be verified. It would be as well if the Members referred to them and discussed it with the Secretary, Eastern Provinces.

**The Provincial Member for the Ogoja Province (Dr F. A. Ibiam, O.B.E.):**

I do hope, Sir, I shall have the opportunity to give notice of this motion on the Sessional Paper, so that it can be a subject of debate in this session.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

The opportunity is open to you to give notice. I think it is within the authority of this House for it to be debated at this meeting, but the standing rules will be referred to and the Member will be communicated with. I can assure the Member that I will do everything to assist him in his desire, other than committing a flagrant breach of the rules and orders of the House.

**The First Provincial Member for the Owerri Province (Mr M. W. Ubani):**

If there is to be a discussion on this Sessional Paper No. 28 of 1949, I am just wondering if Members have all got copies. I for one have not.

**The Secretary, Eastern Provinces:**

On a point of explanation, six copies of these last Sessional Papers arrived at the very last minute and I do crave the indulgence of the House when I say that a lot of the papers have been sent out at the very last minute, and we have not had time to get all the copies of these papers ready. For instance the report of

the Constitutional Conference at Ibadan of which all Members have a copy, was only finished late last night. However, copies of this Sessional Paper will be made available.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

That being so, and having completed our business with considerable expedition, I will adjourn the House to a date and time to be notified later.

**Adjournment**

*House adjourned at 11.15 a.m. until 10 a.m. on Saturday, the 11th of February, 1950.*



# Debates in the Eastern House of Assembly

Saturday 11th of February, 1950

Pursuant to notice the Members of the Eastern House of Assembly met in the Garrison Hall, Enugu, at 10 a.m. on Saturday, the 11th of February, 1950.

## PRESENT

### OFFICIAL MEMBERS

- The Chief Commissioner, Eastern Provinces,  
Cdr. J. G. Pyke-Nott, C.M.G., R.N.
- The Secretary, Eastern Provinces,  
Cdr. S. E. Johnson, R.N.
- The Resident, Calabar Province,  
Mr H. J. S. Clark.
- The Acting Resident, Rivers Province,  
Mr A. B. Westmacott.
- The Acting Resident, Onitsha Province,  
Mr R. B. Cardale.
- The Acting Resident, Cameroons Province,  
Mr G. R. Osborn.
- The Acting Secretary (Finance), Eastern Provinces,  
Mr J. G. Mackenzie.
- The Deputy Director of Medical Services, Eastern Provinces,  
Dr D. Murray.
- The Acting Deputy Director of Education, Eastern  
Provinces,  
Mr W. E. Holt, O.B.E.
- The Deputy Director of Agriculture, Eastern Provinces,  
Mr M. Park.
- The Acting Deputy Director of Public Works, Eastern  
Provinces,  
Mr C. E. Andreae.
- The Acting Senior Crown Counsel, Eastern Provinces,  
Mr G. G. Briggs.
- The District Officer,  
Mr R. A. Stevens (Extraordinary Member).

### UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS

- The Member for Urban Areas other than Port Harcourt,  
Reverend O. Efiog, O.B.E.

The Member for Professional, Salaried and Wage-earning Classes,

Mr E. N. Egbuna.

The Member for African Commercial Interests,

Mr G. H. H. O'Dwyer.

The First Provincial Member for the Onitsha Province,

Mr P. E. Chukwurah.

The First Provincial Member for the Owerri Province,

Mr M. W. Ubani.

The Provincial Member for the Ogoja Province,

Dr F. A. Ibiam, O.B.E.

The First Provincial Member for the Calabar Province,

Mr Asuquo Okon.

The Second Provincial Member for the Cameroons Province,

Galega, Fon of Bali.

The Second Provincial Member for the Onitsha Province,

Mr C. D. Onyeama.

The Member for Urban Aspect of Life in Port Harcourt,

Mr G. C. Nonyelu.

The Second Provincial Member for the Owerri Province,

Mr D. N. Achara.

The Provincial Member for the Owerri (Rivers) Province,

Mr H. Buowari Brown, O.B.E.

The Member for Educational Interests,

Mr A. Ikoku, O.B.E.

The Second Provincial Member for the Calabar Province,

Mr Nyong Essien.

#### ABSENT

#### OFFICIAL MEMBERS

The Resident, Ogoja Province,

Mr P. M. Riley.

The Resident, Owerri Province,

Mr J. S. Smith.

#### UNOFFICIAL MEMBER

The First Provincial Member for the Cameroons Province,

Mr J. Manga Williams, O.B.E.

#### Prayers

At the request of the President, Reverend O. Efiang, O.B.E., the Member for Urban Areas other than Port Harcourt, opened the proceedings of the House with prayers.

#### Confirmation of Minutes

#### The Secretary, Eastern Provinces:

With regard to the Minutes I have to point out one error and I would ask for the indulgence of this House for it to be corrected

—on page 5 it says “ on the motion of the Acting Senior Crown Counsel, Eastern Provinces, seconded by the Secretary, Eastern Provinces, the following Resolution was adopted unanimously:—” In point of fact, Sir, the resolution was not put to the House; Members will notice that in the order of the day, the debate on that Bill is still to be carried out. I would ask for permission for the Minutes to be amended accordingly.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

Is it the pleasure of the Members that the Minutes should be amended according?

“ Aye ”.

**Papers Laid**

**The Acting Senior Crown Counsel, Eastern Provinces:**

Sir, I have the honour to lay on the table the following papers:—

- (a) The Report of the Select Committee of the Eastern House of Assembly appointed to consider the report of the General Conference making recommendations for the review of the Constitution.
- (b) The Report of the Select Committee of the Eastern House of Assembly on the Eastern Region Local Government Bill.

**Questions**

**The Member for Educational Interests (Mr A. Ikoku, O.B.E.):**

17. To ask the Secretary, Eastern Provinces:—

- (a) How soon in the forthcoming financial year will work commence on the Aro Telegraph extension?
- (b) When will this line be
  - (i) completed?
  - (ii) opened for public use?
- (c) Will the installation include facilities for a public telephone service?
- (d) If the answer to (c) above is in the affirmative, will this service commence concurrently with or subsequent to the telegraph service? If the latter, how soon after the commencement of the telegraph service?

*Answer—*

**The Secretary, Eastern Provinces:**

- (a) Provision for the Itu-Aro trunk has not been included in the 1950-51 Development Estimates.
- (b) Assuming funds are provided in 1951-52 Estimates, and depending on the supply of equipment and materials, which is still subject to considerable delays, the trunk should be completed and opened for public use by December, 1951.
- (c) Yes, Sir.
- (d) It is expected that the telephone and telegraph services will come into operation concurrently.

**The Member for Educational Interests (Mr A. Ikoku, O.B.E.):**

Your Honour, regarding the answer to (a) of Question No. 17. I was under the impression that the Itu-Aro trunk was in the 1949-50 Estimates together with that for Enugu-Nsukka and that from Uyo to Abak, and then priority was given to Abakaliki in view of the discoveries there. This is in the financial year due to commence next month. I had therefore proceeded to assume that the Itu-Aro trunk would take priority over every other in the financial year beginning April next. May I ask if that impression is correct?

**The Secretary, Eastern Provinces:**

Your Honour, I am afraid I have not the facts before me. If my honourable friend will give me the exact question, I will find out the facts and give him an answer in due course.

**The Member for Educational Interests (Mr A. Ikoku, O.B.E.):**

18. To ask the Deputy Director of Education, Eastern Provinces:—

(a) Will he be good enough to supply a list of the Teacher-Training Institutions in the Region operated by

- (i) Government?
- (ii) Voluntary Agencies?

grouping (ii) under the Voluntary Agencies operating them.

(b) How many of these institutions are

- (i) Men's?
- (ii) Women's?
- (iii) Mixed?

(c) What is the total number of Student-Teachers of each sex in

- (i) Government?
- (ii) Voluntary Agency Institutions?

(d) What is the total number of Voluntary Agencies without Teacher-Training Institutions of their own?

(e) What is the total number of pupils attending schools run by

- (i) Government and Native Administrations?
- (ii) Voluntary Agencies with Training Centres of their own?
- (iii) Voluntary Agencies without Training Centres of their own?

(f) How many Student-Teachers in

- (i) Government Institutions?
- (ii) Voluntary Agency Institutions were sponsored by Voluntary Agencies without Institutions of their own in each of the years 1947, 1948 and 1949?

(g) Can Government give an assurance that students from Voluntary Agencies without Institutions of their own have in the past gained, and can now gain admission to training centres operated by other Voluntary Agencies on exactly the same footing and with as little or no difficulty as students belonging to those Voluntary Agencies?

Answer—

**The Acting Deputy Director of Education, Eastern Provinces:**

(a) List of Teacher-Training Institution in Region operated by:—

(i) *Government* (Excluding Rural Education Centre, Umuahia-Ibeku).

<i>Name</i>	<i>Men or Women</i>	<i>No. of Students</i>
T.T.C., Uyo	Men	93
T.T.C., Kumba	Men	71

(ii) *Voluntary Agencies.*

<i>Agency</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Men or Women</i>	<i>No. of Students</i>
C.S.M.	Hope Waddell, Calabar.	Men	66
R.C.M.	Saint Augustine's T.T.C., Urua,	"	98
	Inyang.		
"	Saint Thomas's T.T.C., Ogoja.	"	86
"	Saint Charles's T.T.C., Onitsha.	"	273
"	Bishop Shanahan's H.E.T.C.,	"	40
	Orlu.		
"	Saint Anthony's E.T.C., Agulu.	"	60
"	Saint Martin's E.T.C., Ihiala.	"	55
"	Saint Teresa's E.T.C., Nsukka.	"	51
"	Mount Saint Mary's E.T.C.,	"	60
	Emekuku.		
"	Holy Ghost E.T.C., Umuahia.	"	202
"	R.C.M., E.T.C., Bambui.	"	47
"	Holy Child Jesus T.T.C., Ifuho,	Women	60
	Ikot Ekpene.		
"	Holy Rosary, Enugu T.T.C.	"	116
"	Mount Carmel E.T.C., Emekuku.	"	66
"	Loretto E.T.C., Adazi, Awka.	"	74
"	Saint Joseph's E.T.C., Aba.	"	109
"	Saint Francis E.T.C., Kumba.	"	44
"	Holy Child E.T.C., Afikpo.	"	32
Anglican (C.M.S.)	Saint Paul's Training College,	Men	115
	Awka.		
Anglican (C.M.S.)	Saint Monica's E.T.C., Ogbunike.	Women	44
Anglican (N.D.P.)	E.T.C., Diobu.	Men	103
C.M.S., Methodist, and C.S.M.	Women's Training College,	Women	48
	Umuahia.		
Methodist	Methodist Training College,	Men	155
	Uzuakoli.		
Methodist	Methodist Training College,	Women	22
	Oron.		
Seventh Day Adventist	T.T.C., Ihie.	Men	26
Basel Mission	T.T.C., Batibo.	Men	49

(b) (i) *No. of Men's Institutions:*

Government	...	...	...	2
Voluntary Agencies	...	...	...	16
				18

(ii) *No. of Women's Institutions:*

Voluntary Agencies	...	...	...	10
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(iii) *No. of Mixed Institutions* ... .. Nil(c) *Total No. of Student-Teachers:*

(i) Government	...	...	...	164 men
(ii) Voluntary Agencies	...	...	...	1,486 „
				615 women

(d) *No. of Approved Voluntary Agencies without Teacher-Training Institutions of their own:*

13 (Thirteen).

(e) *Total number of pupils attending schools run by:—*

(i) Government and Native Administrations	...	...	...	13,806
(ii) Approved Voluntary Agencies with Training Centres of their own	...	...	...	339,146
(iii) Approved Voluntary Agencies without Training Centres of their own	...	...	...	66,896

(f) (i) *Number of Teachers in training in Government Institutions sponsored by Voluntary Agencies without Institutions of their own in years:—*

1947	...	...	...	59
1948	...	...	...	43
1949	...	...	...	48

(ii) *Number of Teachers in training in Voluntary Agency Institutions sponsored by Voluntary Agencies without Institutions of their own in years:—*

1947	...	...	...	36*
1948	...	...	...	26*
1949	...	...	...	24*

\* Figures not complete for all Voluntary Agencies.

(g) No, Sir, such an assurance cannot be given without reservations. The Government-assisted Voluntary Agency Teacher Training Centres belong to Voluntary Agencies which have very large primary school systems employing thousands of teachers and operate primarily to meet the very great need for trained teachers in those systems. It cannot be expected that they will offer many places to students from small Voluntary Agencies which do not need so many trained teachers. Places are being found in Government Centres for students from the Voluntary Agencies which have no Training Centres, and will be found in greater number as the Government Centres are expanded under the Ten-Year Plan of Development and Welfare. All students in Voluntary Agency Training Centres qualify for Government training grant in the same way whether they are sponsored by the Voluntary Agencies which conduct the Centres or by other Voluntary Agencies.

**The Member for Educational Interests (Mr A. Ikoku, O.B.E.):**

Your Honour, with reference to the answer given on page 5 to my Question No. 18 (g), may I ask the Acting Deputy Director of Education if in view of the circumstances revealed by the tables and the answers to Question 18 (f) and (g) if the Voluntary Agencies without training institutions of their own and catering for some 67,000 pupils will be given a quota of teacher training institutions in view of the fact that the Deputy Director of Education is unable to give a guarantee that Voluntary Agencies with Training Institutions of their own can admit teachers from the have-nots without difficulty.

**The Acting Deputy Director of Education, Eastern Provinces:**

Sir, Your Honour's promise that this proposal made by the Member for Educational Interests will be put before the Regional Board of Education at its next meeting for consideration.

**The Member for Educational Interests (Mr A. Ikoku, O.B.E.):**

May I ask a further question, Sir—because I happen to know that the Departmental feeling is that these Voluntary Agencies should make do with what teachers they can get anywhere and anyhow. May I ask for an assurance that the question will be put before the Board without the Department trying to tell them what the Government view is, in other words that encouragement will be given these Voluntary Agencies to club together and operate Teacher Training Centre(s) of their own.

**The Acting Deputy Director of Education, Eastern Provinces:**

Yes, Sir.

**The Member for Educational Interests (Mr A. Ikoku, O.B.E.):**

19. To ask the Deputy Director of Education, Eastern Provinces:—

With particular reference to the £10,000 provided in the 1950-51 Estimates for assistance to Primary Girls Schools in respect of expatriate women teachers;

(a) Will he be good enough to supply a list of the schools concerned, the grant-attracting staff, school by school, and the professional qualification of each teacher, for the year 1949?

(b) How many African women teachers employed in each of these schools in 1949 held

(i) The Teachers' Senior Certificate or higher qualification?

(ii) The Teachers Higher Elementary Certificate?

(c) Does the Deputy Director subscribe to the view that expatriate women teachers can be employed with best advantage in Secondary Schools and Teacher-Training Colleges, having regard to our present acute shortage of teachers?

(d) How many African women teachers are at present taking specialised courses overseas with a view to gradually replacing expatriate women teachers in Primary Girls Schools?

(e) Will Government give an assurance that grants under this head will be progressively reduced in favour of increase in the Scholarship Vote to enable an increasing number of African women teachers to take specialised courses overseas with a view to their assuming greater, and at no distant date, ultimate responsibility in Primary Girls Schools?

Answer—

**The Acting Deputy Director of Education, Eastern Provinces:**

19 (a) List of Schools concerned, the grant attracting staff, and professional qualifications.

<i>Name of School</i>	<i>Name of Teacher</i>	<i>Professional Qualification</i>
<b>ONITSHA</b>		
Immaculata Primary (Modern) ... ..	Mother M. Bernard Price ... ..	Ministry of Education Certificate.
Immaculata Primary ... ..	Sister M. Alacoque McNally ... ..	"
Holy Rosary, Adazi ... ..	Sister M. Claver Ryan ... ..	"
Holy Rosary, Ihiala ... ..	Mother M. Philip O'Connell ... ..	"
Holy Rosary, Enugu ... ..	Mother M. Annunciata ... ..	"
Holy Rosary, Enugu ... ..	Sister M. Paulina Curley (H.E. Rate) ... ..	"
<b>RIVERS</b>		
Holy Rosary, Port Harcourt ... ..	Sister M. Rose Maguire ... ..	Registered Teacher of Royal Society of Teachers, London.
<b>OWERRI</b>		
Holy Rosary, Aba ... ..	Sister M. Ursula Parks ... ..	Ministry of Education Certificate
Holy Rosary, Emekuku ... ..	Mother M. Ambrose Wright ... ..	Ministry of Education Certificate.
Holy Rosary, Urualla ... ..	Mother M. Buckley (H.E. Rate) ... ..	B. Commerce, H.Dip.Ed., N.U.I.
Girls' School, Ovim, Methodist (Modern)	Miss M. F. Jesse ... ..	Ministry of Education Certificate.
<b>CALABAR</b>		
C.H.C.J., Ifuho (Modern) ... ..	Mother Teresa Xavier ... ..	Teachers' Diploma, U.S.A.
C.H.C.J., Calabar (Modern) ... ..	Mother Mary Tarcisius ... ..	H.S. Diploma, U.S.A.
C.H.C.J., Calabar (Modern) ... ..	Mother Herman Joseph ... ..	Teachers' Diploma, U.S.A.
C.H.C.J., Calabar (Modern) ... ..	Mother Mary Rosario (H.E. Rate) ... ..	L.G.S.M.
<b>CAMEROONS</b>		
R.C.M., Fiango, Kumba ... ..	Sister Loretto ... ..	Matric four years Church College.
R.C.M., Fiango, Kumba ... ..	Sister M. Leo (H.E. Rate) ... ..	Dutch Montessorri Certificate.
Basel, Victoria ... ..	Miss N. Buchter ... ..	Swiss Teachers' Diploma.
<b>CALABAR</b>		
Nung Udoo ... ..	Miss Oelschlager ... ..	Two Years College.
Grace Bell, Q.I.M. ... ..	Miss E. E. Hynes ... ..	Ministry of Education Certificate.
Mary Hanney, Oron, Methodist ... ..	Miss M. West ... ..	"
Edgerley, Calabar, C.S.M. ... ..	Miss A. Henderson ... ..	"
Slessor Memorial, Arochuku, C.S.M. ... ..	Miss S. McKennell ... ..	"
<b>CAMEROONS</b>		
Baptist, Soppo ... ..	Miss M. A. Schultz ... ..	Ministry of Education Certificate.
Convent, Victoria ... ..	Sister M. Josepha ... ..	Teachers' Certificate, Italy.

*Note.*—In the case of eleven of these expatriates grant was not paid at the full rate corresponding to their qualifications, but at a lower rate as it was considered that the number of pupils did not justify the full rate.



(b) African Women Teachers employed in each of these schools holding (i) Teachers' Senior Certificate or higher qualifications (ii) the Teachers' Higher Elementary Certificate.

Name of School	Senior Certificate	Higher Elementary Certificate
ONITSHA		
Immaculata Primary (Modern) ...	Nil	6
Holy Rosary, Adazi ...	Nil	2
Holy Rosary, Ihiala ...	Nil	3
Holy Rosary, Enugu ...	Nil	4
RIVERS		
Holy Rosary, Port Harcourt ...	Nil	5
OWERRI		
Holy Rosary, Aba ...	Nil	2
Holy Rosary, Emekuku ...	Nil	4
Holy Rosary, Urualla ...	Nil	2
Girls' School, Ovim, Methodist (Modern) ...	Nil	5
CALABAR		
C.H.C.J., Ifuho (Modern) ...	Nil	5
C.H.C.J., Calabar (Modern) ...	Nil	4
CAMEROONS		
R.C.M., Fiango, Kumba ...	Nil	2
R.C.M., Fiango, Kmuba ...	Nil	1

*Information has not yet been obtained for the following schools :—*

CALABAR— Nung Udoe.  
Grace Bell, Q.I.M.  
Mary Hanney, Oron, Methodist.  
Edgerley, Calabar, C.S.M.  
Slessor Memorial, Arochuku, C.S.M.

CAMEROONS—Baptist, Soppo.  
Convent, Victoria.

(c) Not entirely. It is his view and the view of the Education Department that during the present acute shortage of African women teachers expatriate women teachers should be employed also in Primary Schools in order to ensure that girls entering the Teacher Training Centres and Secondary Schools shall have had a good grounding in primary education.

(d) Number of African women teachers at present taking specialised courses overseas, twenty.

(e) Much depends upon the rate of growth of the number of girls' schools, and the rate of wastage of teachers from the profession through marriage, but it should be possible with the increasing number of girls obtaining secondary education and being trained as teachers, progressively to decrease the number of expatriates in Primary Girls' Schools. The number of African women teachers at present qualified and desirous to take specialised overseas courses is very small, and such as are fit have a very favourable opportunity at present to obtain open scholarships, or grants from the teacher training votes of the Education Department, for such courses. If an increase in the teacher training votes were necessary for this purpose, approval for such would be sought from the Finance Committee of this House.

*Question 19.***The Acting Deputy Director of Education, Eastern Provinces:**

Sir, I beg to be allowed to make one correction to the answer on page 26. The professional qualification of Miss M. A. Schultz is not a Ministry of Education Certificate but a Michigan State Teachers Certificate and B.A. Degree of the Baptist Training Missionary School at Chicago. She was grant-aided for supervisory duty.

**The Member for Educational Interests (Mr A. Ikoku, O.B.E.):**

In view of the fact that the answer to 13 which seeks to ascertain how many African girls hold Senior Certificates or higher qualifications reveals quite clearly that none of them hold these qualifications, will the Department give an assurance that opportunities will be thrown open by way of provision of the necessary funds in the departmental votes for many African girls to go out and get the qualifications required.

**The Secretary, Eastern Provinces:**

Sir, I query whether this is a Supplementary Question it seems to me to be a further question.

**The Member for Educational Interests (Mr A. Ikoku, O.B.E.):**

Your Honour, I maintain that the answers to the question indicate the deficiency which the Supplementary Question is designed to correct. The original question was an exploratory one.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

I think the Member is in order, since the answer given to him has been nil, and he wishes to know whether the answer will be nil in another year's time or two years' time.

**The Acting Deputy Director of Education, Eastern Provinces:**

Your Honour, I am at a loss to know how to answer this question because the Certificate which is possessed by no African Woman Teacher is a Senior Certificate, which is obtained by an external examination and not by training. I am unable to see how departmental aid, or financial aid at any rate can be given to these teachers to obtain these Certificates. It is a Certificate which is gained by private study during teaching service. I am in doubt as to how to offer aid to these teachers to obtain the qualification other than by advice that they should study hard and pass the examination.

**The Member for Educational Interests (Mr A. Ikoku, O.B.E.):**

Your Honour, I would draw the attention of my friend the last speaker to the last part of the question; the question is "Teachers' Senior Certificate or *Higher qualification*". Answer to Question 19 (a) under the column "professional qualifications" sounds quite clearly that the teaching staff who occupy these posts hold qualifications that cannot be got here, such as the Ministry of

Education Certificate. The answer to number of African girls holding these qualifications is nil and my Supplementary Question is how can we help our girls to get these qualifications and I submit that the Supplementary Answer did not answer my question.

**The Acting Deputy Director of Education, Eastern Provinces:**

I apologise, Sir, I did not quite understand the range of the question and I think that the last two sentences of the answer to (e) on page 10 indicate that the Department is only too anxious and willing to provide grants to help women teachers to obtain degrees or professional qualifications at Ibadan or overseas Universities and Colleges.

**The Member for Educational Interests (Mr A. Ikoku, O.B.E.):**

The last sentence on page 10 says "if an increase in the Teacher Training votes were necessary for this purpose, approval for such would be sought from the Finance Committee of this House"—from which I have two more Supplementary Questions. I should like to know if such an increase is in fact necessary and further if it is intended to put the matter before the Finance Committee and further whether my friend the Deputy Director of Education can anticipate the reactions of the Finance Committee.

**The Acting Deputy Director of Education, Eastern Provinces:**

Sir, applications for scholarships for women teachers would be given such priority by the Department that an increase in the Teacher Training votes this year is not as far as I can see necessary. In other words there is no application before the Department at the moment which qualifies for a grant. If such an application were to be made, such priority would be given to it that the teacher in question would be given a grant. Perhaps next year there will be more candidates that there is provision for in such a case this additional provision would be sought and I have no doubt whatever that the Finance Committee of the Eastern House of Assembly would provide the additional funds for the training grants.

**The Member for Educational Interests (Mr A. Ikoku, O.B.E.):**

Would the Deputy Director of Education undertake to include in the estimates next year a special provision for African girls to go out and obtain the qualifications in question and further to advertise for applications.

**The Secretary, Eastern Provinces:**

Sir, once again I should like to say that I do not consider that this is a Supplementary Question.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

I rule that the Member is in order in his question.

**The Acting Deputy Director of Education, Eastern Provinces:**

Sir, I should be very pleased to make this Supplementary Estimates during the 1950-51 financial year and hope that it will be put before the Finance Committee next week.

**The Member for Educational Interests (Mr A. Ikoku, O.B.E.):**

I suggest that my question about advertising has not been covered.

**The Acting Deputy Director of Education, Eastern Provinces:**

I will put the Member's proposal before my Director, Sir, and ask his advice as to the best method of effecting advertisement, whether in the press or by circularising the proprietors, by whom these teachers are mostly employed, or by both methods.

**Motions****The Acting Senior Crown Counsel, Eastern Provinces:**

Sir, I beg to move the following:—

“Be it resolved:

“That this House do advise His Excellency the  
“Governor that the report of the Select Committee  
“of this House appointed to consider and make  
“recommendations on the Report and  
“Recommendations of the General Conference  
“for the Review of the Constitution is acceptable  
“to this House”.

**The Secretary, Eastern Provinces:**

Sir, I beg to second.

**The Provincial Member for the Owerri (Rivers) Province (Mr H. Buowari Brown, O.B.E.):**

Your Honour, with regard to the motion now before us I believe that there is some error about the whole position. Sir, that this review is acceptable to this House, it says; but I still maintain that the original House has still to express their views on the subject. The Select Committee had no right to suggest amendments to the recommendations of the General Conference, but according to the Chief Secretary's Memorandum, after the completion of the Conference the findings on the report should come back to the House of Assembly for debate and then go to the Legislative Council before being passed by His Excellency to the Secretary of State. I think this House has a right still to deal with this subject and I am not satisfied with just having noted it in Select Committee.

**The Secretary, Eastern Provinces:**

Sir, this House is now in debate on that very thing.

**The Provincial Member for the Owerri (Rivers) Province (Mr H. Buowari Brown, O.B.E.):**

Although the Committee did not desire to make any amendments, I think it is within the power of this House to do so, Sir.

**The Secretary, Eastern Provinces:**

That is quite correct, Sir.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

It is clearly within the powers of this House.

**The Second Provincial Member for the Onitsha Province  
(Mr C. D. Onyeama):**

Your Honour, I thought that the Select Committee was appointed to advise the House on the document, in the way of making amendments. I think that Committee should not refuse to deal with the matter: it says that the Select Committee desire to make no amendments because they consider that it is not within their powers to do so. What do we do now?

**The Member for Professional, Salaried and Wage-earning Classes  
(Mr E. N. Egbu):**

Mr Chairman, I think one point has to be clarified and that is the report of the Select Committee on this issue. It is not as a fact held by the Members of the Committee that they could not criticise or make recommendations but it was felt that in view of the decision reached at the various stages at which that question had been discussed and in view of the fact that the matter had gone before the General Conference composed of not only Unofficial Members of this House and of the Legislative Council, but other representatives of the public it would be inadvisable to debate it further as this might be detrimental to our chances of success. It might mean that all the attempts at compromising which were made at Ibadan and which I believe succeeded more or less would fail, if we took the Regional view of certain portions of the recommendations. I still feel that the original idea to refer the whole question to the Regional Houses and thereafter to the Legislative Council after it had gone up to the General Conference of the whole of Nigeria was improper. Most of us feel that the recommendations of the General Conference should have been submitted straight away to the authorities in England for consideration. As my friend pointed out, that would not preclude anybody from saying what he feels about it. We feel that the document is there for everybody to study, and we accept it. I have considered the motion in terms of the resolution before this House and it is my view that the recommendations are acceptable.

**The Second Provincial Member for the Onitsha Province  
(Mr C. D. Onyeama):**

Sir, going through the recommendations in the General Conference there were certain matters which were left for each Region to decide. I do not know whether it is for us to make recommendations. I refer to the question of elections in each Region—the mechanics for the carrying out of an election (under Head IX “Qualification of candidates, system of election and distribution of seats”) under F.2 which says “subject to this provision, the details for election to the Provincial, Divisional or other Electoral Colleges, should be worked out in each Region and examined by the appropriate House of Assembly”. I think that we may as well tackle that problem now and come to some decision

about it. Again, there is the question suggested under Head XI "Common language". "Consideration should be given to the establishment of a common language for Nigeria". There is no harm in our coming to a decision now on what we think of it and what language we would recommend. I would be glad to know Regional opinion on certain things and I think that we should tackle them now. Of these two things, I myself agree that there should be a common language and I suggest that it should be Hausa. I would be very pleased if the Committee had tackled the question of elections but there is nothing to prevent this House coming to a decision now. We agreed before that representation should be on a divisional level and we agreed at the General Conference that each Division should have at least two representatives. And the question which we should agree upon now is what should be the ratio per population of representation after the first two. I think it was suggested that it should be 50,000 and I think that if we keep our two representatives and have one for every 50,000 after the first 100,000, any Division having less than 150,000 people would have two representatives representing the first 100,000 of the population—then the next 50,000 would entitle a Division to one extra representative and so on. But those are issues which I thought we might decide in this House and give a final report of our views on the recommendations of the General Conference.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

It is not quite clear whether the Member is talking to the debate. I understand there is a recommendation from the Select Committee for the setting up of a Committee to discuss the things to which you refer.

**The Acting Senior Crown Counsel, Eastern Provinces:**

My learned friend was unable to be present at the Committee meeting yesterday. We did submit a list of names of Members of this House and one other to the President from whom we hoped he might appoint a Committee who would go into the question he has been referring to. It was a subsidiary matter which was dealt with by the Select Committee yesterday and did not form part of our report, but it was agreed to by the Members who were present at that Committee.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

I am sure the Member will accept this explanation.

**The Second Provincial Member for the Onitsha Province  
(Mr C. D. Onyeama):**

The only trouble about that is this—Legislative Council will be sitting in a matter of weeks and I am certain that this matter will come up before the Council at that time. I do not know, Sir, whether it would be advisable to have the Select Committee sitting again. I would not say anything against it.

**The Provincial Member for the Ogoja Province (Dr F. A. Ibiam, O.B.E.):**

I would like to know whether it is not advisable that that part of our recommendation should be incorporated in the report of the Select Committee on the Constitution. For that matter a number of names have been suggested to consider this very question; it seems to me not quite complete. I think it should come before this House.

**The Secretary, Eastern Provinces:**

May I say, Sir, that the Senior Crown Counsel will move a resolution to set up a Select Committee later on during the proceedings of this House and suggest to you, Sir, the membership of it.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

That would form a part of this actual resolution itself. It shall go forward to Legislative Council itself as being part of this and supplementary to it.

**The Provincial Member for the Ogoja Province (Dr F. A. Ibiam, O.B.E.):**

Yes, Sir.

**The First Provincial Member for the Calabar Province (Mr Asuquo Okon):**

Your Honour, I accept the principle of the proposal of the Select Committee, but there are a few observations I should like to make known on my own. The first one is in connection with the operation of legislation. Therein it is provided that the "Regional legislation should not be subject to the approval of the House of Representatives but should be laid on the table of the House of Representatives. Such legislation may be debated in the House of Representatives on the proposal of the Governor in Council that the Bill as a whole or any section of it contravenes one or other of the provisos set out in paragraph D (a) above. If the Motion is passed by a majority of all the Members of the House of Representatives present, the legislation should be referred back to the Regional House or Houses for reconsideration and in the event continued disagreement thereafter no Regional legislation which is opposed by a majority of all the Members of the House of Representative present should take effect". "If the motion is passed by a majority"—that appears in my opinion to be covered even by a simple majority of one. And I would suggest, Sir, in such an important matter a simple majority is not sufficient. It does appear to me, Sir, that for example the Northern representatives in the House of Representatives blocking themselves together could frustrate the passage of a Bill proposed by say the Western or Eastern Houses of Assembly. Sir, I would suggest that a three-quarter majority should be required to send the Bill back for reconsideration.

In dealing with the composition of the central legislation I would suggest, Sir, that the privilege that Calabar has for sometime enjoyed in sending a Member direct to the Central Council be preserved therefore, Sir, I suggest that there should be one Member in the Central legislature representing Calabar direct.

And speaking of a common language for the country it is stated in the proposals that "consideration should be given to the establishment of a common language for Nigeria". I am proposing that we should continue to use that language which we have been using hitherto. And therefore I do not think that this House should consider the matter at all.

**The Provincial Member for the Owerri (Rivers) Province  
(Mr H. Buowari Brown, O.B.E.):**

Your Honour, if I remember rightly, Sir, on the question of operation of legislation I think this question was argued at length during the General Conference whether the majority should be two-thirds or three-quarter and it was agreed there, and the East and West succeeded in persuading the North to come to this agreement, so that I have, Sir, great doubt whether we should now alter what was then decided. Just as my friend Mr Egbuna said, there have been compromises here and there and anything we have to do here has to be done with that same spirit of compromise, otherwise the work done at Ibadan may be undone.

With regard to the question of language, Sir, I am definitely opposed to anything other than the English language to be used in this country. That should be our common language. English would do for the Rivers Province at any rate.

**The Member for Urban Areas other than Port Harcourt  
(Rev. O. Efiang, O.B.E.):**

In view of the fact, Sir, that the constitution at this stage is regarded as an interim measure or a transitional constitution, I rise to express my full concurrence with the view that has been expressed, that this House accepts the constitutional reform as it is at the moment. When it will come into operation we shall be in a position to study the common language, and in the light of experience make amendments for the future. Nevertheless, Sir, I associate myself very strongly with the view that it is rather superfluous and unnecessary at this stage to consider the question of a "common language", for Nigeria. The position should be left as it is at the moment. We are trying to master one language—English language, in which we are still far remote from perfection. For which reason, Sir, I suggest that we do not accept the suggestion to begin to study "Hausa" as the common language of the people of Nigeria.

With respect to Calabar representation in the Legislative Council, Sir, I do not see that any constitutional reform could deprive the people of the political privilege that was given them sometime ago. When that privilege was accorded Calabar it was



thought that Calabar, historically and otherwise, was qualified to enjoy that privilege and we do feel that the revision of the constitution should not deprive Calabar of that political privilege.

**The Provincial Member for the Ogoja Province (Dr F. A. Ibiam, O.B.E.):**

I rise to suggest that the speaker is out of order, Sir. Is he not anticipating the work of the Select Committee?

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

I think the Member is in order.

**The Member for Urban Areas other than Port Harcourt (Rev. O. Efiang, O.B.E.):**

Thank you Mr Chairman. I think we shall be in a position to suggest that to whatever Select Committee is set up as well as to the Legislative. These, Sir, are the points I would like to make, and we feel that this will not preclude the Constitution from being amended in the light of experience. Thank you, Sir.

**The Provincial Member for the Ogoja Province (Dr F. A. Ibiam, O.B.E.):**

Your Honour, I would like to take a few moments to point out one or two factors which I also did point out to the General Conference in Ibadan. One is in regard to Members of the Regional Legislature. We decided to have the Official Members in each Regional Legislature but decided that these Officials should have no votes. Also in the Regional Executives there should be Officials but they should have votes. When we consider the question of central representation we have officials in the central legislature and the council of ministers and to these officials we granted votes. I think it is rather inconsistent to have officials having no vote in one legislature and not in the other, and I pointed this out to Members.

The second point is about a common language. I was the only dissentient voice and I suggested that that was not the work of our constitution but rather that when the constitution is working and we have a minister of education it will be his work to suggest languages which in his opinion could be more extensively used. I cannot see the country agreeing to a common language, be it Hausa or anything else. I am not prepared to learn Hausa for the benefit of anybody.

**The Member for Educational Interests (Mr A. Ikoku, O.B.E.):**

Your Honour, I voted against the common language proposal because the conference at Ibadan insisted upon it, but when I spoke against it I warned the House that it was discussing a technical issue, and that the Boards of Education both regional and central should be consulted, since the question of curriculum would be affected. Already we have the various vernaculars for the school child and then on his plate he *must* have English. We

are now trying to serve him another dish, Hausa. I did not take my friend's (Mr Mbonu Ojike) suggestion of Hausa seriously, if he had said Ibo or Yoruba he would have lost the motion as we would have had the usual objection from the North, which we are so used to. If you take the principle of the common language we must think of the school child and the future. Think of our future international relationships. Nobody but a crazy man would put Hausa over English and French. I was told about pride of race; I have a pride, but it is not this parochial type of pride, it is a pride of a different nature, I have a pride in the African race. And were there a common African language I would have been among the first to agree that it be adopted as the common language of Nigeria, but there is no such common language. And so I am opposed to any of our vernaculars being the common political language. We already have English.

**The Second Provincial Member for the Calabar Province  
(Mr Nyong Essien):**

Your Honour, I associate myself with my friends who made reference to the position of Calabar in the Central Legislature. Before this time, Sir, Calabar was considered along with Lagos to enjoy the privilege and the right of franchise. Lagos today in the new Constitution has been made to retain that right. I feel, Sir, that there is no reason why Calabar should be deprived of hers. Therefore, Sir, I support the claim that Calabar should retain her position in the Central Legislature.

Although I may find myself in a very small minority I wish to enjoy the privilege of this House, the privilege of expressing one's opinion freely and maintaining that opinion with all sense of freedom. I refer to having a common African language. At the Conference I voted for it, in this Honourable House I am still maintaining the very same opinion. I may shortly refer Your Honour and the Members of this House to history; it is said that history is a fingerpost that directs not only a nation but also an individual to a destiny. The English language of which I am very proud and which I wish to bequeath to my posterity was not the original language of Government. Latin was used. After that French was used as a state language and finally we have the English now as the state language. We are now envisaging self-government and we are preparing to lay a foundation for our self-government and independence. At present we are qualified for neither, but still preparations are being made. I do not think that an African language would destroy my loyalty as a British protected person. There are new subjects in the curriculum of schools which were not included originally. The mentality of the children is being developed. And the higher the mind of the children is developed the more they are able to increase their knowledge and the more they call for more subject to be introduced. I do not speak as an expert on this subject, but I am

making my reference with apology to the Member who represents Educational Interests. I feel, Sir, that to insert in the constitution an African language of any dialect, agreed upon, is quite in order. As Hausa has been mentioned I consider that it should be given the first trial in the envisaged self-government for Nigeria. I do not want to make comments on the mystery and power of languages of nations. In every language nature has concealed wonders. There was a time when the English language was very very poor. Because it has become the language of the whole world, researchers thought it their duty to enrich it. Today the English language is pregnant with words borrowed from other languages, such as Latin, Greek, Hebrew and so on. In future this country might enjoy the use of Ibibio or Efik language in its refined and improved form. Therefore, Sir, I strongly support the suggestion that we include as one of the stones of the foundation of self-government an African language for the curriculum of schools as one of the subjects.

I would like, Sir, to draw your attention to an omission on the part of the Committee making the revision. That is establishment of a House of Chiefs in the East. I consider and submit, Sir, that it is a grave omission. I may lose this point; but I am sure that in this House there is at least one who is prepared to support the interest I am now defending. In Nigeria there is not a single section of indigenous people who have not been naturally endowed with chieftaincy. Any section of such people who may dream of the modern spirit of saying, "Well, this is the age of democracy! therefore there should be no such system (Chieftaincy) in the East", the conclusion must undoubtedly be that such democrats are strangers on that land. The whole of Nigeria of the three Regions have been naturally enjoying it to date. We should not attempt in making a new constitution to remove nature's ancient land marks. I am not saying this because I am by birth a member of that section of the community. I say it, Sir, with all pride that that which is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander. If we give no constitutional consideration to the office of Chieftaincy in the East, we have done ourselves wrong. There is no Member of this House, that is to say an Unofficial Member, who cannot turn round to his forebears, and fail to find that office there. If we, in our constitution fail to make provision for this office I feel that Nature will query us. So, Sir, I am suggesting that this House should consider this point, and make provision in the constitution for it, so that the North and the West may not think that we are non-Nigerians. This part as a matter of fact, divorces the East entirely from the North and the West which have established their Houses of Chiefs.

**The Member for Urban Aspect of Life in Port Harcourt  
(Mr G. C. Nonyelu):**

Sir, I associate myself with the recommendations of the Ibadan Conference, if, and only if, this House would insist that the

minority report signed by the whole of the Eastern team is adopted. Otherwise, I would suggest to this House, that it should recommend that Members of the Northern House of Assembly should not attempt to deprive Southerners of their rights and privileges in the North: they must not be deprived of their right to vote or to represent the people. So that the result of this recommendation to the General Conference is that we insist that the minority report of the whole Eastern team is incorporated.

I have one or two points also to bring to the notice of this House. Port Harcourt is the only town in the Eastern Provinces which has some measure of self-government and has a Municipality, and it is but fair, and, it is the wish of the people, that it should be represented directly in the Central Legislature, just like Calabar.

*The question of language; of introducing an African lingua franca.*—The English language serves all the purposes we want. Even India, after she had become a Republic has deliberately chosen to retain the English language, and has not insisted on an India substitute. If it is suggested that there should be an African *lingua franca*, I should suggest the Ibo language. I remember a case in a Scottish Mission School in Calabar when a non-Ibo was asked a question in Ibo by a West Indian. His reply to this question was "I do not understand Ibo, Sir." The West Indian thought this shameful and told the non-Ibo student to study Ibo because it was bound to be the *lingua franca* of Nigeria. The question of language in any event should not come before this House; it should be left to the Minister of Education.

**The Member for Educational Interests (Mr A. Ikoku, O.B.E.):**

Your Honour, on a point of explanation, the minority report referred to by the last speaker appears in the report before the House without the signatures of all those who appeared at Ibadan on behalf of the East, and the reason for that is that four of those persons had left Ibadan before the report was ready for signature. I told the Ibadan Conference that I was bringing copies home to the East and that when those copies had received the signatures of those of us who were absent I would send them to the Chairman. I have since got two of the four signatures: it may be difficult to get Mr Anwan's signature. But we were all in agreement at Ibadan. Therefore that report is unanimous from all those representing the East.

**The Provincial Member for the Owerri (Rivers) Province (Mr H. Buowari Brown, O.B.E.):**

Sir, I am asking for special permission . . . . .

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

Is the Member rising on a point of order or a point of fact?

**The Provincial Member for the Owerri (Rivers) Province (Mr H. Buowari Brown, O.B.E.):**

I am speaking on the question of Chieftaincy that was raised by me and nobody else in the East. My motion was defeated

simply because Members did not support me and so that knocked it over, Sir. I want it to be recorded that we in the East did have natural rulers who were highly respected by the British Government. Their names are well known and I need only cite King Amachree of the Kalabari and King William Dappa Pepple of Bonny—there are many more. Although at the present it may not be possible to have a House of Chiefs in the East, we should also have a House of Chiefs in due course, if we want it. Even during the next five years.

**The Second Provincial Member for the Owerri Province  
(Mr D. N. Achara):**

I wish to stress the point other Members have raised in connection with the minority report signed by the Eastern team. It is unfortunate that we talk of "Free Nigeria; where democracy is to be practised", and at the same time we allow a section of Nigeria a prerogative which I think will destroy unity. I feel that if those who represent us in the Legislative Council and the Central Executive fail to fight against that point our people will quarrel with them. We have no reason to say that a man is free in Nigeria and yet if he settles in Hausa country for any number of years (unless his mother and father were Hausas) he should not enjoy political privileges. I do not think our people would allow this point to stand.

Another point concerns the "common language". Perhaps the suggestion is made because we feel that in about fifty years to come it will be necessary; but if we say that it will be put into practice in a few years' time, then it is adding 100 per cent to the difficulty we have in our education. We have teachers at the moment who teach in different languages, Ibo, Efik and so on, in our schools, because they know these particular languages. Now it is said, we want to bring in Hausa as the common language. Those who suggested that perhaps did not know that it was not as easy as all that unless there were competent teachers to teach Hausa. If we accept this proposition it will mean that we will have to start a training college for teachers in Hausa in order to qualify them to teach in different schools, North, East and West. I ask, Sir, with all humility, whether it is suggested that the deliberations in Houses of Assembly are to be carried on in Hausa or what. Or was the suggestion made as something worthwhile in the future.

If there is a time when the question of a common language should come in for discussion it is in the remote future and not now.

**The First Provincial Member for the Onitsha Province  
(Mr P. E. Chukwurah):**

Your Honour, I am in support of the minority report submitted by the Eastern team, and also of a part of another minority report submitted by two Members of the team from the East. With regard to the division of the country into Regions, the Western

team has presented a minority report in which Lagos and the North has demanded 50 per cent representation in the Central Government and the East is asking that a Nigerian should not be a stranger in this country. These are the immediate results of the partitioning of the country into Regions and they are the beginnings of disorders to come. We may not be surprised to see in time the North at war with the East or the East with the West or the West with the North as a result of this, I say, that a mistake is being made.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

The House will resolve itself into Committee to consider the motion.

**Clerk of the House:**

The motion in the terms resolved.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

The question is that the motion stands in the terms resolved. Will those in favour say "Aye" and those to the contrary "No". The "Ayes" have it.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

The House will now resume. The question is that the motion in the terms resolved be adopted. Will those in favour say "Aye" and those to the contrary "No".

The "Ayes" have it.

**The Acting Senior Crown Counsel, Eastern Provinces:**

I have a resolution to move. I think I should have moved it earlier, but it is of such importance that I ask you, Sir, to allow me to put it now—it concerns a recommendation of the Select Committee concerning the Ibadan Conference Recommendations.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

Is it the pleasure of the House that the Senior Crown Counsel brings his motion concerning the Committee to deal with the question of the distribution of seats in the new Constitution?

"Aye".

**The Acting Senior Crown Counsel, Eastern Provinces:**

Sir, I beg to move the following:—

"Be it resolved: That a Committee be set up to consist of the following persons or such of them as you, Sir, appoint:—

"The Honourable H. Buowari Brown, O.B.E.  
" (Rivers Province)

"Galega, Fon of Bali (Bamenda)

"Dr Endeley (Cameroons)

"Dr the Honourable F. A. Ibiam, O.B.E. (Ogoja)

"The Reverend O. Efiang, O.B.E. (Calabar)

"Mr M. W. Ubani (Owerri)

"Mr E. N. Egbuna (Onitsha)

"Sitting under the Chairmanship of Mr R. A. Stevens.

“ And that such Select Committee shall consider the  
“ question of the system of election for, and distribu-  
“ tion of seats in, the new Eastern Regional House  
“ subject to the recommendations of the General  
“ Conference on the revision of the Constitution ”.

**The Secretary, Eastern Provinces:**

This motion does not need to be seconded, Sir, but, nevertheless, I second it.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

The question is that the motion in the terms resolved be accepted. Will those in favour say “ Aye ” and those to the contrary “ No ”.

The “ Ayes ” have it.

(To continue the debate on the Eastern Region Local Government Bill).

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

The question was not put when the debate opened and the debate is therefore still open. If no Member wishes to debate, I will put the question.

**The Provincial Member for the Ogoja Province (Dr F. A. Ibiam, O.B.E.):**

Your Honour, I have not much to say about this Bill because we have considered it for a long time now. But what I would like to bring to your attention, Sir, is how this Bill, when it becomes law, is intended to be introduced into the various parts of the Eastern Provinces. I am referring particularly to the Ogoja Province: I notice that there has been a circular published, inviting candidates for scholarships to study the principles of local government outside Nigeria and I find myself rather hard put to consider why persons from the Ogoja Province have not been given any consideration. I have received many letters asking why applications from the persons who come from the Ogoja Province have been turned down. We understand that our Province is not going to be considered immediately for qualification for the revision of local government. But I would like to say, Sir, that we would view it most disagreeably if, as a matter of policy, our men and women from our Province were not to be considered for such scholarship. I think we have got the men who are capable of fulfilling the qualifications and we refuse to be left in the background as heretofore.

**The Second Provincial Member for the Calabar Province (Mr Nyong Essien):**

Your Honour, I am in the same size of boots worn by the last speaker. In Calabar Province I do not know the number of candidates sent under the Local Government Scholarship. In my division Uyo in particular, no candidate is taken. But on inquiry I received information from very reliable quarters that Uyo Native Authority funds have been utilised for this purpose without our knowledge and consent.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

The Member is aware that he is speaking to the principle of the Bill—whether this House do advise His Excellency that this Bill is acceptable in principle to this House?

**The Second Provincial Member for the Calabar Province  
(Mr Nyong Essien):**

Well, Sir, I am subject to Your Honour's correction.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

We are prepared to give Members every opportunity to discuss the subject which has been already mentioned.

**The Second Provincial Member for the Calabar Province  
(Mr Nyong Essien):**

I have nothing in principle against the motion on the table.

**The Provincial Member for the Owerri (Rivers) Province  
(Mr H. Buowari Brown, O.B.E.):**

Your Honour, I have one difficulty; it does not directly concern the motion before us, but before I left I was surprised to receive a letter from the Brass Divisional Council informing me that they are not yet ripe enough for local government. What that means, I do not understand, but they wanted me to advise this House accordingly.

**The First Provincial Member for the Owerri Province  
(Mr M. W. Ubani):**

Your Honour, I do not intend to speak for long on this matter because I feel that every Member of this House has got a certain amount of satisfaction in the way the whole business has been handled. In fact I think those Members would all agree with me in joining in sincere appreciation of what has been done for them. When local government reform was being contemplated, people who were ill advised, often misunderstood the aim of the Unofficial Members of this House when we said this. We were aiming at reforming our present system of local government. It was a hard task, which called for energy, tact and a sense of justice; but this was done in good faith despite the fact that at the time most of us and the Government were inevitably misunderstood.

I am very happy, Sir, that today we have commended this Bill and very soon if it is approved by the Higher House it will become law, and it will give us a new system of local government which will direct the affairs of the East. So, Sir, it is with that high appreciation that I note that even at the Ibadan Conference which concerned all of Nigeria the highest commendations were given to the efforts of the East for standing on their own to ask for a reform which will suit modern times. I note again that actual misinterpretation of our aims and what the East has done in this connection has not made us deviate from our intention. I think this is something that is worthy of note.



I think our people would appreciate it if after this Bill has come into force and has been accepted, that it be printed for them. It is going to be a testing ground, self-government is our ultimate aim. I feel that a system of local government which is well founded will make for a solid National Government; and that without it no amount of legislation can stand firm. I am sure, Sir, that when the new Constitution comes into force, the East will be better placed and will have placed their house in better order before going into the world, than the other Regions and that this is due to a proper appreciation of the importance of local government. All my people are behind me—the whole of the Eastern Provinces. In addition, Sir, I would say that I should like to thank Government for their help in this matter which will enable us to stand on our feet.

I commend the Bill, Sir.

**The First Provincial Member for the Onitsha Province  
(Mr P. E. Chukwurah):**

May I be allowed to compliment the officials and the non-officials who have worked so hard to bring this Bill before the House? It remains to make the contents of the Bill popular with the people, I understand there was a Native Authority Ordinance but the book was only to be found in the District and Residents' Offices. May I suggest that this Bill with an index should be made available to the people in book form. May I also suggest that in order to educate the people in their civil responsibilities that the contents of this Bill should be taught in the schools. I hope that any Council set up under the Ordinance will avail itself of the powers contained in this Bill and that it will be able to understand its responsibilities, eventually.

**The Member for Educational Interests (Mr A. Ikoku, O.B.E.):**

I regard this Bill as a monument of co-operation in the Eastern Provinces between the Official Members and the Non-Official Members and being one of the latter I cannot congratulate that body but I do want to congratulate the official bench. It is common knowledge that some sections of the community imagine that this Bill is just one more Government stunt. I have had occasion myself to explain to interviewers that it was we, the Unofficials, who asked for a revision of the existing local government law and I do want now to express our thanks to the entire official section beginning with Sir Bernard Carr, because I believe one of the first questions we raised in 1947 was this question of the new local government set-up. The difficulties that confronted Sir Bernard Carr and the officials are well known but I do want to say how very grateful we, the Unofficial Members, are, representing our various communities. We have before us a concrete case of the Head of the Administration accepting the desire of the representatives of the people and working on it very hard indeed with his whole team. This has got where it has and with the

minimum amount of delay. It became reality in a very few months. It is very seldom that we hear "thank you", but I think I must risk the crime of reviving that word in the English Dictionary. It is invidious to mention names but we might be excused one or two. Mr Beaumont, Mr Stevens and Mr Briggs have worked furiously to get this Bill working and we do want to thank them from the bottom of our hearts.

**The First Provincial Member for the Owerri Province  
(Mr M. W. Ubani):**

When this Bill has come into operation and after the session of this House will a Member be free to discuss the various aspects of the Bill with his constituencies?

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

At any moment now. At any time. The question before the House is that this House do advise His Excellency the Governor that the Bill for "An Ordinance to make provision for local government in the Eastern Provinces and for purposes connected therewith" is acceptable in principle. Will those in favour say "Aye" and those to the contrary "No".

The "Ayes" have it.

**The Acting Senior Crown Counsel, Eastern Provinces:**

Sir, I have the honour to lay the Report of the Select Committee on the Eastern Region Local Government Bill. It consists of a schedule of suggested amendments. I regret to record that there are fifty-three of these.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

The House will now resolve itself into Committee to consider the Bill together with the Report of the Select Committee. If it is the pleasure of the House I propose to take the Bill in its parts. We will take the Report of the Select Committee in conjunction with the main Bill. We will not necessarily raise the question of the amendments separately but it will be taken for granted that as I read the parts the amendments will be included. Is that agreeable?

"Aye".

*Title.*

*Enactment.*

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

The question is that Part I, as amended in Select Committee stands part of the Bill. Will those in favour say "Aye" and those to the contrary "No".

The "Ayes" have it.

*PART I-XIX.*

*Schedules 1-6.*

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

The question is that the Committee of the whole House accepts the Report of the Select Committee without amendment. Will those in favour say "Aye" and those to the contrary "No".

The "Ayes" have it.

**The Member for Educational Interests (Mr A. Ikoku, O.B.E.):**

Sir, may I suggest that an index be prepared and added to the Bill for obvious reasons.

**The Acting Senior Crown Counsel, Eastern Provinces:**

Sir, I endorse that suggestion but I want to say that I shall not have time to do it. I think it has been the practice to issue certain Ordinances in pamphlet form with an index, I suggest that this is done in this case.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

The Member's request will be noted. The House will now resume.

**The Acting Senior Crown Counsel, Eastern Provinces:**

Sir, I beg to report that the Bill entitled "An Ordinance to make provision for Local Government in the Eastern Provinces and for purposes connected therewith" passed through Committee of this House without amendment.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

The question is that this House do advise His Excellency the Governor that this Bill is acceptable to this House with the amendments recommended by the Select Committee (*see Appendix*). Will those in favour say "Aye" and those to the contrary "No".

The "Ayes" have it.

**The Secretary, Eastern Provinces:**

May I be permitted to remind Members of this House that there is a meeting of the Area Development Committee at 4 p.m. on Monday and may I suggest that the Regional Conference which was to be held today at 10 a.m. and has had to be postponed shall take place at 9 a.m. on Monday.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

If Members are happy about this I suggest that if we started at 9 a.m. and closed at 1 p.m. it would give us time to have a rest before the Area Development Meeting at 4 p.m.

**The Member for Urban Areas other than Port Harcourt (Rev. O. Efiang, O.B.E.):**

That is acceptable to us, Sir.

**His Honour the Chief Commissioner:**

I am certain that you would wish me to convey your thanks to the Commanding Officer and Officers and all ranks of the 4th Battalion of the Nigeria Regiment for again kindly lending us this Garrison Hall, and our thanks for the many other times they have

placed this Hall at our disposal. We are indeed extremely grateful to the Commanding Officer. Without this Hall we should have had nowhere that could be described as appropriate for the meeting of the Eastern House of Assembly. This will be our last occasion of sitting as an Assembly in this Hall unless some unforeseen accident occurs to our new building. Our next meeting should be in our new building which will be ready for Legislative Council, I hope.

I will now adjourn *sine die*.

**Adjournment**

*The House adjourned at 12 noon sine die.*

## APPENDIX

SCHEDULE OF AMENDMENTS TO THE EASTERN  
REGION LOCAL GOVERNMENT BILL*Amendment*

- |                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| Arrangement of Sections. | (a) <i>Insert</i> the word "the" after the word "of" where it appears in the title of Part II thereof.  |
|                          | (b) <i>Delete</i> the letter "s" where it appears at the end of the word "persons" in the title to section 16 thereof.  |
| <i>Clause, etc.</i>      |   |
| 2                        | <i>Delete</i> the fullstop where it appears after "1948" in the definition "Primary School" therein, and <i>substitute</i> a semi-colon therefor.   |
| Part II                  | <i>Insert</i> the word "the" immediately after the word "of" where it appears in the title thereof.   |
| 4                        | <i>Delete</i> the word "he" where it appears in the last line of sub-clause (1) thereof and <i>substitute</i> the words "the Regional Authority" therefor.                                    |
| 6                        | <i>Insert</i> the words "establishing a council" immediately after the words "every Instrument" where they appear in the second line of sub-clause (1) thereof.                               |
| 9                        | <i>Insert</i> the words "in the area of or part of the area of an existing council" immediately after the words "Local Council" where they appear in paragraph (e) of sub-clause (1) thereof. |
| 15                       | <i>Delete</i> the word "a" where it appears in the fourth line of sub-clause (5) thereof and <i>substitute</i> the word "such" therefor.  |
| 16                       | (a) <i>Delete</i> the letter "s" where it appears at the end of the word "persons" where that word appears in the penultimate line of paragraph (a) thereof and in the side-note thereto.     |

## Clause, etc.

## Amendment

- 19 (b) *Substitute* a capital "M" and a capital "C" for the small "m" and small "c" where they appear in the expression "magistrate's court" in paragraphs (b) and (d) thereof.  
*Delete* the words "residing in, or connected with, the area of the authority of the council concerned." and *substitute* the following words therefor—"and is either (a) a native of the area of the authority of the council concerned; or (b) has resided in the area of the authority of the council concerned for a period of twelve months immediately preceding the date of the election, and is a person whose name appears on the official list of voters where such a list exists."
- 20 (a) *Delete* paragraph (b) thereof and *substitute* the new paragraph (b) therefor—" (b) has within fifteen years before the day of election been convicted of treason, murder, bribery, corruption, perjury or of an offence involving fraud or dishonesty in any part of His Majesty's dominions or in any territory under His Majesty's protection or in any territory in which His Majesty has from time to time jurisdiction, and has been sentenced to death, or to imprisonment (by whatever name called) for a term exceeding six months, without the option of a fine and has not received a free pardon;"
- (b) *Delete* the word "five" where it appears in paragraph (d) thereof and *substitute* the word "fifteen" therefor.
- 22 (a) *Insert* a full colon and the figure "(i)" immediately after the expression "Provided that" in the proviso to paragraph (b) thereof.
- (b) *Delete* the fullstop where it appears at the end of the proviso to paragraph (b) thereof and *substitute* a semi-colon and the following words therefor "(ii) a

## Clause, etc.

## Amendment

member of any branch of His Majesty's naval, military or air forces when employed during war or any emergency on any naval, military or air force service, and a person whose employment in the service of His Majesty in connection with war or any emergency is such as, in the opinion of the Regional Authority, to entitle him to relief from disqualification on account of absence, shall not cease to be a member of a council by reason only of failure to attend meetings of a council if the failure is due to that employment."

- 29 (a) *Insert* the words "elect or" immediately after the word "shall" where it appears in sub-clause (1) thereof.
- (b) *Insert* the words "elected or" immediately after the word "be" where it appears in sub-clause (3) thereof.
- 35 *Insert* a comma immediately after the word "elected" where it appears in the third line of sub-clause (5) thereof.
- 37 and 38 Side-notes should be placed in the margin opposite to the relevant clauses.
- 40 *Insert* the word "a" immediately after the word "as" where it appears in the penultimate line of the definition "wife" appearing in sub-clause (2) thereof.
- 50 *Insert* the letter "a" on the end of the word "application" where it appears therein.
- 61 *Delete* the expression "the consent of that person" where it appears in sub-clause (3) thereof and *substitute* the expression "his own consent," therefor.
- 62 *Insert* the word "and" after the word "method" where it appears in paragraph (c) thereof.
- 63 *Delete* the word "The" where it appears as the first word thereof and

## Clause, etc.

## Amendment

- substitute* the following expression therefor—" Subject to the provisions of section 71, the "
- 69 *Delete* the word " seven " where it appears in sub-clause (2) thereof and *substitute* the word " fifteen " therefor.
- 72 *Insert* the word " or recklessly " immediately after the word " knowingly " where it appears in the first line of paragraph (b) thereof.
- 80 (a) *Delete* the fullstop where it appears at the end of sub-clause (1) and *substitute* a full colon therefor.
- (b) *Insert* the following new sub-clause (4) immediately after sub-clause (3)—" (4) No person shall be appointed to be a member of a committee appointed under the provisions of this section except with his own consent."
- 81 *Delete* the words " power of " where they appear in the penultimate line thereof.
- 89 *Delete* the word " The " where it appears as the first word thereof and *substitute* the word " A " therefor.
- 93 (a) *Renumber* clause 93 as clause 93 (1).
- (b) *Delete* the word " The " where it appears as the first word thereof and *substitute* the word " A " therefor.
- (c) *Insert* the following new sub-clause (2) immediately after the proviso to sub-clause (1) thereof—" (2) A council may from time to time by resolution authorise the writing off of deficiencies of cash or stores;

Provided that no such deficiency shall be written off without the prior approval of the Regional Authority if it exceeds ten pounds in value in any one case, or, if by so writing it off, the total value of such deficiencies written off in any financial year will exceed the value of fifty pounds."



## Clause, etc.

## Amendment

95

(a) *Delete* the word "A" where it appears as the first word thereof and *substitute* the following words therefor—"Subject to the provisions of the Education Ordinance a".

(b) *Insert* the words "other than a Primary School" immediately after the word "institution" where it appears in paragraph (a) thereof and immediately after the word "Nigeria" where it appears in paragraph (b) thereof.

96

(c) *Insert* the words "(No. 39 of 1948)" in side-note there.

99

(a) *Delete* the figure (1) where it appears at the beginning of the clause.

(b) *Delete* the word "to" where it appears in the last line of paragraph 15 thereof.

(c) *Insert* the expression "maternity home" immediately after the word "hospital," where it appears in paragraph 35 thereof.

(d) *Insert* the words "or elsewhere" immediately after the word "Nigeria" where it appears in paragraph 23 thereof.

(e) *Delete* the word "or" where it appears in paragraph 36 thereof and *substitute* the word "of" therefor.

(f) *Insert* the word "latrines," immediately after the word "drains," where it appears in paragraph 38 thereof.

(g) *Insert* the following new paragraph 81 immediately after paragraph 80 thereof —"(81) grant sums of money to Associations existing for the benefit and welfare of children and young persons;"

(h) Renumber the existing paragraph 81 as paragraph 82 thereof.

102

*Delete* the word "their" where it appears in the fourth line of sub-clause (1) thereof and *substitute* the word "its" therefor.

## Clause, etc.

## Amendment

- 112                    *Substitute* a capital "L" for the small "l" where it appears in the word "local" in sub-clause (2) thereof.
- 116                    *Delete* the words "and shall be liable to a fine not exceeding twenty-five pounds", and *insert* a fullstop after the word "Ordinance" in substitution of the comma therein.
- 121                    (a) *Insert* the words "to the provisions of the Labour Code Ordinance and" immediately after the word "Subject" where it appears as the first word of sub-clause (1) thereof.
- (b) *Insert* the expression "(Cap. 99)" in the side-note thereto.
- 131                    *Delete* the word "special" where it appears in sub-clause (1) thereof.
- 134                    (a) *Delete* the expression "(showing separately capital expenditure)" where it appears in sub-clause (1) thereof.
- (b) *Insert* the words "or disapproved" immediately after the word "approved" where it appears in the first line of the proviso to sub-clause (3) thereof.
- (c) *Delete* the word "forthwith" where it appears in sub-clause (4) thereof.
- (a) *Delete* the colon at the end of, and the proviso to, sub-clause (8) thereof and *substitute* a fullstop therefor. *Insert* the following new sub-clause (9) immediately after sub-clause (8) thereof—
- " (9) (i) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section a council may by resolution authorise expenditure in any financial year up to five per centum of its estimated revenue for that year without the approval of the Regional Authority.
- (ii) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 125, to arrive at the estimated revenue of a District Council for the

## Clause, etc.

## Amendment

purposes of this sub-section, any sum payable by such District Council to a council in satisfaction of a precept shall first be deducted."

135

*Delete* the first two lines thereof and *substitute* the following therefor—"A Resident and a District Officer shall on giving notice in writing to such council have access within office hours to the records and accounts of any council situate within their".

139

(a) *Insert* a letter "s" at the end of the word "tenement" where it appears in the fourth line of paragraph (i) of sub-clause (1) thereof.

(b) *Delete* the words "sub-paragraph (1)" where it appears at the end of the proviso to paragraph (ii) of sub-clause (2) thereof, and *substitute* the words "sub-paragraph (i) of this sub-section" therefor.

144

(a) *Delete* the fullstop where it appears at the end of paragraph (b) thereof and *substitute* a semi-colon therefor.

(b) *Add* the following new paragraphs:—  
 "(c) Any tenement or part of any tenement occupied by such consular officers as the Governor may from time to time specify;

(d) Primary Schools and buildings within such School premises including teachers' houses used exclusively for the purposes of conducting such schools;

(e) Private Hospitals registered under the Private Hospitals Ordinance, and hospitals and similar institutions exempt from such registration by reason of being maintained or owned by a local government council."

(c) *Insert* in the side-note thereto the phrases—" (No. 39 of 1948.)"—  
 "(Cap. 178)".

## Clause, etc.

## Amendment

- 152 *Delete* the word "and" where it appears in paragraph (a) thereof and *substitute* the word "any" therefor.
- 173 *Delete* the words "the County Council" where they appear as the last words in sub-clause (5) thereof and *substitute* the following words therefor—"all the District Councils to which such precept is issued."
- 176 (a) *Delete* the word "five" where it appears in paragraphs (a) and (b) of sub-clause (5) and paragraph (a) of sub-clause (6) thereof and *substitute* the word "ten" therefor.
- (b) *Delete* the words "in excess" where they appear in paragraph (d) of sub-clause (6) thereof.
- 179 *Delete* the word "Any" where it appears as the first word of sub-clause (1) thereof and *substitute* the following words therefor—"Unless otherwise stated in the Instrument, any".
- 186 (a) *Delete* the words "expenses paid" where they appear in the proviso to sub-clause (1) thereof and *substitute* the words "item of expenditure incurred" therefor.
- (b) *Delete* the words "they have" where they appear in the proviso to sub-clause (1) thereof and *substitute* the words "it has" therefor.
- 202 *Delete* the letter "s" where it appears at the end of the word "intends" appearing in paragraph (d) thereof.
- 208 *Delete* the words "all such costs as may have been incurred by them by reason or in consequence of the proceedings for acquisition, and" where they appear in the proviso thereto.
- 211 (a) *Delete* the word "If" where it appears as the first word thereof and *substitute* the following words therefor—"notwithstanding the provisions of section

## Clause, etc.

## Amendment

- 19 of the Magistrates' Courts Ordinance, if".
- 221 (b) *Insert* the phrase "(Cap. 122)" in the side-note thereto.  
*Substitute* a capital "N" and a capital "C" for the small "n" and small "c" where they appear in the words "native court" in the first line thereof.
- 225 *Delete* the comma appearing after the word "buildings" where it appears in the fourth line thereof and *substitute* the word "or" therefor.
- 231 *Delete* the comma where it appears after the word "faith" appearing in the third line of sub-clause (1) thereof, and *substitute* the word "or" therefor.
- 234 *Delete* the phrase "who is so authorised by such council in writing," where it appears in sub-clause (1) thereof and *substitute* the following phrase therefor "who is authorised by a resolution of such council, which resolution shall be reduced into writing,".
- 237 (a) *Insert* the word "rule," immediately after the word "order," appearing in the first line of sub-clause (1) thereof.  
 (b) *Delete* the word "Sixth" where it appears in line 3 of sub-clause (1) thereof and *substitute* the word "Fifth" therefor.
- 239 *Delete* clause 239 and *substitute* the following new clause 239 therefor—  
 "239. (1) It shall be the duty of a County Council to pay such sitting fees to any member of a Native Court which is situated within its area as are laid down from time to time by the Regional Authority.  
 (2) The Regional Authority may delegate his powers under this section.  
 (3) Any delegation so made shall be revocable at will and no delegation shall prevent the exercise of the power by the Regional Authority."

## Clause, etc.

## Amendment

- (m) *Delete* the word "was" wherever it occurs in paragraphs (a) and (b) of the new sub-section (3) of section 57 of Cap. 75.
- (n) *Insert* the following amendment to section 2 of Cap. 99 "*Insert* the following new definition immediately after the definition of "domestic servant" where it appears therein — " "Local Council" means any local council established under the provisions of the Eastern Region Local Government Ordinance, 1950; ""
- (o) *Insert* the following amendment to section 63 of Cap. 99 "*Insert* immediately after the expression "native authority" where it appears in sub-section (1) thereof the expression "or local government council,"."
- (p) *Insert* the following amendment to section 64 of Cap. 99 "*Insert* immediately after the expression "native authority" where it appears in sub-section (1) thereof the expression "or local government council,"."
- (q) *Delete* the words "local government council" wherever they appear in the amendments to sections 95 and 120 of Cap. 99, and *substitute* the words "Local Council" therefor.
- (r) *Delete* the words "paragraphs (a) and (b)" where they appear in the amendment to section 6 of Cap. 105 and *substitute* the words "paragraph (a)" therefor.
- (s) *Insert* the following amendment to section 6 of Cap. 105 "*Insert* immediately after the expression "non-native" where it appears in paragraph (b) thereof the expression "or local government council.""
- (t) *Insert* the following amendment to section 26 of Cap. 105 "*(c) insert* immediately after the expression

Clause, etc.

## Amendment

“ native authority ” where it appears in sub-section (3) thereof the expression “ or a local government council. ” ”

- (u) *Delete* the expression “(b)” where it appears in the amendment to section 40 of Cap. 183 and *substitute* the expression “(1)” in italics.
- (v) *Insert* the following amendment to section 14 of Ordinance No. 43 of 1947 “ *Insert* immediately after the expression “ native authority ” where it appears in sub-section 1 thereof the expression “ or local government council. ” ”
- (w) *Insert* immediately after the words “ time to time ” where they appear in the new sub-section (3) of section 18 of No. 39 of 1948, the words “ take over the control of and ”.

94