



PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

DEWAN RA'AYAT (HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES)

OFFICIAL REPORT

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FEDERATION OF MALAYA
DEWAN RA'AYAT
(HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES)

Official Report

Third Session of the First Dewan Ra'ayat

Tuesday, 20th June, 1961

The House met at Half-past-Ten o'clock a.m.

PRESENT:

- The Honourable Mr. Speaker, DATO' HAJI MOHAMED NOAH BIN OMAR, S.P.M.J., D.P.M.B., P.I.S., J.P.
- „ the Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs, Y.T.M. TUNKU ABDUL RAHMAN PUTRA AL-HAJ, K.O.M. (Kuala Kedah).
- „ the Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Defence and Minister of Rural Development, TUN HAJI ABDUL RAZAK BIN DATO' HUSSAIN, S.M.N. (Pekan).
- „ the Minister of Internal Security and Minister of the Interior, DATO' DR. ISMAIL BIN DATO' HAJI ABDUL RAHMAN, P.M.N. (Johor Timor).
- „ the Minister of Finance, ENCHE' TAN SIEW SIN, J.P. (Melaka Tengah).
- „ the Minister of Works, Posts and Telecommunications, DATO' V. T. SAMBANTHAN, P.M.N. (Sungai Siput).
- „ the Minister of Transport, DATO' SARDON BIN HAJI JUBIR (Pontian Utara).
- „ the Minister of Health and Social Welfare, DATO' ONG YOKE LIN, P.M.N. (Ulu Selangor).
- „ the Minister of Commerce and Industry, ENCHE' MOHAMED KHIR BIN JOHARI (Kedah Tengah).
- „ the Minister of Education, ENCHE' ABDUL RAHMAN BIN HAJI TALIB (Kuantan).
- „ the Assistant Minister of Information and Broadcasting, TUAN SYED JA'AFAR BIN HASAN ALBAR, J.M.N. (Johor Tenggara).
- „ the Assistant Minister of Education, ENCHE' ABDUL HAMID KHAN BIN HAJI SAKHAWAT ALI KHAN, J.M.N., J.P. (Batang Padang).
- „ the Assistant Minister of Rural Development, TUAN HAJI ABDUL KHALID BIN AWANG OSMAN (Kota Star Utara).
- „ the Assistant Minister of Labour, ENCHE' V. MANICKAVASAGAM, J.M.N., P.J.K. (Klang).
- „ the Assistant Minister of the Interior, ENCHE' MOHAMED ISMAIL BIN MOHAMED YUSOF (Jerai).

- The Honourable ENCHE' ABDUL GHANI BIN ISHAK, A.M.N. (Melaka Utara).
- „ ENCHE' ABDUL RAUF BIN A. RAHMAN (Krian Laut).
- „ ENCHE' ABDUL SAMAD BIN OSMAN (Sungai Patani).
- „ TUAN HAJI ABDULLAH BIN HAJI ABDUL RAOF (Kuala Kangsar).
- „ TUAN HAJI ABDULLAH BIN HAJI MOHD. SALLEH, A.M.N., P.I.S. (Segamat Utara).
- „ TUAN HAJI AHMAD BIN ABDULLAH (Kota Bharu Hilir).
- „ ENCHE' AHMAD BIN ARSHAD, A.M.N. (Muar Utara).
- „ ENCHE' AHMAD BOESTAMAM (Setapak).
- „ TUAN HAJI AHMAD BIN SAAID (Seberang Utara).
- „ ENCHE' AHMAD BIN HAJI YUSOF, P.J.K. (Krian Darat).
- „ TUAN HAJI AZAHARI BIN HAJI IBRAHIM (Kubang Pasu Barat).
- „ ENCHE' AZIZ BIN ISHAK (Muar Dalam).
- „ DR. BURHANUDDIN BIN MOHD. NOOR (Besut).
- „ ENCHE' CHAN SIANG SUN (Bentong).
- „ ENCHE' CHAN SWEE HO (Ulu Kinta).
- „ ENCHE' CHAN YOON ONN (Kampar).
- „ ENCHE' CHIN SEE YIN (Seremban Timor).
- „ ENCHE' V. DAVID (Bungsar).
- „ DATIN FATIMAH BINTI HAJI HASHIM, P.M.N. (Jitra-Padang Terap).
- „ ENCHE' GEH CHONG KEAT (Penang Utara).
- „ ENCHE' HAMZAH BIN ALANG, A.M.N. (Kapar).
- „ ENCHE' HANAFI BIN MOHD. YUNUS, A.M.N. (Kulim Utara).
- „ ENCHE' HARUN BIN ABDULLAH, A.M.N. (Baling).
- „ ENCHE' HARUN BIN PILUS (Trengganu Tengah).
- „ TUAN HAJI HASAN ADLI BIN HAJI ARSHAD (Kuala Trengganu Utara).
- „ TUAN HAJI HASSAN BIN HAJI AHMAD (Tumpat).
- „ ENCHE' HASSAN BIN MANSOR (Melaka Selatan).
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- „ TUAN HAJI HUSSAIN RAHIMI BIN HAJI SAMAN (Kota Bharu Hulu).
- „ ENCHE' IBRAHIM BIN ABDUL RAHMAN (Seberang Tengah).
- „ ENCHE' ISMAIL BIN IDRIS (Penang Selatan).
- „ ENCHE' K. KARAM SINGH (Damansara).
- „ CHE' KHADIJAH BINTI MOHD. SDEK (Dungun).
- „ ENCHE' LEE SAN CHOON (Kluang Utara).
- „ ENCHE' LEE SECK FUN (Tanjong Malim).
- „ ENCHE' LEE SIOK YEW, A.M.N. (Sepang).
- „ ENCHE' LIM JOO KONG (Alor Star).
- „ DR. LIM SWEE AUN, J.P. (Larut Selatan).
- „ ENCHE' LIU YOONG PENG (Rawang).
- „ ENCHE' T. MAHIMA SINGH, J.P. (Port Dickson).

- The Honourable ENCHE' MOHAMED BIN UJANG (Jelebu-Jempol).
- „ ENCHE' MOHAMED ABBAS BIN AHMAD (Hilir Perak).
- „ ENCHE' MOHAMED ASRI BIN HAJI MUDA (Pasir Puteh).
- „ ENCHE' MOHAMED DAHARI BIN HAJI MOHD. ALI (Kuala Selangor).
- „ ENCHE' MOHAMED NOR BIN MOHD. DAHAN (Ulu Perak).
- „ DATO' MOHAMED HANIFAH BIN HAJI ABDUL GHANI, P.J.K. (Pasir Mas Hulu).
- „ ENCHE' MOHAMED SULONG BIN MOHD. ALI, J.M.N. (Lipis).
- „ ENCHE' MOHAMED YUSOF BIN MAHMUD, A.M.N. (Temerloh).
- „ TUAN HAJI MOKHTAR BIN HAJI ISMAIL (Perlis Selatan).
- „ ENCHE' NG ANN TECK (Batu).
- „ ENCHE' OTHMAN BIN ABDULLAH (Tanah Merah).
- „ ENCHE' OTHMAN BIN ABDULLAH, A.M.N. (Perlis Utara).
- „ TUAN HAJI REDZA BIN HAJI MOHD. SAID (Rembau-Tampin).
- „ ENCHE' SEAH TENG NGIAB (Muar Pantai).
- „ ENCHE' S. P. SEENIVASAGAM (Menglembu).
- „ TUAN SYED ESA BIN ALWEE, J.M.N., S.M.J., P.I.S. (Batu Pahat Dalam).
- „ TUAN SYED HASHIM BIN SYED AJAM, A.M.N., P.J.K. (Sabak Bernam).
- „ ENCHE' TAN CHENG BEE, J.P. (Bagan).
- „ ENCHE' TAN PHOCK KIN (Tanjong).
- „ ENCHE' TAN TYE CHEK (Kulim-Bandar Bahru).
- „ TENGKU BESAR INDERA RAJA IBNI AL-MARHUM SULTAN IBRAHIM, D.K., P.M.N. (Ulu Kelantan).
- „ DATO' TEOH CHZE CHONG, D.P.M.J., J.P. (Segamat Selatan).
- „ ENCHE' TOO JOON HING (Telok Anson).
- „ ENCHE' V. VEERAPPEN (Seberang Selatan).
- „ WAN MUSTAPHA BIN HAJI ALI (Kelantan Hilir).
- „ WAN SULAIMAN BIN WAN TAM, P.J.K. (Kota Star Selatan).
- „ WAN YAHYA BIN HAJI WAN MOHAMED (Kemaman).
- „ ENCHE' YAHYA BIN HAJI AHMAD (Bagan Datoh).
- „ ENCHE' YEOH TAT BENG (Bruas).
- „ PUAN HAJIAH ZAIN BINTI SULAIMAN, J.M.N., P.I.S. (Pontian Selatan).
- „ TUAN HAJI ZAKARIA BIN HAJI MOHD. TAIB (Langat).
- „ ENCHE' ZULKIFLEE BIN MUHAMMAD (Bachok).

ABSENT:

- The Honourable DATO' SULEIMAN BIN DATO' HAJI ABDUL RAHMAN, P.M.N. (Minister without Portfolio) (Muar Selatan) (*on leave*).
- „ the Minister of Agriculture and Co-operatives, ENCHE' ABDUL AZIZ BIN ISHAK (Kuala Langat).
- „ the Minister of Labour, ENCHE' BAHAMAN BIN SAMSUDIN (Kuala Pilah).

- The Honourable ENCHE' CHEAH THEAM SWEE, Assistant Minister (Bukit Bintang).
- „ ENCHE' AHMAD BIN MOHAMED SHAH, S.M.J. (Johore Bahru Barat).
- „ ENCHE' CHAN CHONG WEN, A.M.N. (Kluang Selatan).
- „ ENCHE' KANG KOCK SENG (Batu Pahat).
- „ ENCHE' KHONG KOK YAT (Batu Gajah).
- „ ENCHE' LIM KEAN SIEW (Dato Kramat).
- „ NIK MAN BIN NIK MOHAMED (Pasir Mas Hilir).
- „ DATO' ONN BIN JA'AFAR, D.K., D.P.M.J. (Kuala Trengganu Selatan).
- „ ENCHE' QUEK KAI DONG, J.P. (Seremban Barat).
- „ ENCHE' D. R. SEENIVASAGAM (Ipoh).
- „ ENCHE' TAJUDIN BIN ALI, P.J.K. (Larut Utara).
- „ ENCHE' TAN KEE GAK (Bandar Melaka).
- „ ENCHE' YONG WOO MING (Sitiawan).

IN ATTENDANCE:

The Honourable the Minister of Justice, TUN LEONG YEW KOH, S.M.N.

PRAYERS

(Mr. Speaker in the Chair)

ORAL ANSWERS TO
QUESTIONS

Kilang Getah di-Grisek

1. Enche' Ahmad bin Arshad (Muar Utara) bertanya kepada Timbalan Perdana Menteri ada-kah beliau mengetahui ia-itu kilang getah di-Grisek semenjak di-dirikan telah menanggung kerugian, dan jika ya, terangkan langkah² yang di-ambil bagi mengelakkan kerugian sa-lanjut-nya dan ada-kah Kerajaan berchadang hendak menutup kilang itu.

The Assistant Minister of Rural Development (Tuan Haji Abdul Khalid bin Awang Osman): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, RIDA telah mengambil langkah yang berpatutan untuk membaiki kilang getah di-Grisek itu dan oleh sebab itu tidak ada chadangan untuk menutup kilang itu.

Jawatan-Kuasa menyiasat Kerugian Kilang Getah di-Grisek

2. Enche' Ahmad bin Arshad bertanya pada Timbalan Perdana Menteri ada-kah beliau bersedia melantek sa-buah

Jawatan-Kuasa untuk menyiasat akan sebab musabab bagaimana kerugian itu berlaku di-kilang tersebut.

Tuan Haji Abdul Khalid bin Awang Osman: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, biasanya tidak, sebab RIDA telah dapat mengambil langkah untuk membaikinya.

Enche' Ahmad bin Arshad: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, kira-nya kilang itu sa-makin baik, ada-kah Kerajaan berchadang hendak menyerahkan kepada penduduk² tempatan itu bagi mentadbirkannya.

Tuan Haji Abdul Khalid bin Awang Osman: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, jawabnya ya.

Rancangan Kemajuan Tanah di-Johor

3. Enche' Ahmad bin Arshad bertanya kepada Timbalan Perdana Menteri berapa-kah bilangan rancangan² Kemajuan Tanah yang di-laksanakan di-negeri Johor dalam tahun 1960 dan 1961 menurut rancangan yang berikut:

- (a) Lembaga Kemajuan Tanah Persekutuan.
- (b) Rancangan Penempatan Beraimai².
- (c) Rancangan Penempatan Pinggir.

Tuan Haji Abdul Khalid bin Awang Osman: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, ranchangan² yang di-bawah ranchangan Kemajuan Tanah Persekutuan bagi tahun 1960 sa-banyak 7 ranchangan; dalam tahun 1961 sa-banyak 4 ranchangan; bagi ranchangan berkumpul beramai² dalam tahun 1960, 2 ranchangan dan 1961, 6 ranchangan. Di-bawah ranchangan Fringe Alienation ia-itu ranchangan pinggir tahun 1960, 11 dan tahun 1961, 12.

Uchapan Perdana Menteri, Bulan Bahasa Kebangsaan

4. Enche' Ahmad Boestamam (Setapak) bertanya kepada Perdana Menteri, apabila beruchap, antara lain, kepada wakil² Negeri, Kementerian², Jabatan² Kerajaan dan Jawatan-Kuasa Pusat Bulan Bahasa Kebangsaan di-Dewan Tunku Abdul Rahman pada 31 hari-bulan May, 1961, ia-itu Kerajaan Persekutuan tidak akan menanti sehingga tahun 1967 menjadikan bahasa Melayu sa-bagai bahasa rasmi negeri ini, ada-kah yang di-maksudkan-nya bahasa Melayu akan menggantikan bahasa Inggeris sa-bagai bahasa rasmi negeri ini.

The Prime Minister: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, dalam Rang Undang² Perlembagaan kita Fasal 152 telah pun di-tentukan bahawa bahasa Melayu akan di-jadikan bahasa rasmi. Tetapi untuk menchapaikan tujuan itu Kerajaan telah pun menyediakan sa-tapak demi sa-tapak dan sa-langkah demi sa-langkah sampai akhir tahun 1967 bahasa Melayu akan di-gunakan sa-bagai bahasa kebangsaan dengan sa-penoh-nya.

Gudang² Perniagaan menggunakan Bahasa Kebangsaan

5. Enche' Ahmad Boestamam bertanya kepada Perdana Menteri apa-kah langkah-nya yang Kerajaan berchadang hendak jalankan untuk menjamin ia-itu semua gudang² perniagaan menggunakan Bahasa Kebangsaan di-dalam papan tanda mereka.

The Prime Minister: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, segala percubaan dan langkah telah di-ambil oleh saya sendiri untuk mendapatkan persetujuan daripada

gudang² dan kedai² untuk memakai nama-nya dalam bahasa Melayu, dan dapat-lah saya menyebutkan bahawa banyak kedai² itu telah memakai bahasa kebangsaan dan saya harap lama-kelamaan semua akan menggunakan bahasa Melayu itu.

Papan Kenyataan—Bahasa Kebangsaan

6. Enche' Ahmad Boestamam bertanya kepada Perdana Menteri apa-kah sebab-nya maka papan tanda beberapa buah pejabat Kerajaan dan kotak fail-nya pun maseh tidak menggunakan Bahasa Kebangsaan dan apa-kah langkah yang akan di-jalankan untuk membetulkan keadaan demikian.

The Prime Minister: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, sa-takat yang saya tahu boleh-lah di-katakan semua pejabat² Kerajaan telah pun menukarkan papan tanda-nya dengan Bahasa Kebangsaan dan satu surat keliling telah pun di-hantarkan ka-pejabat² Kerajaan, jadi sekarang ini saya akan periksa mana² pejabat yang tidak menurut perintah surat keliling itu.

Enche' Ahmad Boestamam: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, bagaimana-kah berkenaan dengan pada hari ini ada potongan² i'lan dalam surat khabar berkehendakkan jawatan kerani di-sebutkan mesti credit in English. Bagaimana-kah sikap pemerintah dalam soal ini bahawa jawatan kerani² itu tidak memerlukan credit in English.

The Prime Minister: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, itu ada-lah peraturan Kerajaan sahaja dan bahasa itu ada-lah di-gunakan dalam masa sa-saorang itu di-dalam Sekolah. Jadi itu-lah sebab-nya di-sebut lulus School Certificate. Sa-umpama di-negeri Kedah, sunggoh pun kebanyakan menggunakan bahasa Melayu di-sana, tetapi manakala hendak mengambil sa-saorang itu bekerja ada-lah di-kehendaki lulus School Certificate sa-bagai ukoran sa-saorang itu di-atas lama-nya mereka itu belajar dalam sekolah.

• Enche' Ahmad Boestamam: Ada-kah Kerajaan bermaksud pada masa yang akan datang di-tiadakan credit in English itu.

The Prime Minister: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, itu saya tidak-lah dapat menjawab sekarang ini.

BILLS

THE REMUNERATION OF JUDGES BILL

Second Reading

The Minister of Finance (Enche' Tan Siew Sin): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that a Bill intituled "an Act to amend and consolidate the law providing for the remuneration of the Judges of the Supreme Court" be read a second time.

As stated in the Explanatory Statement, the Bill provides for small increases in the salaries and allowances payable to the Judges of Appeal and the Puisne Judges of the Supreme Court, and opportunity has also been taken to include in the Schedule to the Bill the allowances payable to and the privileges enjoyed by them in addition to their salaries.

Since my Honourable colleague, the Minister of Justice, will be speaking on this motion, explaining the reasons and the need for the Bill in greater detail, I do not wish to take any more of the time of this House on this motion.

Sir, I beg to move.

The Minister of Internal Security and Minister of the Interior (Dato' Dr. Ismail): Sir, I beg to second the motion.

The Minister of Justice (Tun Leong Yew Koh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the motion which my Honourable friend the Minister of Finance has moved.

The Explanatory Statement to this Bill sets out briefly what we are asking this House to approve. Following ordinary custom, it does not set out the reasoning behind the Bill, and these I shall try to explain.

It is one of the fundamental principles of justice that the Judges who administer it must be absolutely impartial. They must decide every case

on its absolute merits without fear or favour. If necessary, they must give judgment against the Government where they are satisfied that the Government has erred and that a citizen has thereby suffered injury, whether material or spiritual. We in Malaya today have just such a judiciary. We have the utmost confidence in its fairness, and we always have had. I believe that all sections of this House would wish to join me to pay tribute to the wisdom and integrity of our Judges, both present and past. They have upheld that great tradition which grew in England under the English Common Law, and which spread from that small little island, adapting itself to local circumstances and requirements until today some 900 million people throughout the world are content to be governed under its firm and fair principles.

I have mentioned the fundamental principle of impartiality and fairness. In order that our Judges may be impartial and fair, it is necessary that they should not only have the bare requisites to live, but that they should be in a position to live comfortably. A judge who is constantly worrying about meeting the grocers bill, about giving his children the same or better education as he himself has had, about making provision for his old age—such a judge, no matter how honest, will inevitably suffer distraction. In an extreme case, an underpaid judge might be tempted to indulge in corrupt practices. May I hasten to say here and now that I have never heard it said or even hinted that this has happened in our superior courts in Malaya, but it has most certainly happened elsewhere.

The question then, is "what is an adequate and even generous (although not over-generous) remuneration for a judge?" In the days of our colonial past, our judges were drawn from the Colonial Legal Service—an honourable service to which, again, I would pay tribute. Elevation to the Bench after long years in the service was not by any means the culmination of a career—it was by no means uncommon for a Judge in, say, Malaya,

to be transferred elsewhere as Chief Justice. Today, this no longer applies except to the remaining expatriate Judges, and even to them avenues for promotion grow less with more and more dependent territories becoming independent nations. And so there is a case, for that reason alone, to consider increasing all judicial emoluments. In this Bill, we are increasing the basic salaries of Puisne Judges by \$130 a month, and Judges of Appeal by \$150 a month.

This is only a modest increase. However, we would wish to increase their perquisites in other ways. In the past, they have been given a syce allowance on a purely administrative basis of \$60 a month: if they paid their syces only that amount, I fancy they would find themselves in trouble with my Honourable friend the Minister of Labour! And so they are out of pocket on that account. Likewise, in the past, no provision at all has been made to enable them to entertain on a modest scale, and we now propose that they should receive the sum of \$250 a month each.

Honourable Members may ask how it is that a judge, who is perched on a sort of judicial pinnacle, should find it necessary to entertain.

I would offer two cogent reasons: firstly, judges are invariably offered hospitality for one reason or another—in Penang, for example, they are often entertained on visiting warships. If a judge refuses to accept hospitality which he is offered as a genuine token of respect for his office, what will people think? They will regard him as "stuffy". If he gains a reputation for accepting hospitality without returning it sooner or later, he will be regarded as a parsimonious latter-day Scrooge. I think Honourable Members will readily agree that either reputation would be undesirable and would not accrue to the reputation of the Bench. Ordinary people like to have their troubles heard before the court of a judge who is wise, but who is also human and is seen to be human both on and off the Bench.

That is the first reason. The second reason is that there exists a very special relationship between the Judges and the legal profession—it is a relationship which is founded on mutual respect and understanding. There is nothing better to foster this understanding than the occasional dinner party or other function where the judges, the barristers and members of the public meet, as it were, on equal ground, where they are not forced (if I may quote Sir Harold William) to laugh at the weakest of jokes emanating from under the wig. I am sure that barristers in this House will agree that many a case has been settled without further litigation because members of the bar respect each other and respect the judge. Social intercourse is a very human way of promoting this respect and mutual trust. All in all, I do not see that \$250 a month is much for the nation to pay to each judge to ensure that he is not, as hitherto, out-of-pocket in exercising semi-official duties.

There may be Honourable Members who wonder whether the new remuneration proposed is the correct one; whether it is not too high or too low. The Cabinet gave very careful consideration to this difficult question, and we concluded that, pending an examination of the whole salary structure of government servants generally which is now being undertaken by a special Committee of the Cabinet with the assistance of the Treasury, the proposed rates were at least an improvement. I should like to make it clear that the rates proposed today are not necessarily the last word—it is open to Parliament at any time to increase, but not decrease, the judges' remuneration. It is quite on the cards that the Government itself may make such a proposal later when, as I have said, the salary structure of officers paid from public funds has been reviewed. It will be noted that the Chief Justice's salary remains unchanged in the meantime, at His Lordship's urgent and personal request: the perquisites of office set out in the Schedule give legislative effect, as required under the Constitution, to

what the Chief Justice at present receives under administrative arrangements.

I therefore ask the House to approve this Bill. I know the increases are likely to be criticised one way or another; I also know that what we offer a judge is nothing compared to what he would earn in successful private practice; but the judges are honourable men, and are glad to serve the Crown and the Public: the fact that we have considered their remuneration in isolation and in advance of other servants of the Crown is an earnest that we have not forgotten them, and that we do appreciate the services they have so signally rendered in the past and will continue to render in the future. (*Applause*). ↵

Enche' K. Karam Singh (Damansara): Mr. Speaker, Sir, although the Honourable Minister hastened to explain himself when he said that underpaid Judges may become corrupt, I would say that that remark was better left unmentioned, because I am sure that Judges—even if they are underpaid—having been chosen from the best practitioners in our country, I think not even a doubt of their integrity should cross our minds.

Another point made by the Honourable Minister was that although the salaries of other Judges and Judges of Appeal have been increased by \$130 and \$150 respectively, the salary of the Chief Justice has not been increased “at the urgent and personal request of His Lordship”. I do not know whether that statement is merely being used to cover up the lack of increment for the Chief Justice—however, I think it is not at all reasonable for any man to object to his salary being raised. So I have my own doubts as to that statement that His Lordship the Chief Justice himself urgently and personally requested the Honourable Minister not to increase his salary. Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is not a question of the present holder of the post of Chief Justice personally objecting to an increase. The question that we should consider is the question of the salary for that post, and if it is considered that it is necessary to

raise the salary of the Chief Justice, I think it should be done. Since, the salary of the other Judges have been raised by \$130 and \$150 p.m. respectively, we cannot see why the salary of the Chief Justice has not been raised. He is performing the most vital functions in the administration of justice in our country, and it would have been fitting, when the other Judges are given increases of \$130 and \$150 p.m., that the Chief Justice himself should have got a similar or slightly greater increase. After all \$130 and \$150 per month are very small sums, and we hope this matter will be given the urgent and personal consideration of the Honourable Minister.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Honourable Minister went on to say that we must maintain the status of our Judges, that in our public and national life Judges must have their due respected place. But, Sir, we find that in practice so far that due respect has not been forthcoming to our Judges; I do not say intentionally—probably it is because the matter has arisen only recently.

Mr. Speaker: How is that relevant to the Bill before the House?

Enche' K. Karam Singh: Regarding the status of the Judges, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: We are now concerned with the salary—that has nothing to do with the status of the Judges. You ought to know better.

Enche' K. Karam Singh: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if you so wish I won't touch on that.

Mr. Speaker: Better not!

Enche' K. Karam Singh: That is all I have to say.

Enche' S. P. Seenivasagam (Menglembu): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Bill was before us only yesterday and we were able to read it only last night. I have not been able to make any private inquiries as to why the salary of the Chief Justice has not been increased in this Bill. We are informed by the Minister of Justice that it was at his personal and urgent request. Now, I have no doubt that he must

have made such an urgent and personal request, but what we are interested in this House is, what were the reasons which led him to make such an urgent and personal request that his own salary should not be increased? I think that there must be much more to his urgent and personal request than the Honourable Minister of Justice has thought fit to reveal to this House. Would the Honourable Minister, for example, be prepared to say to this House, what was the amount by which it was proposed that the Honourable the Chief Justice's salary should be increased? I wonder whether he would tell the House what was the amount offered to the Honourable the Chief Justice by way of increase. It is an odd request, as the Honourable speaker who preceded me stated—an odd request that a man should make an urgent and personal request that his salary should not be increased. There must be very strong reasons, and we are entitled to know those reasons. It seems to me, Mr. Speaker, Sir, that an injustice has been perpetrated on the Chief Justice. If other Judges have had their salaries increased by \$130, which I consider to be a very small increase, I feel that a very substantial increase should have been made in the salary of the Chief Justice and, although as I have said that I have no information on this matter, I am presuming that the Honourable the Chief Justice must have rejected what may have been a paltry increase to his salary—an insult to his dignity.

We feel, Mr. Speaker, Sir, that due and proper consideration has not been given to the status of the Chief Justice in this country, and I would urge upon those concerned to consider his status and, without any delay, to arrive at a proper figure for his salary, which would enable him to maintain the dignity and prestige which one expects of him, and by that it does not mean that at this time he is not maintaining his dignity—he does. But we should not take things for granted. We should give each man his due.

Enche' Wan Mustapha bin Haji Ali (Kelantan Hillir): Mr. Speaker, Sir,

though this Bill was submitted only yesterday, I think it is quite a good Bill. I would say that it is justified because it concerns a small increase, which is more than justified. The increment given to the Judges of Appeal and Puisne Judges is justified because, as the Honourable Minister concerned has stated just now, these Judges have to keep up the status of their good offices. In fact, I think their appointments are of great importance, and there is no need for me to elaborate, but I rise, on behalf of my colleagues on this side of the Bench, to say that we support this Bill.

Sir, as regards the entertainment allowance too, we have no criticisms, as the entertainment allowance given to the Judges are warranted, because the Judges, in spite of the fact that they are expected to be sober, mix with society, and it is quite often that the legal profession do invite them to parties—and the Judges have, of course, to reciprocate by giving entertainment to these various persons.

Sir, I have nothing more to add except to say that this Bill is strongly supported by myself and my colleagues of the P.M.I.P.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Honourable Member for Damansara alleged that the Government was not telling the truth, when my Honourable friend and colleague the Minister of Justice informed the House that no increase was given to the Chief Justice at his own specific request. What happened was that the Cabinet has set up a Committee which is going into the whole question of salaries and terms and conditions of service in the Public Service, and this Committee has not yet completed its work; hence it was felt that the question of the remuneration of Judges could only be decided on an interim basis. In spite of that, this Committee, which is in fact under my chairmanship, proposed certain salary increases for the Judges of which we have already heard and also an increase of salary for the Chief Justice. These increases were approved by the Cabinet and in fact the Bill had already gone for printing

when the Chief Justice approached the Prime Minister and asked to be allowed not to accept the increase. As a result of this, a second Bill was printed in a hurry. These are the facts.

The Honourable Member for Daman-sara has suggested that the Government is not telling the truth. I do not blame him, because he is probably judging us by the standards to which he himself is used, and we can only hope that as he grows older his standards will improve. However, we do not blame him at all because, after all, one can only behave according to one's own circumstances. I do not, of course, mean to say that there should be no increase at all in the salary of the Chief Justice. As I have said already, that will await the overall review of Civil Service salaries as a whole. But I believe that the Chief Justice declined to accept this increase, firstly, because he felt that he was so far the highest paid officer of the Crown and also in view of the fact that something like \$30,000 is spent on the furnishings of his house. I do not say, of course, that this is too little or too much, but I believe that in view of these considerations he felt that it would be desirable to await the overall review before a firm decision was made on his own salary.

I welcome the general expressions of support which the Government has received on this question, and I have no doubt, as my Honourable friend and colleague the Minister of Justice has said, that this is in recognition of the good work which has been done by the Bench in the past and which will no doubt be continued in the future. (*Applause*).

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time and committed to the Committee of the whole House.

House immediately resolved itself into a Committee on the Bill.

Bill considered in Committee.

(*Mr. Speaker in the Chair*)

Clauses 1 to 5 inclusive ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Schedule—

Enche' K. Karam Singh: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to touch on item 1, Chief Justice, Pensionable Salary, \$30,840 in the Schedule. We have been informed that an increase of this salary was refused, and the Honourable the Minister of Finance went on to speculate as to the reasons for his refusal although, I should say, he is not the most qualified man to speak of someone else's mind. However, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would say that the whole truth was not told by the Government, when it was said that the Chief Justice personally requested that an increment need not be given to him. I would like to ask the Government and the Minister of Finance to clarify to this House whether or not the proposed increase of the Chief Justice was only \$30 a month and that since it will be an insult to accept such a sum that it was not accepted by the Chief Justice, because even clerks can get that amount of increase. I just want an explanation in this House from the Honourable the Minister of Finance.

Mr. Speaker: (*To Enche' Tan Siew Sin*) Do you want to say anything?

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: No, Sir.

Question put, and agreed to.

Schedule ordered to stand part of the Bill.

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

THE LICENSED LAND SURVEYORS (AMENDMENT) BILL

Second Reading

The Assistant Minister of Rural Development (Tuan Haji Abdul Khalid bin Awang Osman): Sir, I beg to move that a Bill to amend the Licensed Surveyors Ordinance, 1958, be read a second time.

The Licensed Land Surveyors Ordinance, 1958, provides for a Land Surveyors Board consisting of two

Government members—i.e. the Surveyor-General, and a Chief Surveyor—and four private licensed land surveyors. The Chairman of the Board, the Surveyor-General, or in the Surveyor-General's absence the member presiding, has a casting vote. But as the number of Government representatives therein is only two as compared with the number of private members which is four, it is possible for the Government members to be out-voted at any time. Honourable members will appreciate that this eventuality should not be allowed to continue. The Bill seeks to avert it by raising the number of Government members from two to three by the addition of the Deputy Surveyor-General as a member of the Board, and by reducing the number of private members from four to three. For the information of the House I should like to say that in the original Ordinance a Chief Surveyor as opposed to the Deputy Surveyor-General, who is higher in rank than a Chief Surveyor, was included as a member of the Board because that position was intended for the Chief Surveyor of the State of Singapore. Unfortunately that State did not accept our Ordinance, and moreover the Survey Department ceased to be pan-Malayan in structure.

There is one other reason for which the Bill is introduced. The Land Surveyors Ordinance, 1958, as it now stands makes it mandatory for the Land Surveyors Board to issue a licence to practise as a land Surveyor to any person, whether he be a Federal Citizen or not provided he has the necessary qualifications laid down by the Ordinance and registered under Section 9 of the Ordinance. The number of entitled officers in the Survey Department who have retired under the Malayanisation Scheme has increased from year to year and are now applying for a licence to practise in this country. To safeguard the interests of the citizens of this country, issue of licences to non-Federal Citizens should be controlled. The Bill seeks to give the Minister discretion in this matter.

Sir, I beg to move.

The Assistant Minister of Education (Enche' Abdul Hamid Khan): Sir, I beg to second the motion.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole House.

House immediately resolved itself into a Committee on the Bill.

Bill considered in Committee.

(Mr. Speaker *in the Chair*)

Clauses 1 to 4 inclusive ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Bill reported without amendment: read a third time and passed.

THE TREASURY BILLS (LONDON) (REPEAL) BILL

Second Reading

The Minister of Finance (Enche' Tan Siew Sin): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that a Bill intituled "an Act to repeal the Treasury Bills (London) Ordinance, 1949", be read a second time. The purpose of the Bill is fully explained in the Explanatory Statement attached to the Bill, and I do not consider it necessary to take up the time of Honourable Members with further explanation.

Sir, I beg to move.

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Enche' Mohamed Khir Johari): Sir, I beg to second the motion.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole House.

House immediately resolved itself into a Committee on the Bill.

Bill considered in Committee.

(Mr. Speaker *in the Chair*)

Clauses 1 and 2 ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Bill reported without amendment: read a third time and passed.

THE TOWN BOARDS (AMENDMENT) BILL

Second Reading

The Minister of Internal Security and Minister of the Interior (Dato' Dr. Ismail): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that a Bill intituled "an Act to amend the Town Boards Enactment of the Federated Malay States and of the State of Johore" be now read a second time.

Sir, the need for a comprehensive Town and Country Planning Act has been felt for a long time, but this will take some time to consider and prepare; nevertheless there are certain urgent and pressing aspects of the problem, particularly in Kuala Lumpur, and as an interim measure this Bill has been brought before this House. High buildings in the central areas of towns, when not wholly office blocks, usually comprise commercial premises on the lower floors with flats above. The commercial accommodation creates traffic and parking problems, which arise from the cars of workers and visitors, whilst the residential element also burdens the local authority with the provision of schools, open spaces and domestic garaging, although to some extent this latter need can be dovetailed with day time commercial requirements. Control is thus needed over the total permissible floor space, housing and population densities and the extent to which lots shall be built upon. Section 136 of the Enactment already provides for control of the intensity of development by reference to the number of houses per acre of land, and the amendment proposed by clause 2 (a) will extend this power to include control of the total area to be built upon and the total floor space of buildings.

It is proposed by clause 2 (b) to amend section 146 of the Enactment, in order to create a penalty in respect of any change of use of buildings after a draft town plan has been formally approved, and this repairs an omission in the Enactment.

Finally I wish to say that this Bill has been discussed at the last meeting of the National Council for Local Government and has its approval.

Sir, I beg to move.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Sir, I beg to second the motion.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole House.

House immediately resolved itself into a Committee on the Bill.

Bill considered in Committee.

(Mr. Speaker *in the Chair*)

Clauses 1 and 2 ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Bill reported without amendment: read a third time and passed.

THE SUPPLEMENTARY SUPPLY BILL

Second Reading

The Minister of Finance (Enche' Tan Siew Sin): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that "a Bill intituled an Act to apply sums out of the Consolidated Fund for additional expenditure for the service of the years 1960 and 1961, to appropriate such sums for certain purposes and to provide for the replacement of amounts advanced from the Contingencies Fund" be read a second time.

This Bill, Sir, represents a departure from previous practice in that it seeks authority for expenditure in regard to two separate sets of Supplementary Estimates. One of these is for the year 1960 and the other is for the year 1961. The purpose of the change is to enable both sets of estimates to be dealt with in the course of one debate and thus to simplify the task of the House when considering the Government's financial proposals. When, as has sometimes happened in the past, one Supplementary Supply Bill in respect of the current year's expenditure follows directly upon the final Bill relating to the previous year's estimates, it is natural that a lot of the steam should

have gone out of the debate before the proceedings on the later Bill are completed. The new system also has the advantage of doing away with complicated titles such as "The Supplementary Supply (1960) (No. 3) Act, 1961." In future the various Supplementary Supply Acts passed in any year will merely be numbered in sequence in that year although they may contain sections dealing with the requirements of previous years.

Clause 2 of the Bill provides authority for additional expenditure of \$4,246,095 on the various services itemised in the Third Supplementary Estimates of Expenditure, 1960, which are laid before you as Command Paper No. 24. These estimates bring to \$31,423,281 the total of the additional expenditure incurred for 1960, apart from the original sum of \$888,674,650 approved before the year began. The accounts for the year 1960 which have recently been closed have not yet been audited and presented to Parliament, but from preliminary figures which I have seen I can assure the House that the expenditure approved by the two Supplementary Supply Acts which have already been passed in respect of that year, together with that for which approval is now sought, will in fact all be met from savings within the total of the \$888 million originally approved.

It will be noted that although the total of the additional expenditure included in the Third Supplementary Estimates 1960 is \$12,391,614, no less than \$8,145,519 of this consists of expenditure charged on the Consolidated Fund for such items as pensions, gratuities, loan interest and other purposes falling under various specific laws. The sum for which legislative authority is now required in respect of 1960 is therefore only \$4,246,095. In Command Paper No. 24 the charged expenditure items are shown, following the practice which obtained prior to the publication of the 1961 Estimates, under the same Heads as that allotted for the Supply expenditure but distinguished with a dagger. In the case of the 1961 Supplementary Estimates, however, which are tabled as Command Paper No. 25, the charged

items are all shown at the beginning under Heads marked with the letter "C". This enables them to be distinguished more clearly from the Supply Heads, which are marked with the letter "S", and which alone are subject to debate and approval in the present proceedings. The total of the Supplementary Estimates 1961 is \$6,452,990 of which \$37,833 appears under three Heads marked with "C" on the first page of the Estimates. The total included in the Supplementary Supply Bill in respect of 1961 is therefore \$6,415,157.

It is not necessary for me, at this stage, to go into the details of the estimates for which authority is required since the Ministers concerned will be available to deal with these in the Committee Stage.

Sir, I beg to move.

The Minister of Education (Enche' Abdul Rahman bin Haji Talib): Sir, I beg to second the motion.

Enche' Zulkiflee bin Muhammad (Bachok): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, ketika mengemukakan Rang Undang-undang Perbekalan Tambahan ini Yang Berhormat Menteri Kewangan telah menyebutkan bahawa apa yang dibuat-nya pada kali ini ada-lah terkeluar daripada kebiasaan yang dilakukan dalam Dewan ini pada menchantumkan dua Anggaran Tambahan di-dalam satu Rang Undang-undang. Hikmat atau tujuan-nya di-lakukan perchantuman ini kata-nya ia-lah untuk memudahkan, tetapi saya merasa bahawa perchantuman ini menambahkan payah lagi bagi Parlimen ini memikirkan soal dua tahun hendak di-jalankan dalam satu Bill, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, tambahan pula kertas Bill ini baharu kita terima pada malam tadi—pada waktu yang akhir—dan menyebabkan fikiran kita kapada-nya hanya terbatas kapada beberapa jam sahaja.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, walau bagaimanapun, saya tidak-lah memandang bahawa permintaan penambahan ini satu angka yang besar berbanding dengan Anggaran Perbelanjaan biasa yang telah kita luluskan pada masa

membahathkan anggaran tahun yang dahulu, tetapi yang saya fikirkan di-sini ia-lah dasar supaya di-lakukan lebeh berhemat dalam perbelanjaan hendak-lah di-amalkan lagi oleh Kerajaan, terutama dalam mengang-garkan perbelanjaan dan dalam menentukan peratoran² belanja. Dalam Estimates yang ada pada kita ini satu daripada-nya ia-lah berkenaan dengan Kementerian Pembangunan Luar Bandar yang dalam-nya ada perbelanjaan² kemajuan. Perbelanjaan ke-majuan oleh kerana hendak di-chepat memajukan negeri ini, boleh jadi di-setengah² keadaan timbul tidak sempat memikirkan kawalan² kapada perbelanjaan dan sa-bagai-nya. Baharu² ini kita telah dapat melihat satu gambar yang di-siarkan dalam surat khabar berkenaan dengan sa-buah jambatan di-Tanjong Karang yang menunjukkan betapa sa-buah jambatan telah di-bangunkan tetapi tidak sempurna dan tidak siap, konterektor telah lari. Saya tidak tahu apa yang telah di-ator oleh Kementerian dan Kerajaan dalam soal perbelanjaan, tetapi oleh kerana kita hendak berhemat dan mengawal dengan halus perbelanjaan negeri ini terpaksa-lah dalam membelanjakan ini Menteri Kewangan membuat peratoran² yang rapi supaya jangan lagi terjadi perbuatan yang seperti itu.

Berdasar kapada mustahak-nya penambahan perbelanjaan ini saya tidak-lah hendak membangkang, tetapi saya berharap perhematan di-lakukan lebeh kuat.

Enche' K. Karam Singh: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would refer to this Supplementary Supply Bill and in particular to the money applied for the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare. Sir, it is quite strange that the same Ministry should apply for money when quite irregular use of money belonging to that Ministry is going on. I refer specifically to

Mr. Speaker: We are coming to that stage—item by item at the Committee stage.

Enche' K. Karam Singh: This is general, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Well, if you want to take up that item relating to the Ministry of Health, we will go into that when we come to the Committee stage.

Enche' K. Karam Singh: I won't be speaking at the Committee stage. I am speaking generally.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, you can speak on the general policy.

Enche' K. Karam Singh: I refer to the use of funds belonging to the Social Welfare Lotteries Fund. We have been seeing pictures of the Assistant Minister of Rural Development handing out cheques belonging to the Welfare Lotteries.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: On a point of order, Sir, Welfare Lotteries are not public funds.

Mr. Speaker: Welfare Lotteries are not public funds, and you can't speak on that.

Enche' K. Karam Singh: It belongs to the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare.

Mr. Speaker: But it is not public funds.

Enche' K. Karam Singh: Then, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have nothing more to say (*Laughter*).

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is only one point which I would like to deal with and that point was made by the Honourable Member for Bachok. He apparently is under the impression that the bringing forward of supplementary estimates is an indication of extravagance on the part of the Government. That is not necessarily so.

Enche' Zulkiflee bin Muhammad: On a point of information, I did not say that. I never said that it is a sign of extravagance.

Mr. Speaker: What is your point?

Enche' Zulkiflee bin Muhammad: My point is this: I told him that the Government should exercise economy.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: I have nothing more to say (*Laughter*).

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

House immediately resolved itself into a Committee of Supply.

(Mr. Speaker *in the Chair*)

FIRST SCHEDULE—

Heads 2, 4 and 6—

The Prime Minister: I beg to move that Heads 2, 4 and 6 stand part of the Schedule.

Enche' Tan Phock Kin (Tanjong): Sir, I wonder whether the Honourable the Prime Minister can explain as to why additional provision is required to meet the payment of honoraria and allowances to Registering Officers and Assistant Registering Officers for the period of registration under Head 4, sub-head 6 (3), Election Commission. From my knowledge it appears to me that as far as registration for the period is concerned there have been actually two registrations. It was discovered later on that the first registration could not serve the purpose and so a fresh registration was conducted. Perhaps the Prime Minister could explain to this House as to the cause of this error, because quite a large sum of money has been wasted on the first registration which served no purpose whatsoever, and also to assure this House that errors of this nature will not recur again.

The Prime Minister: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have to refer this to the Election Commission because it does not actually come under my portfolio.

Question put, and agreed to.

The sum of \$98,420 for Heads 2, 4 and 6 ordered to stand part of the Schedule.

Head 7—

The Prime Minister: Sir, I rise to move that Head 7 stand part of the Schedule. There is nothing for me to explain at length on this Head because it has been adequately explained in

the Bill itself. However, I would like to say here that there are three Sub-heads of Expenditure which are included in the Supplementary Estimates of Expenditure for 1960—the Sub-heads of expenditure are as follows:

O.C.S.E. (New Sub-head 50—Commission of Enquiry into Students Activities in the U.K. and the Republic of Ireland.

O.C.S.E. (New Sub-head 54—Furnishing of Assistant Ministers' Houses.

O.C.S.E. (New Sub-head 55—Contribution to Che' Som binti Haji Mahmood Trust Account.

Perhaps, there is nothing more I should say under these sub-heads.

Enche' Tan Phock Kin: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise again to query a few of these items, and I hope that the Minister concerned will be able to justify this House as to the necessity of such expenditure, because, if we are to discuss the Estimates here and if Ministers are not in a position to convince us as to the justification of the expenditure, then discussion of such Estimates in this House is merely a farce. I would therefore urge that, if Honourable Ministers are not in a position to explain, they will have the grace to withdraw such proposals or defer considerations of such proposals until they are in a position to convince this House as to the justification of the expenditure. Therefore, I sincerely hope that my next two queries will not receive the same reply as my first one.

Mr. Speaker, I refer first to Head 7, Sub-head 50, in regard to the expenditure in relation to the Commission of Enquiry into Students Activities in the U.K. and the Republic of Ireland under which a sum of \$52,353 is being provided. There is no provision in the original estimates, and I would like the Minister concerned to enlighten this House in regard to the breakdown of this expenditure, because I believe that a Minister was specially sent to the United Kingdom to enquire into this: perhaps he can enlighten this House as to the expenditure incurred by this

Minister with regard to the hotel and other expenses, and also, perhaps, to inform this House in some detail as to the make-up of this \$52,353.

Secondly, on Head 7, Sub-head 8, I shall be grateful if the Minister concerned can also enlighten this House as to the sum required for furnishing of Assistant Ministers' houses. I believe

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: There is no Sub-head 8!

Mr. Speaker: I think you are referring to Head 7, Sub-head 54?

Enche' Tan Phock Kin: Well, I was looking at the other item, 8.

Mr. Speaker: We are now under Head 7. You must confine yourself to that.

Enche' Tan Phock Kin: Under Head 7, there is another heading—paragraph 8. So I refer to Head 7, Furnishing of Assistant Ministers Houses.

Mr. Speaker: Sub-head 54?

Enche' Tan Phock Kin: Yes, Sir. In regard to this, I believe that as far as the expenditure for such purposes is concerned, it is normal for Government to have a sort of approved scale for furniture, whether it is for Ministers or for Assistant Ministers. Perhaps, for Division I officers it is usual to have some sort of a scale approved, and I do not know whether, as far as Assistant Ministers' houses are concerned, there is any scale at all or whether it is left to the whims and fancies of Assistant Ministers to buy any furniture they like. I feel that it is very important. If there is no such scale, then how are the Ministers to decide what sort of furniture should be purchased? This may result in a lot of wastage because a certain Minister may have a fancy for certain things which have no utility whatsoever and eventually when somebody else becomes the Assistant Minister he will discard the furniture. So, I would like an assurance from the Minister concerned that there are some rules and regulations with regard to such expenditure.

Enche' Zulkiflee bin Muhammad: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, Kepala 7, Kepala Kecil 50, perbelanjaan tambahan yang di-minta sa-banyak \$10 tetapi nampak-nya \$30 berkenaan dengan Surohanjaya yang menyiasat berkenaan dengan haf² kedudukan penuntut² di-United Kingdom dan Republic Ireland. Saya telah membaca apa yang telah di-laporkan oleh Surohanjaya itu kepada Dewan ini dan nampak di-dalam ini beberapa usaha yang di-lakukan oleh Surohanjaya ini bagi memperbaiki keadaan penuntut² di-United Kingdom dan di-antara kerja-nya termasuk juga mengambil tahu tentang kedudukan penuntut² di-Republic of Ireland. Dari penyata ini nyata-lah Kerajaan mengambil berat kepada penuntut² yang tempat-nya di-sebutkan itu. Saya suka bertanya kepada Kerajaan bagaimana-kah pada pandangan Kerajaan tentang shor² yang di-kemukakan oleh Surohanjaya itu, sampai sa-takat mana-kah yang akan di-jalankan oleh Kerajaan Persekutuan Tanah Melayu, dan apa-kah pada fikiran Kerajaan Persekutuan Tanah Melayu berkenaan dengan penuntut² negeri lain seperti di-Masir, India, Indonesia yang juga ada kesulitan yang berkehendakkan kepada perhatian dan pengawalan daripada Kerajaan supaya pelajaran mereka itu dapat benar² berguna kepada Kerajaan Persekutuan Tanah Melayu yang berhajatkan kepada tiap² sa-orang penuntut itu.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya nampak dalam kerja² yang di-jalankan oleh Surohanjaya itu, kalau ta' salah ingatan saya ada hubungan-nya dengan Kerajaan Singapura dan juga kedudukan penuntut² dari Singapura, oleh sebab itu saya hendak tahu berapa-kah perbelanjaan yang di-tanggung oleh kedua²-nya oleh Surohanjaya itu, adakah Kerajaan Singapura, umpama-nya mengambil untung dari Surohanjaya itu, atau ada mengambil bahagian dalam perkara itu.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Mr. Speaker, Sir, two points have been raised by Honourable Members opposite. The first one concerns the subject of the Commission of Enquiry into Student Activities in the U.K. and the Republic

of Ireland. Honourable Members, including Honourable Members who have spoken on this subject, are probably aware that the Commission which went to the United Kingdom has produced a very comprehensive and thorough report. This sum of \$52,000 odd covers not only transport expenses to and from the United Kingdom—there were four of them including the official who accompanied them—it also covers travelling within the British Isles, the cost of secretarial and clerical assistance within the country and the cost of other miscellaneous items. It will be seen, therefore, that the sum of \$52,000 was well spent, and I do not think it could be regarded as an unreasonable figure. It is obviously not possible for me now to give the breakdown of this figure, but there is nothing mysterious or excessive about it.

Sir, a sum of \$7,500 is allotted to each Assistant Minister for furnishings, and again in this case it is not really possible to say that every house must have 'X' chairs and no more and no less than 'X' chairs and 'Y' tables and no more and no less than 'Y' tables, because the houses themselves are quite different and each house requires a slightly different scale of furnishings. But I think on the whole the scale laid down is reasonable in so far as the total amount sanctioned is concerned, and the details themselves are subject to scrutiny by the Treasury before the amount is actually spent.

Enche' Abdul Rahman bin Haji Talib: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Bachok bertanya apa-kah langkah² yang telah di-jalankan oleh Kerajaan bagi kemudahan penuntut kita di-luar negeri, sa-lain daripada United Kingdom dan Ireland. Saya rasa mustahak-lah saya jelaskan sa-bagaimana yang telah saya terangkan dalam Dewan ini bahawa Kerajaan tidak melupakan sama sekali akan penuntut² yang lain itu, sa-bagaimana yang saya telah terangkan, rumah tempangan (hostel) atau asrama seperti di-Masir sedang di-dirikan pada masa sekarang ini.

Oleh itu, kalau hendak tahu apa-kah Kerajaan buat kepada penuntut² di-

saberang laut hendak-lah lihat kepada Anggaran Perbelanjaan dalam Kementerian Pelajaran berkenaan dengan penuntut sa-berang laut.

Enche' Zulkiflee bin Muhammad: Saya tidak-lah mengikut begitu sahaja, yang sa-benar-nya ada susah sedikit, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, yang saya sebutkan ada-kah Kerajaan hendak mengadakan Surohanjaya bagi negeri yang lain itu supaya ia dapat tahu keadaannya itu. Tidak-lah cukup, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, bahawa Kerajaan mengatakan ia sudah mengambil tahu, membuat satu hostel di-Masir. Itu-kah sahaja kesulitan-nya? Kalau kita perhatikan daripada Penyata yang dikemukakan oleh Surohanjaya baharu² ini, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, di-dalam-nya terdapat beberapa shor yang berguna bagi penuntut² itu. Dan saya perchaya kalau negeri yang lain itu pun di-buat demikian, boleh jadi penuntut² kita yang belajar itu akan mendapat faedah lebeh banyak. Itu yang menjadi soal kepada kita, dan ada-kah Kerajaan memikirkan mustahak tidak-nya hal ini; dan tidak mustahak-lah Kerajaan memandang sa-suatu pertanyaan yang seperti ini sa-bagai satu pentas hendak bersilat.

Enche' Tan Phock Kin: Mr. Speaker, Sir, with regard to the reply of the Honourable the Minister of Finance, it appears to me that the reply to my query on Head 7, sub-head 54, is by no means satisfactory, because as far as Government is concerned a specific scale of furnishing is provided for civil servants—we all know too that civil servants have different types of houses—and if one standard is considered reasonable for application to the civil servants, I see no reason why the Ministers should not come under the same control. It appears to me that there is no justification and his explanation is by no means satisfactory.

The second point is in regard to sub-head 50. I was merely asking for information. I made no allegation that it is unreasonable; I made no allegation that the money spent is too much. I merely ask for a breakdown. If he is unable to give me a breakdown, let

him say so and not beat about the bush by insinuating that I have suggested that the sum spent is too much. Here again, I must repeat that if we are here to discuss and approve supplementary estimates, I think the Minister concerned should have all the information available, because there is no point of discussing matters of finance if the Minister concerned is unable to furnish us with information, so that we can discuss matters of finance more objectively and more fruitfully.

If Ministers concerned are going to stand up one after another to say that they are in no position to furnish figures at meetings when the Supply Bill is to be discussed, when we are asked to approve estimates, to approve specific sums of money, if we are not in a position to know how the money has been spent, how can we discuss it? I ask the Ministers to give consideration to this matter and not treat it like this, because democracy is government by discussion and it will be a farce if we are unable to get the information required.

The Prime Minister: Mr. Speaker, Sir, these supplementary estimates come into this House year after year, and I think Honourable Members are aware of the procedure or method of presenting them. It is not normal for us to come here to give details. These things are done by the clerical staff in the Treasury and after they have worked out the figures as to the amount spent and the amount required these are then put forward. Now, for instance, like the item Furnishing of Assistant Ministers' Houses, the Honourable Member is confusing the Government servants with the Ministers. The Government servants are employed by the Government up to a certain age and for a certain period after which they retire with appropriate pensions or appropriate gratuities, but not the Ministers.

Sir, in this case, you cannot expect the Assistant Minister to come in and be asked to spend his own money, as he has none, on the furnishing of his house, on the purchase of crockery,

cutlery and so on. Therefore, it has been necessary for the Government to provide all that, and in the past we have done so, because we have found it necessary to do the furnishing for them. The small amount which is allocated is the amount paid to Assistant Ministers as explained by the Honourable the Minister of Finance just now.

Question put, and agreed to.

The sum of \$30 for Head 7 ordered to stand part of the Schedule.

Head 21—

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Enche' Mohamed Khir Johari): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that Head 21 totalling \$609,526 stand part of the Schedule.

Sir, under sub-head 19, a provision of \$511,118 is asked for to supplement the original provision of \$1,000,000 for the year 1960 which was found to be insufficient. The reason for the increase in expenditure is that the number of new villages, which remain within the portfolio of the Defence Ministry, after the 31st December, 1959—the number was originally 19—has since been reduced to 14 and five villages has become the responsibility of my Ministry thus increasing the number of undertakings running at a loss and this has resulted in an increase in the total amount of subsidy asked for.

With regard to sub-head 26, International Rubber Study Group Meeting, 1960, the provision was required to meet the expenses of the 15th Meeting of the International Rubber Study Group held in Kuala Lumpur from 19th to 26th September, 1960. The International Rubber Study Group, as Honourable Members are aware, is an international organisation consisting of 22 member countries and comprising of most of the major producers and consumers of both natural and synthetic rubber. The aim of the Group is to provide an international forum where member countries can meet together from time to time to discuss problems arising from the production, manufacture and use of natural and synthetic rubber and keep

the world rubber situation under constant review. Since its inception in 1944 the International Rubber Study Group has met 14 times, each time in a different member country. This was the first time that the Government of the Federation of Malaya was host to this group and I am glad to report that the delegates considered that this was the best meeting they had attended so far.

Sir, I beg to move.

Enche' Liu Yoong Peng (Rawang): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I agree to the principle that, when new villages are not able to meet the expenses for electricity supply, the Government should supply the sum required. For example, in Batu Arang when the Government took over the control from the Malayan Colliery Limited, the Central Electricity Board was able to undertake to provide electricity for only a limited area, because in the initial stage, according to the C.E.B., they would not be able to meet the expenses for the whole area. So, I hope that the Minister can take into consideration that, and if certain sums are provided he will consider Batu Arang as well. Thank you.

Enche' Mohamed Khir Johari: I shall certainly consider Batu Arang.

Question put, and agreed to.

The sum of \$609,526 for Head 21 ordered to stand part of the Schedule.

Heads 22 and 23—

The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence (Tun Haji Abdul Razak): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the expenditure under Head 22, Ministry of Defence, and also under Head 23, the Regular Army, totalling \$1,506,579, stand part of the Schedule.

Sir, under Head 22, sub-head 37 a token vote of \$10 is required to meet the cost of the End of Emergency Celebrations. The total cost of the End of Emergency Celebrations was \$210,062, but this amount was found from savings on items within the same Head.

Under Head 23, The Regular Army, sub-head 1, a sum of \$380,344 is re-

quired as supplement to meet lump sum payments to reservists on account of the new Terms and Conditions of Service which came into effect in 1960. Over a million dollars worth of savings were found from other items in the Ministry's provisions and this sum represents the additional amount required. Under Head 23, sub-head 21 an additional amount of \$654,000 is required. Originally it was thought that no duty is payable on petrol and other lubricants, but later on it was found necessary to pay duty on these items. Therefore a supplementary provision is required. Under Head 23, sub-head 43 an amount of \$472,225 is required to purchase vehicles from other units remaining in the Federation for our Special Force in the Congo. Now this sum is required for the replacement of those vehicles taken by our Malayan Special Force to the Congo.

Question put, and agreed to.

The sum of \$1,506,579 for Heads 22 and 23 ordered to stand part of the Schedule.

Head 28—

Enche' Abdul Rahman bin Haji Talib: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya bangun menhadangkan supaya Kepala 28—Kementerian Pelajaran—berjumlah sa-banyak \$26,020 jadi sa-bahagian daripada Jadual ini. Keterangan² yang lanjut ada di-beri dalam Cmd. Paper 26 of 1961 muka 8, para 16, 17 dan 18.

Enche' V. Veerappen (Seberang Selatan): Mr. Speaker, Sir, before I speak on Head 28, I would express disgust at the attitude of the Government in running rough shod over the way in which matters are discussed in this House, and especially at its inability to follow the provisions of the Standing Orders, and I wonder how you yourself, Sir, have allowed this, because I notice that S.O. 67 (2) says:

"Every supplementary estimate shall be laid upon the Table at least three clear days before the meeting at which the supplementary Supply Bill is to be introduced."

I wonder how many days this Supply Bill was laid on the Table?

Mr. Speaker: Under what Standing Order?

Enche' V. Veerappen: 67 (2), Sir. I must say that we do not have so many Secretaries, Assistant Secretaries and so many hundreds of files that they command; and surely they do not expect us to come here and be able to discuss matters on the spur of the moment. However, Sir, I would like to say that I have mentioned this in the hope—for I do know that you are not going to suspend this sitting just to give three days notice—that the Government will consider the Opposition as human beings who do not have so many Secretaries and so forth to assist them.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, while I am glad to note that the Ministry of Education has found it necessary to request for additional sums for the National Language classes, I must say that I wonder whether the Ministry has made adequate provisions for teachers with the right qualifications for teaching in these Further Education Classes and for textbooks. I remember having made the remark previously in regard to our Further Education Classes that not all those who study there are children but there are adults also and they are being subjected to teachers, who are used to the method of teaching children. The textbooks used are also those that are suitable for children only.

It is most deplorable to note that the provision under sub-head 58 has been cut down in order to make provision for the payment of an ex-gratia passage to an officer in the Malayan Students' Department, London: we see that in sub-head 97 \$3,813 has been reduced from the provision for "Publication and supply of textbooks". I consider the supply of textbooks very vital and essential in our Further Education Classes, and I do not know why this should be so. I am sure that the Ministry could have found savings in other places and I hope that the Minister will give this House an explanation.

My next comment is on sub-head 100, i.e., Contribution to Churchill College, Cambridge, of \$26,000. I do not know why it is necessary for this country to contribute towards the building of Churchill College. I am

sure the Minister could have told this House how it would serve this country and the people here, if a contribution is made from this place. The voting of this provision of \$26,000 amounts to an approval by this House for the contribution towards Churchill College and I hope that the Minister will give us that explanation.

Enche' S. P. Seenivasagam (Menglembu): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I speak on Head 28, sub-head 97—Payment of ex-gratia passage to an officer in the Malayan Students' Department, London. Now, there are no details here as to who he is, or why this ex-gratia payment is made; and by the term "ex-gratia" I take it to mean that it is made as a favour and not because the officer is entitled to it. I think this House is entitled to know more details, and we should like to know why this particular officer should receive an ex-gratia payment for a passage to go back to his country. I suggest that if an officer is not entitled to a passage, then he should not get it. We can make much better use of that money in this country.

Enche' Abdul Rahman bin Haji Talib: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, perkara yang pertama di-bangkitkan oleh wakil dari Seberang Selatan itu ia-lah adakah Kementerian puas hati ia-itu guru² yang mengajar bahasa kebangsaan dalam darjah² pelajaran lanjutan Inggeris ya'ani guru² yang ada kemahiran. Saya memberi akuan padanya bahawa guru² yang mengajar itu ia-lah guru² yang ada chukup pengetahuan dan kemahiran mengajar dalam bahasa kebangsaan kita. Perkara yang kedua yang di-bangkitkan-nya ia-lah perkara berkenaan dengan buku bacaan atau textbook. Perkara ini tidak-lah menchukupi bagaimana yang di-kehendaki yang sa-benar-nya, tetapi usaha ka-arrah melengkapkan jenis yang di-jalankan dengan giat-nya oleh Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka yang bertanggung jawab dalam hal ini.

Berkeanaan dengan ia berasa dukachita fasal wang sa-banyak \$3,813 telah di-ambil daripada perbelanjaan untok mengeluarkan textbook, sebab-nya ada perbelanjaan lebih pada tahun

1960 tentang membeli buku bacaan—textbook ia-lah buku yang kita pesan dalam tahun 1960 itu belum semua-nya siap dan dengan sebab itu wang yang tersebut ta' mustahak di-bayar pada tahun 1960. Jadi dengan sebab itu-lah kita ambil wang ini dan pembayaran akan di-lakukan daripada peruntokan tahun 1961.

Berkenaan dengan pegawai yang di-bayar tambang itu dia ini ia-lah pegawai dari Tanah Melayu, tetapi malang-nya mula dia di-ambil bekerja dia berada di-England sana. Jadi dia ta' ada berhak mendapat tambang pulang balek mengikut peraturan pegawai yang di-ambil di-sini. Pada masa itu dia berada di-England, dan pada masa ini dia sakit. Pegawai ini telah berkhidmat dengan memberi puas hati. Jadi Kerajaan memikirkan terpaksa-lah dia di-beri tambang, kerana doctor di-sana telah menasihatkan supaya dia berihat di-Tanah Melayu—tidak di-England.

Berkenaan dengan peruntokan sa-banyak \$26,000 bantuan Kerajaan Persekutuan kepada Churchill College, saya fikir perkara ini menasabah kerana Churchill College ini banyak juga penuntut² Malaya di-sana dan ini ada-lah sa-bahagian dari Kementerian kita ia-itu daripada Kerajaan Persekutuan dan juga negeri² Commonwealth yang lain yang ada penuntut² di-sana pun ada mendapat bantuan dari Kerajaan²-nya.

Question put, and agreed to.

The sum of \$26,020 for Head 28 ordered to stand part of the Schedule.

Head 29—

The Prime Minister: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that Head 29—sub-head 8: Officers on Attachment, Leave, Overlap and Transfer, amounting to \$10; sub-head 43: Visit of the Deputy Prime Minister and Party to Nigeria and London, 23rd September to 12th October, 1960, amounting to \$24,500; sub-head 44: Visit of the Prime Minister and Party to North America and Europe, amounting to \$131,419; and sub-head 45: Expenses of Federation of Malaya Delegates to the

Cameroonian Independence Celebrations, amounting to \$10—stand part of the Schedule.

Sir, I would like to give an explanation on sub-head 8. As has been explained already in Command Paper No. 26 of 1961, the additional provision is required to meet the cost of passages and other travelling expenses for officers of the Ministry of External Affairs on transfer. The originally voted provision of \$85,000 is inadequate to meet all expenses in connection with the movement of officers on transfer and leave for the year 1960, and this additional provision of \$81,585 is, therefore, necessary. However, it was possible to meet this additional expenditure from savings from other sub-heads and hence a token provision of \$10 is sought.

Under sub-heads 43 and 44, I have nothing to add because they have been sufficiently explained in Command Paper No. 26 of 1961 and any additional explanation would only be a waste of time.

Under sub-head 45 a provision of \$12,940 is required for expenses in connection with the Federation of Malaya Delegation to the Cameroonian Independence Celebrations. Here, again, it was possible to meet the expenses out of savings from other sub-heads and only a token provision of \$10 is sought.

Enche' V. David (Bungsar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to seek clarification from the Minister concerned regarding items 20 and 21 under Head 29.

Under item 20, it is stated in Command Paper No. 26/61, "The expenses of the Deputy Prime Minister and party during the visit to Nigeria and London in September/October, 1960." I would like to know who are the members who accompanied the Deputy Prime Minister.

Again, Sir, under item 21, it is stated "The expenses of the Prime Minister and party during the visit to North America and Europe." It is necessary for this House to know who are the members who accompanied the Prime Minister and whether the party includes the Honourable the Minister of Health.

The Prime Minister: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think I can remember who accompanied me and it was certainly not the Minister of Health. The members who accompanied me are: Enche' Zaiton from the External Affairs, the Press Officer, the Personal Secretary, Enche' Sopiee, Enche' Sujak, the Controller of Trade Division and, I think, one servant. As regards the officers who accompanied the Deputy Prime Minister, he will tell you himself because I cannot remember the names of the officers.

Tun Haji Abdul Razak: Sir, only two officers accompanied me—the Permanent Secretary, Prime Minister's Department, and the Chief Protocol Officer.

Enche' Liu Yoong Peng (Rawang): Sir, is there any particular reason as to why the Minister of Health and Social Welfare should accompany the Prime Minister to America and Europe?

Mr. Speaker: The Prime Minister has already stated that the Minister of Health did not accompany him to Europe.

Question put, and agreed to.

The sum of \$155,939 for Head 29 ordered to stand part of the Schedule.

Heads 32, 34 and 38—

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the expenditure shown under Heads 32, 34 and 38 totalling \$395,095, \$148,160 and \$700,850 respectively stand part of the Schedule. With your permission, Sir, I hope that I will be allowed to take these Heads together.

(Mr. Speaker indicates assent).

Sir, as I explained in my speech on the second reading, the Supplementary Estimates for the year 1960 followed the old system of showing Charged Expenditure and Supply Expenditure under the same Heads distinguished only a "dagger". In respect of 1961, the system has been changed so that the Charged and Supply Heads are kept separate. However, the Treasury is seeking approval today only for the additional expenditure in respect of the

year 1960 to which the old system still applies. I would therefore pick up from the Supplementary Estimates and the Treasury Memorandum those items for which Supply authority is needed and to leave aside those which are charged under the Consolidated Fund.

Under Head 32, Treasury, three items require Supply authority, but under two of these the sum requested is only \$10 as the necessary provision has been found from savings under these Heads. Particulars of these three items can be found on pages 10 and 11 of the Treasury Memorandum, and I will take them in turn leaving out those which are charged under the Consolidated Fund.

Paragraph 23, O.C.A.R. Sub-head 8—Expenses of Delegates to Overseas Conference. Owing to the increasing importance of the Federation in international affairs, the number of overseas conferences to which it was found necessary to send representatives was greater than expected and the provision required was greater by \$50,000 than the \$300,000 estimated. Since the increase is a relatively large one, it is felt desirable to bring it to the notice of Parliament. But, in fact, only a token provision is sought, since it was possible to meet the additional provision from savings under the same Head.

Paragraph 24, O.C.A.R. Sub-head 18—Repayment of Previous Year's Revenue. This sub-head is required largely for book-keeping purposes since it is used to make repayments of sums received in past years which, in fact for one reason or another ought to be returned to the person from whom they were collected. There is no method of accurately estimating the amount which will be required from year to year for this purpose, and a sum of \$100,000 entered in the Estimates is therefore little more than the token figure. It may sometimes be too much and sometimes not enough. In the present case, apart from any small miscellaneous items, the largest call on the sub-head was the repayment to the Commonwealth Relations Office in respect of the Colonial Development

and Welfare Schemes which were wound up as a result of the Federation's gaining independence.

I now come to paragraph 26, O.C.S.E. (New) Sub-head 53—Loss on Sale of Investments. This sub-head is also required for book-keeping purposes. Due to the accounting practice which has been in force up to the present time, every year it has been the practice to review the value of the investments held by the Government at the market price as at 31st December, and the difference from the market price the year previously is debited or credited to the accounts as the case may be. When the investment comes to be sold, the accounts must then either be credited or debited with the difference between the selling price and the book value as shown as at 31st December. In the present case, the result of the transaction showed a loss as a result of the use of this method. In fact, however—and I wish Honourable Members of the Socialist Front to note this clearly—if the selling price had instead been compared with the original purchase price, a profit would have been shown and no supplementary provision would now have been necessary. Honourable Members will see, therefore, that this item results from particular book-keeping methods and it is for that reason that it is described in the Treasury Memorandum as a "paper" loss. I must mention that it is proposed in future years to alter the system of book-keeping in this respect.

I will now turn to Head 34, Charges on account of Public Debt, which is dealt with on pages 11 and 12 of the Treasury Memorandum. The Supply Expenditure involved amounts to \$148,160 and falls under two Sub-heads at paragraphs 29 and 30 respectively. Both these Sub-heads deal with similar payments in respect of the cost of the United Kingdom Stamp Duty on transactions taking place in Sterling Loans. The terms under which the Government issued these loans involve the paying of the cost of this U.K. Stamp Duty.

The last of these in respect of which I am seeking additional sum, is Head

38—Pensions, Retiring Allowances and Gratuities, under which the amount required to be approved in the Supplementary Supply Bill is \$700,850. The reasons why the sums totalling this amount required are, I think, clearly set out on pages 12 and 13 of the Treasury Memorandum under paragraphs 32, 38, 39, 40 and 41, and I do not think it is necessary for me to add anything further.

Sir, I beg to move.

Question put, and agreed to.

The sum of \$395,095 for Head 32, the sum of \$148,160 for Head 34 and the sum of \$700,850 for Head 38 ordered to stand part of the Schedule.

Head 39—

The Minister of Health and Social Welfare (Dato' Ong Yoke Lin): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that Head 39 totalling \$70,000 stand part of the Schedule. The item has been explained in Command Paper No. 26, and I do not think I need elaborate any further.

Question put, and agreed to.

The sum of \$70,000 for Head 39 ordered to stand part of the Schedule.

Head 46—

The Minister of Internal Security and Minister of the Interior (Dato' Dr. Ismail): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the sum of \$118,000 shown under Head 46 stand part of the Schedule. This is required to pay Customs duties on paper and stationery purchased by the Government Printer. When the 1960 Estimates were printed, it was not realised that Customs duties would have to be paid by the Department concerned.

Question put, and agreed to.

The sum of \$118,000 for Head 46 ordered to stand part of the Schedule.

Head 58—

The Assistant Minister of Rural Development (Tuan Haji Abdul Khalid bin Awang Osman): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the expenditure under Head 58 totalling \$90,000 stand

part of the Schedule. As the explanation is already given in Command Paper No. 26 of 1961, I do not think I need elaborate on the matter any further.

Enche' Tan Phock Kin: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I shall be grateful if the Minister concerned can give some clarification with regard to Head 58, new Sub-head 26, Purchase of Land for E.C.A.F.E. Conference. It is stated here: "Additional funds required to meet the cost of the acquisition proceedings of Lots 57 and 58—Town Section 58—Ampang Road, Kuala Lumpur, for E.C.A.F.E. Conference Hall". Perhaps the Minister concerned can explain as to why the purchase is necessary.

Tuan Haji Abdul Khalid: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in reply to the Honourable Member for Tanjong in regard to sub-head 26, I would say that the land purchased is the Tunku Abdul Rahman Hall ground. It consists of four lots which were originally paid for out of the Development Estimates. The owners from whom the lots were acquired were not satisfied with the Collector of Land Revenue's total award of \$183,300 and referred the matter to Court. The Federation Government was not satisfied with one of the decisions of the High Court and appealed to the Court of Appeal. The final judgment of the Court, including the Court of Appeal, was that the owners should be paid a total of \$580,307 together with interest at the rate of six per cent per annum from the date of occupation of the land till the date of settlement of the Courts' award. The \$472,000 is to meet the difference arising from the Collector's award and the interest. The amount actually spent was \$471,164.

Although the original expenditure was paid out of the Development Estimates, the expenditure resulting from the decisions of the Courts is met from the Consolidated Fund, because Article 98 (1) of the Federation of Malaya Constitution prescribes that any money required to satisfy any judgment, decision or award against the Federation by any Court of tribunal should be charged to the Consolidated Fund.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I be allowed to explain in regard to a query raised by a previous speaker? That particular Honourable Member has alleged that the Government did not give the required notice under Standing Order 67—that is, that every supplementary estimate should be laid on the table at least three clear days before the meeting at which the Supplementary Supply Bill . . .

Enche' Zulkiflee bin Muhammad: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on a point of order, is what is stated by the Honourable Minister relevant to this particular matter we are talking about?

Mr. Speaker: We are not concerned with that any more. Wherever practicable it should be observed; in some cases it is not practicable. (*To Enche' Tan Siew Sin*) Do you want to add anything more to what the Assistant Minister said?

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: No.

Enche' Tan Phock Kin: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am afraid the Assistant Minister in his reply has given me the impression that the purchase of the land has nothing to do with the E.C.A.F.E. Conference. As stated here, the purchase of the land was for a Conference Hall for E.C.A.F.E. But according to his explanation, the purchase of the land is for additional land for the Tunku Abdul Rahman Hall, because, as he stated, it is adjoining to the Tunku Abdul Rahman Hall; and so it seems to me that the Treasury Memorandum is misleading. We are asked here to approve money for the purchase of a piece of land for E.C.A.F.E. Conference—it is stated very clearly—but the explanation given by the Assistant Minister of Rural Development stated very clearly that the land is an adjoining land to the Tunku Abdul Rahman Hall and there was a legal dispute and, as a result of the legal dispute, they are asked to pay that sum of money. Here again it is a very serious matter (*Laughter*). If I may say so, there is misrepresentation of facts in the Treasury Memorandum again, and it is very serious indeed. Either the Honourable the Assistant

Minister has misrepresented facts to me, or this Memorandum has misrepresented facts to this House. This is very serious—one of them has committed a breach of privilege, and I think appropriate action should be taken.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: The Honourable Member for Tanjong as usual tried to make confusion worse confounded. Unfortunately, he has a mind which works in such a way that it cannot even understand things which are comparatively easy to understand. The land in question was originally bought in order that the construction of the building could be finished in time for the E.C.A.F.E. Conference which took place, as far as I can remember, in February, 1958, and as my Honourable friend, the Assistant Minister of Rural Development, has already stated, the owner was not satisfied with the award made by the Government and went to court in order to secure a greater sum, and this is the result of the additional award. So I think there is nothing incorrect in saying that this land was required for the E.C.A.F.E. Conference, because the building was in fact originally used for that Conference, which took place more than three years ago.

Question put, and agreed to.

The sum of \$90,000 for Head 58 ordered to stand part of the Schedule.

Head 69—

The Minister of Transport (Dato' Sardon bin Haji Jubir): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that a sum of \$275,129 under Head 69 stand part of the Schedule. Sir, in view of the explanation given in Command Paper No. 26 of 1961, page 15, I do not think I need to elaborate on the matter.

Question put, and agreed to.

The sum of \$275,129 for Head 69 ordered to stand part of the Schedule.

Head 75—

The Prime Minister: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that a sum of \$25,799 under Head 75—His Highness the Timbalan Yang di-Pertuan Agong, stand part of the Schedule. I do not

think it requires any explanation as it is adequately explained in the Command Paper.

Question put, and agreed to.

The sum of \$25,799 for Head 75 ordered to stand part of the Schedule.

Head 77—

The Minister of Internal Security and Minister of the Interior (Dato' Dr. Ismail): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that a sum of \$26,548 under Head 77 stand part of the Schedule.

Enche' Liu Yoong Peng: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to query about the sums spent under the Ministry of Internal Security. According to the Third Supplementary Estimates of Expenditure for 1960 there is a provision of \$9,000 for the Minister of Internal Security, \$5,280 for the Secretary to the Ministry of Internal Security and so forth. Well, I would say that ever since that Minister has taken over the control of the Internal Security Ministry—and he has confessed it—he has exercised persecution, and his exercising of persecution has gone far beyond anti-communist activities. I would say that he has extended it to the legal political parties, such as the Socialist Front. The Police are under his supervision, and also, of course, under the supervision of the Secretary to the Ministry. In the course of persecuting the leading political party—we know it as he has already admitted that . . .

Mr. Speaker: Under what Head are you speaking?

Enche' Liu Yoong Peng: Head 77.

Mr. Speaker: Sub-head?

Enche' Liu Yoong Peng: The whole of sub-head 1, Personal Emoluments.

Mr. Speaker: This provision is required to effect a decision of Cabinet regarding the transfer of posts.

Enche' Liu Yoong Peng: Under Personal Emoluments there is a sum of \$24,648.

Mr. Speaker: That is for the transfer of posts.

Enche' Lin Yoong Peng: Yes, according to the transfer of posts, when the Secretary and the other officers take over their new posts they have certain functions to perform and among them are some which are not actually administrative functions but political functions, and this is what I am going to explain. For instance, during election times, the Police quite often refuse to permit us to hold rallies. For instance, in Sungei Besi District we find that our applications for permission to hold rallies are only considered on the last day, on the day when the rally is supposed to be held.

Mr. Speaker: I must rule you out of order. That has nothing to do with this provision.

Enche' Lin Yoong Peng: Sir, I just hope that the Minister and the Secretary will in future concentrate more on administrative matters rather than political when carrying out their business.

Question put, and agreed to.

The sum of \$26,548 for Head 77 ordered to stand part of the Schedule.

SECOND SCHEDULE—

Head S. 1—Parliament—

The Prime Minister: Sir, would you like me to carry on? It is already one o'clock.

Mr. Speaker: This morning we ought to have started at half past ten, but we did not commence until forty minutes past ten. So it is only fair that I give another ten minutes.

The Prime Minister: Sir, I beg to move that Head S. 1, Parliament, sub-head 17, Visit of a Parliamentary Party to India, \$15,365, stands part of the Schedule. I am glad to say that the sum spent was only \$15,365 and included in the party, which you led, Sir, were some Members of the Socialist Front. So I do not think there is very much for them to oppose the expenditure (*Laughter*).

Enche' Zulkiflee bin Muhammad: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, berkenaan dengan perbelanjaan ini tidak-lah

banyak sangat bagi saya hendak berchakap, tetapi dari Parti Islam sa-Tanah Melayu ini, saya suka mendapat keterangan kenapa dari Socialist Front ada di-ambil dua orang pergi ka-India tetapi dari Persatuan Islam sa-Tanah Melayu hanya di-ambil sa-orang sahaja, dan itu-lah sahaja yang saya hendak bertanya. Saya perchaya mendapat jawapan yang elok dari yang berkenaan.

The Prime Minister: Tuan Speaker, sa-benar-nya yang pergi itu mahu-lah dengan memasokkan segala bangsa ia-itu yang di-katakan Malayan, orang² yang pergi itu tidak ada sa-orang pun daripada keturunan India. Jadi itu-lah sebab-nya di-masokkan lagi sa-orang keturunan India dari Ahli Socialist Front, kerana dari Parti Islam sa-Tanah Melayu tidak ada orang India.

Enche' Zulkiflee bin Muhammad: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, kalau itu-lah jawapan-nya ambil-lah yang sa-orang Indian dari Socialist Front, jadi baharu-lah adil. Sebab bagini, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya tidak-lah particular sangat tentang perkara ini, tetapi kalau jawapan yang lain lebeh sedap . . . saya suka dengar daripada jawapan itu.

Question put, and agreed to.

The sum of \$15,365 for Head S. 1 agreed to stand part of the Schedule.

Head S. 6—Railway Service Commission—

The Prime Minister: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that Head S. 6, Railway Service Commission, \$18,000, stand part of the Schedule. The amount required is for the payment of rent in respect of 1961 for the present office accommodation of the Railway Service Commission.

Question put, and agreed to.

The sum of \$18,000 for Head S. 6 ordered to stand part of the Schedule.

Head S. 7—

Tun Haji Abdul Razak: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that Head S. 7, Prime Minister, totalling \$534,881 stand part of the Schedule.

Sir, under Head S. 7, sub-head 1, a sum of \$134,479 is required for the reorganisation of the Economic Secretariat of the Prime Minister's Department. It has now been decided that the Economic Secretariat should be reorganised and become an Economic Planning Unit. This is necessary, Sir, in view of the Second Five-Year Development Plan which has just been launched. It is necessary to have a proper organisation not only for planning but also for keeping a watching brief on the progress of the various development projects. This new Organisation will come directly under my ministerial responsibility, and will be largely responsible for looking after the progress of the development projects under the Second Five-Year Development Plan.

Now, Sir, under sub-head 18, a sum of \$7,500 is required for the Annual Quran Competition. As the House is aware, this year we held the Annual Quran Competition not only for internal competition but also for overseas and it was a great success.

Under sub-head 25A, a sum of \$80,000 is required for our contribution for the establishment of a United Nations Regional Office in Kuala Lumpur. The United Nations requested that a Regional Office be established in Kuala Lumpur for this part of South-East Asia, and it considered, in the interests of the Federation, that the head office should be in Kuala Lumpur rather than in some other place.

The other items under Other Charges are minor items and they are explained in Command Paper No. 26 of 1961. I do not think I need add any further to the explanation given there.

Question put, and agreed to.

The sum of \$534,881 for Head S. 7 ordered to stand part of the Schedule.

Mr. Speaker: I think this is a suitable time to suspend the sitting.

Sitting suspended at 1.10 p.m.

Sitting resumed at 8.30 p.m.

(Mr. Speaker in the Chair)

House immediately resolved itself into Committee of Supply.

(Mr. Speaker in the Chair)

Debate in Committee of Supply resumed.

SECOND SCHEDULE—

Head S. 8—

The Assistant Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Tuan Syed Ja'afar bin Hasan Albar): Tuan Pengerusi, saya mohon menhadangkan ia-itu Kepala 8 jumlah yang dikehendaki \$10 menjadi sa-bahagian daripada jadual Perbekalan Tambahan ini.

Saya tidak berhajat hendak memberi apa² penjelasan pada ketika ini, memadaï dengan penjelasan yang ada di-Command Paper 26, 1961.

Question put, and agreed to.

The sum of \$10 for Head S. 8 ordered to stand part of the Schedule.

Head S. 15—

Enche' Mohamed Khir Johari: Sir, I beg to move that Head S. 15 totalling \$69,358 stand part of the Schedule.

Sir, I do not propose to elaborate on Sub-heads 25 and 26, but as regards Sub-head 27, Goodwill and Trade Mission to Burma, I am sure Honourable Members are aware that a Trade Mission led by the Assistant Minister of Commerce and Industry left Kuala Lumpur on 24th February and returned on 2nd March, 1961, after a visit which lasted for seven days. Accompanying the Assistant Minister on this mission were 13 persons representing the trade and industry in Malaya and an officer of this Ministry. The mission was very successful.

As regards Sub-head 28, as is indicated in the details given under the Suh-head, the provision is required to meet the salaries, passages and subsistence allowances of overseas and local experts who have been engaged to draw up the necessary constitution, rules and contract conditions for the proposed Rubber Exchange in Kuala Lumpur. The report is now ready and is being considered by the Government.

Sir, I beg to move.

Question put, and agreed to.

The sum of \$69,358 for Head S. 15 ordered to stand part of the Schedule.

Head S. 17—

The Assistant Minister of Rural Development (Tuan Haji Abdul Khalid): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the expenditure under Head 17, totalling a sum of \$1,493,744 stand part of the Schedule.

Sir, a total sum of \$1,041,360 is required for the additional personnel and other services necessary for staffing and maintaining the new aircraft purchased in 1961. The full breakdown is given in the Supplementary Supply Estimates. This expansion is part of the Five-Year Development Plan. This accounts for the big sum.

Sir, I beg to move.

Enche' Zulkiflee bin Muhammad (Bachok): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya hendak tanya Menteri Yang Berhormat, apa-kah maksud "Qualification Pay" itu?

Tuan Haji Abdul Khalid: Under what sub-head?

Enche' Zulkiflee bin Muhammad: 51. Kalau tidak boleh jawab pun tidak apa.

Tuan Haji Abdul Khalid: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a special allowance given to officers who passed special qualifications in the army.

Enche' Zulkiflee bin Muhammad: Mr. Speaker, Sir, what are the "special" qualifications? I think the Minister does not know!

Tuan Haji Abdul Khalid: I am afraid he must join the army to know what it is all about.

Enche' Zulkiflee bin Muhammad: Mr. Speaker, Sir, after all, I am not in charge of the Ministry.

Mr. Speaker: (To Tuan Haji Abdul Khalid) You have no right to reply in such a manner; I cannot allow that.

Question put, and agreed to.

The sum of \$1,493,744 for Head S. 17 ordered to stand part of the Schedule.

Head S. 19—

The Minister of Internal Security and Minister of the Interior (Dato' Dr. Ismail): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that Head S. 19, Ministry of External Affairs, \$126,638 stand part of the Schedule. This amount is made up of:

| | |
|---|----------|
| Contributions to the United Nations | \$62,943 |
| Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference and Visit of Prime Minister to Italy | 58,870 |
| Representation at the Sierra Leone Independence Celebrations | 4,825. |

Now, Sir, let me deal with the contributions to the United Nations under sub-head 23. As stated in Command Paper No. 26 of 1961—please refer to page 22—the total provision of \$433,529 was calculated on the basis of the figure for 1960. As a result of heavy commitments, the United Nations has found it necessary to increase its expenditure for 1961, and a total contribution by the Federation of Malaya of \$496,471.23, instead of the estimated sum of \$433,529, is required and made up as follows:

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Contribution to the United Nations Budget | \$321,832.44 |
| Contribution to the United Nations Emergency Force Special Account, 1961 | 48,667.77 |
| Contribution to the Congo <i>Ad Hoc</i> Account for the period July / December, 1960 | 125,971.02 |

and if you total up these amounts, they will amount to \$496,471.23.

Sir, this is an obligatory contribution by Member Governments of the United Nations, and the scale of contribution for the Federation of Malaya is 0.17 per cent of the total Budget in respect of each of the three items.

Coming to the new sub-head 34, Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference, I must point out that it was planned for the Prime Minister to make an official visit to Italy at the end of the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference, but it had to be cancelled subsequently. Thus although the title of the sub-head includes "Visit of Prime

Minister to Italy", the estimated expenditure shown in the provision now sought has been incurred in connection with the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference in London only. Since Members of the Opposition are very interested to know the composition of the Delegation, to save the time of this House, I will give the names of Members of the Delegation:

- (i) The Honourable the Prime Minister.
- (ii) Enche' Muhammad Ghazali bin Shafie, Acting Permanent Secretary.
- (iii) Enche' Abdullah bin Mohd. Salleh.
- (iv) Enche' F. J. Sullivan, Press Secretary.
- (v) Nik Hassan bin Abdul Rahman.
- (vi) Enche' Long bin Ngah Mat Unah.

Now, I come to sub-head 35, Representation at the Sierra Leone Independence Celebrations. I have nothing to add in respect of this item, and figures of which are found on page 22 of Command Paper No. 26 of 1961. Members of the Federation of Malaya Delegation consisted of His Majesty's Ambassador in Paris and the Secretary for the Federation of Malaya Embassy in Paris.

Sir, I beg to move.

Question put, and agreed to.

The sum of \$126,638 for Head S. 19 ordered to stand part of the Schedule.

Head S. 29—

Dato' Ong Yoke Lin: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that Head S. 29 for \$113,600 stand part of the Schedule. This item of expenditure is explained in Command Paper No. 26 of 1951.

Question put, and agreed to.

The sum of \$113,600 for Head S. 29 ordered to stand part of the Schedule.

Heads S. 31, S. 37, S. 39 and S. 40—

Dato' Dr. Ismail: Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission I would like to take Heads S. 31, S. 37, S. 39 and S. 40 together—that is, Head 31, Minister of the Interior—\$359,053; Head S. 37, Printing—\$11,547; Head S. 39, Commissioner of National Registration—\$5,560; and Head S. 40, Town and

Country Planning—\$2,200; and to move that they stand part of the Schedule.

Sir, as regards Head 31, Minister of the Interior, this is to meet reimbursement to States for expenditure incurred on Aborigine Affairs, which after Merdeka became a responsibility of the Federation Government in accordance with the requirements of the Constitution.

As regards Head S. 37, this concerns Personal Emoluments and the provision is required to meet the cost of revision of salaries for the staff of the Branch Presses at Johore and Kedah.

As regards Head S. 39, Commissioner of National Registration, for \$5,560, this is for the purchase of equipment for the newly established Central Citizenship Registry.

Now, as regards Head S. 40, Town and Country Planning, the provision sought is to meet expenses of the Adviser on Town Planning made available to the Federation under UNTAA arrangement.

Question put, and agreed to.

the sums of \$359,053 for Head S. 31,
\$ 11,547 for Head S. 37,
\$ 5,560 for Head S. 39,
and

\$ 2,200 for Head S. 40,

ordered to stand part of the Schedule.

Head S. 42—

Dato' Dr. Ismail: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that Head S. 42 totalling \$99,571 stand part of the Schedule.

Sir, under this Head there are two sub-heads, one for the purchase of a Electronic Traffic Analyser and the other for the disposal expenses of surplus supplies. I think sub-head 27 is fully explained in the Treasury Memorandum, but I would like to give some explanation in regard to sub-head 26, because this has been the subject of a query in this House some time ago. Sir, the Treasury gave approval for the purchase in March, 1960, but for the reasons stated in the Treasury Memorandum the purchase was deferred. The Telecommunications Department assisted the Police in

selecting a suitable Traffic Analyser after examining several types. This Analyser, which is used to detect speeding offences, has been found effective in countries in which it has been used in reducing road accidents. The evidence it provides is said to be accepted in the United Kingdom courts. A set has been ordered in March, 1961 and is expected to arrive in August, 1961. Its use will be on an experimental basis and, if it proves efficient, the purchase of further sets will be considered.

Sir, I beg to move.

Enche' Tan Phock Kin: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to seek clarification on Head 42, new sub-head 27, Disposal Expenses for Surplus Supplies. In the explanatory note it is stated that "as a result of a request from the Government of the Republic of Vietnam for surplus equipment and material it was decided that a quantity of stores left over from the Emergency for which the Federation has no further use should be disposed of free of charge," and that this sum of money is actually required "for the purchase of spares and for expenses in connection with the shipment of those stores to Vietnam." It is also explained that the whole cost is recoverable from the Vietnamese Government and the expenditure will thus be covered by an equivalent credit. My query on this is not so much on this sum of \$92,571 but more on the surplus equipment that has been disposed of free of charge. Perhaps, the Minister can explain to us his reasons for giving away equipment, though it may be surplus, free of charge.

(Dato' Dr. Ismail and Enche' K. Karam Singh *rise*).

Enche' K. Karam Singh (Damansara): I can speak after the Minister.

Mr. Speaker: No, it would be better for you to speak first, so that he can reply straightaway to both of you.

Enche' K. Karam Singh: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it appears that the present Government in Malaya is playing a very

dangerous game, which used to be the pastime of America. What America did in the Middle East—encouraging an arms race by supplying military equipment to certain countries in the Middle East—it seems little Malaya is doing in South-East Asia. Malaya has taken on the dangerous course of starting its own arms race in South-East Asia, and as with all arms races, the consequences can be very dangerous for this country, because the gratuitous intervention of Malaya in the affairs of Indo-China can have great repercussions, because it is intervention, it is taking sides in an armed conflict that is going on in the country of Indo-China. We should not be surprised if tomorrow these arms boomerang upon this country.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, although the Alliance Government professes peace, and although its manifesto for this country says that it wants peace and prosperity for this country, its external policy in supplying arms to the regime of Ngo Dien Diem is far from encouraging peace in South-East Asia. Here, again, we see an attempt by the Malayan Government to bolster a falling regime in a neighbouring country and it would be good advice to this Government to stop giving arms to unfavourable regimes which the people of that country have rejected. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the action of the Malayan Government amounts to supporting and bolstering by the force of arms a regime which has no longer any standing in South Vietnam and, in spite of what the Honourable Minister himself has so often spoken on Tibet, we find that that regime is carrying on very repressive measures in Vietnam and that regime has denied democratic rights to its people. As such, I would say that the action of our Government in supplying arms to the Government Ngo Dien Diem tramples upon all humanitarian principles, and this action should be rightly condemned.

Dato' Dr. Ismail: The answer to the observations made by the two Honourable Members can be found in the proceedings of this House (*Laughter*).

Question put, and agreed to.

The sum of \$99,571 for Head S. 42 ordered to stand part of the Schedule.

Heads S. 43 and S. 45—

The Minister of Works, Posts and Telecommunications (Dato' V. T. Sambanthan): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move, with your permission, that Head S. 43, for a sum of \$1,750, and Head S. 45, for a sum of \$20,000, stand part of the Schedule. Both these items are self-explanatory.

Question put, and agreed to.

The sums of \$1,750 for Head S. 43 and \$20,000 for Head S. 45 ordered to stand part of the Schedule.

Head S. 47—

The Assistant Minister of Labour (Enche' V. Manickavasagam): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that a sum of \$71,520 under Head S. 47 stand part of the schedule. The item is fully explained in Command Paper No. 26 of 1961.

Question put, and agreed to.

The sum of \$71,520 for Head S. 47 ordered to stand part of the Schedule.

Head S. 50—

Tuan Haji Abdul Khalid: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the expenditure shown under Head S. 50, totalling a sum of \$3,312,386 stand part of the Schedule. This big sum is requested in view of the fact that we have just established a new Division in the Ministry of Rural Development called the Division of Adult Education. I have nothing more to add in view of the fact that it is fully explained in Command Paper No. 26 of 1961.

Enche' Zulkiflee bin Muhammad: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, Pelajaran Dewasa ada-lah satu daripada perkara yang mustahak pada ra'ayat negeri ini, dan saya sukachita bahawa Kementerian ini ada membuat bahagian baharu dalam perkhidmatan ini. Tetapi, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, ada beberapa soal yang timbul semenjak Kementerian ini mengambil Perkhidmatan Pelajaran Dewasa. Menurut apa yang saya tahu

dahulu-nya Perkhidmatan Pelajaran Dewasa ini di-jalankan menerusi Kesatuan Pelajaran Dewasa bagi seluroh Persekutuan Tanah Melayu ini. Tidak-lah saya ketahuī bagaimana kejayaan atau tidak jaya-nya chara yang lama itu, tetapi nampak-nya Kementerian ini yang bertugas dalam lengkongan Pelajaran Dewasa telah memikirkan bahawa chara yang begitu tidak sesuai pada masa ini. Maka Kementerian ini pun mengadakan lantekan saperti yang tersebut dalam Bahagian² I, II, III dan IV. Dalam lantekan² ini, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya dapati ada lantekan saperti State Organiser ia-itu dalam Item (54). Saya nampak ada orang² yang pada pendapat saya belum cukup kelayakan-nya telah di-lantek menjadi State Organiser bagi Pelajaran Dewasa; ada lagi lantekan yang di-lakukan di-peringkat Jajahan pun demikian.

Pendek-nya, saya tidak dapat memahami apa-kah peringkat dan dasar serta chara pengambilan orang² yang menjalankan tugas dalam bahagian ini dalam Kementerian ini. Tetapi, satu hakikat saya nampak ia-itu penyokong² Perikatan mendapat tempat di-dalam bahagian ini. Tuan Yang di-Pertua, "pileh kaseh" yang saperti ini amat-lah merbahaya. Pernah sa-kali—saya berchakap ini dalam bahagian 13d. Honorary for Teachers. Di-waktu hendak melantek—ini kejadian baharu 10 hari sahaja yang telah di-sampaikan kepada saya, ia-itu telah di-panggil orang² yang menjadi chalon dalam gulongan hendak mengajar Pelajaran Dewasa ini ka-satu tempat, dan apabila mereka itu sampai, maka sa-kira-nya orang itu di-kenali dan baik dalam kedudukan politik-nya dengan orang yang bertanggung jawab atau Pengurus Bahagian District bagi Pelajaran Dewasa ini, maka di-keluarkan-lah borang² kepada mereka itu dengan tidak payah di-temu-tanya (interview). Ada pun orang² yang tidak di-ketahuī kedudukan-nya, maka mereka itu di-intebiu dengan halus dan dengan baik. Akan tetapi, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, telah ada kejadian bahawa sa-telah di-intebiu itu, maka orang yang mengintebiu itu bertanya kepada—sebab chara mengintebiu Pelajaran Dewasa ini tidak-lah saperti Public

Services Commission, saya nampak ramai orang dalam-nya termasuk guru, dan pula bertanya ia ini orang kita, kemudian guru ini pun memberi isyarat. Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya tahu ini bukan-lah dasar Kementerian. Tetapi, ini sudah berlaku, dan saya telah dan sedang mengumpulkan bahan berkenaan dengan ini untuk saya hantarkan kepada Kementerian ini. Tetapi, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, maksud saya menyebutkan perkara ini ia-lah supaya dapat di-kawal di-dalam Kementerian ini soal² kelayakan dan kelulusan bagi menjalankan tugas di-bahagian (54) dan bahagian 13D, dengan yang demikian terjamin-lah perjalanan dan kebaikan serta kelichinan pengajaran Pelajaran Dewasa kepada orang² negeri ini supaya mereka itu tahu membacha dan menulis. Satu daripada-nya yang saya hendak menarek perhatian Kementerian ini ia-lah soal mengajar orang dewasa supaya mereka tahu menulis dan membacha.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, negeri kita ini, terutamadalam bahasa kebangsaan yang terkena penyakit tidak pandai menulis dan berbahasa bahasa Kebangsaan dengan baik ia-lah orang² yang telah tua yang pada masa dahulu-nya tidak mendapat peluang belajar saperti orang pada masa ini. Mereka itu dudok di-kampong² yang jauh. Pada fikiran saya mustahak-lah bagi mereka itu di-ajar dengan utama-nya tulisan jawi walau pun kita merasa hal ini tidak berapa hendak kita jalankan, tetapi bagi mereka itu tulisan jawi amat berguna kepada mereka. Walau pun pada masa ini Kementerian dan bahagian ini ada berbuat demikian, tetapi di-daerah saya banyak orang kampong mengadu hal bahawa kalau hendak mengajar pelajaran tulisan rumi, ta' ada faedah kepada kami. Jadi elok-lah mengutamakan tulisan jawi supaya mereka dapat membacha Kuran dan kitab sebab mereka itu sudah tua. Ada pun bagi mereka yang berumor yang kita fikirkan mustahak di-giatkan pengetahuan dan membaiki diri boleh-lah kita masokkan pelajaran menulis jawi dan rumi supaya mereka itu dapat mengikut Perjalanan tulisan pada masa ini. Perkara ini ada-lah satu perkara yang dapat menarek orang kampong.

Sa-kira-nya Kerajaan bertegang dengan asas-nya sendiri, maka akan liar-lah mereka itu daripada belajar, dan yang rugi tentu-lah kita sendiri. Adalah mustahak bagi kita menjadi ra'ayat yang benar² pandai dalam negeri yang merdeka.

Enche' V. Veerappen: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to speak on sub-head 24, Head S. 50 on page 25, regarding Survey on Sub-Division of Estates—\$23,000. Sir, this is a small sum when compared with the large expenditure incurred in respect of other items, but the point that I wish to question is in regard to the wisdom of this expenditure. Of course, whatever we say here is of no use, because the money has already been spent and only approval is being sought now. Now, why was this survey set up? This survey was set up as the result of a recommendation by a Committee which was established, I think, in November, 1959, and that Committee was unable to make concrete recommendations on the sub-division of estates. However, the point is will this survey be able to provide the answers to the questions that are being sought? In my opinion, I doubt if that can happen because—I was personally approached by one of the University boys, who was sent down to do the survey—in the first place one boy had to cover the whole of Penang, Province Wellesley and Kedah and in the second place he had to obtain information, which could only be given by the goodwill of the people who wanted to give it. Such information as to the number of smallholdings could not be obtained from the District Office; neither could it be obtained from the man who bought the estate and fragmented it—he just refused to give it. I suggested to this boy that he should see certain of the fragmenters, who live in Penang and Province Wellesley, but the fact was that the boy tried to see them so many times but was not able to do so—they were always too busy to supply the answers. If he went to look up the records of the District Office and the Land Office, the information would be insufficient to give him the evidence he wanted. Therefore, I wonder how far this survey, when completed, will be

able to give the answers that the Committee is seeking.

Sir, all this dilly-dallying by the Government has taken more than one and a half years and I do not know whether it may take another one and a half years before the report is completed. All this dilly-dallying could have been saved, Mr. Speaker, Sir, if the Government had accepted our proposal to have a Select Committee of this House: a Select Committee of this House would be in a different position from that of the Committee set up by the Government, and I say so because the Committee in its own words in Command Paper No. 15/61 has said that "it is unable to give any recommendation because of the conflicting and incomplete information it has got." However, if a Select Committee had been established, I am sure that the Select Committee could have compelled these persons to produce all the evidence that this Committee wanted. I would, therefore, like the Minister concerned just to let us know, let this House know, how long it will take to complete the report, and whether he is going to put some more red-herrings into this investigation.

Tuan Haji Khalid bin Awang Osman: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, berkenaan dengan perkataan yang di-buat oleh wakil daripada Bachok, suka-lah saya menyatakan bahawa dengan wang yang di-untukkan kepada Persatuan Pelajaran Dewasa dan dengan Pelajaran Dewasa pada masa itu di-jalankan dengan sukarela Kerajaan berasa puas hati di-atas kerja² yang di-buat oleh badan² sukarela itu. Tetapi oleh sebab Kerajaan memandang bahawa tanggung-jawab-nya bagi menyempurnakan apa yang terchatet dalam Perlembagaan Persekutuan, ia-itu hendak menjadikan bahasa Melayu bahasa resmi yang tunggal sa-lewat²-nya pada tahun 1967, itu satu tugas yang sangat berat berserta pula dengan perchayaan bahawa melalui Pelajaran Dewasa Kerajaan dapat menolong orang² di-kawasan luar bandar hidup dengan keadaan aman dan damai, maka Kerajaan berasa bertanggung-jawab menjalankan Pelajaran² Dewasa oleh Kerajaan sendiri.

Mengikuti Statistic 1967, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, orang² yang berumor 10 tahun ka-atas yang tidak boleh berchakap dan bertutor atau menulis surat dan membaca dalam bahasa kebangsaan tidak kurang daripada 3 juta. Kalau sa-kira-nya kita hendak membasmi buta huruf dalam bahasa kebangsaan 3 juta manusia tidak lewat pada tahun 1967 maka ini akan jadi satu beban yang sangat besar. Memandang kepada perkara itu Kerajaan ingat tidak dapat tidak Kerajaan sendiri mesti menanggung-jawabkan perkara itu. Dan sebab itu-lah hari ini kita telah menubuhkan satu bahagian Pelajaran Dewasa di-bawah Kementerian Luar Bandar, lebeh² lagi sebab saya perchaya melalui Pelajaran Dewasa ini dengan ranchangan² yang sedang di-jalankan dengan giat-nya dan yang akan di-jalankan dengan giat-nya di-bawah arahan Kementerian Luar Bandar dapat-lah kita hendak membaiki usaha² kita hendak membaiki nasib orang² di-kawasan luar bandar.

Satu perkara lagi, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, tuduhan² pileh kaseh. Yang Berhormat sendiri telah mengaku bahawasa-nya tidak-lah menjadi dasar Kementerian ini menjalankan pileh kaseh. Saya berterima kaseh di-atas ingatan yang baik itu dan sa-benar-nya pun bagitu-lah, ia-itu tidak ada pileh kaseh. Sa-kira-nya ada keterangan² saya minta Yang Berhormat itu memberi kepada Kementerian ini, saya sentiasa menunggu² di-atas hantaran nama² itu.

Di-bawah 13 (d) berkenaan dengan guru². Berkenaan dengan guru² ini sa-boleh²-nya kita hendak melateh guru² yang biasa mengajar di-kelas dewasa. Sebab tanggung-jawab ini sangat berat maka kita sanggup-lah menerima guru² yang lulus pelajaran tinggi ia-itu guru² yang sedang menjadi guru² di-Sekolah Kebangsaan. Memandang kepada ke-bebanan ini maka kita akan menjalankan usaha untuk melateh guru² dalam perkara Pelajaran Dewasa, tetapi tentang soal pileh kaseh itu saya napikan sebab sa-bagaimana saya katakan Yang Berhormat sendiri sedar bahawa Kementerian Luar Bandar ini tidak menjalankan dasar pileh kaseh.

Berkenaan dengan tulisan Jawi memang-lah mengikut report Jawatan-Kuasa yang mengkaji hal-ehwal Pelajaran Dewasa kita mengaku-lah di mana² tempat yang di-kehendaki oleh orang² kampong itu kita boleh-lah menjalankan Pelajaran Dewasa sama ada tulisan Rumi atau tulisan Jawi kerana tujuan kita hendak menolong orang² di-kawasan luar bandar khasnya untuk menchapai chita² Kementerian ini.

In reply to the Honourable Member for Seberang Selatan regarding the survey on the sub-division of estates, he has stated that he does not believe that the survey will supply the answers to the problems of the sub-division of estates. He has tried to prove in so many words that this survey team will not meet with any success. Sir, I am afraid it is still early for him to prophesy the work of this survey team. We have confidence in the leader of the survey team, Professor Ungku Aziz of the University of Malaya, and we feel that he will do his job very well. We know very well the good work he has done not only here but also the good work he has done overseas. It would not be fair at this juncture to say anything against a man of such reputation.

Enche' V. Veerappen: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on a point of clarification, I did not intend to pass any remarks on the leader. All that I intended to say was that the survey team had not the force of law to compel people to give it the information wanted.

Tuan Haji Abdul Khalid: Sir, I hope the Honourable Member will allow the survey team to complete its work. As regard how long the survey will take, I cannot prophesy, but I am sure that members of the Survey Team will work very hard and that in the near future the report will be ready. It is not the purpose of the Ministry to create red herrings—after all, we did not try to create red herrings at any time before—and I say once again that the report will be ready as soon as possible, and when the report is ready we will try to solve the problems as best we can.

Question put, and agreed to.

The sum of \$3,312,386 for Head S. 50 ordered to stand part of the Schedule.

Heads S. 55 and S. 59—

Dato' Sardon bin Haji Jubir: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, izinkan saya mengambil kedua² kepala ia-itu Kepala 55-59 sa-kali.

Saya memohon wang sa-banyak \$10,000 di-bawah Kepala S. 55 supaya menjadi sa-bahagian dari Jadual ini. Keterangan²-nya telah pun di-beri dalam Cmd. Paper 26 ia-itu wang tambahan perbelanjaan untuk ongkos Pesuruhjaya kerana menyiasat hal-ehwal berkenaan dengan keadaan ekonomi Perkhidmatan Keretapi Tanah Melayu pada masa hadapan, dan saya suka mengambil peluang di-sini kita ucapkan banyak terima kaseh kepada Ahli² Pesuruhjaya dan Kerajaan-nya yang telah menghantarnya di-bawah rancangan Colombo Plan dan mereka telah bekerja dengan sunggoh²-nya dan telah pun menghabiskan kerja²-nya. Saya perchaya Ahli² Dewan Ra'ayat telah pun menerima pertanyaan² supaya dapat menolong Pesuruhjaya ini dan juga dapat mereka memberi pandangan yang jelas kepada mereka itu sa-bagaimana keadaan² perkhidmatan Keretapi Persekutuan Tanah Melayu yang telah melancharkan perkhidmatan-nya dengan lebeh baik dan juga mendapat hasil daripada akuan²-nya.

Di-sini saya mengambil peluang mengucapkan sa-tinggi² tahniah dan terima kaseh kepada mereka yang telah membantu dengan tenaga dan usaha-nya dan mudah²an Perkhidmatan Keretapi Persekutuan Tanah Melayu akan mendapat faedah yang besar pada masa hadapan.

Bagitu juga di-bawah Kepala S. 59—Marine Surveys sa-banyak \$2,100. Ini ia-lah kerana menempah atau pun retaining fee kerana membayar engineer yang sekarang ini bekerja dengan Straits Steamship Company sa-bagai part-time, kerana engineer yang menjaga berkenaan dengan pejabat ini di-dalam chuti sa-lama tiga bulan. Saya perchaya perkara ini tentu-lah chukup terang.

Question put, and agreed to.

The sums of \$10,000 for Head S. 55 and \$2,100 for Head 59 ordered to stand part of the Schedule.

Heads S. 64 and S. 65—

Dato' V. T. Sambanthan: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that Head S. 64 for \$19,890 and Head S. 65 for \$57,000 stand part of the Schedule. These items are explained in Command paper No. 26 of 1961 and I have nothing further to add.

Enche' Liu Yoong Peng (Rawang): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to speak on Head 64, paragraph 41, regarding the replacement of air-conditioners. We are aware, Sir, that one Honourable Minister is the agent for Carrier air conditioners, and we would like to know whether the Minister can explain whether the air-conditioners supplied for this purpose, under this Head, are "Carrier" air-conditioners.

Enche' Chan Yoon Onn (Kampar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, as we are almost coming to a close of the consideration of the Supplementary Estimates, I am touching on Head S. 64, sub-head 41.

Dato' V. T. Sambanthan: There is no sub-head 41, Sir!

Enche' Chan Yoon Onn: Sorry, sub-head 18. It is written here,

"No extra provision is involved and the full amount has been advanced from the Contingencies Fund."

It appears to me that the explanatory note under all Heads state that "the full amount has been advanced from the Contingencies Fund." I would like to seek clarification from the Honourable Minister concerned as to the total amount that has been advanced from the Contingencies Fund and whether there is any balance remaining in it.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would advise the Honourable Member for Kampar to read the Constitution and the Financial Procedure Ordinance. If he would take the trouble to do so, he would probably know what the Contingencies Fund really means. There is nothing mysterious about it. It has to be used in

order to authorise expenditure which has to be incurred before it has been actually sanctioned by this House.

Dato' V. T. Sambanthan: I have no information as to the make of the air-conditioners.

Enche' V. David: Does the Minister admit ignorance of his own department? (*Laughter*).

Question put, and agreed to.

The sums of \$19,890 for Head S. 64 and \$57,000 for Head S. 65 ordered to stand part of the Schedule.

Head S. 66—

The Assistant Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Tuan Syed Ja'afar bin Hasan Albar): Tuan Pengerusi, saya mohon menhadangkan ia-itu peruntukan \$70,984 di-bawah Kepala S. 66 menjadi sa-bahagian daripada jadual ini.

Belanja yang di-kehendaki sa-bagaimana kenyataan yang ada ada-lah kerana penubuhan Kementerian yang baharu, ia-itu Kementerian Penerangan dan Siaran Radio. Sa-lama ini boleh di-katakan saya menjalankan kerja dan kewajipan mentadbirkan pejabat² yang di-bawah saya itu dengan tidak ada mempunyai kaki-tangan dan pegawai yang bekerja chukup masa, melainkan pegawai sambilan² yang bekerja dalam Jabatan Perdana Menteri. Maka oleh kerana memandang tanggungan dan kewajipan serta tugas jabatan ini semakin bertambah besar dalam zaman pembangunan ini, telah di-fikirkan supaya di-adakan sa-buah Kementerian dengan mempunyai pegawai² yang lengkap supaya tugas² dan kewajipan² itu dapat di-jalankan dengan sempurna.

Tuan Pengerusi, saya mohon menhadangkan.

Enche' Zulkiflee bin Muhammad: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, permintaan tambahan belanja Kementerian ini ada-lah agak ganjil sedikit daripada yang lain, sebab yang lain itu minta tambah sahaja, ia hendak membuat Kementerian. Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya suka supaya sahabat saya Yang Berhormat Menteri Penerangan dan Siaran Radio menerangkan apa-kah

agak²-nya pejabat² yang akan masuk ka-dalam Kementerian yang baharu ini, yang akan membolehkan kedudukan ini menjadi sa-buah Kementerian. Ada-kah sa-mata² Jabatan Penerangan dan Siaran Radio sahaja atau ada niat Kerajaan mengambil pejabat² yang agak sesuai dengan tugas Kementerian ini supaya di-jadikan pejabat² yang di-dalam Kementerian ini?

Pada fikiran saya, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, sa-kira-nya dua ini sahaja-lah yang hendak kita jadikan sa-buah Kementerian, maka agak terlalu chepat kita mengadakan sa-buah Kementerian dalam negeri ini, tetapi sa-kira-nya Kerajaan ada mempunyai satu chadangan, umpama-nya, mengadakan Jabatan Kebudayaan yang akan mengambil berat soal kebudayaan dalam negeri ini di-bawah Kementerian Penerangan dan Siaran Radio ini tentulah satu chawangan baharu yang akan membolehkan Kerajaan membentok kebudayaan negeri ini menurut apa yang di-kehendaki oleh dasar hidup negeri ini. Jadi, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, kalau dua ini sahaja, saya maseh merasa benda ini kechil, dan kalau ada dalam chadangan Kerajaan, maka sudah pada tempat-nya-lah Yang Berhormat ini memberikan keterangan di-sini.

Tuan Syed Ja'afar bin Hasan Albar: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya ingin menjelaskan berkenaan dengan peruntokan yang di-minta ini kepada Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Bachok. Sunggoh pun kita mengadakan sa-buah Kementerian baharu, tetapi boleh di-katakan jawatan (post) yang ada dalam Kementerian ini bukan-lah jawatan baharu, kechuali jawatan Setia-Usaha bagi Kementerian ini dan satu jawatan baharu ia-itu pelayan pejabat atau pun office boy, yang lain² itu ada-lah jawatan yang di-pindahkan daripada Jabatan Perdana Menteri dan Jabatan Penerangan dan Jabatan Radio.

Berkenaan dengan pejabat² yang di-bawah Kementerian ini pada hari ini ia-lah Jabatan Penerangan sendiri ia-itu sa-buah pejabat yang boleh di-katakan meliputi seluruh Tanah Melayu, bukan berpusat di-sini sahaja tetapi mempunyai pejabat²-nya di-merata jajahan (district), daerah dan negeri dan juga

Pejabat Radio dan Film Unit. Ini-lah tiga pejabat yang di-bawah Kementerian ini. Dan dalam sadikit masa lagi, oleh kerana perkembangan² yang sedang berlaku dalam negeri kita ini, kita berhajat hendak meluaskan perkhidmatan Radio ia-itu dengan mempunyai perkhidmatan ka-luar negeri; yang sa-hingga pada masa ini belum ada lagi. Jadi untok hendak membesarkan Kementerian ini sa-hingga meliputi Pejabat Kebudayaan dan sa-bagai-nya, saya tidak dapat hendak memberi sa-barang pengakuan dan janji di-sini, melainkan Kementerian ini akan dijalankan dengan sa-berapa daya-nya untok menjayakan tugas² dan kewajipan² yang di-tanggungkan ka-atas pejabat² yang di-bawah Kementerian ini.

Enche' Zulkiflee bin Muhammad: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, yang bertambah menurut penerangan Menteri Yang Berhormat tadi ia-lah dua sahaja ia-itu Setia-Usaha dan Peon. Tetapi agak-nya ia terlupa, yang besar sa-kali ia-itu Menteri. Dalam Anggaran Perbelanjaan ini ada peruntokan bagi sa-orang Menteri—yang ta' di-sebutkan kalau \$10 pun kita tahu makin banyak Kerajaan berbelanja—dan Penolong Menteri. Jadi boleh-kah saya fahamkan tidak ada pada niat Kerajaan hendak melantek sa-orang Menteri, kalau tidak ada niat Kerajaan hendak melantek sa-orang Menteri, elok-lah Kementerian ini di-bawah Jabatan Perdana Menteri sahaja, dan kalau ia hendak melantek sa-orang Menteri, bererti akan ada-lah dalam Kementerian ini Menteri dan Penolong Menteri Penerangan dan Siaran Radio yang akan menyebabkan Kementerian ini besar. Saya minta perkara ini di-terangkan.

Tuan Syed Ja'afar bin Hasan Albar: Saya tidak ada hendak menambah apa² kenyataan berkenaan dengan Kementerian baharu ini.

Question put, and agreed to.

The sum of \$70,984 for Head S. 66 ordered to stand part of the Schedule.

Clauses 1, 2 and 3 ordered to stand part of the Bill.

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

MOTION

**EMPLOYEES PROVIDENT FUND—
ALLEGED MAL-ADMINISTRATION**

Enche' V. David: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to move the motion standing in my name:

"This House expresses grave concern over the mal-administration of the Employees Provident Fund and calls upon the Government to institute an inquiry into the same in the public interest.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Employees Provident Fund Ordinance was introduced in the year 1952 to enable the workers of this country to benefit when they reach old age. Unlike many European countries, this country does not have social legislation to protect old-age employees. In view of this, Sir, this Ordinance was introduced to enable workers attaining old age to receive a certain amount of money in a lump sum in order that they could live during the rest of their life. Ever since the Employees Provident Fund was turned into a Board, the administration of the department had been muddled, as a result of inefficient and irresponsible senior officers of the Department. The blame not only should be shouldered by these inefficient officers but it has to be also shared by the Federation Government and the Minister responsible for that department. The E.P.F. department should, in the first place, bear in mind that they are dealing with public funds and must be answerable to the public, and any attempt to evade responsibility can be construed as cheating the contributors. Secondly, the department should realise that these public moneys should be safeguarded and returned to the contributors without any red tape whatsoever when they have complied with the provisions of the law.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, while moving this motion, it is my duty to give certain glaring examples to this House, which would open the eyes of some of the Members of this House as well as the Minister concerned. Sir, everyone in this country would have observed the charges brought against an Accountant in the Employees Provident Fund

Department. The man concerned was Mr. Liew Teck Chye. He was charged for forgery, for cheating; and for the first charge he was fined \$2,000 or three months' imprisonment. There are nine other charges pending against him. The reason for this first charge was that Mr. Liew Teck Chye deposited a contributor's money in his name. I am bringing this example for the very reason that if there is proper machinery to maintain a systematic record, and documents are arranged in a systematic manner, such fraud would not have taken place. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have also been given to understand that the said employee after leaving his job in this Department, with the assistance of another employee of this Department, managed to enter the Department at night and destroyed certain files and documents, which he considered to be detrimental to his own interest.

Sir, in this House, I have previously moved another motion similar to the one which I now move. On that occasion I asked a certain number of queries which I now state below for the Minister to reply specifically and not to evade the issue:

- (a) A4/59—Query dated 2nd March, 1959, for money spent on printing;
- (b) A6/59—Query dated 7th April, 1959, vide 143/59: Official visit to Singapore by an official of the E.P.F. department; and
- (c) A7/59—Query dated 12th May, 1959: Usage of the E.P.F. Van for unofficial purposes.

Sir, these three queries were raised by the Auditor but no proper reply was given to him. I hope the Minister will clarify these three queries.

Coming to the other part, Sir, you will undoubtedly be convinced, one way or the other, that both the Employees Provident Fund system and the persons operating it would appear to be at fault, with the result that the poor contributors are suffering. The system is at fault because it is unable to trace membership card numbers or file numbers. I wonder what has happened to the Contributors Index Form E.P.F. 4 to be completed by a

contributor vide Rule 5 (b)? Is the Board honestly functioning? If so, the persons operating it appear to be at fault, because the contributors' numbers are traceable through their forms provided they have been indexed alphabetically.

A letter dated 18th November, 1960, sent to one contributor by the name of Sinnadurai, No. 812335, bears no reference number of the E.P.F., and therefore on receipt of the reply it is not easy to associate it with the previous correspondence, resulting in what is done by the right hand in the E.P.F. the left hand does not know. Therefore the reply is, "No trace, unable to trace", and that being so, the poor contributors should readily possess all the E.P.F. reference numbers for they are at the mercy of an inefficient E.P.F. Department, consisting of an army of staff.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, certain employers through ignorance, or otherwise, make employees nominate their employer after the same employer had witnessed the thumb impressions of a member or members. Such procedure should not have, in the first instance, been accepted as a nomination registering case. Later, when the member dies the nomination should have become invalid and payment should have been made to the next-of-kin or nearest relative. According to file No. 7-1203/59, money was initially paid to the employer. Another file No. 7-1516/59 shaped likewise. It is only fair for a husband, wife, parents, brothers and sisters, etc., to receive a contributor's money after his death and not the employer. A contributor of account No. 212338 died and \$139.40 was paid to the nominee. The Manager of the Lima-Belas Estate, Slim River (Socfin & Co., Ltd.) wrote saying that the amount ought to have been \$2,760 over and not the simple figure of \$139.40. After the death of a member such very vast difference should not be left unnoticed. A particular schedule is received; an item for \$16 under account 59; the column was cancelled and initialled by the employer. The particular employer did not remit the amount of \$16. Instead of this, this amount of \$16 was

included in the payment made to the member by the E.P.F. office when he withdrew his dues. Who is to lose these \$16? I would like to quote another instance: contributor No. 1414597, Teh Ah Kok's Return of Payment on 24th November, 1959, under registered No. 8751 of fresh warrant—reminder was on 7th January, 1960, under registration 8758. On 18th January, 1960, Labour Officer, Muar, asked why was there delay in settlement. Does it take two months to clear this matter?

Over-payments had been rather heavy. Some employers have been kind enough to collect excessive payments from employees and refund the same to the E.P.F. At certain times the E.P.F. officers had to go for the recovery. There were instances when members could not afford to refund over-payment in one lump sum, and they preferred repayment by \$2 to \$5 per month.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the number of references above will enlighten this House and bring home the fact that the E.P.F. Department does not possess a proper system of accounting and that it is not in a position to trace out records of payments and effect payment immediately a contributor applies for withdrawal. There had been cases where contributors were made to wait for months. At times a contributor intending to leave Malaya for good with no more intention of returning has made an application and such an application is not dealt with until the last minute when the contributor is about to leave in a couple of days. As a result of this, the contributor is forced to cancel his ship passage for which he has to pay a compensation.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, not only myself in this House would state that the E.P.F. is inefficient in controlling the funds of the public, but every member of the public outside this Chamber will bear me out on the question of inefficiency in the E.P.F. Department. I would like to quote a press report by a writer from Ipoh who says:

"On 17th September, 1960, a contributor in Ipoh was given an incorrect statement of his account showing a shortage of \$120.

He pointed out the error. The E.P.F. replied admitting the fault and promising to remedy the situation.

Twelve months later the contributor received another statement with the same error. He wrote again and this time he was told that his case would be investigated. Receiving no definite reply, two months later, he sent a reminder. After a lapse of another two months he was given a detailed statement of his account from which it was clear that his contributions for three months in 1959 were not included in the year 1959 accounts. The dissatisfied contributor pointed out that he should not be made to suffer if the Board overlooks his contributions in 1958 entailing a certain loss of interest. In reply, the E.P.F. put up another statement almost identical to the previous one but with an additional \$3.07 for interest.

The same contributor also incurred disappointment in the matter of nomination after having raised the point on several occasions. Not until he exploded in strong terms was he provided with the necessary information.

Now the complainant in question is English-educated and a typical fighting cock—as stated in the Press, Sir—but the majority of the contributors are not English-educated and everyone knows what hardship the Board had caused them.

(Sd.) Mr. Lee Kim Kee,
Ipoh."

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it goes beyond doubt to show that at the moment the Employees' Provident Fund Department is inefficient in the handling of public funds. Further, there is the Suspense Account in the E.P.F., and I must now acquaint you with the Suspense Account of the Fund. Suppose, a piece-work contractor has contributed, say \$3,000 from Pahang in 1953, but due to certain irregularities in the relevant schedule of remittance, the whole or part of the amount is thrown into the Suspense Account and the employer is queried. Thereafter, it may so happen that the contractor leaves Pahang for another place and his current address may not be known or obtainable; and the result is that the contributors affected in this Suspense Account stand to lose. An employer may make a mistake by giving an incorrect contributor's number, incorrect salary or some other mistake, and this account has also the chance of going into the Suspense Account until it can be cleared. There is a lot of money in the Suspense Account which

needs to be clarified and brought to light and when the Minister concerned replies, I hope he will do so and state the amount in the Suspense Account.

In the initial stages of the Fund large cards were used—for the years 1952 to 1957—for crediting accounts. In 1958 a white paper was pasted on to each of the cards and there was no guarantee that it would stick there permanently. Some of the slips of paper came off due to handling. Though most of these slips of paper regain their original places, it cannot be confirmed at this stage that 100 per cent of these slips of white paper went back to the original pastings. Later on the accounts of individuals were transferred to Power-Samas cards. We cannot confirm at this stage that such accounts are correct unless each card has been checked and audited by the staff concerned certifying that they are correctly transferred, and the staff initialling the cards accordingly. Unless the cards are checked card by card errors are sure to occur and the contributors will suffer if their accounts are incorrect due to the transfer.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government has declared that four per cent interest will be given to the contributors. On the 1st January, 1960, if a contributor had \$2,000 to his credit, at the end of 1960—that is 31st December, 1960—he only receives interest for the amount of \$2,000 and not for the additional amount of \$100 contributed for the year 1960. For this, if the Minister wants reference, I quote the example of contributor No. 794919

Mr. Speaker: I do not think that is necessary at all.

Enche' V. David: I am forced to do so, because the Minister may say that I am telling a lie and making allegations without foundation. By giving the reference, it will enable him to look up the files. Not only this contributor has suffered a loss but all the contributors who have contributed from the 1st January, 1960, to the 31st December, 1960. They were not given their due interest of four per cent.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, by the various references given to this House, it is simple and straightforward that the Government should regularise the entire situation, in order to restore public confidence in the Employees' Provident Fund. If the Government ignores such a situation, which is growing within the Department, there is no other alternative but for repercussions to grow outside this Chamber.

Sir, if the Minister wants, I can quote additional instances and references where overpayments and short-payments had been made which still the Employees' Provident Fund Department has not been able to trace all these defects and to regularise the entire position.

Sir, finally, in moving this motion, I humbly request this House to view this matter seriously and to set up an inquiry, in order to regularise the situation which is deteriorating at the moment. Thank you.

Enche' K. Karam Singh: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to second the motion, reserving the right to speak later.

Sitting suspended at 10.08 p.m.

Sitting resumed at 10.26 p.m.

Mr. Speaker: The debate on the motion moved by Enche' V. David resumes. If no Honourable Member wishes to speak, I shall put the question.

Enche' V. David: I must reply, Sir.

SOME HONOURABLE MEMBERS: No-body has spoken!

Enche' V. David: I must speak.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to oppose the motion.

The motion raises the same issues as the motion moved by the Honourable Member and debated in this House on 14th September last year. When replying to that motion, my Honourable colleague, the Deputy Prime Minister, expressed his confidence in the management of the Fund by the Board and in the precautions provided to ensure that the contributions of mem-

bers were adequately safeguarded. In the course of his speech, which I do not intend either to paraphrase or repeat, he gave, among other things, a broad picture of the scope and organisation of the Board of the Fund, as a result of which that motion was rejected by the House.

Today, nine months later, a motion in almost exactly similar terms has again been put forward by the same Honourable Member, but, as far as I know, no additional grounds have arisen in the intervening period to justify such a motion. One cannot help feeling that the Honourable Member is not so much motivated by a sense of public duty as by a desire to obtain some cheap publicity at the cost of wasting the valuable time of this House. In this connection Honourable Members will be interested to know how the Honourable Mover of this motion behaved towards the E.P.F. when he was the Secretary of the National Union of Factory and General Workers many years ago. This Union . . .

Enche' V. David: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on a point of order—Standing Order 36 (1). It is irrelevant. The N.U.F.G.W. was banned. (*To Enche' Tan Siew Sin*) If you want to debate this on a substantive motion, I am prepared to debate it.

Mr. Speaker: (*To Enche' V. David*) All remarks should be addressed to the Speaker. You must wait until the speaker gives way when it is on a point of clarification. (*To Enche' Tan Siew Sin*) May I know how is that relevant to the motion before the House?

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Sir, this concerns the relation between the Union and the E.P.F., and I am coming to the point.

Mr. Speaker: The motion before the House is about the mal-administration of the Fund. Is your point related to that?

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: I can assure you, Sir, that what I am going to say is extremely relevant to the motion. This Union . . .

Enche' V. David: On a point of order, Sir. I still insist that it is not relevant to the motion.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: (*To Enche' V. David*) What are you frightened of?

Enche' V. David: I am not frightened. I did not run away from my place to another place miles away!

Mr. Speaker: (*To Enche' Tan Siew Sin*) Can you show me how is that relevant to this motion? You have not told the House how is that related to the motion.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Sir, this in fact concerns the E.P.F. and the E.P.F. has got some relations with this Union.

Mr. Speaker: Has it got to do anything with the Fund?

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Yes, Sir, very much so.

Enche' V. David: Sir, on a point of order, has it any attachment to the motion which I have moved—mal-administration of the E.P.F.?

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Very much so.

Mr. Speaker: (*To Enche' V. David*) The Minister has said that it has something to do with this motion.

Enche' Tan Phock Kin: May I say something on this, Sir? The motion, as you see, concerns the E.P.F. and I see no reason whatsoever why a union should be brought into this—just as any individuals should not be brought into this at all. This is a case concerning the E.P.F. and I submit that even with the assurance of the Honourable the Minister of Finance, there is no relevance at all. The Union has no relevance to the motion, and I see no reason why he should continue introducing it.

Mr. Speaker: (*To Enche' Tan Siew Sin*) You should not introduce things which are not relevant. If it is relevant, I will allow you and I am prepared to accept it. But I have not heard what you to say—that is the difficulty.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: That is the point. I am not given a chance to speak.

Mr. Speaker: Has it got to do anything with the Fund?

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Very much so, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Please proceed.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: This Union had been in existence, and employed a number of persons since 1955, but E.P.F. contributions had never been paid. It was only in December, 1957—more than two years later—that this default on the part of its Secretary was discovered. The Secretary, I need hardly add, was the Honourable mover of the motion.

Enche' V. David: On a point of information, Mr. Speaker, Sir. It was not found by the E.P.F. It was disclosed by the Secretary of the Union to the E.P.F. Board.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: That amount of arrears was over \$5,000.

Mr. Speaker: (*To Enche' V. David*) On a point of clarification, you must wait until the speaker sits down. It is laid down under the Standing Orders. If the speaker does not sit down you cannot have your chance to talk except on a point of order. This has been explained by me many, many times in this House. You cannot simply say whatever you like. You must wait until the speaker gives way.

Enche' K. Karam Singh: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on a point of order—Standing Order 36 (1). The Union concerned was banned about three years ago. But the point at issue is mal-administration existing now in the E.P.F., and I ask for a ruling that if what the Minister is going to say has no relevance in regard to mal-administration, then he should be prevented from mentioning anything that happened three years ago.

Mr. Speaker: (*To Enche' Tan Siew Sin*) My ruling is this: if the point you raise has anything to do with the motion before the House then you can talk about it; if it is not so, then I cannot allow you to continue.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Sir, I am talking about the E.P.F., and the

amount of arrears from the Union was over \$5,000 and 25 employees were involved. It is unnecessary . . .

Enche' V. David: On a point of order, Sir.

Dato' Dr. Ismail: Stop interrupting!

Enche' V. David: On a point of order, Sir.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: What Order?

Enche' V. David: Standing Order 36 (1).

Mr. Speaker: Let us hear what he has got to say.

Enche' V. David: The charges are made on mal-administration, and this Union has nothing to do with mal-administration. Repeatedly . . .

Dato' Dr. Ismail: Sir, on a point of order. What is the point of order that he is talking about?

Mr. Speaker: 36 (1) Let me hear what he has got to say.

Enche' V. David: Consequent references have been made to the N.U.F.G.W. which does not come into the picture of the mal-administration of the funds of the E.P.F. It is, therefore, quite irrelevant.

Dato' V. T. Sambanthan: I thought you had already given a ruling, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: I have been told that this has something to do with the Fund, in which case it is quite relevant to the motion. As long as it is related to the Fund, it is relevant to the motion. That is my ruling. If it has nothing to do with the Fund, then it is out of order.

Enche' V. David: My contention is that it has nothing to do with the Fund. My motion is on the mal-administration of the E.P.F.

Mr. Speaker: (To *Enche' Tan Siew Sin*) I think you had better stop that. Please proceed on another point.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: The reason why I said that this is relevant . . .

Enche' V. David: That means that the Honourable Minister is overruling your decision, Sir.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: The reason why I regard this particular point as relevant is because the Honourable mover of the motion expatiated at very great length on the cheating which has occurred in the E.P.F. and the mal-administration which has resulted thereby.

Enche' V. David: On a point of order, again, Sir. Is the Honourable the Minister trying to show contempt of the ruling by overruling the decision of the Chair?

Mr. Speaker: There have been too many interruptions now. If these interruptions continue, I shall suspend the meeting. I have the power to do that.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: I am going to prove, Sir, that if there is any cheating of the E.P.F., the Honourable the mover is the biggest cheat of all, and that is why . . .

Enche' V. David: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on a point of order, that is personal. I say that the Honourable the Minister is a rogue.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: Withdraw! Withdraw!

Enche' K. Karam Singh: You withdraw that first.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: I can prove it.

Enche' V. David: I can prove it too. I say that the Minister is a rogue.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: Shut up! Shut up!

Enche' V. David: You shut up!

Mr. Speaker: Order! order! (To *Enche' Tan Siew Sin*) You cannot say that the Honourable Member is a rogue.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: I did not utter the word "rogue", Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Or even "cheat"—you cannot say that. Please proceed.

Enche' K. Karam Singh: We want that word to be withdrawn, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Please proceed.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: It is unnecessary to add that the Honourable mover

of this motion was the officer responsible for seeing that things were properly done.

Enche' V. David: On a point of order, Sir. What has my being an officer got to do with the mal-administration of the E.P.F. Board? My motion is entirely a different issue. The Honourable the Minister

(Enche' Tan Siew Sin rises).

Mr. Speaker: I cannot allow two Members to stand at the same time.

Enche' V. David: Sir, if the Honourable the Minister wants to move a motion on the N.U.F.G.W., we can debate that at length in this House, and I am prepared to answer. But this is entirely a different issue.

Mr. Speaker: I have already said that if that has got nothing to do with the Fund, the Minister in charge shall not bring this out in this debate. If it is a personal matter against the officer in charge of that Fund alone, it should not be debated. That is my ruling

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: To his credit, Sir, he admitted the liability

Enche' V. David: Sir, he is repeating the same thing.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: I am not repeating.

Mr. Speaker: He has not done that. If he does that, I am going to stop him.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: To his credit, Sir, he admitted the liability and promptly offered to pay these arrears by instalments and managed to pay the princely sum of \$229 out of a total liability of over \$5,000 i.e. less than 5 per cent of the amount due in March, 1958. Honourable Members probably have guessed, and they will have guessed aright, that no further money was ever recovered, and the 25 employees therefore had practically nothing credited to their accounts. I must say that I am full of admiration for the effrontery of a man who dares to charge mal-administration in a body which he himself has defrauded. It is also interesting to note that his victims *(Laughter)*

Enche' V. David: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on a point of order—Standing Order 36 (1). It is an issue of the N.U.F.G.W. and I happened to be the officer. This has nothing to do with the motion. But if he wants to debate it, he can bring a substantive motion, and I can reply. Or we can have it outside, and I issue a challenge to him to resign to fight an election with me.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: Boo!

Mr. Speaker: Order! Order!

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: It is also interesting to note that his victims, i.e. his own employees, are the very people

Enche' V. David: On a point of order, Sir. Are you going to allow him to speak on that again?

Mr. Speaker: *(To Enche' Tan Siew Sin)* You should not continue that subject, because it has nothing to do with the E.P.F. The motion is in connection with the administration of the Fund at the present time—not before.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: It is also interesting to note that his victims, i.e. his own employees, are the very people for whose welfare he has so often expressed the most touching concern.

Enche' Tan Phock Kin: On a point of order, again Mr. Speaker, Sir. Many speakers have raised points of order on the question of irrelevancy and, in spite of your ruling, Sir, the Honourable the Minister of Finance persists in speaking on the same terms. He has spoken long enough, and it is quite clear that what he has spoken has nothing to do whatsoever with the motion under debate.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: What point of order?

Mr. Speaker: S.O. 36 (1).

Enche' Tan Phock Kin: Sir, you have made a ruling, and I am afraid he has abused the privilege given to him to speak by telling us a falsehood, by informing this House and informing you as Speaker that what he has got

to say with regard to this particular subject is relevant, when he knows full well that it is irrelevant. Unless and until, Mr. Speaker, Sir, you take this matter up very firmly, I am afraid a person like the Honourable the Minister of Finance—I am rather inclined to borrow his words by referring to his up-bringing, etc., as he usually refers to us, but I am afraid even then I cannot force myself to descend to his level

Mr. Speaker: You have been talking too long on this point.

Enche' Tan Phock Kin: Sir, I have to be a bit long in order to clarify what I have to say, so that you will be clear in your mind as to what I am driving at. In the light of what I have said, Sir, I would urge you to make a firm decision on this; otherwise we on this side of the House may be forced to move a substantive motion.

Dato' V. T. Sambanthan: May I mention something on this point, Sir? The Honourable the Minister just now mentioned

Enche' V. David: On what point of order is he speaking now?

Mr. Speaker: He has a right to speak now on the point or order.

Dato' V. T. Sambanthan: I am speaking on the point mentioned by the previous Member—it is that the Honourable the Minister of Finance had been irrelevant. To understand the whole thing about the E.P.F., one must get the whole picture. You cannot draw a very narrow line and say, "This is where you walk". If you are going to understand about the mal-administration as a whole, you have got to have a fairly comprehensive picture, and I feel that my colleague is quite right in what he is saying.

Mr. Speaker: I am not concerned with the E.P.F. as a whole at all. This motion as it stands now before the House is in respect of the mal-administration of the Fund. That is what I am concerned with and that is the matter before the House. Anything concerning

the mal-administration is relevant to the motion, but if it does not concern the mal-administration of the E.P.F., then it is not relevant. That is my ruling. It is quite clear, and I do not see how it can be interpreted otherwise.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Coming back, Sir, to the Deputy Prime Minister's speech of last September, I would like to say that I fully endorse the assurances given by my colleague then, and subsequent events have shown that that confidence was not misplaced, in that the audit report on the Fund's accounts for 1959 is satisfactory.

With regard to the detection of defalcations by members of the staff, it should be borne in mind that dishonesty by individual members of the staff cannot be entirely prevented, and sound management must aim to ensure that such misdemeanours are brought to light at an early date, and the record of the Fund in this particular regard is most satisfactory.

I should like to add, Sir, that the Fund has over one million contributors, and when one is dealing with such a large number of cases it is inevitable that now and again there are defalcations. It is inevitable that now and again there will be over-payments or under-payments, but I suggest, Sir, that it is far less reprehensible for an employer to overpay in genuine good faith than to defraud one's employees as has been done by the Honourable Member for Bungsar.

Enche' V. David: On a point of order, it is still irrelevant, Sir. *(Laughter)* Can the Minister substantiate that?

Mr. Speaker: Please proceed.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: When one is dealing with over one million accounts, as I have said already, it is impossible to prevent any kind of defalcation especially when one is dealing with all sorts of individuals, good and bad, and, as I have already shown, even when we are dealing with a man with such a high sense of duty as the Honourable Mover of the motion

Enche' K. Karam Singh: On a point of order—Order 36 (9). It says:

“No reference shall be made in any debate to the conduct or character of any Member of Parliament or of any public servant, other than conduct in the capacity of Member of Parliament or public servant, as the case may be.”

And since the Honourable mover of this motion is now only a Member of Parliament and not a public servant in any other sense, the Minister is entirely irrelevant and I ask the Chair to rule him out of order.

Mr. Speaker: I rule you out of order (*Laughter*). The mover of this motion himself has been talking on this in his motion and it is quite in order for the Minister to say.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: As I am trying to point out to the Honourable mover, we are dealing with over one million contributors. That also means that we are dealing with over one million employees.

Enche' K. Karam Singh: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the same point of order—S.O. 36 (9)—I would ask a ruling from the Chair as to whether it is permissible for the Honourable Minister to refer to the conduct of any Member of Parliament contrary to sub-section (9) which says clearly,

“No reference shall be made in any debate to the conduct or character of any Member of Parliament or of any public servant, other than conduct in the capacity of Member of Parliament”

In this case “other than conduct in the capacity of Member of Parliament”. I would ask for your ruling as to whether the Minister can go on making allegations other than to “conduct in the capacity of Member of Parliament”?

Mr. Speaker: I think he is quite in order—quite relevant. Please proceed.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: As I have said, Sir, we are dealing with over one million contributors, which means we are dealing with over one million employees—in fact it is far more than one million, for as a third party we are dealing with over one million employers. When you are dealing with such a large number of people, it is inevitable that you get good employers

and bad employers. It is inevitable that mistakes will be made, sometimes in good faith and sometimes in not such good faith; and when one considers the quality of the human material with which one has to deal, it is not surprising that once in a way slips could be made. When one considers that even in the case of the Honourable mover of the motion, whom I have no hesitation in describing as a man impelled by a high sense of public duty and honour (*Laughter*), when one finds it so difficult to extract what is due on account of his employees from such a man, is it surprising, Sir, that we should find it even more difficult to deal with people who are of far less undoubted integrity? (*Applause*).

I do not propose to deal in detail with the finances of the Fund as the accounts are laid before Honourable Members annually together with the comments of the Auditor-General thereon. I should, however, like to remind Honourable Members that the rate of interest credited to members' accounts has been increased to 4 per cent per annum, a rate which compares most favourably with that paid by State provident funds in other countries. Honourable Members will, I am sure, agree that such a rate of interest has only been possible as a result of prudent management of the Fund since its inception. The Honourable Member for Bungsar attacked the Government for crediting interest on opening balances. He alleges that this system of crediting interest is unfair to the employees as contributors, in the sense that this system would mean they would get less interest than would be the case if interest were credited on closing balances. He has obviously forgotten that this proposal was approved by the House some time ago, and is in fact embodied in current legislation. When this proposal was put before this House, it was approved unanimously and not a single word of protest was raised against it then and the Honourable Member himself approved of it. I cannot, therefore, understand how he can have the impertinence to protest against it when he approved of it, when he himself

had an opportunity to debate it. As I have said, Sir, this is already embodied in the present legislation. It is not true to say that the employees will lose thereby, because if interest were credited on closing balances the rate of interest will be less in order to make up for the greater amount on which interest has to be credited. In the long run, therefore, the effect will be exactly the same in so far as the employees are concerned.

I should say once again that I have full confidence in the Board and its management of the Fund and am, therefore, satisfied that there is no need whatsoever to carry out a public inquiry into these matters. I can assure the Honourable Member for Bungsar that every effort is made to rectify the legitimate grievances of individual members of the Fund, and if the Honourable Member wishes to assist any particular member of the Fund, I suggest that he writes in the first instance, in intelligible English, to the Manager of the Fund and, should he fail to obtain satisfaction, to me personally, rather than continually raising general allegations of mismanagement in this House, without a single shred of supporting evidence. I readily concede, Sir, that writing either to the Manager of the Fund or to me does not secure for the Honourable Member concerned the maximum publicity for himself which he is so anxious to obtain. If, however, he genuinely desires to take care of the interests of individual contributors, there is no better way of helping them—and it is a method which is bound to bring immediate and effective results, even in the case of his own employees.

Enche' V. David: I don't have employees.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Your old union's. (*Laughter*).

The Honourable Member has drawn attention to the delay in posting credits to individual accounts. The procedures of the Fund are such as will ensure that contributions are only credited to individual accounts when the necessary forms are completed fully and accurately by the employers concerned. Unfortunately, many employers still make incomplete and inaccurate returns to the Fund, which make it impracticable to identify immediately which account should be credited with a particular contribution. Every effort is being made to reduce the size of this difficult problem, but it cannot be entirely eliminated until all employers complete the necessary returns fully and accurately—and that, Sir, is the reason why we must have a suspense account. There is no mystery about this account, but it is obviously desirable that monies, the final destiny of which we are not absolutely certain, should be credited to the suspense account instead of being credited to an account which may prove to be wrong, and having been wrongly credited to rectify it on a later investigation with all the attendant trouble of subsequent re-postings and transfers of account.

Mr. Speaker: The time is up. Are you going to be long?

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: I have not finished yet—I will continue tomorrow, Sir.

Sitting adjourned at 11 p.m.