

THE NINTH DAY.

Wednesday, the 7th March 1928.

The Assembly met again at 11-30 A. M. on Wednesday, the 7th March 1928.

138. Certain measures in encouragement of trade.

MR. ABDUL TAYEB SHAIKH KADERBHOY (*Member, Trading Classes, Quilon*) said that the trading classes had many grievances against the Income-tax Department. The income-tax officers were also land revenue officers. In fact income-tax work formed only one of their subsidiary functions. They were unacquainted with many commercial usages and practices. Not only they but the Sirkar Vakils to whom questions of commercial and income-tax law were referred by them were also ignorant of these usages. The opinions recorded by these officers were often wrong. For example, these law officers had stated the opinion that *Veethapalisa* was profit assessable to income-tax. Now, profit could be calculated only after loss was ascertained. A chitty was a running transaction, the profits or the loss of which could be ascertained only after its conclusion. During the long period of the chitty, if the foreman died or became insolvent, the subscribers could not sometimes realise even what they paid.

Then again many mistakes were made by the income-tax officers in auditing accounts. There were no qualified auditors in the department. If a qualified auditor was appointed, it would save a deal of trouble to the merchants.

Another matter which the member desired to urge upon Government was the necessity for amending the Insolvency Regulation. The Insolvency Regulation of Travancore was an exact copy of the British Indian Act of 1907. Much water had flown under the bridge in British India since 1907, but the Travancore Regulation remained what it was. The Regulation as it now existed in Travancore only helped to swell the number of fraudulent paupers. A dishonest man could set up a business, borrow money under cover of it, invest the borrowings somewhere safely out of reach of the law, file a petition in the District Court for being declared an insolvent, and having got the declaration he wanted could spend the rest of his days in opulence without fear of the civil jail. The District Courts had no summary jurisdiction in such cases. Nor was there any penal provision in the Regulation under which such cases could be punished.

The next subject taken up by the member was the necessity for a legislation to control hundi merchants. The hundi merchants of Travancore were mostly non-Travancoreans. On account of the handsome rates of interest they paid, they attracted depositors. But they would become insolvent all on a sudden and the depositors would be left with nothing. In regard to borrowers, the rates of interest which these merchants exacted from them were unconscionably high. Some enactment was absolutely necessary to bind these Hundi merchants. They should be asked to deposit some security proportionate to their business as in the case of Insurance Companies.

Lastly the member advocated the desirability of holding commercial and economic conferences. Such conferences were necessary in the absence of Chambers of Commerce in the State. The Economic Development Board could convene the conferences, which could discuss broad and far-reaching problems affecting the welfare of merchantmen.

DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Abdul Tayeb Shaikh Kaderbhoy, your remarks in respect of income-tax will apply, I think, *mutatis mutandis*, to any country in the world where income-tax is collected. There is necessarily a difference of opinion between the assesses and the assessors. As to the points you raised I think you must be aware that cases are often stated to the High Court who adjudicate the

matter. It is not that these matters are left, as you think, to be decided as a matter of course by clerks fresh from Universities.

As to the auditing of accounts of companies where accounts are well kept and are audited by chartered accountants or other qualified accountants, there is no difficulty whatsoever. It is only in the case of little firms who keep no proper accounts that the Income-tax Department has to step in and audit accounts, and in such cases there is often difference of opinion.

Then you talk of the removal of the defects of the Insolvency Regulation. As I said earlier in the course of this session the High Court have under consideration the question of revising the rules under the Insolvency Regulation.

As regards legislation to control *hundi* merchants, if you had specified the particular errors or irregularities, it would have been easier to understand in what direction remedial measures are necessary. However, I shall ask the authorities concerned to go into the matter and if necessary frame rules for their guidance.

As to the holding of commercial and economic conferences you suggest this because there is no Chamber of Commerce in Travancore. Well, the formation of a Chamber of Commerce is essentially a matter for the merchants. They should consider this and until the formation of one, the summoning of conferences to consider commercial and economic questions is a matter for the merchants and traders to initiate. If they find a conference necessary I have no doubt they will hold one.

139. Development Departments.

MR. N. GOPALA PANIKKAR (*Member, Ambalapuzha taluk, Group I*) said that the object of his representation was to make a few suggestions for reforming the constitution and working of the three development departments *viz.*, the Departments of Agriculture and Fisheries, Industries, and Co-operation. Two of these departments were at least eleven years old and one was twice as much. But all had failed alike to be of any practical use.

To take the departments one by one, the Agricultural Department had concerned itself hitherto chiefly with the scientific analysis of soils, examination of plantations, maintenance of demonstration farms, distribution of manures, and dissemination of scientific information. Of these, the scientific analysis of soils was not known to have been of any practical use whatever. So far as demonstration farms were concerned, people never knew the exact methods of cultivation followed in these farms or their actual results. Granting that scientific ways of cultivation were very successful, there were two cardinal obstacles in the way of the cultivator which he had to overcome. One was the natural deterioration of the soil and the other was the want of capital. In Kuttanad, for example, owing to the degeneration of the soil, most of the *punja* fields which used to be cultivated twice in the year were now cultivated only once in the year and most of the fields which used to be cultivated annually were now cultivated only once in two years. If the condition of these *punja* fields should be improved, the Agricultural Department should devote its attention to the opening of canals and channels across the fields to drain off the saline substances accumulating in the soil rather than busy itself with stimulating the soil by the application of artificial manures. In the *kari* lands, again, what the department should do was to prevent the inrush of brine by the construction of water-locks, embankments etc. The Revenue Department had also to do something in this direction. Unless that department desisted from its policy of selling away the irrigation channels and canals, *punja* cultivation in Kuttanad would go to ruin. So far as minor irrigation works were concerned, these should be entrusted to an irrigation section to be organised as a part of the Department of Agriculture. In order to relieve the indebtedness of the cultivators, Government had instituted the system of agricultural loans and organised the Department of Co-operation. But both these missed the mark. The Departments of Agriculture and Co-operation should work under the same departmental head and agricultural loans should be issued mainly through the Co-operative Department solely for the benefit of the poor cultivators.

In the Department of Industries there were several high-paid officers. Nobody knew what work these officers were doing. The textile expert was an officer

who could do a great deal of work in regard to weaving. Instead of trying isolated weaving institutions, it would be far more successful to try it on a co-operative basis. The oil expert and the tanning expert were never known to do anything more than a few unsuccessful experiments. Government should require them to investigate the possibilities of developing their industries in the State. Under the existing conditions of the country, cottage industries could be more successfully developed than factory industries, and the experts of the Department of Industries had to turn their attention to this matter.

In regard to the Department of Co-operation, most of the co-operative societies in the State were credit societies, only a few being productive and distributive societies. But the last two were the kind of societies which were most needed for the regeneration of the ryots. A commission should therefore be appointed to enquire into the condition and organisation of the present co-operative societies. Secondly, people should be associated more and more in the control of co-operative societies. Most of the controlling work which was being done by Co-operative Inspectors could, for this purpose, be devolved on taluk unions, and the number of union supervisors might be increased. Thirdly, in order to relieve the indebtedness of cultivators a scheme should be prepared for giving them long term loans so as to enable them to redeem their lands. Fourthly, the Co-operative Department should be made responsible for the issue of agricultural loans. Fifthly, the department should concern itself with the improvement of the social and economic conditions of small cultivators and artisans. In conclusion, the member urged for the amalgamation of the Departments of Agriculture and Fisheries, Industries, and Co-operation under a common head. Instead of wasting money in conducting isolated experiments in agriculture and industries, a technological institute should be attached to H. H. The Maharaja's College of Science. The propaganda work of the Agricultural, Industries and Co-operative Departments should be conducted in a more organised form. A central institute should be established for giving training in the work of the departments to officers and to interested persons.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Gopala Panikkar, your comments upon the subject of agriculture are in such general terms that I find much difficulty to seize upon any one particular subject, and so I am not able to give you an assurance of remedial measures. You speak of reduction of expenditure on agricultural and industrial experiments and the application of money thus saved to agricultural and industrial loans. The main functions of the Departments of Agriculture and Industries are educational, explanatory and instructive. And these objects can only be achieved by steady experiments in various directions, and if but two or three experiments prove successful in two or three years or so, we should have reason for gratification. These departments unfortunately are not like machines into which we pour material and turn a handle and produce a fixed number of articles every day. They must slowly feel the way, and accommodate themselves to the mentality and customs and habits of the people. I therefore regret to say that it is not possible to accept your suggestions that all experimentation should stop and the money diverted to agricultural loans.

Your next suggestion is that the distribution of agricultural and industrial loans should be through co-operative societies. That would be needlessly delimiting the scope of such loans. Co-operative societies grant loans only to the members of those societies. Furthermore, these societies are not such as to enable them to grant large loans. You suggest that the Department of Agriculture should attend to minor irrigation works. Minor irrigation works and all irrigation works are mainly in the nature of civil engineering problems. But I agree with you that some improvement is necessary in the machinery of work upon minor irrigation. That is receiving attention at the present moment and I hope to evolve a satisfactory method before long.

In regard to cottage industries it is very easy to pronounce upon the desirability; it is more difficult to create industries. The Industries Department is making attempts and creating tendencies and pointing the way, and so far, the activities in that direction are not to be deprecated.

140. Unemployment.

MR. P. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Member, Municipal Council, Vaikom*) speaking on the problem of unemployment as it existed in Travancore at the present time traced it primarily to the defects of the system of education obtaining in the country. In his opinion the purely literary kind of education imparted in the schools and colleges of the State left the students unfit to earn their livelihood and made them depend more and more on the chances of Government service. In order to put an end to this state of affairs the member would make the following suggestions :—

- (1) Higher education should be made more costly.
- (2) All vernacular middle and high schools and 50 per cent of the English high schools should be abolished.
- (3) Arts and handicrafts should be taught in all schools.
- (4) Sewing, domestic economy etc., should be taught in girls' schools.
- (5) Technical, industrial and commercial schools should be opened in all parts of the country.

With a view to providing more employment to the educated young men of the country, the member suggested that (1) State Railways should be run by the State itself; (2) Travancoreans should be employed in connection with the proposed hydro-electric works; (3) lands should be liberally registered in the names of educated young men particularly of the Nair, Ezhava, and Vellala communities who were adversely affected by the recent social legislations; (4) agricultural loans should be issued on more liberal terms; and (5) a full time president must be appointed for the Economic Development Board. It should be the duty of the latter officer to make an economic survey of Travancore and study the local conditions of each taluk.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Balakrishna Pillai, there is a great deal of what is very sound in your criticism of the educational system obtaining in the State today both in the direction of higher English education and in the direction of mass education in the vernacular. As to the remedial methods you propose, there are, I have no doubt, some here who consider them to be drastic, if not unnecessary. But, nevertheless, I clearly perceive that the correctives you propose to apply are directed to certain wise objectives. Bearing these ideals in view, there is no doubt that a change in method is called for. As I have said before, we are now waiting upon the Unemployment Committee, and until that committee's report is made available to us, I think we can better suspend for the moment the propounding of remedies.

141. Rural development.

MR. JOSEPH MALIAKAL (*Member, Nominated*) speaking on the problem of rural development first dealt with the question of land-taxes and the way in which they affected the ryots. Land-taxes were now collected in four instalments, which meant that the ryots were troubled four times in the year for the tax. Moreover two of the instalments had to be paid in seasons when the money market was very tight. The member therefore suggested that the tax might be made payable in two instalments and that in the two harvesting seasons *viz* Kanni and Medam. When the tax was not paid in time demand notices should be issued and actually served on the parties. Fraudulent services of notices should be severely dealt with. The cost of the demand notice should also be reduced from four chackrams to one chackram. When taxes were paid by the parties, receipts in due form should be given for them, lest there should be double demands and double payments.

The necessity for revising the Puduval rules was brought to the notice of Government a long time ago. But the question was still pending with them. One of the points on which the ryots wanted immediate relief was the registry of Sirkar lands under private occupation. The Revenue authorities mercilessly put up the lands to auction, evicted the occupants and even made them liable to payment of the cost of removing the improvements.

The superior officers of the Land Revenue Department who were supposed to be on Jamabandi work did not come into personal contact with the ryots. They

should, while in camp, ascertain the needs of the people, enquire about any complaints preferred by them, and render them all help. The term Jamabandi was otherwise a misnomer as applied to the work of these officers.

The member next dealt with agriculture, the chief occupation of the ryots in the rural areas. These ryots were still ploughing their lands, sowing their seeds, and reaping their harvest in the same old way in which their ancestors were doing generations ago. The Agricultural Department which Government had organised with a view to improving agriculture had failed to make itself felt by the vast majority of the ryots in the country-side. The department itself was loosely organised. The organisation of the department had to be revised thoroughly. Each taluk or pakuthi should be placed under an Inspector, and the whole State should be divided into two Divisions, each Division being placed under an Assistant Director of Agriculture. The whole department should be under a Director of Agriculture. There should be an experimental farm under each Assistant Director. Experiments on these farms should be conducted entirely in private, lest by the failure of an experiment people should set their faces against it. Agricultural demonstrations should be conducted by the Inspectors in the presence of the landowners. In addition to demonstrations, the department should carry on propaganda work on agriculture by means of pamphlets, lectures etc. The department was now having several manure depots. These should be abolished. Each Inspector should have a cattle farm under him, where demonstrations should be made in cattle-breeding. The Inspector should also be a veterinary doctor.

As regards industries, the member advocated the encouragement of cottage industries and also the development of carpentry, smithery and other handicrafts.

The co-operative movement went a great way to assist rural development, and it was rightly the policy of Government to organise the movement. But the attitude of Government in the matter was misunderstood by many. They demanded Government aid at every step and in doing so forgot that the function of Government was only to initiate the movement. Government were not hereafter to give any kind of concessions to co-operative societies. So also the restrictions imposed by Government on the formation of communal co-operative societies should be removed in so far as the restrictions were of no avail in promoting communal harmony. As regards co-operative societies, more productive and distributive societies were required and not merely credit societies. The latter, instead of relieving, added to the indebtedness of ryots.

In regard to the means of communication in rural areas, the member suggested that ryots' roads should, as soon as they were finished, be taken over by Government. If they were taken up by Government, irresponsible persons would not encroach upon them, as they were otherwise likely to do. In the alignment of these roads also Government might lend the services of their experts.

As regards education, primary education should be encouraged more freely. There should be a primary school in every *kara*. Private agencies should be invited as far as possible to open and manage these schools.

Lastly, greater attention was to be paid by Government to the provision of medical aid in rural areas. Particularly, more midwives had to be trained and stationed in each locality. Local people themselves could be given the training.

DEWANS' REPLY : Mr. Maliakal, I may tell you at once that the question of revising the puduval and poramboke rules is now engaging the attention of the Government.

And coming within the scope of that revision, there will also be your second point the registry of Government lands.

In the collection of land revenue you urge that the ordinary notice should be sent before coercive process is resorted to. I think that is the ordinary arrangement.

MEMBER : It is not served.

DEWAN : It is sent by post.

MEMBER : It is only written and kept.

DEWAN: I must enquire about that.

The question of reducing the price of coercive notices was fully discussed in the Legislative Council and the Government were compelled to accept the conclusion that no change in the present practice is possible.

Your criticism of jamabandi is right in a way; it is not a jamabandi as understood in the neighbouring Presidency in British India, for the simple reason that we do not have an annually changing assessment, but an assessment fixed for thirty years. But whatever may be the jamabandi so called elsewhere, in Travancore it is in reality an efficiency audit of the revenue officials.

You devoted a good deal of your time to the subject of agricultural operations and what you mean really is the introduction of more up-to-date methods of agriculture and encouragement. That is what the Department of Agriculture is striving to do. Your constructive criticism is that the State should be divided into two main agricultural divisions with units in each taluk or even pakuthi with officers who will look after ryots and instruct them in methods of agriculture. I am afraid it is a very large scheme. But sooner or later the question of a closer devotion to the needs of agriculture must be brought about. I have no doubt that your suggestions, which will be on record in the proceedings of this Assembly, will receive consideration when that time comes.

You have heard what I had to say on the subject of cottage industries a little while ago. Also it seems to me that the Government and you think alike upon the present methods of co-operative societies here. And whether it will be possible to stop their credit operations is a very difficult problem to say. We generally ask the department to do societies a good turn and try and infuse into them more methods of operating than mere money-lending.

The ryots' roads rules require amending and I am inclined to agree with you that before a ryots' road is cut it should be properly aligned by experts.

142. Economic development.

MR. JACOB CURIAN (*Member, Nominated*) said that any one who cared to make a perusal of the subjects taken up for representation at the present session of the Assembly had reason for immense gratification. Last year in replying to the representation of a member, the Dewan exhorted the members of the Assembly to eliminate from their representations the chorus of 'my community' 'my community'. He asked them instead to take up the burden of 'my country' 'my country'. That exhortation born of the true spirit of patriotism was faithfully accepted by the members, and as was evident from their representations they had devoted themselves this year solely to subjects relating to the economic and industrial advancement of the country. The Dewan's opening address to the Assembly was conceived in the same spirit and it gave ample proof of the earnestness with which Government were applying themselves to problems of economic regeneration.

Coming to the subject the member said that Travancore, though a thoroughly agricultural country, could not produce her own food materials. She had to depend largely on Burma rice. That was a deplorable state of affairs. The country should be able to produce all the paddy and rice necessary for the consumption of her people. With a view to attaining this object, all the lands in the hills and along the back waters available for cultivation should be assigned to cultivators. As the result of similar representations in former sessions of the Assembly, Government had already sanctioned the assignment of swampy areas in Forest Reserves. But the areas which were actually assigned for cultivation seldom exceeded 50 or 60 acres in each taluk. It was like the mountain labouring and producing a mouse. That kind of close-fistedness in the assignment of public lands should go by the board. Every inch of cultivable land anywhere in the mountains or in the plains should be given away for paddy cultivation.

The next thing necessary for the development of paddy cultivation was the provision of proper means of irrigation. Numerous instances there were of the output of paddy from a field being enormously increased by the opening of a canal or a tank for irrigation. In the Mavelikara taluk itself a canal was recently opened under

the personal orders of the Dewan. The canal cost only about Rs. 1,500 or 2,000. But the result of the construction of the canal was that the produce of paddy in the neighbouring field increased by 10,000 paras per year.

Thirdly, in order to develop agriculture, Government should pay close attention to the popularisation of scientific manures and also to the issue of agricultural loans.

Another thing that was necessary for the economic development of the State was the construction of the Quilon-Ernaculam railway. There were people who held the view that motor vehicles could easily take the place of the railway for the purpose of traffic. But it was at best only for passenger traffic that motor vehicles could be used. Railways were best fitted for goods traffic. The people of northern and central Travancore were eagerly looking forward to see the railway opened and even the postponement of the work till the completion of the Chakay-Tampanur line had caused them grave disappointment. To them their prosperity and the prosperity of their children depended on the opening up of the country by this railway.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Jacob Curian, you have with your customary eloquence dealt with one remarkable feature which would have struck everybody who has been attending this Assembly and that is the complete absence of any feeling indicative of communal cleavages or sectarian rivalries. In this, the Assembly has proved itself a true representative of Travancore. The countryside has come here to-day hundredstrong. The countryside here in its representations has represented nothing more clearly, nothing more truly than the tranquillity which prevails all over Travancore at the present moment.

You have, it is abundantly clear, made a very close study of railways in relation to motor transport and I hope that some day the fulfilment of your ambition will be an accomplished fact.

You dealt very fully and strongly with the needs of the country producing its own requirements in rice. Whether that will be ever possible remains to be seen. All that we can do is, as the Agricultural Department endeavours, to increase the output per acre and improve the quality; I and the Government can but try to make areas suitable for paddy cultivation available in such greater degree as the country can yield. For one thing, you know, that the question of throwing open the Mannankandam swampy areas to rice cultivation originated with my predecessor and a most excellent idea it was. By constructing the Neriamangalam-Pallivasal road, I hope that in a short time a good deal of acreage of paddy lands will be available for the people of Travancore. Similarly we shall endeavour to find speedier methods of throwing open swampy areas and forests which are suitable for paddy cultivation.

I have spoken about minor irrigation several times already.

143. Some public needs.

MR. MALUK MAHOMED ABDUL KHADIR (*Member, Municipal Council, Attingal*) spoke first on the question of the currency in Travancore. It was well-known that there were two kinds of currency in Travancore, one Sirkar and the other British, and neither was complete in itself. As regards the Sirkar currency, the highest coin *viz.*, the rupee existed only in imagination. As regards the British currency, the lowest coins *viz.* the half anna, pie etc. were not legal tender in Travancore. Not only that the conversion of the British currency into the Sirkar currency was very difficult. The equivalent of the British rupee was 28 chackrams and 8 cash, of the British half rupee 14 chackrams and 4 cash, and of the British quarter rupee 7 chackrams and 2 cash. The man who wanted to change the British half rupee and quarter rupee had certainly to lose 4 cash in the one case and 2 cash in the other. Then again all payments to the Sirkar had to be made in Sirkar currency. But for want of the Sirkar rupee, payments could be made only in British rupees, and when the British rupees were paid, the parties seldom got back the balance half-chackram per rupee. In order to get round these inconveniences, the member suggested either the abolition of the Sirkar currency and the introduction of the British currency in its entirety or the establishment of an easy rate of commutation of Sirkar currency into British currency.

The member next spoke about the pension system obtaining in the public service and stated that instead of this a system of Provident Funds should be instituted. Provident Funds were useful in many ways. Instead of getting small amounts every month, the officer would in the first place get a lump amount on retirement from service. Secondly, under the pension system the family of an officer who died immediately after retirement would get nothing, whereas in the case of the Provident Fund, the family would get as much as the officer himself would have got had he lived.

Lastly, the member stated that the price of anchal covers and cards should be reduced to 8 cash and 4 cash respectively as of old.

DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Abdul Khader, it is pleasing to find a non-official so careful in attempting here to benefit the official classes and in endeavouring to find a way to help them with capital at the end of their long period of service and ensuring to them a lump sum. The pension is provided to enable an officer of Government, when he can no longer work, to live in a manner befitting his position as a Government official. And as is so often the case, large sums of capital have a way of vanishing or frittering themselves into nothing. It is difficult to say which is preferable to which. The matter has already been taken up and is under examination.

You wish to see the value of the British Rupee reduced to 28 chackrams. I do not know whether we can reduce the value of the British Rupee. Its exchange is fixed in terms of silver. Currency questions are all very delicate and you know that any change in currency may throw trade and commerce into confusion. It is a very difficult and a very delicate matter and I do not think we need touch upon it at present.

You suggest the reduction of the price of Anchal cards and covers to 4 cash and 8 cash respectively. That matter was fully discussed at the Legislative Council and the Government are at the present moment giving it their anxious consideration.

144. Communal representation.

MR. P. K. KUMARAN (*Member, Nominated*) speaking about communal representation said that the principle of communal representation in public service was recognised by the British Indian Government and the Governments of Baroda and Mysore. It was only proper that the same principle should be recognised by the Government of Travancore. About 85 per cent of the Government appointments in Travancore were now in the hands of caste-Hindus. Such a state of affairs could not continue. Each community had developed its own peculiar genius and it was necessary that this genius should be utilised by the State. So also in regard to the Legislative Council, the unrepresented and backward communities had to be given special electorates. In Cochin, special electorates were given to the Ezhavas. In the Madras Presidency, special electorates were given to the Non-Brahmins. In Travancore at least four out of the twenty-eight elected seats should be set apart for Ezhavas.

DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Kumaran, I must thank you for having entertained us with a description of the results of your study of conditions that prevail in various parts of India outside Travancore, and I have listened to the remedies you prescribe for the well-being of the Ezhavas and the Catholics and the Mahomedans and a few other people whom apparently you represent here.

145. Disabilities of the backward communities.

MR. N. R. KRISHNAN (*Member, Nominated*) said it was the birthright of every man to take part in the administration of the country in which he was born. The caste or the race of a man was not to disqualify him for doing that. But taking the administration of Travancore, it was in the hands of a few people. The greater majority of the people were not allowed an adequate share in the administration. They were kept away on the ground of inefficiency. There was some meaning in this exclusion in olden days, when these communities had not made much advancement in education because they were refused admission into educational institutions. But now they could get admission into schools and colleges and hence there were many educated men among them. So that, at the present time these communities could

not be excluded from the public service on the ground of inefficiency or want of education. Government had therefore to see that until perfect equality was established between the various communities in the Government service, all new vacancies were set apart for members of the communities which were inadequately represented. To illustrate the disparity that existed at present, in the Education Department on which Government spent nearly 40 lakhs of rupees every year and where there were no fewer than 469 graduate officers, the total number of Ezhava officers counted only four. To speak of particular institutions, there was not a single Ezhava employee in any of the colleges at Trivandrum. The member therefore urged that an Ezhava candidate should be immediately appointed in H. H. the Maha Raja's College of Science.

So far as admission to public institutions was concerned, in 1101 there were 16 schools not open to all communities. Three of these were since thrown open, but thirteen remained. These had also to be declared open to all classes of the public.

In regard to the fee-concession committees the member urged that the proposal to nominate Ezhava representatives to these committees should be given effect to at once.

Another subject taken up by the member was the franchise for the Legislative Council. It was a well-known fact that there were many landless people, chiefly of the backward and depressed classes, in Travancore. But these people could not vote at the Legislative Council elections, because they paid no land-tax. It was however hard to deprive these people of representation in the Council. The rule regarding property qualification for voters to the Council should therefore be repealed. In the alternative, special constituencies should be established for the landless classes.

Finally, a Royal Proclamation should be promulgated throwing open all public roads to all classes of people.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Krishnan, the substance of your representation in the matter of election and nomination to the Legislative Council and also your views in respect of the franchise will receive consideration when next the constitution of the Council and the question of the electorate come under examination for revision.

In the matter of the representation of Ezhavas in the public service, the views of Government have repeatedly been expressed both in this Assembly and the Council in the course of the past two years and further repetition today is hardly necessary.

You referred to the matter of schools. You quoted the figures 16 in 1101, and 13 in 1102. That gives the percentage of 18½ per annum, which, I think, is very rapid progress.

146. Communal grievances and some suggestions to remove them.

MR. C. J. VARGHESE (*Member, Shertallai taluk, Group I*) said that some of the important communities in the State had not yet been granted full political rights. They were still kept behind in several ways. This could be remedied in three ways. In the first place, in regard to appointments, the principle of communal representation should be strictly followed. Among equally qualified candidates, those who came from communities which were comparatively less represented in the public service should be preferred to those who came from communities which had better representation. This principle was recognised by Government long ago, but it was not being strictly enforced. Stringent instructions should be issued to heads of departments to follow this principle.

Secondly, so far as representative institutions were concerned, separate electorates should be constituted for backward communities. They could not get a legitimate number of seats in the Legislative Council or the Sri Mular Popular Assembly by open competition. Nor would nominations by Government serve as a substitute for election. The candidates nominated by Government might not be the true representatives of the community. Nomination was not therefore a sure means of redressing the grievances of a community.

Thirdly, all public roads, Satroms etc., should be thrown open to all communities. Where any road or institution could not be so thrown open, new roads should be opened and new institutions should be established in places accessible to all communities.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Varghese, in respect of the first two parts of your representation, I would refer you to what I said to the last two speakers. In regard to the third part, your suggestions will be borne in mind.

147. Protector of the depressed classes.

MR. P. YESUDIAN (*Member, Nominated*) said that the Government of Madras and the Governments of several Native States had taken up the cause of the depressed classes. For various reasons the depressed classes in Travancore wanted a protector to look after their interests. The protector should be appointed by Government. He should be a European officer well acquainted with revenue matters. He should not be inferior in rank to a Dewan Peishkar. The present Land-revenue and Income-tax Commissioner was the man best fitted for the appointment. If he could not be appointed as a whole-time protector, it would be enough if he was put in charge of the protector's work in addition to his own duties. The protector should be empowered to pick out the lands to be assigned to the depressed classes. He should also select candidates for appointment in the public service. He should be granted a personal assistant who should be a full-time officer and one belonging to any of the depressed classes. The personal assistant should be made a member of the Legislative Council. There should also be four leaders of the depressed classes in the four divisions. These should travel from place to place for which they should be given a batta of Rs. 2 a day. Then there should be a Depressed Classes Elevation Committee in each division, consisting of nine members, *viz.* a revenue officer, a forest officer, an officer of the Agricultural Department, a P. W. D. officer, a member of a co-operative society, an officer of the Sanitary Department, the depressed classes leader in the division, and a Christian and a Hindu member nominated by the depressed classes. The committee should deal with the needs of each locality.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Yesudian, you have obviously taken a lot of trouble over the question of solving the difficulties of the depressed classes. You referred to an appointment that was made in certain other States. You have not told us what results those arrangements have so far made so that they may be a guide to us. You suggest that the present Land Revenue Commissioner be appointed Protector of the Depressed classes and your constructive suggestion is that he should have a personal assistant and under him nine persons for each division. I shall put this on record. The provision of some machinery for the protection of the depressed classes is engaging my attention, and I shall bear this in mind when I am going over the matter. Meanwhile I shall discuss the matter with the Land Revenue Commissioner.

The Assembly adjourned for lunch at 1.59 P. M. to meet again at 3 P. M.

148. Needs of the Malayala Brahmins.

MR. NARAYANARU KRISHNARU (*Member, Jenmies, Trivandrum Division, Group II*) said that the Namputiri Bill introduced by Mr. Tuppan Namputiri was a revolutionary measure, calculated to subvert the traditional usages and practices of the Malayala Brahmins. The Bill had not the support of the real Malayala Brahmin community. Government should therefore reject the Bill.

Secondly, Government should not bring the proposed Jenmi and Kudiyan Amendment Regulation before the Legislative Council. Seventy per cent of the members of the Council were tenants of Jenmies from whom Jenmies could not get a fair deal. If Government thought it necessary to make any amendments in the Regulation, they could bring their proposals before a committee consisting of the Dewan, the Chief Justice and the Land Revenue Commissioner.

Thirdly, Malayala Brahmins could not get due representation in any of the representative institutions of the State by means of election. Government should therefore nominate at least one of them to the Legislative Council, the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly, and the other representative institutions. Real Malayala Brahmins should also be given adequate representation in the public service.

Fourthly, the present management of the hostel attached to the Special School for Malayala Brahmins at Kulakkada was defective in more ways than one. In the first place, admission to the school was now granted to all kinds of people who called themselves Malayala Brahmins. There was no effort made to restrict the admission to real Malayala Brahmins. Secondly, there was now much waste in the management of the hostel. The management should therefore be entrusted to a committee consisting of the head-master of the school and three other real Malayala Brahmins. Admissions into the school should be made by this committee and they should take only real Malayala Brahmin pupils.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Narayanaru Krishnaru, I do not think it would be quite right for me here in the Assembly to decide upon the acceptance, or rejection of the Namputiri Bill and the Jenmi Kudiyari Bill which are engaging the attention of another house. But I can promise you this. I shall consider the question of the appointment of a committee.

In regard to the other question of the appointment of qualified Malayala Brahmins, as a matter of fact, you know the Government have been appointing Malayala Brahmins. I can at the moment recall two cases of graduates who had been appointed in the last year or so.

MEMBER: There is only one such. Ever so many came but they are not real Malayala Brahmins.

DEWAN: Government are always keeping in mind the question of giving appointments to Malayala Brahmins strictly such.

In regard to the management of the hostel attached to the Kulakada Special School I see the departmental officer is not in favour of that arrangement; but as you and other Namputiri Brahmins feel so keenly about it, I shall have the matter re-examined.

MEMBER: Only very few Malayala Brahmins are nominated in the Municipal Councils etc.

DEWAN: Even now a good many of Namputiri Brahmins are getting themselves nominated.

MEMBER: They are not real Malayala Brahmins.

DEWAN: I shall try and learn when a Namputiri is not a Namputiri.

149. Needs of the Malayala Brahmins.

MR. P. C. NARAYANAN BHATTATIRI (*Member, Jenmies, Quilon Division*) said that Malayala Brahmins as a class were still very backward in education. The special schools established for them at Kumaranallur and Tiruvalla had to be stopped for want of boys. If education was to make headway among them, Government should first make primary education compulsory and then set a premium on higher education by the award of scholarships. For the latter purpose, Government could take possession of the various Brahmaswom properties, under the Charitable Endowments Regulation, and divert them for the award of scholarships.

Secondly, Government should nominate at least one representative of the Malayala Brahmin community to the Legislative Council and the Popular Assembly.

Thirdly, Malayala Brahmins should be appointed in greater numbers in the public service.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Narayanan Bhattatiri, in the matter of schools every endeavour will be made to ensure that the schools are properly conducted. If you want compulsory primary education for Malayala Brahmin boys, I am afraid that it is not possible to legislate for one community alone. The reason why the Malayala Brahmin community is backward in education is not that they are poor but because they are very conservative and therefore the need for scholarships does not arise. I think they must take better advantage of the special schools.

You have heard what I have already said on the subject of representation in the Council and the Assembly and in the public service.

150. Malayala Brahmins, their educational and other needs.

MR. CHENNAN DAMODARAN NAMPUTIRIPAD (*Member, Jenmies Kottayam Division*) said that by Jenmies, he meant the Malayala Brahmins. They were the original owners of the whole of Kerala. They got their right from Parasurama, the traditional founder of Kerala. For long they were the rulers of Kerala. But their present condition was very poor. Both in education and in religion they were in a decadent condition.

The education of a Malayala Brahmin was partly religious and partly secular. In regard to secular education Government had recently done much to develop it, by opening special schools, instituting scholarships etc. But all this was done at the expense of religious education. In ancient days, Government paid greater attention to religious education. They made several endowments and established several *Matoms* for the religious education of Malayala Brahmins. The Brahmaswam Matam at Keralapuram, Kottayam, was one such institution. It was established by His Highness Karthika Thirunal Rama Varma Maha Raja. That Matom was recently abolished by Government and its rich endowments were all utilised for the special school for Malayala Brahmins. By the abolition of the Matom Malayala Brahmins were deprived of one of their important educational institutions. The member urged for the restoration of the Matom and for the opening of four or five more similar institutions for the imparting of Sastraic education. The Vedas, Vedangas, Thantrasastras, and Puranas should be taught in these institutions.

So far as Hindu temples and Devaswams were concerned, the member urged for the maintenance of the ancient usages and practices of these institutions. In conclusion, he requested that cow-slaughter should be strictly prohibited, and that institutions for cow-protection should be established all over the State.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Chennan Damodaran Namputiri, if you will give your representation to me, I will have the printed copy carefully gone into and separate replies sent to you on the various points calling for a reply.

151. Needs of the Jenmies of Travancore.

MR. TRIVIKRAMARU VASUDEVARU (*Member, Jenmies, Trivandrum Division, Group I*) said that the Jenmies were suffering very much under the Jenmi and Kudiyan Regulation, V of 1071. The Regulation stood badly in need of amendment. But any amendments might be made only after ascertaining the wishes of the Jenmies. At any rate the amendments should not be worse than the original.

Secondly, the member spoke about the franchise of the Jenmies for the Legislative Council. For ordinary voters the franchise depended upon the amount of the tax paid. But Jenmies had often not to pay any tax, because their properties were in the hands of the tenants. In their case, the amount of the annual income was hence made the basis of the right to vote. Every Jenmi who had an annual income of not less than Rs. 2,000 was given a vote. But there was no sure means of ascertaining a person's income. It depended almost always on the discretion of the Proverthicar. That was not a desirable position. Owing to the vagaries of the Proverthicars, many people had to suffer. The member therefore urged that as in the case of others the amount of tax paid might be made the qualification for franchise in the case of the Jenmies also.

As regards the Namputiri Bill, the member said that he did not support it himself. But some kind of legislation was absolutely necessary for the Malayala Brahmins. The history of any Malayala Brahmin family for the last fifty years would amply demonstrate how the community had been decaying during these years. Their law of inheritance and succession should be made definite. The arbitrary powers of senior members of families should be curtailed. Junior members should be given at least the right of maintenance from the family. As regards marriage, all members should be allowed to marry inside the caste. These changes were called for and should be made in the interests of the community.

DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Trivikramar Vasudevar, it is a rather difficult problem you raise to-day. You say you want a regulation to ameliorate the condition of the Namputiris which community during the last fifty years according to your statement has fallen from its ancient high state. You want a Namputiri Regulation, but you do not want *the* Namputiri Regulation.

You also want the Jenmi-Kudiyar Regulation remodelled. Here too, we are not yet in a position to say in what form the Bill will emerge.

The other points raised by you will be duly considered.

152. Further concessions to the Cheramars.

MR. PARADI ABRAHAM ISAC (*Member, Nominated*) said that further concessions should be granted to the Cheramars in respect of education, employment in the public service etc. As regards education, the fee concessions granted by Government should be extended to the college classes and the technical schools. Just as special Mahomedan scholarships were instituted for Mahomedans, Cheramar scholarships should be instituted for Cheramars. Five Cheramar candidates who had passed the S. S. L. C. Examination should be selected from each of the three divisions of Kottayam, Quilon and Trivandrum and they should be given a special scholarship of Rs. 15 each by Government for studying up to the B. A. class. Arrangements should be made for supplying noon-day meals to Cheramar pupils and also for supplying them with text-books. With a view to increasing the number of primary schools in the country, the strength of a school for the purpose of recognition should be reduced to 15. The rules of the Education Code regarding the construction of school buildings should also be relaxed. In addition, managers of schools belonging to the Cheramar class should be given small stipends.

So far as Government service was concerned, applications from Cheramar candidates should be given precedence over all others and the maximum age of a candidate for the purpose of admission into the Government service should be raised from 25 to 28.

Taking particular departments, Cheramars had several co-operative societies. But most of the members of these societies were day-labourers and it would often happen that Co-operative Inspectors were not able to meet them in the offices of the societies at the time of their visits. In order to prevent this, qualified Cheramar candidates should be appointed as group secretaries. These secretaries could know the times most convenient for the inspection of the societies and they would do the work themselves. Cheramar candidates should also be appointed as Co-operative Inspectors.

So far as the Agricultural Department was concerned, Cheramars should be trained in modern methods of agriculture and they should be entertained in the Agricultural Department.

All the depressed classes were not now able to get representation in the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly. Government should therefore raise the number of nominated members and give representation to all the depressed communities. A representative of the Cheramars should also be nominated in the Legislative Council.

Finally, the few Cheramar coolies attached to H. H. the Maharaja's Body-Guard should be given an enhancement of wages.

DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Paradi Abraham Isac, you want greater facilities to be given to the Cheramar community for English education and you want scholarships of Rs. 15 each granted to the students of that community in the Quilon, Trivandrum and Kottayam Divisions until such time as they pass the B. A. And what do you expect after they pass the B. A. ?

MEMBER : Acquisition of culture and consequently appointment.

DEWAN : There are not sufficient appointments to go round.

There are plenty of scholarships already in existence and I do not think it will be feasible to add to the number.

In regard to text books I do not think it will be possible for the Government to supply them free to one community, for others also will claim the same and that will make a very heavy strain upon the finances of the Government. Already the Government have, in the case of vernacular text books, reduced the price to the lowest possible minimum.

Appointments to Cheramars, like all the other communities in the State, will be given when opportunities occur.

In the matter of exemption from age limit, Government will always be prepared to consider deserving cases, each one on its own merits. But a general exemption for the whole of any one particular community is not possible.

In the matter of appointing members of your community as group secretaries I shall refer the matter to the Registrar of Co-operative Societies.

The Government always take care that this community is, whenever possible, represented in the Popular Assembly and when the limited number of seats available in the Legislative Council is increased, representation will be given there also. But it is not possible at present.

153. [Concessions to Pulayas in the matter of education and of appointment in the public service.]

MR. AIYAN KALI (*Member, Nominated*) said that the question of supplying free mid-day meals to the pupils of the depressed classes was still under the consideration of Government and he requested that favourable orders might be issued in the matter as early as possible. The students of the depressed classes who wanted to join the colleges could not do so for want of money. Full fee concession should therefore be granted to these students. Though there were several qualified candidates among the Pulayas, none was appointed in the Education Department in spite of repeated representations. So also there were six Pulaya girls who had passed the School Leaving Examination but not one of them was able to secure a permanent place in the Education Department. Pulaya young men who were able to read and write should be appointed as peons in all departments at least one per taluk. In the Police and Excise Departments particularly, no new recruitments should be made before a few places were given to the Pulayas. A few Pulaya young men should also be sent by Government to foreign countries for higher studies in agriculture, industries etc.

DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Aiyam Kali, I cannot promise that I will order the 32 taluk offices to employ a peon each. I will have a circular sent out that more Pulayas should be employed.

Then as regards the other point, viz., mid-day meals for Pulaya children, I believe that question is being examined.

I shall make special enquiries as to how those six Pulaya girls failed to get Government employment.

154. Concessions to the Parayas.

MR. KANTAN KUMARAN (*Member, Nominated*) stated that though orders had been issued by Government for concessional registry of lands in the names of the Parayas and other depressed classes, the lands that were actually registered in their names were but few. Most of the applications submitted in pursuance of these orders were still pending with the various officers.

(1) Applications had been made for the registry of 65 acres of lands in the Mavelikara taluk, 20 acres in survey No. 101/2 C. in the Vallikurnam pakuthi, 5 acres in Survey No. 228/1 in the same pakuthi, and 40 acres in Survey No. 119/1 in the Tamaracolam pakuthi. The Tahsildar, Mavelikara, had recommended the registry of these lands in 1097, and the parties had produced a copy of the plan of the lands before the Dewan Peishkar, Quilon, on the 3rd Makaram 1101. But the lands had not yet been registered

(2) Applications had been made since 1095 for the registry of 52 acres, 3 cents of land comprised in Survey Nos. 627/1 and 630/2 in the Kunnathur pakuthy,

Kunnathur taluk. There were now a place of worship, an orphanage and several other buildings on this site. If the lands were registered in the names of the Parayas, it would be a very great help to them.

(5) Applications were made on the 22nd Edavom 1090 for the registry of 476 acres of land in Survey numbers 1/13, 1/14, 19/1, 20/1, 28/1, 35/1, and 731/1 in the Takazhi and Purakad pakuthies in the Ambalapuzha taluk. In 1094 the Proverthi-
kar at Takazhi inspected the sites and told the applicants that if they gave him Rs. 5 each the lands would be registered in their names. They accordingly gave Rs. 5 each. Having got the money, he directed them to apply to the Tahsildar for the measuring and demarcation of the lands. Their applications were sent by the Tahsildar to the Surveyor. The latter met the applicants and told them that if they gave him four boundary stones and Rs. 5 each he would register the lands in their names. This also the applicants did. But after some time they came to know that Government had ordered the lands being auctioned and given away to other applicants. They accordingly met the Dewan and represented their grievances to him. The order for auction was thereupon cancelled and the question of registry was referred to the Dewan Peishkar. The Dewan Peishkar visited the locality and ordered the applicants to put in fresh applications. 181 applications were submitted in accordance with that order on the 5th Kanni 1097. But these applications had not yet been disposed of.

The following swampy areas in Reserve Forests had also to be registered in the names of the Parayas : Survey Nos. 111/1, 113/1, 112/1, 114/1 in the Manimala pakuthi; Survey No. 49/1 in the Ranni pakuthi; and Survey No. 415/3C in the Tiruvalla pakuthi. In addition to these, 50 acres of land in each Division should be registered in the name of the Brahmaprathyakshadharma Association of the Parayas.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Kantan Kumaran, I have made a note of lands in the Vallikunnam and Tamaracolam pakuthies in Mavelikara and the land in Kunnathur pakuthi, and Takazhi and Purakad in Ambalapuzha taluk, and 91 cents of land in Tiruvalla taluk now in occupation by a few Parayas. I will have enquiries made about all these, and a special report submitted.

155. Further concessions to the Parayas.

MR. KANTAN KUMARAN (*Member, Nominated*) said that the difficulties of the Parayas in the matter of education would not at all be removed by the provision of mid-day meals or the grant of fee concessions. Many of the boys were too poor to have even morning and evening meals and to buy books and clothing. What Government should do therefore was to give scholarships to all the intelligent and industrious Paraya boys in the middle school classes. As a special means of encouraging education among the Parayas, those of them who had studied up to class VII should be granted licenses for teaching in classes I and II. Their pay should also be fixed at Rs. 10. Wherever possible they might also be appointed in other departments.

There was an orphanage at Peruvinchasivagiri in the Kunnathur taluk, maintained by the Parayas. There were fifteen children in that institution now. All the expenses of these children were met by subscriptions from the Parayas. The authorities of the orphanage were eager to open a school attached to it. Government should give a contribution towards the building of this school and also allow it a grant-in-aid.

A whole-time Protector should be appointed to look after the interests of the depressed classes. The Protector should be given more powers and privileges.

Besides, a Paraya representative should be nominated to the Legislative Council. The interests of the Parayas were not now represented in that House. None of the measures which could make for the uplift of the community was therefore brought before the House. A bill for example could very well be brought before the Council to regulate the system of inheritance among the Parayas. Such a bill was long overdue and it should be passed.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Kantan Kumaran, on the first four points of your representation, I have already made pronouncements in connection with the representations of members of the depressed classes.

And then you come to the fifth point, namely, nomination of a Paraya member to the Legislative Council. The number of seats available for nomination is strictly limited and has already been apportioned out to various communities, and I am sorry that there is no seat available for any more members of the depressed classes in the Council as at present constituted.

Then you come to the law of succession and inheritance. Enquiries in this direction are being made in relation to the Pulayas. I will have the case of the Parayas also considered in connection with this enquiry.

About your representation regarding the supply of books to poor pupils, I shall consult the Director of Public Instruction to see whether some arrangement can be come to by which they will not have to change their books from year to year.

156. Concessions to the Kammalas.

MR. T. P. KOCHUMMINI ASARI (*Member, Nominated*) said that a member of the Kammala community should be nominated to the Legislative Council and that he should be asked to introduce into the Council a bill to regulate the system of succession and inheritance among the Kammalas. The necessity for a legislation of the kind was represented at the previous session of the Assembly also.

Secondly, the member said that the Kammalas formed the chief artisan class in the country, but they were sadly lacking in the possession of landed properties. Poramboke and Puduval lands should therefore be registered in their names on concessional terms.

Thirdly, the members of the Kammala community should be exempted from the operation of the rule regarding age-bar in respect of Government appointments and they should be freely entertained in the service even when they did not possess the prescribed examination qualifications.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Kochummini Asari, as you proceeded with your first representation it became clear to me that you had not read what I said on the subject at the last session of the Assembly although you referred to what I said and your reference clearly showed that you had not been correctly acquainted with what I actually said. I have nothing more to add to what I said last year.

In regard to the nomination of a Kammala member to the next Legislative Council, there are only seven seats in the Council open to nomination and in the course of today fully that number asked to be nominated to one or more seats in the Council; and there are some nominated members already sitting.

The other points taken up in the representation will be dealt with in due course and replies sent to you.

157. Needs of the Chalya community.

MR. V. SUBRAHMONIAM (*Member, Municipal Council, Nagercoil*) said that the Chalya community, given entirely to their traditional profession of weaving, was lagging very far behind the other communities. In regard to weaving, Government had made some attempt to improve their lot by establishing a Technical Institute at Nagercoil and by appointing a Textile Expert to advise them on modern methods of weaving. But neither of these measures was producing the desired effect. The managers of the Technical Institute were not acquainted with the habits and manners of the weaving classes and hence could not give them much help. Nor could the weavers derive much help from the Textile Expert. The Chalyas as a class were a very conservative set of people. Wedded from birth to their old pit-looms they were slow to make use of the accessories and implements of the foreigners. Not only that they could not look up with confidence to the guidance of other people. The member hence proposed that two Chalya candidates might be sent at least once in five years to some of the well-known weaving institutions at Bombay or Ahmadabad and there given training in weaving. On their advice Government should distribute improved types of looms and loom-accessories to the weaving classes. As regards the Technical Institute at Nagercoil, it should be placed under the management of a committee, the majority of which should be taken from among the Chalyas.

The member next referred to the two Chalya co-operative societies organised recently and requested that Government should give them the necessary help at all times.

Touching the educational advancement of the Chalyas, the member said that the present fee-concession committees were not functioning well. Many of the pupils who sought their help were really poor, but the committees often failed to appreciate their needs. The member advocated that all pupils of the Chalya community might, as a class, be exempted from the payment of fees at least in the Middle School classes. In the matter of higher education, as a means of encouraging it among the Chalyas, qualified candidates among them should be freely appointed in the Government service.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Subrahmanyam, poor Chaliya students already enjoy the privilege of half-fee concessions. The system of fee concessions cannot be extended any further to whatsoever community. So I am afraid anything beyond what the community at present enjoys cannot be reasonably expected.

There is no necessity for equipping two Chaliya candidates with scholarships in some well known weaving factories in India. As you yourself said the Chaliya community does not like to go to places of instruction and does not like new methods since there are communal differences. If that difference is felt even in Nagercoil, how much more will the difference be felt in distant parts of India where conditions are so different. However I am glad to say that the Chaliya community has been benefited to some extent from the assistance of the Department of Industries both in the weaving school and from the itinerant weaving parties. The Director informs me that they are taking steps to give them shuttles and other modern forms of weaving appliances.

You request that a committee or advisory body of Chaliyas be entrusted with the management of the Sri Mulam Technical Institute, Nagercoil. You do not at the same time suggest how the Government is going to exercise control over the same body.

Your representation in the matter of co-operative societies had better be taken to the Registrar of Co-operative Societies who is in a position to help you in the matter.

Lastly, in the matter of public service, you have heard both yesterday and today what I have to say on that subject.

The Assembly adjourned at 5 P. M. to meet again at 11-30 A. M. on Thursday, the 8th March 1928.