

[Mr. C. P. Gopala Panicker.]

and malaria in some parts of the State. Grants have to be made to the Municipalities of Kottayam and Nagercoil for malaria control work. I request that the House may be pleased to sanction the grant.

The motion was put and carried and the grant was made.

DEMAND XXIX—STATIONERY AND PRINTING.

DR. H. PARAMESWARAN: Sir, I rise to move for a supplementary grant of Rs. 4 lakhs under Demand XXIX—Stationery and Printing for meeting the cost of stationery. In support of this demand I wish to point out to the honourable members that since the budget of this year was passed many things have happened. The position with regard to paper became very acute and it was even thought that we would not be able to get any paper at all from outside. So, Government in consultation with the Government of India had to take strong and energetic measures for securing our supplies of special paper. We have been getting down such paper from outside to meet our special requirements for the Registration Department, stamp papers, etc. There was a fear that no such paper will be available in future even for such special requirements. So this Government had to order out extra supplies of such paper from sources pointed out by the Government of India.

With a view to give relief to the school-going population Government had also to order extra paper to make 10 lakhs of standard notebooks. That meant an extra expenditure of about Rs. 3 lakhs. By this arrangement our boys and girls were enabled to get notebooks at cheap rates. All this meant an approximate expenditure of about Rs. 4 lakhs in excess of our budget estimates of Rs. 2,50,000. The people have been saved at least seven lakhs by these timely measures. For these supplies of paper we have to enter into agreements with firms outside the State. Sometimes they insist on payment being made in advance before the supply is made. So, we must be ready for such payments although in actual practice all the sum asked for now may not be spent by the end of the year. But we must be prepared to make the payment whenever the necessity arises. Thus if we are to get a telegram from a Company stating that their bill has to be honoured by a payment through a bank, we must be ready for it. So I move for this additional grant of Rs. 4 lakhs, to meet such possibilities during the rest of the year.

The motion was put to vote and carried and the grant was made.

DEMAND XXX—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS—35 C.

STORES PURCHASE COMMITTEE.

DR. H. PARAMESWARAN: Sir, I move for a supplementary grant of Rs. 1,635 under Demand XXX—Miscellaneous Departments—Stores Purchase Committee. During the last three years the activities of the Stores Purchase Committee have been assisted by the Repair Section of Government which enables a certain amount of savings to Government. In these days of war, when articles can be purchased only at abnormally high rates, Government find it more economical to repair and recondition damaged apparatus and instruments and thus manage our needs.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: May I know whether the department is getting old materials from outside and repairing them?

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DR. H. PARAMESWARAN: No, Sir. This is only a service department devoted to the repair of Government equipment. To illustrate, if a theodolite goes out of order and if the P. W. D. is not able to repair it, they send it to the Repair Section and it is returned after repair. Similarly with regard to the Forest and other departments. It is purely a service department.

Honourable members might remember that there was sanction for this office only for the first six months of this year. Having proved itself very useful, Government thought that it might be extended by another six months and hence this demand for the next six months of the year.

The motion was put to vote and carried and the grant was made.

PRESIDENT: The House will now adjourn and meet at 3-30 p. m.

The House adjourned for lunch at 2-25 p. m. and re-assembled at 3-30 p. m. with the President in the Chair.

PRESIDENT: Order, order. There is one matter I had intended to point out. As would have been evident from the remarks that I have made, Government are extremely anxious that on the main points relating to the food position in the State, the opinion of the members of this House may be made available to this Government and, through this Government, to the authorities in Delhi. I am therefore perfectly prepared in tomorrow's adjournment motion—although it is specifically devoted only to the question of consideration of the Tapioca Control—to deal with it as if it were a food debate. I am giving this notice previously in order that honourable members might come prepared with such points as they wish to emphasise, which may be of help to the State and to this Government in the formulation and co-ordination of policies. From that point of view, honourable members will consider and come to a decision on points which are sufficiently important and not purely of a domestic character. For instance, the shortcomings of particular *kara* committees may be important, but it is not a general matter. The main question relates to shortage of foodstuffs, the difficulties that are in our way and on all these general matters I am welcoming a discussion tomorrow and trust that honourable members will consent to my giving that extension to the debate so that the authorities at Delhi may be aware of the opinion of the leading members of this House. I take it that I have the consent of the House in this.

(Honourable members signified their assent.)

PRESIDENT: Yes; then the debate will proceed on these lines tomorrow.

ADJOURNMENT MOTION RE: WAR ALLOWANCE TO TEACHERS IN GRANT-IN-AID SCHOOLS.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Sir, may I read my adjournment motion:—

"I beg leave to move that the business of the House be adjourned to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the serious situation that has arisen out of the delay in the payment of the War Allowance to the aided teachers in Primary Schools and Primary sections attached to other schools in the State as ordered in G. O. R. O. C. No. 2807/43/Edn. dated 23rd November 1943 owing to the opposition of certain managements to the scheme of direct payment and to the contribution of a part of the allowance as contemplated in the above G. O."