

Volume I
No. 21



Friday
27th November, 1964

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

DEWAN RA'AYAT
(HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES)

OFFICIAL REPORT

FIRST SESSION OF THE SECOND PARLIAMENT
OF MALAYSIA

CONTENTS

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS [Col. 2809]

MOTIONS:

- The Customs Duties (Amendment) (No. 9) Order, 1964 [Col. 2817]
- The Excise Duties (No. 2) (Amendment) Order, 1964 [Col. 2818]
- The Customs Duties Order, 1964 (Customs Ordinance, 1960 of Singapore) [Col. 2819]
- The Customs Duties (Sabah) (Amendment) (No. 7) Order, 1964 [Col. 2822]
- The Excise (Amendment) Order, 1964 (Excise Ordinance, 1959—Sabah) [Col. 2823]
- The Customs (Import and Export) Duties (Amendment) (No. 3) Order, 1964 (Customs Ordinance (Cap. 26) of Sarawak) [Col. 2824]
- The Excise Duties (Amendment) (No. 2) Order, 1964 (Excise Ordinance (Cap. 27) of Sarawak [Col. 2828]

BILLS:

- The Customs (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill [Col. 2830]
- The Consolidated Fund (National Security Expenditure) Bill [Col. 2837]
- The Tolls (Roads and Bridges) Bill [Col. 2864]
- The Estate Hospital Assistants (Registration) Bill [Col. 2878]
- The Federal Industrial Development Authority (Incorporation) Bill [Col. 2890]
- The Railway (Amendment) Bill [Col. 2893; 2901]
- The Immigration (Amendment) Bill [Col. 2906]
- The Companies (Voting Rights) Bill [Col. 2907]

EXEMPTED BUSINESS (Motion) [Col. 2901]

MALAYSIA

DEWAN RA'AYAT
(HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES)

Official Report

First Session of the Second Dewan Ra'ayat

Friday 27th November, 1964

The House met at half-past nine o'clock a.m.

PRESENT:

- The Honourable Mr Speaker, DATO' CHIK MOHAMED YUSUF BIN SHEIKH ABDUL RAHMAN, S.P.M.P., J.P., Dato' Bendahara, Perak.
- „ the Prime Minister, Minister of External Affairs and Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Y.T.M. TUNKU ABDUL RAHMAN PUTRA AL-HAJ, K.O.M. (Kuala Kedah).
- „ the Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Justice, 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. (Sungei Siput).
- „ the Minister of Agriculture and Co-operatives, ENCHE' MOHAMED KHIR JOHARI (Kedah Tengah).
- „ the Minister of Health, ENCHE' BAHAMAN BIN SAMSUDIN (Kuala Pilah).
- „ the Minister of Education, ENCHE' ABDUL RAHMAN BIN HAJI TALIB, P.J.K. (Kuantan).
- „ the Minister of Commerce and Industry, DR LIM SWEE AUN, J.P. (Larut Selatan).
- „ the Minister for Welfare Services, TUAN HAJI ABDUL HAMID KHAN BIN HAJI SAKHAWAT ALI KHAN, J.M.N., J.P. (Batang Padang).
- „ the Minister of Labour, ENCHE' V. MANICKAVASAGAM, J.M.N., P.J.K. (Klang).
- „ the Minister of Information and Broadcasting, ENCHE' SENU BIN ABDUL RAHMAN (Kubang Pasu Barat).
- „ the Assistant Minister of Commerce and Industry, TUAN HAJI ABDUL KHALID BIN AWANG OSMAN (Kota Star Utara).
- „ the Assistant Minister of National and Rural Development and Assistant Minister of Justice, ENCHE' ABDUL-RAHMAN BIN YA'KUB, (Sarawak).
- „ the Assistant Minister of Agriculture and Co-operatives, ENCHE' SULAIMAN BIN BULON (Bagan Datoh).

- The Honourable the Assistant Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports,
ENGKU MUHSEIN BIN ABDUL KADIR, J.M.N., S.M.T., P.J.K.,
(Trengganu Tengah).
- „ the Assistant Minister of Education, ENCHE' LEE SIOK YEW,
A.M.N., P.J.K., (Sepang).
- „ ENCHE' ABDUL GHANI BIN ISHAK, A.M.N. (Melaka Utara).
- „ ENCHE' ABDUL KARIM BIN ABU, A.M.N. (Melaka Selatan).
- „ WAN ABDUL KADIR BIN ISMAIL, P.P.T. (Kuala Trengganu
Utara).
- „ ENCHE' ABDUL RAHIM ISHAK (Singapore).
- „ WAN ABDUL RAHMAN BIN DATU TUANKU BUJANG (Sarawak).
- „ ENCHE' ABDUL RAUF BIN A. RAHMAN, K.M.N., P.J.K.
(Krian Laut).
- „ ENCHE' ABDUL RAZAK BIN HAJI HUSSIN (Lipis).
- „ ENCHE' ABDUL SAMAD BIN GUL AHMAD MIANJI
(Pasir Mas Hulu).
- „ DATO' ABDULLAH BIN ABDULRAHMAN, Dato' Bijaya di-Raja
(Kuala Trengganu Selatan).
- „ Y.A.M. TUNKU ABDULLAH IBNI AL-MARHUM TUANKU ABDUL
RAHMAN, P.P.T. (Rawang).
- „ TUAN HAJI ABDULLAH BIN HAJI MOHD. SALLEH, A.M.N.,
S.M.J., P.I.S. (Segamat Utara).
- „ ENCHE' ABU BAKAR BIN HAMZAH (Bachok).
- „ TUAN HAJI AHMAD BIN ABDULLAH (Kelantan Hilir).
- „ ENCHE' AHMAD BIN ARSHAD, A.M.N. (Muar Utara).
- „ ENCHE' ALI BIN HAJI AHMAD (Pontian Selatan).
- „ ENCHE' AZIZ BIN ISHAK (Muar Dalam).
- „ ENCHE' JONATHAN BANGAU ANAK RENANG, A.B.S. (Sarawak).
- „ PENGARAH BANYANG ANAK JANTING, P.B.S. (Sarawak).
- „ ENCHE' E. W. BARKER (Singapore).
- „ ENCHE' CHAN CHONG WEN, A.M.N. (Kluang Selatan).
- „ ENCHE' CHAN SEONG YOON (Setapak).
- „ ENCHE' CHAN SIANG SUN (Bentong).
- „ ENCHE' CHEN WING SUM (Damansara).
- „ ENCHE' CHIA CHIN SHIN, A.B.S. (Sarawak).
- „ ENCHE' CHIA THYE POH (Singapore).
- „ ENCHE' CHIN FOON (Ulu Kinta).
- „ ENCHE' C. V. DEVAN NAIR (Bungsar).
- „ ENCHE' EDWIN ANAK TANGKUN (Sarawak).
- „ TUAN SYED ESA BIN ALWEE, J.M.N., S.M.J., P.I.S.
(Batu Pahat Dalam).
- „ DATIN FATIMAH BINTI HAJI ABDUL MAJID
(Johor Bahru Timor).
- „ DATIN FATIMAH BINTI HAJI HASHIM, P.M.N.
(Jitra-Padang Terap).
- „ ENCHE' HAMZAH BIN ALANG, A.M.N., P.J.K. (Kapar).
- „ ENCHE' HANAFI BIN MOHD. YUNUS, A.M.N., J.P.
(Kulim Utara).

- The Honourable ENCHE' HANAFIAH BIN HUSSAIN, A.M.N. (Jerai).
- „ ENCHE' HARUN BIN ABDULLAH, A.M.N. (Baling).
- „ WAN HASSAN BIN WAN DAUD (Tumpat).
- „ ENCHE' HUSSEIN BIN TO' MUDA HASSAN, A.M.N. (Raub).
- „ ENCHE' HUSSEIN BIN SULAIMAN (Ulu Kelantan).
- „ TUAN HAJI HUSSAIN RAHIMI BIN HAJI SAMAN
(Kota Bharu Hulu).
- „ ENCHE' IKHWAN ZAINI (Sarawak).
- „ ENCHE' IBRAHIM BIN ABDUL RAHMAN (Seberang Tengah).
- „ ENCHE' ISMAIL BIN IDRIS (Penang Selatan).
- „ ENCHE' JEK YEUN THONG (Singapore).
- „ PENGHULU JINGGUT ANAK ATTAN, Q.M.C., A.B.S. (Sarawak).
- „ ENCHE' KADAM ANAK KIAI (Sarawak).
- „ ENCHE' KHOO PENG LOONG (Sarawak).
- „ ENCHE' KOW KEE SENG (Singapore).
- „ ENCHE' EDMUND LANGGU ANAK SAGA (Sarawak).
- „ ENCHE' LEE KUAN YEW (Singapore).
- „ ENCHE' LEE SAN CHOON, K.M.N. (Segamat Selatan).
- „ ENCHE' LEE SECK FUN (Tanjong Malim).
- „ ENCHE' LIM HUAN BOON (Singapore).
- „ ENCHE' LIM PEE HUNG, P.J.K. (Alor Star).
- „ DR MAHATHIR BIN MOHAMAD (Kota Star Selatan).
- „ ENCHE' T. MAHIMA SINGH, J.P. (Port Dickson).
- „ DATO' DR HAJI MEGAT KHAS, D.P.M.P., J.P., P.J.K.
(Kuala Kangsar).
- „ ENCHE' MOHAMED ASRI BIN HAJI MUDA, P.M.K.
(Pasir Puteh).
- „ ENCHE' MOHD. DAUD BIN ABDUL SAMAD (Besut).
- „ ENCHE' MOHAMED IDRIS BIN MATSIL, J.M.N., P.J.K., J.P.
(Jelebu-Jempol).
- „ ENCHE' MOHD. TAHIR BIN ABDUL MAJID, S.M.S., P.J.K.
(Kuala Langat).
- „ ENCHE' MOHAMED YUSOF BIN MAHMUD, A.M.N. (Temerloh).
- „ ENCHE' MOHD. ZAHIR BIN HAJI ISMAIL, J.M.N. (Sungai Patani).
- „ WAN MOKHTAR BIN AHMAD (Kemaman).
- „ TUAN HAJI MOKHTAR BIN HAJI ISMAIL (Perlis Selatan).
- „ ENCHE' MUHAMMAD FAKHRUDDIN BIN HAJI ABDULLAH
(Pasir Mas Hilir).
- „ TUAN HAJI MUHAMMAD SU'AUT BIN HAJI MUHD. TAHIR,
A.B.S. (Sarawak).
- „ DATO' HAJI MUSTAPHA BIN HAJI ABDUL JABAR, D.P.M.S.,
A.M.N., J.P. (Sabak Bernam).
- „ ENCHE' MUSTAPHA BIN AHMAD (Tanah Merah).
- „ ENCHE' NG FAH YAM (Batu Gajah).
- „ DR NG KAM POH, J.P. (Telok Anson).
- „ ENCHE' OTHMAN BIN ABDULLAH, A.M.N. (Perlis Utara).
- „ ENCHE' QUEK KAI DONG, J.P. (Seremban Timor).

- The Honourable TUAN HAJI RAHMAT BIN HAJI DAUD, A.M.N.
(Johor Bahru Barat).
- „ ENCHE' RAMLI BIN OMAR (Krian Darat).
- „ TUAN HAJI REDZA BIN HAJI MOHD. SAID, P.J.K., J.P.
(Rembau-Tampin).
- „ RAJA ROME BIN RAJA MA'AMOR, P.J.K., J.P. (Kuala Selangor).
- „ ENCHE' SANDOM ANAK NYUAK (Sarawak).
- „ ENCHE' SEAH TENG NGIAB, P.I.S. (Muar Pantai).
- „ ENCHE' D. R. SEENIVASAGAM (Ipoh).
- „ ENCHE' S. P. SEENIVASAGAM (Menglembu).
- „ ENCHE' SIM BOON LIANG (Sarawak).
- „ ENCHE' SIOW LOONG HIN, P.J.K. (Seremban Barat).
- „ ENCHE' SNAWI BIN ISMAIL, P.J.K. (Seberang Selatan).
- „ ENCHE' SNG CHIN JOO (Sarawak).
- „ ENCHE' SOH AH TECK (Batu Pahat).
- „ ENCHE' SULEIMAN BIN ALI (Dungun).
- „ ENCHE' TAJUDIN BIN ALI, P.J.K. (Larut Utara).
- „ ENCHE' TAI KUAN YANG (Kulim Bandar Bharu).
- „ ENCHE' TAMA WENG TINGGANG WAN (Sarawak).
- „ DR TAN CHEE KHOON (Batu).
- „ ENCHE' TAN CHENG BEE, J.P. (Bagan).
- „ ENCHE' TAN KEE GAK (Bandar Melaka).
- „ ENCHE' TAN TOH HONG (Bukit Bintang).
- „ ENCHE' TAN TSAK YU (Sarawak).
- „ ENCHE' TIAH ENG BEE (Kluang Utara).
- „ DR TOH CHIN CHYE (Singapore).
- „ ENCHE' TOH THEAM HOCK (Kampar).
- „ PENGHULU FRANCIS UMPAU ANAK EMPAM (Sarawak).
- „ ENCHE' YEH PAO TZE (Sabah).
- „ ENCHE' YEOH TAT BENG (Bruas).
- „ ENCHE' STEPHEN YONG KUET TZE (Sarawak).
- „ TUAN HAJI ZAKARIA BIN HAJI MOHD. TAIB, P.J.K. (Langat).

ABSENT:

- The Honourable the Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Defence, Minister of National and Rural Development, TUN HAJI ABDUL RAZAK BIN DATO' HUSSAIN, S.M.N. (Pekan).
- „ the Minister of Transport, DATO' HAJI SARDON BIN HAJI JUBIR, P.M.N. (Pontian Utara).
- „ the Minister for Local Government and Housing,
ENCHE' KHAW KAI-BOH, P.J.K. (Ulu Selangor).
- „ the Minister for Sarawak Affairs, DATO' TEMENGGONG
JUGAH ANAK BARIENG, P.M.N., P.D.K. (Sarawak).
- „ the Minister for Lands and Mines, ENCHE' MOHD.
GHAZALI BIN HAJI JAWI (Ulu Perak).
- „ the Minister without Portfolio, ENCHE' PETER LO SU YIN
(Sabah).

- The Honourable TUAN HAJI ABDUL RASHID BIN HAJI JAIS (Sabah).
- „ TUAN HAJI AHMAD BIN SAAID, J.P. (Seberang Utara).
- „ CHE' AJIBAH BINTI ABOL (Sarawak).
- „ O.K.K. DATU ALIUDDIN BIN DATU HARUN, P.D.K. (Sabah).
- „ DR AWANG BIN HASSAN, S.M.J. (Muar Selatan).
- „ ENCHE' FRANCIS CHIA NYUK TONG (Sabah)
- „ ENCHE' S. FAZUL RAHMAN, A.D.K. (Sabah).
- „ DATU GANIE GILONG, P.D.K., J.P. (Sabah).
- „ ENCHE' GANING BIN JANGKAT (Sabah).
- „ ENCHE' GEH CHONG KEAT, K.M.N. (Penang Utara).
- „ DR GOH KENG SWEE (Singapore).
- „ ENCHE' STANLEY HO NYUN KHIU, A.D.K. (Sabah).
- „ ENCHE' HUSSEIN BIN MOHD. NOORDIN, A.M.N., P.J.K. (Parit).
- „ DATO' SYED JA'AFAR BIN HASAN ALBAR, P.M.N. (Johor Tenggara).
- „ ENCHE' KAM WOON WAH, J.P. (Sitiawan).
- „ DATU KHOO SIAK CHIEW, P.D.K. (Sabah).
- „ ENCHE' AMADEUS MATHEW LEONG, A.D.K., J.P. (Sabah).
- „ DATO' LING BENG SIEW, P.N.B.S. (Sarawak).
- „ DR LIM CHONG EU (Tanjong).
- „ ENCHE' LIM KEAN SIEW (Dato Kramat).
- „ DATO' LIM KIM SAN, D.U.T., J.M.K., D.J.M.K. (Singapore).
- „ ENCHE' JOSEPH DAVID MANJAJI (Sabah).
- „ ENCHE' MOHD. ARIF SALLEH, A.D.K. (Sabah).
- „ ORANG TUA MOHAMMAD DARA BIN LANGPAD (Sabah).
- „ DATO' NIK AHMAD KAMIL, D.K., S.P.M.K., S.J.M.K., P.M.N., P.Y.G.P., Dato' Sri Setia Raja (Kota Bharu Hilir).
- „ ENCHE' ONG KEE HUI (Sarawak).
- „ ENCHE' ONG PANG BOON (Singapore).
- „ TUAN HAJI OTHMAN BIN ABDULLAH (Hilir Perak).
- „ ABANG OTHMAN BIN HAJI MOASIL, P.B.S. (Sarawak).
- „ ENCHE' OTHMAN BIN WOK (Singapore).
- „ ENCHE' S. RAJARATNAM (Singapore).
- „ DATU DONALD ALOYSIUS STEPHENS, P.D.K. (Sabah).
- „ PENGIRAN TAHIR PETRA (Sabah).
- „ ENCHE' WEE TOON BOON (Singapore).
- „ ENCHE' YONG NYUK LIN (Singapore).

PRAYERS

(Mr Speaker in the Chair)

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

KESENIAN MELAYU

1. Enche' Hussein bin Sulaiman (Ulu Kelantan) bertanya kepada Menteri Pelajaran sama ada boleh atau tidak di-buat persediaan untuk mengajar

“Kesenian Melayu” di-sekolah², sa-
bagaimana yang di-buat untuk “Uga-
ma Islam”, yang boleh menggalakkan
anak² kita belajar kesenian mereka
sendiri, seperti penchak silat, pantun,
shaer, wayang kulit dan lain² supaya
kebudayaan kita tetap terpelihara oleh
keturunan kita yang akan datang.

The Minister of Education (Enche' Abdul Rahman bin Haji Talib): Ke-
mudah² untuk murid² mempelajari
kesenian mereka sendiri memang-lah

sedia ada di-sekolah² sama ada menerusi mata² pelajaran biasa sa-umpama tarian dalam pelajaran senaman, pantun dan shaer dalam pelajaran Bahasa dan Kesusasteraan atau pun mempelajari demikian menerusi persatuan drama sekolah dan kerja² sa-bagai-nya di-luar pelajaran biasa. Usaha² untuk membaiki dan menambah kemudahan² itu ada-lah terus di-jalankan oleh Kementerian saya dengan tujuan supaya kebudayaan dan kesenian kita terpelihara.

MENGADAKAN DAERAH² ISTIMEWA DI-LUAR BANDAR

2. Enche' Hussein bin Sulaiman bertanya kepada Menteri Pelajaran bolehkah Kerajaan mengishtiharkan daerah² yang terpenchil dalam negeri ini sa-bagai "daerah² yang luar bandar istimewa", dan memberi keistimewaan kepada guru² yang berkhidmat dalam daerah² tersebut, seperti perumahan perchuma, tiket² waran perchuma berulang alek ka-bandar untuk menerima rawatan doktor dan lain², dan juga mengadakan kelab² di-mana guru² ini boleh menghabiskan masa² lapang mereka.

Enche' Abdul Rahman bin Haji Talib: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, bagi pehak Kementerian Pelajaran, saya tidak bermaksud hendak mengishtiharkan sa-sabua daerah luar bandar itu, walau bagaimana pun terpenchil-nya sa-bagai "daerah istimewa", kerana keperluan atau kepentingan daerah seperti itu tidak pernah di-lupakan, atau tidak di-indahkan. Kerajaan telah membuat keputusan ia-itu di-daerah yang terpenchil, pembinaan rumah² guru ada-lah menjadi sa-bahagian penting bagi ranchangan pembinaan sekolah² baharu. Berhubung dengan kemudahan² perjalanan untuk mendapatkan layanan perubatan, masalah ini akan sempurna dengan tidak payah berjalan jauh kerana ada-nya kemajuan perkhidmatan perubatan meluas di-kawasan² luar bandar. Berhubung dengan kemudahan² berehat, menghabiskan masa lapang, sekolah² dan Balai Ra'ayat ada-lah di-fikirkan sesuai bagi guru². Sa-benar-nya, tidak-lah di-fikirkan sesuai bagi guru² mempunyai tempat berehat mereka sendiri

saperti yang di-chadangkan oleh Ahli Yang Berhormat itu, tambahan pula di-kalangan masharakat kechil amat mustahak guru² berchampur gaul dengan anggota masharakat yang lain² itu.

PERKHIDMATAN PELAJARAN— JAWATAN TINGKATAN— TERTINGGI "H"

3. Enche' Hussein bin Sulaiman bertanya kepada Menteri Pelajaran:

- (i) ada-kah peluang bagi guru² latehan normal yang sudah lama berkhidmat, boleh naik pangkat ka-jawatan peringkat tertinggi "H" saperti pegawai² yang tidak berijazah dalam perkhidmatan Polis, Kastam, Imigreshen dan yang dalam Perkhidmatan 'Awam Kerajaan Persekutuan;
- (ii) patut-kah atau tidak guru² yang sudah berkhidmat 15 hingga 20 tahun di-beri peluang naik pangkat peringkat tertinggi "H" dan apa-kah sebab-nya maka Kementerian Pelajaran sahaja yang mengutamakan guru² yang berijazah B.A. (Hons) bagi jawatan peringkat tertinggi "H".

Enche' Abdul Rahman bin Haji Talib: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, jawapan kepada bahagian (i)—tidak, kerana sharat² perkhidmatan yang ada pada sekarang ini tidak membenarkan kenaikan pangkat saperti itu.

Jawapan kepada bahagian (ii), saya tidak dapat hendak memberi pendapat saya atas perkara ini pada masa sekarang, oleh kerana soal ini sedang di-binchangkan dan Kerajaan sedang menyelidik masalah² hendak menyatukan dan mempersamakan berbagai² ragam perkhidmatan yang ada dalam Perkhidmatan Pelajaran Kerajaan dengan tujuan hendak merapatkan jurang perpisahan sa-berapa yang boleh.

MIRI GENERAL HOSPITAL— EXTENSION

4. Enche' Chia Chin Shin (Sarawak) asks the Minister of Health to state whether there is any provision for the

extension of Miri General Hospital in 1965 in view of the present overcrowding in the Wards.

The Minister of Health (Enche' Bahaman bin Samsudin): Mr Speaker, Sir, there is no provision for the extension of Miri General Hospital in 1965, but consideration is being given for additional sixty beds in the Development Plan for the years 1969-1970.

LOW-COST HOUSING IN SARAWAK—SCHEMES

5. Enche' Chia Chin Shin asks the Minister for Local Government and Housing to state whether Government has any provision to start low-cost housing schemes in the big towns of Sarawak and whether in the light of his recent visit to Sarawak, he has any plan to improve the housing situation in Sarawak.

The Minister of Works, Post and Telecommunications (Dato' V. T. Sambanthan): Mr Speaker, Sir, I have had explanatory discussions with the Sarawak State Government in Kuching recently. As a result of these discussions, it is hoped that proposals will be received from the Sarawak State Government for the consideration of my Ministry to embark on low-cost housing schemes in Sarawak.

NEW MIRI AIRPORT, SARAWAK

6. Enche' Chia Chin Shin asks the Minister of Transport to state when construction of the new Miri Airport will be started, and when will it be completed and put into use.

The Minister of Health (Enche' Bahaman bin Samsudin): Mr Speaker, Sir, the main work on the new aerodrome project at Miri will commence during the first half of 1965, and is scheduled for completion at the end of 1966. Preliminary survey work has been completed.

The site of the aerodrome is four miles from the town centre to the south.

When completed the aerodrome will be able to accept aircraft up to the size of the Fokker Friendship (F. 27)

aircraft at present operated by Malaysian Airways.

Miri town is at present served by the aerodrome at Lutong. This is a private aerodrome owned by the Shell Company. It cannot accept aircraft larger than a DC. 3 and becomes unserviceable after heavy rain.

TEACHERS IN INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS—INQUIRY INTO CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

7. Enche' C. V. Devan Nair (Bungsar) asks the Minister of Education if he is aware of the plight of teachers in independent schools and if so, would he consider establishing a Wages Council to inquire into the working conditions and terms of employment of these teachers in view of the general consensus of opinion that these teachers are the most exploited group in the field of education.

Enche' Abdul Rahman bin Haji Talib: Mr Speaker, Sir, I am aware that conditions are not satisfactory in certain independent schools. But as the Honourable Member knows, a teacher in an independent school is employed on a bilateral basis with the terms and conditions settled between him and the owner of the school. If there is any dissatisfaction, then teachers in independent schools should avail themselves of the machinery afforded by the Wages Council Ordinance, 1947, which comes under the purview of the Ministry of Labour.

Enche' C. V. Devan Nair: Sir, would the Minister consider liaising with the Minister of Labour, on the basis of the understanding which he has admitted to, to the effect that things are not altogether good for teachers in independent schools? There have been complaints of teachers' services being terminated when the holidays begin, piecemeal payments of salaries, and sometimes teachers are made to sign for salaries the amounts of which are bigger than what they actually receive. In those circumstances, Sir, would the Minister consider liaising with the Minister of Labour, his colleague, to get a Wages Council formed for these teachers?

Enche' Abdul Rahman bin Haji Talib: Mr Speaker, Sir, I am not aware of the details but I have already communicated this to the Ministry of Labour. I am sure the Ministry of Labour will take the matter up.

TELEVISION EQUIPMENT— EXPENDITURE

8. Enche' C. V. Devan Nair asks the Minister of Information and Broadcasting to furnish the expenditure incurred by way of (a) purchase of television equipment and (b) freight charges.

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Enche' Senu bin Abdul Rahman): Mr Speaker, Sir, the expenditure incurred by way of purchase of television equipment as at 21-9-64 is \$4,181,792.

Up to 90% of the equipment in use were purchased by the "Open Tender System". The expenditure included the cost of equipment, c.i.f. Kuala Lumpur site (the freight was not quoted separately) including installation and proving charges.

For other items where freight charges were given separately the amounts varied. A few examples are given below:

Title of Indent	Cost	Freight Charges	Approx. % of Freight
Electronic Spares ..	£69-17-6	£1-5-0	2%
Test Equipment ..	\$54,624	\$5,000	9%
Video Tape Recorders	£34,669-10-4	£212-2-0	0.7%

DAMAGE TO BRIDGE AT 8TH MILESTONE, KLANG ROAD

9. Enche' C. V. Devan Nair asks the Minister of Works, Posts and Telecommunications if he is aware that the bridge at the 8th milestone, Klang Road, has been rendered unsuitable for vehicular traffic and that this has caused hardships and considerable inconvenience to the residents in the area because of the stoppage or deviation of regular bus services which used to operate in the area; and if so, what steps will he take to make the bridge safe and roadworthy without undue delay.

Dato' V. T. Sambanthan: Sir, I am aware that the bridge at the 8th milestone, Klang Road, has been rendered unsuitable for vehicular traffic. This has been so because of a scour of the abutment of the bridge. Consequent to this a Bailey Bridge has been requisitioned from another State for erection here. This is a temporary expedient provided for the convenience of the public until such time as a permanent one is built.

Enche' C. V. Devan Nair: will the Honourable Minister indicate, Sir, as to how soon a permanent bridge can be built?

Dato' V. T. Sambanthan: The permanent bridge is being designed and it will be next year that we can get the money, and once we get it work will begin.

Enche' C. V. Devan Nair: Will the Minister make quite sure that he will get the money from the Minister of Finance? (*Laughter*).

Dato' V. T. Sambanthan: If there is money, I am sure the Minister of Finance will give it. (*Laughter*).

ADDITIONAL DOCTORS AND MEDICAL SPECIALISTS FOR HOSPITAL IN SARAWAK— RECRUITMENT

10. Enche' Sim Boon Liang (Sarawak) asks the Minister of Health to state whether the Central Government will consider urgently to recruit more doctors and medical specialists for hospitals in various Divisions of Sarawak which are really short of doctors and medical specialists.

Enche' Bahaman bin Samsudin: Mr Speaker, Sir, Government is very much concerned about the acute shortage of doctors in the States of Malaya and also in Sarawak. There are at present about 170 vacancies in the States of Malaya and 10 in Sarawak. My Ministry is making every effort to recruit more doctors from overseas to meet the acute shortages and as soon as they are available a number of them will be sent to Sarawak.

BUILDING OF LOW-COST HOUSES OR FLATS IN SARAWAK FOR SALE

11. Enche' Sim Boon Liang asks the Minister for Local Government and Housing whether the Central Government will consider building low-cost houses or flats in Sarawak as in other Malaysian States for sale by instalments to working-class people who are unable to afford costly houses.

Dato' V. T. Sambanthan: Mr Speaker, Sir, the Government has not yet made any financial provision for low-cost housing projects in Sarawak. In his recent visit to Sarawak, the Minister for Local Government and Housing has had exploratory discussions with the Sarawak Government. As a result of these discussions it is expected that the Sarawak State Government would formulate plans for low-cost housing development, in the light of economic and social needs pertinent to Sarawak, for the consideration of the Central Government.

MOTIONS

THE CUSTOMS DUTIES (AMENDMENT) (No. 9) ORDER, 1964

The Minister of Finance (Enche' Tan Siew Sin): Mr Speaker, Sir, I beg to move,

That this House resolves that in accordance with the powers vested in it by virtue of sub-section (2) of section 10 of the Customs Ordinance, 1952, of the States of Malaya, the Customs Duties (Amendment) (No. 9) Order, 1964, which has been laid before the House as Statute Paper No. 99 of 1964 be confirmed.

Sir, in my Budget speech I explained the Government's policy on indirect tax changes and also described those proposals which would have a substantial effect on the revenue. I propose therefore to deal now only with those changes not referred to previously.

The new duties imposed in group 243 are designed to serve as an incentive to the increased use of home produced parquet. We had intended originally to provide an incentive for the domestic plywood industry, but as this is one of the items of the initial

list being considered by the Tariff Advisory Board for inclusion in the common market, it is preferable to defer any action until the Board's report has been received.

The new duty of 20% *ad valorem* on items 273 120 and 661 300 has been imposed in order to promote the use of marble from Langkawi Island. The revenue yield will be insignificant.

A factory capable of meeting the entire domestic demand for formic acid has been established in the States of Malaya and the quality of the product is satisfactory. Economic production is dependent on capturing a large proportion of home market and therefore a new duty of 25% *ad valorem* has been imposed on item 512 501. An agreement has been reached with the manufacturer whereby prices will not be increased as a result of this new duty.

The increases imposed on group 632 are designed to promote the use of domestic products. Malaysia as a major timber producer should be able to meet satisfactorily the domestic demand for wooden boxes, barrels and prefabricated wooden buildings.

Sir, I beg to move.

Dr Lim Swee Aun: Sir, I beg to second the motion.

Question put, and agreed to.

Resolved,

That this House resolves that in accordance with the powers vested in it by virtue of sub-section (2) of section 10 of the Customs Ordinance, 1952, of the States of Malaya, the Customs Duties (Amendment) (No. 9) Order, 1964, which has been laid before the House as Statute Paper No. 99 of 1964 be confirmed.

THE EXCISE DUTIES (No. 2) (AMENDMENT) ORDER, 1964

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Mr Speaker, Sir, I beg to move:

That this House resolves that in accordance with the powers vested in it by virtue of sub-section (2) of section 7 of the Excise Act, 1961, of the States of Malaya, the Excise Duties (No. 2) (Amendment) Order, 1964, which has been laid before the House as Statute Paper No. 100 of 1964 be confirmed.

The new excise duty of three cents per gallon on other petroleum spirit having a flashpoint of 73°F or more, including white spirit, corresponds with the import duty imposed on item 332 209. The duty will yield about \$100,000 per annum and represents the first stage of harmonization with the excise of five cents per gallon payable in Singapore, Sarawak and Sabah.

The excise on crown corks is to provide for the possibility of home manufacture. The rate of five cents per piece is the same as the new import duty on crown corks.

Sir, I beg to move.

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Dr Lim Swee Aun): Sir, I beg to second the motion.

Question put, and agreed to.

Resolved,

That this House resolves that in accordance with the powers vested in it by virtue of sub-section (2) of section 7 of the Excise Act, 1961, of the States of Malaya, the Excise Duties (No. 2) (Amendment) Order, 1964, which has been laid before the House as Statute Paper No. 100 of 1964 be confirmed.

THE CUSTOMS DUTIES ORDER, 1964 (CUSTOMS ORDINANCE, 1960 OF SINGAPORE)

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Mr Speaker, Sir, I beg to move:

That this House resolves that in accordance with the powers vested in it by virtue of sub-section (5) of section 11 of the Customs Ordinance, 1960, of Singapore the Customs Duties Order, 1964, which has been laid before the House as Statute Paper No. 101 of 1964 be confirmed.

For ease of presentation, the entire Singapore Customs tariff and excise schedule has been incorporated in the Order so that not all the items included represent new or altered duty rates.

The main changes proposed relate to unmanufactured tobacco and cigarettes, high speed and other diesel fuel, fuel oils and lubricating oil, sugar, sugar and chocolate confectionery, and various types of non-alcoholic drinks. I dealt with these changes in my Budget Speech.

A duty of \$5 per pound has been imposed on saccharine and other artificial sweetening substances, viz. items 512 701 and 512 702. This rate corresponds with that now in force in the States of Malaya and is necessary to avoid substitution of these products for sugar, in view of the duty imposed on the later.

The conditions on which duty at preferential rates may be claimed have been brought into line with those now applicable in the States of Malaya. It is the Government's intention to make these conditions applicable throughout Malaysia, and also to harmonise in graduated stages the margins of preference applicable to any class of goods. At present, different margins of preference apply to the same class of goods in the various regions of Malaysia, and these variations must be eliminated for all classes of goods which are to be included within the common market.

I regret that there are two printing errors in Statute Paper No. 101 of 1964. On page 3, under Intoxicating Liquors, paragraph (a), the preferential rate should read \$34.00 and not \$44.00. Secondly on page 4, paragraph (r), the preferential rate should be \$56.60 and not \$56.00. These errors are being corrected.

Sir, I beg to move.

Dr Lim Swee Aun: Sir, I beg to second the motion.

Dr Mahathir bin Mohamad (Kota Star Selatan): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya tidak ada apa² hendak bertanya berkenaan dengan rancangan baharu yang di-buat oleh Yang Berhormat Menteri Kewangan, tetapi saya ingin bertanya berkenaan dengan negeri² yang di-beri "preferential rate", apa-kah asas-nya yang kita mentafsirkan negeri seperti Burma yang bukan dalam Commonwealth dan Republic of South Afrika, satu negeri yang kita tidak ada perhubungan lagi, yang di-masokkan dalam negeri² yang kita memberi "preferential rate"?

Enche' C. V. Devan Nair (Bungsar): Mr Chairman, Sir, my views on the taxation proposals will be made known

during the Budget debate. However, I would like to touch here on one very small item and that is in respect of the duty on saccharine products which the Minister proposes. The reason he has given is that if saccharine products are not taxed, then the chances are that the people will shift over from sugar to saccharine in order to escape the higher price of sugar. Sir, that has got to be taken with a very large pinch of salt. One can hardly envisage a situation, Sir, where a large mass of people switch over from sugar to saccharine. In that light, I would say that this is a quite unimaginative tax—a tax not so much on saccharine but a tax on diabetic patients. If we have the misfortune to suffer from diabetics, then that misfortune is going to be taxed.

I would suggest, Sir, that the Minister give really serious thought to it because the chances are, and I think the Minister will agree with me, that the revenue from taxation on saccharine products is going to be quite, quite negligible, and let the diabetic patients of Malaysia end their days with a happy frame of mind towards our Minister!

Dr Lim Swee Aun: Mr Speaker, Sir, in regard to the point raised about the preferential duty, there is no preferential duty given to countries that do not belong to the Commonwealth and, as such, goods imported from South Africa or Burma do not get preferential duty. However, I might say here that because of our policy against apartheid of South Africa, we do not import any goods at all from South Africa.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: As I tried to explain in my Budget speech, everyone of these revenue duties has been imposed with the concurrence of the Government of Singapore. Honourable Members will be aware that we have imposed duties on a very wide range of imports into Singapore and, in fact, this is the first time in the history of Singapore that it has happened. I am, of course, speaking from memory, because the consultations and discussions with Singapore lasted some time, but if I am not mistaken—I am almost certain I am right—the duty on saccharine was not my idea. It was the idea of the

Singapore Government and therefore if this duty is unimaginative, I am afraid the Honourable Member for Bungsar will have to take it up with the Government of which he is a member.

Enche' C. V. Devan Nair: On a point of clarification, may I inform the Minister that I am not speaking for the Singapore Government but my constituents in Bungsar.

Question put, and agreed to.

Resolved.

That this House resolves that in accordance with the powers vested in it by virtue of sub-section (5) of section 11 of the Customs Ordinance, 1960, of Singapore the Customs Duties Order, 1964, which has been laid before the House as Statute Paper No. 101 of 1964 be confirmed.

THE CUSTOMS DUTIES (SABAH) (AMENDMENT) (No. 7) ORDER, 1964

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Mr Speaker, Sir, I beg to move,

That this House resolves that in accordance with the powers vested in it by virtue of sub-section (3) of section 8 of the Customs Ordinance (Cap. 33) of Sabah, the Customs Duties (Sabah) (Amendment) (No. 7) Order, 1964, which has been laid before the House as Statute Paper No. 102 of 1964 be confirmed.

The increases in duty imposed on items in groups 012 and 013 will harmonise the rates of duty with those payable in the States of Malaya. The items affected are not essential food-stuffs, and as Sabah is a producer of livestock, I hope that the new duties will serve to encourage the growth of home production.

The new rates of duty applicable to items in group 051 will be those applicable formerly in the States of Malaya but will be 50% below the new rates imposed in the Budget. Once again I hope that these new duties will stimulate home production so that it will be able to meet a large proportion of domestic demand. Meanwhile, those who prefer imported varieties must be prepared to pay higher prices.

The increased duties applicable to items in groups 061 and 062, that is, sugar, honey, golden syrup and sugar confectionery, represent the first stage

of the process of harmonisation with rates in force in the States of Malaya.

I dealt with the increase in the duty on item 332 101, that is, petrol, by 30 cents per gallon to a new rate of 65 cents per gallon, in my Budget speech. Nevertheless, I should emphasise that the whole of the increase in revenue will accrue to the Sabah Government and assist in financing the massive development plan which it hopes to launch.

The total annual increase in Central Government revenue arising in Sabah, that is excluding revenue from petroleum, will amount to about \$1,000,000 and of this sum Sabah can expect to receive \$300,000, that is 30%, as provided for in the Malaysia Act.

Sir, I beg to move.

Dr Lim Swee Aun: Sir, I beg to second the motion.

Question put, and agreed to.

Resolved,

That this House resolves that in accordance with the powers vested in it by virtue of sub-section (3) of section 8 of the Customs Ordinance (Cap. 33) of Sabah, the Customs Duties (Sabah) (Amendment) (No. 7) Order, 1964, which has been laid before the House as Statute Paper No. 102 of 1964 be confirmed.

THE EXCISE (AMENDMENT) ORDER, 1964

(Excise Ordinance, 1959—Sabah)

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Mr Speaker, Sir, I beg to move,

That this House resolves that in accordance with the powers vested in it by virtue of sub-section (2) of section 3 of the Excise Ordinance, 1959, of Sabah, the Excise (Amendment) Order, 1964, which has been laid before the House as Statute Paper No. 103 of 1964 be confirmed.

This Order imposes rates of excise on the classes of goods listed corresponding to the rates of import duty payable on similar goods. The excise will not yield any revenue until there is home production of such goods.

Sir, I beg to move.

Dr Lim Swee Aun: Sir, I beg to second the motion.

Question put, and agreed to.

Resolved,

That this House resolves that in accordance with the powers vested in it by virtue of sub-section (2) of section 3 of the Excise Ordinance, 1959, of Sabah, the Excise (Amendment) Order, 1964, which has been laid before the House as Statute Paper No. 103 of 1964 be confirmed.

THE CUSTOMS (IMPORT AND EXPORT) DUTIES (AMENDMENT) (No. 3) ORDER, 1964

(Customs Ordinance (Cap. 26) of Sarawak)

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Mr Speaker, Sir, I beg to move,

That this House resolves that in accordance with the powers vested in it by virtue of sub-section (3) of section 8 of the Customs Ordinance (Cap. 26) of Sarawak, the Customs (Import and Export) Duties (Amendment) (No. 3) Order, 1964, which has been laid before the House as Statute Paper No. 104 of 1964 be confirmed.

The increase in duty rates imposed on items in groups 012, 013 and 051 correspond with those now applicable in the State of Sabah. Items 013 802 and 013 809, that is prepared or preserved meat in tins, and also meat pies, have been excluded as there is no production of livestock in Sarawak, and the import of tinned meats is essential.

The increase in the rate of duty on sugar, item 061 101, is \$22.40 per ton, which is the same as that in Sabah, but the new rate of duty will be \$56 per ton which is the lowest rate applicable in any region of Malaysia.

The rates on other items in group 061 which include honey, golden syrup, and sugar confectionery are being increased, in line with the rates to be applied in Sabah.

The import duty on yarn of silk or cotton classified under group 651 items 150, 160, 201, 203, 300 and 410 has been removed at the request of manufacturers in Sarawak, so that the tariff on these items has now been harmonised at "Nil" throughout Malaysia.

Similarly, the import duty on iron and steel wire classified under group 677 items 010, 020 and 030 has been reduced to "Nil", thus harmonising the duty on these goods throughout Malaysia.

These duty changes represent only the initial steps in the process of harmonising the duties payable in Sarawak on materials and component parts with those applicable in the other regions of Malaysia. Several types of machinery remain dutiable on import into Sarawak, but exemption is granted on an *ad hoc* basis in respect of initial plant and machinery imported by manufacturers in that State.

It is estimated that the total increase in annual revenue arising in Sarawak from all the changes in import duties proposed in this Order will be \$1,243,000.

Sir, I beg to move.

Dr Lim Swee Aun: Sir, I beg to second the motion.

Enche' Mohamed Yusof bin Mahmud (Temerloh): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya sedikit sahaja hendak menyentuh berkenaan dengan chadangan yang dibawa oleh Yang Berhormat Menteri kita, ia-itu kita telah bersetuju pada dasar-nya menaikkan chukai untuk mendapatkan kewangan. Tetapi apa yang menjadi perhatian pada saya ia-itu terhadap langkah yang di-ambil oleh peniaga² ia-itu bila chukai naik sa-kali ganda, maka peniaga² itu menaikkan 3 kali ganda. Jadi mereka ini menchari peluang mendapat keuntungan yang besar dengan ada-nya dasar kenaikan chukai ini. Mereka menchari peluang, umpama-nya gula, gula ini telah naik pada satu masa oleh sebab harga pasaran, tetapi baharu² ini, sa-belum lagi di-sahkan kenaikan chukai gula itu, harga gula telah melompat daripada 48 sen kepada 61 sen. Jadi itu-lah saya katakan 3 kali ganda, sungguh pun kita tidak tahu yang Menteri itu berchadang hendak menaikkan chukai, tetapi peniaga² telah mendapat tahu lebeh dahulu, atas kenaikan chukai maka mereka mengambil peluang dalam perkara ini, dengan menaikkan tiga kali ganda daripada harga yang sedia, jadi saya rasa, patut-lah Kerajaan memandang berat kepada hal ini, atas mereka² yang menchari peluang sa-macham ini. Saya anggap mereka² yang chuba menchari peluang ini sama-lah juga dengan

orang² yang masok dalam gulongan subversive untuk merosakkan keselamatan negara kita.

Saya harap Kerajaan hendak-lah memandang berat terhadap perkara ini, saya tidak-lah membantah chara mendapatkan wang, tetapi saya membantah peniaga² yang mentang² menchari peluang meninggikan ekonomi mereka, sa-umpama-nya kapada peniaga² yang bukan ra'ayat Malaysia ini. Saya harap mendapat pandangan yang berat daripada Menteri Yang Berkenaan dalam hal ini.

Tuan Haji Rahmat bin Haji Daud (Johor Bahru Barat): Yang Berhormat Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya sokong bagaimana Ahli Yang Berhormat yang telah berchakap tadi. Saya memberi pandangan satu sahaja di-sini ia-itu berkenaan perkara gula tadi, saya sangat dukachita, gula di-Johor Baharu berharga 45 sen sa-kati. Tetapi tidak jauh daripada Johor Baharu di-Singapura harga gula di-sana 25 sen sa-kati. Kalau pun di-kenakan chukai sabanyak 10 sen sa-kati, jadi harga-nya 35 sen, dan peniaga kalau hendak mengambil untong kata-lah, 2 sen patut-nya harga gula itu jadi 37 sen, atau satinggi-nya² 40 sen. Tetapi malang-nya gula di-Johor harga-nya 45 sen, dan di-Singapura harga-nya 25 sen, ini harga runchit², jadi banyak-lah orang² yang tidak kemampuan terpaksa pergi membeli gula di-Singapura chara yang berdikit².

Saya telah bertanya kapada peniaga² di-Johor Bharu, kenapa harga gula melambong macham ini. Kata-nya ini ia-lah untuk mendapatkan permit membeli gula itu sangat susah. Jadi sa-kiranya kalau chukai di-kenakan kapada peniaga² seperti Wholesaler di-Johor Baharu dapat membeli macham dahulu, saya ingat harga gula tidak-lah begitu tinggi. Saya harap Kementerian yang berkenaan akan menyiasat perkara ini, supaya dapat harga gula di-Johor Baharu dan juga di-Malaya tidak lebeh tinggi daripada harga gula di-Singapura.

Ini sangat mendukachitakan, sebab gula itu ada-lah mustahak pada tiap² orang miskin, dan kaya, tetapi yang

susah ia-lah orang² miskin juga. Demikian-lah saya harap mendapat perhatian daripada pehak² yang berkenaan.

Dr Lim Swee Aun: Mr Speaker, Sir, with the harmonisation in the custom duties of sugar in Singapore and Malaya now, the retail price of sugar in Singapore and the States of Malaya should be the same. The retail price of sugar at 45 cents today is not excessive in relation to world prices. This price has been worked out according to the cost of import of raw sugar, added to the cost of refining and the cost of transportation and we have come to figure 45 cents which is a reasonable retail price for the States of Malaysia.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Mr Speaker, Sir, I am very glad that the two Honourable Members on our side of the House have raised this matter of profiteering. It is even worse in some cases; for example, I heard yesterday afternoon that in a shop in Petaling Jaya they were charging extra for fish. Now, as Honourable Members know, fish has not been touched at all in this Budget. The Government is very concerned about the tendency of unscrupulous shopkeepers to take advantage of a small rise in import duty to charge far more than what the increase in import duty warrants, and, as I have said already, in some cases they have gone further and charge more for commodities which are not taxed at all. We on this side of the House believe in the virtues of free enterprise, but if any section of the business community in this country shows signs of irresponsibility, then the Government may one day be, I think, compelled to do something very drastic. It is not my habit to make very rash promises, but I can assure the country that if, for example, we find that essential commodities are being overcharged then we will not hesitate to consider the creation of a marketing board for such commodities. That will mean that the Government may put out the business of the retail industry in this country. This is a very serious step, but we will have to consider it. A very serious situation might

happen if shopkeepers in this country cannot behave themselves.

My Honourable friend, the Minister of Agriculture and Co-operatives, has in fact a plan to set up a number of marketing authorities and, as I have said already, we may have to act more quickly and even more drastically unless the business community in this country show some sense of responsibility. (*Applause*).

Question put, and agreed to.

Resolved,

That this House resolves that in accordance with the powers vested in it by virtue of sub-section (3) of section 8 of the Customs Ordinance (Cap. 26) of Sarawak, the Customs (Import and Export) Duties (Amendment) (No. 3) Order, 1964, which has been laid before the House as Statute Paper No. 104 of 1964 be confirmed.

THE EXCISE DUTIES (AMENDMENT) (No. 2) ORDER, 1964

(Excise Ordinance (Cap. 27) of Sarawak)

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Mr Speaker, Sir, I beg to move:

That this House resolves that in accordance with the powers vested in it by virtue of sub-section (2) of section 3 of the Excise Ordinance (Cap. 27) of Sarawak, the Excise Duties (Amendment) (No. 2) Order, 1964, which has been laid before the House as Statute Paper No. 105 of 1964 be confirmed.

This Order makes provision for an excise on lubricating grease containing less than 70 per cent. petroleum products and on crown corks at rates which correspond to the rates of import duty payable on these classes of goods. No revenue will be obtained until domestic manufacture of these products occurs.

Sir, I beg to move.

Dr Lim Swee Aun: Sir, I beg to second the motion.

Enche' Tan Toh Hong (Bukit Bintang) Mr Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the motion of the Honourable Minister of Finance. Whilst I am not going to debate on the Budget, but I have here some points of clarification in regard to crown corks. The House is asked to approve to levy an import duty of five cents per piece of crown

cork in the State of Sarawak and we have just . . .

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Excise duty.

Enche' Tan Toh Hong: Excise duty of five cents. I am grateful to my Honourable Minister of Finance. The House has just approved a similar excise in the States of Malaya and in Sabah. I am somewhat perplexed, Sir, why Singapore is excluded from this excise of five cents per piece. Given the equal cost of manufacture, the equal cost of raw materials, including sugar, then the cordial manufacturers in Singapore would have a special advantage over those in the States of Malaya, Sabah and Sarawak. While I appreciate the Honourable Minister of Finance for being more concerned with the well-being of the Singapore people than the Honourable Members from Singapore, I would like to seek clarification why cordial manufacturers should be given a special advantage in Singapore. Thank you.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Mr Speaker, Sir, in the first place, I think the Honourable Member is really speaking out of turn, because we are dealing with excise duties in Sarawak, but he is now referring to Singapore. Anyway, I can still explain the reasons.

As I have made clear in my Budget speech, the Government has deliberately left out Singapore in this particular exercise, because it has been represented to us that Singapore is bearing import duty on sugar for the first time in its history, and to impose at the same time either an import duty, or an excise duty, on crown corks would mean that the cost of a bottle of aerated water in Singapore would go up by 50 per cent at one shot—and thus, I think, there is some validity in this representation. In the case of the other regions of Malaysia, import duty is already being levied and so the impact is not so drastic. I think, therefore, it was fair, at least as a first operation, for Singapore to be left out.

Question put, and agreed to.

Resolved,

That this House resolves that in accordance with the powers vested in it by virtue of

sub-section (2) of section 3 of the Excise Ordinance (Cap. 27) of Sarawak, the Excise Duties (Amendment) (No. 2) Order, 1964, which has been laid before the House as Statute Paper No. 105 of 1964 be confirmed.

BILLS

THE CUSTOMS (AMENDMENT) (No. 2) 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 the Customs Ordinance, 1952" be read a second time. The purpose of this Bill is to enable the Minister of Finance to impose a duty on motor vehicle tyres and tubes imported into Penang, that is, Penang Island should he consider this desirable at any time. I wish to emphasise that the amendment will enable the Government to impose a duty only on these particular classes of goods, and if any further items are to be made dutiable in Penang, further amending legislation must be presented to Parliament.

As a result of the imposition of a protective duty on motor vehicle tyres and tubes to promote the domestic manufacture of these goods, the problem of smuggling from Penang Island into the Principal Customs Area has become increasingly acute. The task of preventing the smuggling of motor vehicle tyres and tubes is unusually difficult as car owners can evade the payment of duty by fixing the tyres and tubes to their vehicles, and any system of checking by Customs to prevent this would cause serious traffic delays at Butterworth.

Since the protective duty was raised to the present levels in the Principal Customs Area substantial stocks of these goods have been accumulated on Penang Island, the amounts involved being far in excess of those required to meet the demands of the Island itself. It is clear that the main purpose of such stocks is to meet demands of motor vehicle owners from the mainland. The Tariff Advisory Board has expressed the view that these stocks could damage the proposed common

market for these classes of goods, and has recommended the imposition of quantitative restrictions on imports of these goods into Penang. The advice of the Board has been accepted by Government and restrictions on imports were imposed with effect from 24th October, 1964.

In the interests of domestic manufacturers of tyres and tubes and of Government revenue it is essential that the smuggling of tyres into the Principal Customs Area at Butterworth should be prevented. This could be achieved by the permanent imposition of rigid restrictions on imports into Penang Island. Such restrictions on a permanent basis are undesirable. I am satisfied therefore that the only effective long term solution to this problem is to impose import duties on motor vehicle tyres and tubes imported into Penang Island. I do not consider that this measure need have an adverse effect on traders on Penang Island. The volume of the entrepot trade in these classes of goods is very small at the present time and facilities will be provided for the bonding of these goods so as to avoid damaging the existing trade.

Hon'ble Members will note that the Bill will not come into force until such time as is determined by the Minister of Finance. The purpose of this provision is to enable the Government to delay the imposition of import duties in Penang Island on motor vehicle tyres and tubes until such time as he is satisfied that existing stocks have been reduced to more reasonable levels, as once the duty is imposed in respect of imports into Penang Island it would be wrong to continue any restriction on the freedom of traders to move such goods from Penang Island into the Principal Customs Area.

The provisions of this Bill have been discussed with the Chief Minister of Penang, who is in agreement with the purpose of the Bill though he suggested that no import duty should be imposed on imports of bicycle tyres and tubes, and Honourable Members will notice that clause 2 of the Bill has been drafted to exclude such goods from its scope.

As stated in my opening remarks, the Bill now being considered by this House does not permit the imposition of duty in Penang on any other class of goods except motor vehicle tyres and tubes. Nevertheless, I take this opportunity of asking representatives in Penang to reconsider the question of Penang Island's entry into the Malaysian common market. A large part of the Island's entrepot trade has been lost and it is doubtful whether this trade will ever be regained. In the circumstances, neither the entrepot trade nor tourism is likely to provide satisfactory employment opportunities for the growing population of Penang and the best hope for expanded employment opportunities lies in a programme of industrialisation. The Central Government and Federal statutory bodies are undertaking substantial development of the economic infrastructure of Penang, to wit, the construction of a permanent road bridge over the Prai river, the creation of a modern port on the mainland at Bagan Luar, the extension of Malaysian Railway to Butterworth and the development of a 60 MW power station at Prai by the Central Electricity Board. These investments provide the essential framework for industrial development in the Butterworth area, and I am confident that substantial development will take place there, particularly if the market of Penang Island were made available to domestic manufacturers by its inclusion within the Malaysian common market. Such industrial development would provide many more jobs for those living of Penang Island. The existing ferry service between the Island and Butterworth is excellent and the distance from Georgetown to Butterworth is no greater than that from Setapak to Petaling Jaya.

Time is not on the side of Penang Island in this matter. Industry attracts industry and unless Penang enters into the main stream of industrial development she could well find that she has missed the boat, as once industrial development takes place in other parts of Malaysia, Penang may never be able to recover lost ground.

Tourism must be encouraged in Penang and those items which are of particular value to the promotion of the tourist industry such as cameras, watches and cosmetics can be excluded from the common market in so far as Penang is concerned, so that a decision to come into the common market need not involve the destruction of Penang's tourist industry. I am satisfied that such a consummation will provide the best means for Penang to overcome its employment problems, particularly when such a large part of its entrepot trade is lost and irrevocably lost, and I recommend that the representatives and people of Penang reconsider this question as a matter of urgency.

Sir, I beg to move.

Dr Lim Swee Aun: Sir, I beg to second the motion.

Enche' Ismail bin Idris (Penang Selatan): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, sesungguhnya Bill ini sa-kira-nya tidak di-jalankan sekarang ini pun tidak mengapa, tetapi saya suka hendak menyatakan dalam Majlis ini bahawa sa-telah Menteri Kewangan ishtiharkan Pulau Pinang atau pun kawasan Pulau Pinang akan di-jadikan kawasan di-dalam Common Market dari semenjak itu-lah Pulau Pinang ini merasa churiga dengan penduduk² yang sa-bagitu banyak, harus pada satu hari nanti kedudukan Pulau Pinang lebeh merusut lagi daripada keadaan-nya sekarang. Sekarang pun satu Bill akan di-kemukakan di-sini menunjokkan lebeh lagi terok keadaan Pulau Pinang pada masa hadapan.

Pulau Pinang hari ini ada-lah sa-buah pulau sa-bagaimana Ahli² Yang Berhormat tahu, pulau yang kecil yang penduduk-nya banyak dan perniagaan-nya pun kecil² belaka. Jadi sa-kira-nya Pulau Pinang akan menjadi satu tempat yang segala²-nya di-komanmaketkan (common market), maka saya rasa tentu-lah orang² di-sana makin sa-hari makin miskin daripada yang ada sekarang ini. Perusahaan² yang besar tidak langsung di-beri kesempatan kepada orang² di-Pulau Pinang. Oleh yang demikian,

saya harap supaya Kerajaan ini menimbangkan walau pun hendak dikenakan Pulau Pinang itu sa-bagaimana yang ada dalam tanah besar, tetapi timbangkan-lah dan saya minta jangan di-chepat²kan memasokkan Pulau Pinang itu dalam lengkongan Common Market.

Sa-perkara lagi saya suka hendak sebutkan ia-lah oleh sebab Pulau Pinang ada-lah sa-buah pulau yang baik, Ahli² Yang Berhormat dan pelanchong² harus akan datang ka-sana. Saya minta sa-kali lagi supaya Kerajaan Federal akan memberi sa-penoh² perhatian bagi membaiki keadaan pelanchongan di-sana. Hari ini keadaan pelanchongan bukan-lah bagitu baik sa-bagaimana yang di-katakan oleh Menteri Kewangan tadi, tetapi kalau Menteri Kewangan memberi wang lebeh banyak lagi kepada Pulau Pinang, maka ini-lah satu chara mudah²an orang² di-sana dapat hidup saperti mana orang² yang ada dalam tanah besar.

Enche' Ibrahim bin Abdul Rahman (Seberang Tengah): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya datang dari Pulau Pinang juga tetapi kawasan saya ia-lah di-Seberang Prai—Seberang Prai dengan Pulau Pinang ia-lah satu negeri. Sahabat saya dari Pulau Pinang Selatan telah pun merayu kepada Yang Berhormat Menteri Kewangan supaya menumpukan perhatian yang berat berkenaan dengan masalah pelanchongan. Saya menyokong penoh Bill ini kerana jika tayar² dan tiub² motor tidak di-kenakan chukai, saya perchaya tiap² hari bukan berpuluh bahkan beratus dan beribu tayar yang keluar daripada Pulau Pinang ka-Seberang Prai dan seluroh Tanah Melayu dengan tidak kena chukai. Saya bukan salahkan Pegawai Kastam, tetapi mustahil dan sangat susah bagi pegawai² ini hendak memerhatikan ada-kah sa-saorang itu membayar chukai tayar yang di-bawa keluar itu, kerana kebanyakan motor² yang pergi ka-Pulau Pinang dari Kedah, Perak dan lain² negeri menggunakan tayar botak atau tayar² yang tidak berbunga. Di-Pulau Pinang empat² tayar itu di-tukar dengan ka-untungan lebeh kurang \$60.00—\$70.00. Jadi

dengan ada-nya Bill ini maka dapatlah hasil lebih banyak lagi bukan untuk Pulau Pinang sahaja tetapi untuk seluruh Malaysia.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya merayu lagi sungguh pun saya dari Seberang Tengah, kerana sa-bahagian daripada penduduk² dalam Pulau Pinang berasa takut, apabila Pulau Pinang di-masokkan dalam Common Market, Pulau Pinang akan menjadi satu pulau nelayan (fishing village), tetapi saya percaya Yang Berhormat Menteri Kewangan telah pun memberi jaminan penoh ia-itu Pulau Pinang tidak akan menjadi pulau nelayan. Pulau Pinang akan menjadi satu pulau yang indah. Saya ingat lebih indah lagi daripada Pulau Hawaii. Saya telah pergi ka-Pulau Hawaii, dan saya lihat jika dibandingkan Pulau Hawaii dengan Pulau Pinang saya fikir Pulau Pinang lebih indah dan chantek lagi, tetapi oleh sebab kekurangan² dan Pejabat Pelanchongan tidak bagitu chergas barangkali soal kewangan-nya tidak chukup. Jadi, Pulau Pinang ini tidak bagitu banyak di-buat untuk menarek pelanchong lebih ramai. Saya harap kepada Yang Berhormat Menteri Kewangan supaya Pejabat Pelanchongan dalam Pulau Pinang itu dikuasai atau di-selenggarakan oleh Kerajaan Pusat dengan menumpukan wang yang lebih supaya dapat menarek pelanchong² ka-Pulau Pinang, kerana kekayaan Hawaii ada-lah bergantung kepada pelanchongan. Saya harap Pulau Pinang tidak akan menjadi pulau nelayan. Terima kaseh.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Mr Speaker, Sir, I am very grateful to the last Honourable Member for almost replying on my behalf to the first Honourable Member who spoke on this Bill. The misgiving which has been expressed by the first speaker is not quite in line with what we know. I think even the representatives of the people of Penang admit that unemployment is growing there. We know of cases, for example, where boys holding School Certificates have been forced to work as little more than labourers. Now, what is the solution here?

The Honourable Member says that at the moment industry will not go to Penang. Naturally industry will not go to Penang, because any manufacturer who establishes a factory on Penang Island without tariff protection does not deserve to be in business. He will go out of business doubly quick for the obvious reason that he is open to the winds of competition from the four corners of this earth. The domestic market on Penang Island is not worth talking about; it is no market at all in the normally accepted sense of business, and therefore he has not got a chance in, I feel like using the word, "hell", if that is regarded as a Parliamentary expression. But that is the literal truth. Penang, therefore, has got only one solution, and Singapore has seen the light. It is very ironical to us in the Central Government that while Singapore is making the most frantic attempts to get into the common market, Penang's attitude is the exact opposite. Their problems are similar, and the reason Penang gives, is that the common market will destroy it.

Hitherto the only reason for the existence of a free port is the preservation of the entrepot trade. There is no other valid reason for a free port status and, if I am not mistaken, Penang Island is the only island in the whole wide world where an entire island is made a free port area—it does not exist anywhere else in the world. It is, therefore, clear that the only hope for Penang Island is to come into the common market. This is not only the opinion of the Federal Government, it is the opinion of the Rueff Mission which was a body consisting of international experts, it is the opinion of the Chairman of the Tariff Advisory Board, and it is the opinion of many, many others who can take a detached view of the problems of Penang Island. At the same time, we agree that Penang has got its problems and it is essential, if it is to enter the common market, that it must be in stages. No one disputes that. If the people of Penang are prepared to reorientate their thinking, I have every confidence that we can ensure that

Penang's entry into the common market will be done in stages and at such a pace that it will damage neither the little entrepot trade that is left to it nor the tourist trade.

In regard to the question of smuggling, I think there is no doubt at all that smuggling is rampant; in fact, it exists on such a scale that, as Honourable Members will have read from the newspapers, even the Vigilante Corps expressed some misgivings about patrolling the Island at night because of the widespread incidence of smuggling. We in the Government know that the position is very bad, because Penang Island imports a fantastic number of motor vehicle tyres and tubes. By no stretch of the imagination can anybody outside a lunatic asylum believe that those motor vehicle tyres and tubes are meant for consumption on Penang Island. By the simple process of elimination, it is therefore clear that there is only one other place they can go to and that is the Principal Customs Area of the States of Malaya.

I think I have said enough and, although what I have said is rather strong, I hope what I have said will have some effect on the thinking of the people on Penang Island.

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 the third time and passed.

THE CONSOLIDATED FUND (NATIONAL SECURITY EXPEN- DITURE) BILL

Second Reading

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Mr Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that a Bill intituled

"an Act to apply a sum out of the Consolidated Fund towards expenditure during the financial year 1965 in connection with the defence of the Federation, the maintenance of internal security and public order and related matters" be read a second time.

Honourable Members may recall that at the last Budget session of the House, a similar law was passed which enabled the Government to spend an additional sum of \$50 million in the event of additional expenditure for defence and security being required during the year beyond what had been authorised in the Estimates laid before the House then. We do not know what the future holds in store for us in so far as Indonesian confrontation and aggression are concerned and, therefore, it would be prudent for the same contingency to be provided for next year. It is not possible to foresee or to inform the House at this stage of the details of the additional expenditure which may be required for the purpose.

As I stated last year, Article 102 (b) of the Constitution lays down a special procedure for meeting situations of this kind, when owing to the indefinite character of the requirements or to circumstances of unusual urgency, it appears necessary to authorise expenditure without going through the normal procedure of tabling detailed estimates, and the Government has decided that it is appropriate to ask the House to take similar action in accordance with this special provision once again. I should add that this procedure is followed in the mother of Parliaments, namely the British Parliament. It is called a vote of credit there and several votes of credit were taken in each of the war years, i.e. the period of both the First and Second World Wars. As the House is well aware, we are practically in a state of undeclared war, which is not of our own seeking, with Indonesia, and thus the need for the special procedure is clear.

I have no doubt at all that the overwhelming majority of Honourable

Members will give their whole-hearted support to the Government in taking whatever measures are deemed necessary to safeguard the security of our nation. We are determined to see that Malaysia is securely defended and will not hesitate to provide the necessary financial requirements for this purpose.

In respect of the vote of credit of \$50 million which has been provided for this year, I am glad to be able to inform the House that to date we have not as yet touched the resources provided in this vote. It is unlikely that the provision will be made use of this year.

As I explained last year, the Government will of course subsequently come to this House in the normal manner with full estimates for approval in the event that any part of this vote has to be drawn upon. The provision of the \$50 million asked for in this Bill is in fact in the nature of an emergency reserve to be used in the event of it not being practicable to keep within the estimated provision asked for in the Ordinary Estimates of Expenditure, 1965. I can give an assurance to the House that this provision of \$50 million will be drawn upon only for purposes connected with the threat to national security and only if the Government is satisfied that the expenditure is essential for the preservation of our nation.

Sir, I beg to move.

Dr Lim Swee Aun: Sir, I beg to second the motion.

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: Mr Speaker, Sir, I beg to ask whether this Bill has been sent to Members of this House. I am looking high and low for this Bill. The Honourable Member for Ipoh is also looking high and low for this Bill. I do not know whether we have been circulated with this Bill.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Mr Speaker, Sir, according to the Clerk to the House of Representatives, the Bill has been circulated to Honourable Members yesterday. We on this side of the House received our copies some time ago, and I am sure the Honourable

Member has not been discriminated against in this respect.

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: Mr Speaker, Sir, I am not the only one in the House without the Bill—my Honourable friend from Ipoh is also looking high and low for this Bill. *(Laughter)*.

Enche' D. R. Seenivasagam (Ipoh): Mr Speaker, Sir, I did not say I have not got the Bill—I might have mislaid it. *(Laughter)*.

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: Mr Speaker, Sir, I rise to speak on this Bill, although I am seeing it for the first time.

Mr Speaker, Sir, in general, of course, we agree with the Government that it is prudent to make such provisions for the national security of this country. But I would urge the Government to see that the money that is being sought for is prudently spent and that other avenues of expenditure for the maintenance of national security should be explored as much as possible before we make use of this fund. I say this, Sir, because in the past few weeks there have been at least two military missions that visited this country and there have been lots of other foreign countries cheering us from the sideline: saying that we should take up a tough attitude towards Indonesia, that we should perhaps make Malaya the northern frontier of Australia, and the like. They cheer us from the sideline and they want us to spill our blood in their defence. They even say openly that we are the front line of Australia. As such, I would urge the Government that these countries, which are so vociferous in cheering us on and, perhaps, asking us to spill our blood in their defence, should also come to our rescue with financial commitments.

Enche' D. R. Seenivasagam (Ipoh): Mr Speaker, Sir, whilst nobody can complain about making provision for expenditure for the security of the nation, one must be careful that money expended for the security of the nation is properly expended for such a purpose.

Mr Speaker, Sir, on the question of defence of this country, particularly in relation to confrontation, there is no doubt that the Government will be spending large sums of money on such matters as the Solidarity Week and other functions, if I may call them, to inspire the people and to bring about a so-called national unity. Now, whilst it is the objective of politicians, statesmen and citizens of this country to be united in the face of confrontation, every act and every word spoken at this juncture becomes an important one, because a wrong act or a wrong word spoken could spread disunity rather than unity amongst the people. Again, on the question of internal security, with which this Bill is connected, it is necessary that the principle of the rule of law must be maintained and money expended must be so expended that the rule of law is supreme and is maintained.

Mr Speaker, Sir, this Bill gives me the opportunity to bring to the notice of this House matters on defence which have taken place within the last few weeks. Solidarity Week was launched and it has closed. It has been hailed a success. But it is regretful for me to say that the Government turned it into a political Solidarity Week controlled and run not as a Government sponsored Week but as an Alliance sponsored Week. This came very powerfully to light in the State of Perak, for which I think condemnation must go to the Perak State Government. Solidarity Week, for which money of the type envisaged in this Bill will undoubtedly be spent in the future, was supposed to be an event in which citizens of this country, irrespective of political beliefs or creeds, were required to take part. It was expected, therefore, that those in charge of the Solidarity Week would invite individuals, organisations and political parties, other than their own, to take part in the Solidarity Week. In the State of Perak, the representative of the Solidarity Week, if I may put it that way, was obviously the Mentri Besar of Perak who made a press statement saying that the

Peoples' Progressive Party was invited to the Solidarity Week but had not replied. An immediate reply was given to that, saying that we were not invited, and that denial by us was accepted by the Perak State Government, because they did not in any way suggest that they did invite us after our denial of an invitation having been accepted. Subsequently, a letter was received by this Party asking us, at that late stage, to send a representative to a certain committee meeting. Our representative did go in fairness to the people of this country and the Government of this country, and at that meeting it was decided that a Solidarity Week Rally be held at Ipoh. An item on the agenda, Mr Speaker, Sir, for which monies envisaged in this Bill would be spent, was that representatives—here I emphasise the word “representatives”—of the ra'ayat would speak at Ipoh. Immediately the question was raised, “Who are the representatives of the ra'ayat as far as the Ipoh area was concerned?” The answer given was, “We are calling Mr Ponnunasamy Pillai from Tapah and several other persons from outside Ipoh to speak to the ra'ayat of Ipoh”. We said, “Very good, we have no objection to anybody speaking, so long as there is one true representative at least to show that this is a matter of national unity where political implications do not arise—at least one Member of the P.P.P. should be asked to speak.” There was no response to that. I think that was a reasonable request; and no response having come, then this Party wrote a letter to the State Secretary of Perak saying that, under those circumstances, with very great regret, we have to refrain from attending that Solidarity Week public meeting. A copy of that letter was also sent to the Honourable Minister of Information for necessary action, but nothing followed, and the situation was like that. This Party was not given the opportunity, although it wanted to, to take part in that rally. We were, therefore, forced to hold our own rally and call upon the people to stand united in the face of confrontation. I say that that is a wrong thing to have happened. I hope it will not be

repeated in future because, if that is the way you are going to conduct national affairs and call for national unity, you are causing national disunity, you are not causing unity, because you are showing by your actions that you are bringing in political implications when you try to say that you are not.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I spoke of the rule of law. Of course, I would like to make it very clear that the P.P.P. did not bother that we were not called there to speak because we have our own means of calling the people to be united in this fight against Indonesia. But, I think, in the interest of the nation, it is regrettable that the Perak authorities thought it fit to behave in that manner.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I spoke of the rule of law in relation to expenditure for national defence; and here comes into sharp focus the question of what is happening to Indonesian infiltrators and local persons, who are alleged to be traitors to this country. Now, in the normal course of the law, they are produced before a Magistrate and the Magistrate's only duty is to say, "You are committed for trial to the High Court"—of whatever State they are produced in. Mr Speaker, Sir, it is very important that, in spending money on this matter, there must be no indication that this nation, or that the Judiciary, or that the Public Prosecutor's Department is prejudiced even before a trial starts, because if we are going to show that we are prejudiced even before a trial starts, then I say the rule of law has been abrogated and no longer exists. Now, one may ask, "Why are you saying this?" It is only necessary for you to read back—I think 10 days ago—the *Straits Times*, where, in a Johore Court, I think, 9 Indonesians and 2 local citizens were produced before a Magistrate for the formality of being committed for trial to the High Court. The learned Magistrate there told the 9 Indonesians, "You are committed for trial to the High Court." He called upon the 2 Malaysians—when I say "Malaysians" I mean "Malayan citizens"—and he said to them: "You are traitors to this

country. You are committed for trial." Mr Speaker, Sir, it does not take one to be a lawyer, or to know anything about the law, to draw the most horrible implications from that statement—"You are traitors to this country." How does he know they are traitors to this country? Has he heard the case? Has anybody heard one iota of evidence in the case? Is that the justice you are going to dispense? They may well be traitors, but let that be proved before you call them traitors to this country. Your duty is to commit for trial without comments on the facts. I do hope that those responsible for the administration of justice will see that whatever our personal feelings may be, the rule of law is maintained and no remarks of that nature are ever made and publicised to such an extent that if those men were going to get a jury trial—here they are not going to get it—but if they were going to get it, do you think you could ever get a jury which will be unbiased by statements of that nature? Many are asking themselves, "Is this the justice, which we are going to dispense in maintaining the rule of law and maintaining the principles of democracy in this country?"

Speaking of the rule of law, and again speaking on expenditure envisaged in this Bill, what kind of justice we have here? Who heads Justice, who is the Assistant Minister of Justice, is very important and interesting. The Assistant Minister of Justice had the audacity to say that political parties which boycotted the Solidarity Week should be banned in this country. By what right does he dare to say that in public? By what authority does he say that there is justice in this land? Solidarity Week is supposed to be a voluntary act. If anybody wants to boycott it, he can boycott it. He may have his reasons for boycotting it. If his reasons are detrimental to the interests of this country, that is another matter. But the mere fact of a boycott of Solidarity Week should not entitle any man in this House, or outside this House, to draw an inference of disloyalty of any person who does so. There may be a

thousand and one reasons why you boycott something, and if that is a sample of what the Assistant Minister of Justice can say to the people of this country, then I say this nation can well be ashamed of that Assistant Minister of Justice.

Enche' Tajudin bin Ali (Larut Utara): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya bangun menyokong Rang Undang² yang telah di-kemukakan oleh Yang Berhormat Menteri Kewangan. Saya tidak suka hendak berchakap panjang di-atas perkara ini, tetapi saya mengambil peluang di-sini memikirkan satu tuduhan yang sangat berat yang telah di-bawa oleh Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Ipoh tadi berkenaan dengan pelancharan Minggu Perpaduan yang telah mendapat sambutan yang gilang-gemilang daripada seluroh ra'ayat jelata di-Malaysia ini sa-lain daripada kunchu² P.P.P.

Di-Perak, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, sambutan yang sa-demikian itu sa-rupa juga di-mana² saperti seluroh Malaysia ini. Saya suka menegaskan di-sini, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, ia-itu "Minggu Perpaduan" khas-nya dalam negeri Perak tidak sa-kali² ada berbau politik, tidak ada champor gaul langsung politik di-dalam-nya.

Berkenaan dengan jemputan kamana² rapat raksaksa, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya rasa boleh di-katakan semua orang tidak ada mendapat jemputan yang rasmi. Saya sendiri tidak ada mendapat jemputan yang rasmi dan kawan saya ia-itu Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Batu Gajah bertanya kapada saya, "mengapa saya tidak menerima jemputan rasmi dari Kerajaan Negeri Perak?" Saya kata, ini tidak berma'ana, kerana ini ada-lah satu hari yang kita sakalian mesti menunjukkan ta'at setia kita kapada negara ini, sama ada di-jemput atau tidak.

Dalam Dewan lama dahulu, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya telah menyatakan sa-kali dua di-atas kedukachitaan saya sendiri berkenaan dengan pendirian sa-tengah² pehak yang di-katakan Wakil Ra'ayat. Jauh² di-kaki langit sana, kita belum nampak, atau pun tahu, atau pun belum nampak tentang

pergadohan hendak datang ka-negara kita ini, negara yang kita chintaï, yang kita sukai ini. Saya telah katakan ia-itu telatah² bagi sa-tengah² daripada Ketua² pehak Pembangkang itu sangat-lah merbahaya kapada negara kita ini, dan contoh-nya sudah sangat nyata, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, apabila "Minggu Perpaduan" telah kita lancharkan yang mana ada berbangkit ta' puas hati, ta' ada hendak bekerjasama dan sa-bagai-nya. Perkara ini tidak-lah kita hendak hairankan. Kita tahu sangat² telatah sa-tengah daripada sa-tengah pehak Pembangkang itu.

Saya menyokong penoh di-atas kenyataan Menteri Muda Kehakiman yang mengatakan dengan berani-nya, dengan tegas-nya ia-itu orang² yang tidak menyokong "Minggu Perpaduan" itu patut-lah keluar daripada negara kita ini, atau pun di-simpan kapada satu tempat yang selamat. Sangat-lah mendatangkan malu dan mendukachitakan kapada kita sakalian bagi orang² yang membuat perangai yang sa-demikian itu apabila negara kita sedang di-chabar sama ada kita hidup, atau mati pada hari yang akan datang. Mereka mengechap nikmat yang sa-penoh²-nya dalam negara kita ini, tetapi mereka-lah kaki² pengechut apabila chabaran datang kapada sa'at yang sangat genting ini.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, kapada Pengerusi Minggu Perpaduan ia-itu Yang Berhormat Menteri Penerangan, kami sakalian menguchapkan sa-tinggi² terima kaseh di-atas kebijaksanaan-nya mendatangkan, atau pun melancharkan Minggu Perpaduan. Kapada orang² yang tidak menyokong Minggu Perpaduan itu, saya harap kapada pehak Kerajaan supaya Kerajaan mengambil perhatian yang berat sa-kali.

The Assistant Minister of Justice Enche' Abdul-Rahman bin Ya'kub: Mr Speaker, Sir, when I was having my cup of tea just now, I heard the Honourable Member for Ipoh, my learned friend over there, speaking at great length about the case in Johore. I wish to say that that point will be replied by the Minister of Justice himself.

He also spoke about my statement to the press concerning my call to the Government that political parties which boycotted the Solidarity Week should be banned or proscribed by the Government. He gave notice yesterday that he was going to say this. I am very glad that he has given me the opportunity to reply this morning because if he were to raise this some four or five days afterwards, I would not be here to reply because I shall be going away. As usual, Mr Speaker, Sir, the Honourable Member takes part of the statement and then makes his observation on that part without reading the whole thing. He should have read the whole of the statement right from the beginning. I made one statement in Kuala Lumpur and another statement in Penang. What I said—and I am sure the press boys will support me—is not that the act of boycotting the Solidarity Week alone will suffice to justify any action by the Government to ban any political party in this country—I did not say that. What I said, with reference to the S.U.P.P., the blood brother of the Socialist Front and fortunately not the blood brother, perhaps, of the P.P.P., was that the fact that the S.U.P.P. in Sarawak has decided to boycott, as a party, the National Solidarity Week is another conclusive proof, additional to all the other proofs which are already in the possession of the Government, that this party is an instrument of outside forces which are all out to destroy Malaysian solidarity, to destroy our efforts to build a Malaysian nation. That was the thing I said at Kuala Lumpur Airport and also in Penang. If the press boys did not report fully my statement—it was not a written statement—I am not responsible for that.

Enche' D. R. Seenivasagam: Sir, on a point of clarification, if I may. The Honourable Assistant Minister is misleading the House. He said that I did read part of his statement. Now, let him read the full statement and see whether what he says now appears in the press statement. It does not.

Enche' Abdul-Rahman bin Ya'kub: I would like to know whether he read

the statement in the *Straits Times* or in the *Berita Harian* or in other papers?

Enche' D. R. Seenivasagam: *Straits Times*.

Enche' Abdul-Rahman bin Ya'kub: Let him read in the *Berita Harian* and also in the Penang papers. Be that as it may, let me clarify once and for all. He was asking who the Assistant Minister of Justice is. I am the Assistant Minister of Justice just as the Honourable Member for Ipoh, we on this side of the House do know fully well that in order that democracy will survive in this country, we must maintain the rule of law—we know that. And it has been repeated at every sitting of this House by Ministers and others that we are going to see that true democracy will survive in this part of the world. So, let me make my stand clear in this respect in order to clear any doubts which the Honourable Member might have concerning my attitude towards this problem—I say it again, that the mere act alone of not participating in this National Solidarity Week will not, perhaps, be a sufficient justification for the Government to proscribe or to ban a political party. However, I say this: anyone who wilfully or intentionally boycotts, refuses or refrains from taking part in our National Solidarity Week, is giving Soekarno a bullet, giving Soekarno a very powerful instrument to see that Malaysia will survive and that Malaysia will be a success. Whether or not some one has been invited to the National Solidarity Week, is immaterial. The Honourable Member himself admits several times that he is a true citizen of Malaysia, that he is loyal to Malaysia. So, I say to him . . .

Enche' D. R. Seenivasagam: Sir, on a point of clarification, I am grateful to the Honourable Assistant Minister for making it clear that an act of boycott is not sufficient to ban a party—I am glad that at least today he agrees with me. But I rise on a point of information now. The Honourable Assistant Minister has said that those who boycott this Week intentionally are giving a bullet to Soekarno to show him that Malaysia will be a success. Then he should congratulate all those who

boycott the Malaysia Solidarity Week and he should congratulate us and call us heroes! (*Laughter*).

Enche' Abdul-Rahman bin Ya'kub: Those who boycott this Malaysia Week are giving a bullet to Soekarno to destroy us—that was the point that I intended to make. The Honourable Member himself has already admitted several times that he is a loyal citizen of Malaysia. I do hope, but I did not see anything in the papers, that he himself, though perhaps his Party did not, did take active part in the National Solidarity Week. By doing so, it would have cleared any doubts that might have lingered in the minds of anyone in Malaysia about his loyalty to this country.

Enche' Stephen Yong Kuet Tze (Sarawak): Mr Speaker, Sir, I am rather astounded by the tone of the Assistant Minister of Justice. If I heard him correctly, he was suggesting that any party intentionally boycotting this National Solidarity Week would be an act amounting to collaborating with the Indonesians. Well, firstly, I do not know what he meant by “intentionally boycotting”. Does he mean that one can boycott unintentionally, or whether that he is a man who would do things without really intending doing so? At least, our Party is honest enough to say that this is something which we do not know before hand. We were never informed, or consulted, about the National Solidarity Week—it was sprung on us two days or so before. On the face of it, it was something good, but it might be a cockshy. From our Party's point of view, we could not wholly subscribe to what is, perhaps, a propaganda—we felt that it might be used as a propaganda for the Alliance Government and not for all the people of Malaysia. This was organised by the Alliance Party and then they more or less told us, all the political opposition parties, “You better join in”—and we knew that accusations would be made, just as the Assistant Minister has already made accusations—“If you don't do it, my God we are having your head.” Sir, because of that threat, we thought that we should not allow ourselves to be bullied into accepting

something which they said we must take. We knew it was a propaganda.

Enche' Abdul-Rahman bin Ya'kub: On a point of information, Mr Speaker, Sir, Did not the Chairman of the S.U.P.P. take active part in the National Solidarity Week as Mr Ong Kee Hui?

Enche' Stephen Yong Kuet Tze: Mr Speaker, Sir, we were told that this would be entirely on a voluntary basis, and it was supposed to be a spontaneous exhibition of a demonstration of solidarity. That is good, if it is spontaneous. But we would not allow ourselves as a Party to be forced into the position of “You have to do it”, because we wanted to show that it was not a sincere attempt from the Alliance Government to take the Opposition into confidence in this matter. It is not so much the boycotting of the Solidarity Week but a demonstration against the high-powered pressure that is so often employed by the Alliance Party against the Opposition Parties; it is a protest against the methods that have been employed and used by the Alliance Party that we as a Party boycotted it. But nevertheless, let it be known that we had never told our members that this was something that we should not participate in, because the idea behind it was good. For that reason, we as a party in fact encouraged in some cases our members to take part in this Solidarity Week. Mr Speaker, Sir, I myself took some part in this Solidarity Week. Therefore, it will be very wrong for the Assistant Minister to say that because our party intentionally boycotted it, therefore, heads must roll, because I feel that we are coming to a very dangerous state. We talk in terms of parliamentary democracy, we talk in terms of freedom of expression, assembly, and all the democratic principles that we hold so dear and near, and yet we have people who would indulge in, shall I say, some kind of blackmail to force people to conform to their way of thinking, to conform to their behaviour, and if they don't, then they are outcasts. Now, Sir, if we do not take steps to check that behaviour, the belief that unless you do what you are told to do then you are the enemy

or you have no right to express your views—and that I think will be a very sad day for all of us. We have had cases in America of the famous Mr McCarthy. Are we going to follow his steps—witch-hunt and smear campaigns—against parties who may not see eye to eye with the party in power? Sir, we do not mind any criticism of our action. It may not be wise—Yes. It may for that reason not be able to show to the world that some of the political parties did not take part in the Solidarity Week and for that matter perhaps it was not perfect. Well, surely we cannot expect perfection?

Now, Sir, there is another aspect of the Solidarity Week on which we want to criticise, and it is that it is not so much the substance that has been emphasised but more of the outward show which, we feel, ought not to be emphasised. We have had programmes drawn up where “housey-housey” and “chollotto” were being played in the name of raising national defence fund, and we have had all sorts of silly little things being done. In my mind, these did affect the dignity of the Week. We are more concerned with how we shall really create a condition in which the people of Malaysia can feel as one and can unite as one. Now, have we really worked towards that? Have we really been able to break down the barrier of inequality, and how are we going to get to work towards uniting the people with all these different cultural backgrounds and different racial origin? I think we have not done enough to achieve that. All that the people are trying to do is asking everybody to take out banners and shout slogans and put on an outward show, and after that, all go home and all go back to their little shells and then start thinking in their own terms. Sir, that is something, which we do not think is good and; therefore, we have been trying to put forward ideas, even within the Solidarity Committee, to see to it that we should accentuate and emphasise something else, and not the outward show. Therefore, Sir, we all have different ideas and approaches to things; and because we may not be able to take part in something, which was thought of and engineered by the

Alliance Government, it does not mean that for that reason we are to be shown up as traitors or shown up to be disloyal, because if the Government were to take that view, then I think we shall see the day that democracy is dead.

Enche' Senu bin Abdul Rahman:

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, manakala saya mendengar ucapan² yang di-berikan oleh wakil² di-hadapan saya ini berkenaan dengan Minggu Perpaduan Kebangsaan, saya sendiri merasa sangat² sedih dan sangat dukachita ia-itu sa-bagai Pengerusi Minggu Perpaduan Kebangsaan yang di-arahkan oleh Yang Teramat Mulia Tunku Perdana Menteri untok mengadakan Minggu Perpaduan Kebangsaan itu. Saya perchaya tidak ada sa-orang pun ra'ayat di-dalam negeri ini yang mempunyai sa-benar² chinta kepada tanah ayer kita, Malaysia ini, yang dapat menunjukkan satu sebab pun yang boleh menuduh bahawa Kerajaan atau tujuan di-adakan Minggu Perpaduan Kebangsaan ini ada-lah berdasarkan kepada politik atau pun kerana faedah politik atau pun kerana faedah parti Perikatan.

Daripada mula masa saya di-tugaskan untok meranchangkan Minggu Perpaduan ini di-dalam perjumpaan saya dengan Menteri Besar dan dengan Ketua² Menteri, dan dengan Perdana Menteri Singapura sendiri, telah di-bahathkan perkara ini satu persatu dan telah di-persetujui dengan sa-bulat suara. Manakala telah di-persetujukan dan juga Jawatan-kuasa Minggu Perpaduan itu sendiri, terutama sa-kali di-Persekutuan ini, ada-lah terdiri daripada orang² daripada berbagai² parti dan berbagai² golongan. Kalau sa-kiranya berbangkit tidak puas hati sa-bagai yang di-bangkitkan soal tadi oleh Yang Berhormat wakil dari Ipoh, saya mengaku-lah bahawa telah berbangkit sedikit kesilapan di-Ipoh dengan kerana saya sendiri telah di-beritahu oleh Menteri Besar Perak ia-itu daripada mula-nya manakala undangan kepada wakil Parti² Opposition untok hadir bersama², undangan itu tidak di-hantar atas nama parti, tetapi di-hantar atas nama peribadi atau atas nama persa-orangan. Saya telah menyatakan kepada Menteri Besar Perak bahawa perkara itu ada-lah salah, kerana itu sudah

menjadi arahan daripada sini ia-itu arahan daripada Kerajaan Pusat ia-itu parti² bukan atas nama persaorangan yang di-minta menyertai Minggu Perpaduan itu.

Tetapi saya telah itu di-beritahu oleh Menteri Besar Perak bahawa perkara itu sudah di-buat ia-itu chuma menjemput atau mengundang atas nama peribadi daripada parti P.P.P. kerana dengan sebab itu maka wakil² daripada parti Progressive tidak dapat hadir, dan perkara itu telah di-sampaikan kepada Yang Berhormat Menteri Dalam Negeri, dan Yang Berhormat Menteri Dalam Negeri, juga telah berunding dengan saya dan dengan sebab itu dalam perundingan itu Yang Berhormat Menteri Dalam Negeri bersetuju membenarkan P.P.P. mengadakan satu perayaan lain, asing daripada perayaan yang di-adakan pada 16 hari-bulan itu, dengan kerana tujuan P.P.P. ia-lah mengadakan perayaan itu ia-lah untuk menyokong Minggu Perpaduan.

Jadi saya tidak fikir patut lagi soal ini di-bangkitkan di-dalam Rumah yang berbahagia ini pada hari ini, apa lagi manakala Minggu Perpaduan itu baharu sahaja habis dan sa-bagaimana laporan² yang kita dapati daripada seluruh negeri di-Malaysia ini, tiap² negeri di-Persekutuan ini—Singapura, Sarawak dan Sabah, perayaan² dan sambutan² ada-lah sangat² berjaya, melebehi daripada apa yang kita fikirkan dan apa yang kita sangkakan. Jadi saya rasa tidak patut sangat-lah soal itu di-bangkitkan lagi pada masa ini manakala ra'ayat seluruh Malaysia ini keluar bersama² menunjokkan bagaimana semangat dan chinta ra'ayat itu kepada negeri ini dengan perpaduan mereka. Saya ingin memberi pengakuan di-dalam Rumah ini dan kepada pehak² Pembangkang supaya perchaya bahawa Minggu Perpaduan ini di-adakan sama sa-kali dengan tidak bertujuan politik, bukan di-adakan dengan sebab parti Perikatan atau pun dengan sebab Kerajaan Perikatan, tetapi kebetulan kerana Kerajaan Perikatan yang memerintah pada hari ini, itu sahaja kebetulan-nya, jadi manakala kita yang memerintah pemerintah kita menjalankan atas nama ra'ayat seluruh-nya. Dan

saya menguchapkan ribuan terima kaseh kepada parti PAS atau P.M.I.P. Di-Kelantan ia-itu parti pembangkang yang telah bagitu sa-kali menjalankan dan menjayakan Minggu Perpaduan di-Kelantan itu (*Tepok*), dan bagitu juga PAP di-Singapura yang saya dapat perkhabaran Yang Berhormat Menteri Dalam Negeri sendiri yang hadir di-sana ada-lah satu kejayaan yang besar.

Jadi di-mana-kah letak-nya yang di-katakan Minggu Perpaduan ini di-dasarkan kepada parti politik atau berdasarkan politik. Chuma yang saya hairankan sahaja² kalau sa-kira-nya ada juga yang mengatakan demikian barangkali ra'ayat di-seluruh Malaysia ini tentu-lah faham di-mana kedudukan di-mana tujuan mereka² yang tersebut itu. Kita chuma memandang satu sahaja dalam Rumah ini, tidak-kah kita sa-bagai ra'ayat Malaysia ini dalam masa negeri kita terancham, dalam masa sa-sabua Kerajaan lain hendak menghanchorkan atau hendak mengganyang kita, tidak-kah kita mempunyai sedikit pun ta'at setia kepada negeri ini? Tidak perchaya-kah kita bahawa kita boleh bersatu padu, tidak ada-kah semangat sa-bagai kata orang Amerika yang berkata "right or wrong is my country" (*Tepok*), dan di-mana-kah semangat ini? Saya tidak nampak pula, itu sebab saya katakan hairan sunggoh dan Minggu Perpaduan ini ia-lah samata² di-tujukan untuk menyatu padukan ra'ayat negeri ini. Memang banyak sa-bagai kata Yang Berhormat daripada Sarawak tadi, perkara² itu akan kita buat untuk menunjukan kepada perpaduan ra'ayat di-negeri ini, tetapi satu daripada ranchangan-nya ia-lah Minggu Perpaduan ini. Jangan-lah di-katakan chuma "outward show" chuma kelihatan di-luar sahaja, bukan ada isi atau substances ini satu daripada rangka tujuan² kita menuju kepada perpaduan ra'ayat seluruh Malaysia ini. Kalau rangka yang pertama tujuan² yang pertama itu pun tidak dapat di-sokong oleh parti² yang tersebut, bagaimana-kah parti² yang tersebut hendak menyokong perkara² yang lebeh besar lagi, yang lebeh substance lagi, ini saya hendak bertanya?

Jadi saya harap supaya perkara ini di-timbangkan habis² dan saya minta

supaya jangan-lah di-tuduh lagi bahawa tujuan di-adakan Minggu Perpaduan ini sa-mata² berdasarkan politik atau politik atau prinsip Parti Perikatan. Sa-bagaimana yang saya kata, kebetulan kita yang memerintah pada hari ini, jadi kalau kita memerintah kita hendak buat sa-suatu benda untuk menyatu padukan ra'ayat, ada-kah salah perkara itu? Kalau salah saya tidak tahu di-mana letak-nya keperchayaan dan lojik-nya yang di-katakan benda itu salah. Jadi sakian-lah saya rasa patut-lah di-lupakan segala benda² yang kechil² itu, tetapi kita tuju-lah macham mana saya katakan tadi, tidak ada tujuan lain Kerajaan pada hari ini, melainkan kita berkehendakkan ra'ayat seluroh Malay-sia, walau apa parti pun, apa faham pun, bersatu padu. Itu-lah sahaja tujuan kita dan pada masa ini ada lagi ranchangan yang lebeh besar yang akan dijalankan menuju kepada matlamat yang tersebut. Terima kaseh (*Tepok*).

The Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Justice (Dato' Dr Ismail):

Mr Speaker, Sir, the Honourable Member for Ipoh has chosen in his observation to warn the Government that in the prosecution of the fight against confrontation by Indonesia we should abide by the rule of law. He has quoted an instance of a Magistrate in Johore, who made improper observations in the Magistrate's Court, and he advised the Assistant Minister of Justice that we should take cognizance of this and take appropriate action, if I interpret him correctly. Well, at least, that is what he implied by bringing up this matter in this House. Now, the Honourable Member—I think he is quite conversant with the Constitution of this country—knows that the Judiciary of this country is independent. The fact that I, as Minister of Justice in this House, am here does not mean that I can give directive to the Judiciary of this country. I think that is contrary to what is intended in the Constitution. No doubt, if the Honourable Member's observation or accusation is true, then the Lord President as head of the Judiciary of this country will take appropriate steps. But it is improper for me in accordance with the rule of

law, if I were to give a directive to the said Magistrate.

Now, I would like to reply to the observations made by the Honourable Enche' Stephen Yong from Sarawak. He said that the Solidarity Week was a propaganda of the Alliance Party. I think the Minister of Information has dispelled that accusation of his. The fact that all the Governments in Malaysia—the Central and the State Governments—were consulted showed that it was sponsored by the Government. It is true that the Central Government now is the Alliance Government, but it is *the* Government of the country, and that is why the money from the Consolidated Fund was used for this Solidarity Week for the Government and not the Alliance Party. He said that it was propaganda—the Solidarity Week was propaganda. Judging from the response of the people of the country, the people thought otherwise—the people thought that it was the proper way for the Government to mobilise the spirit of the people of the country. He said that his Party was not concerned with the outward show of solidarity, but as Minister responsible for the security of the country, I know that his Party not only does not care for the outward appearances of solidarity but also that his Party conspired with our enemy to crush Malaysia. It may be asked . . .

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: I would like to seek a point of clarification. If the Honourable Minister has proof that the S.U.P.P. has collaborated with our enemy, then I think it is fit and proper that the Honourable Minister of the Alliance Government should publish a White Paper on it, and let the House know and the country know. To make an allegation like that is improper.

Dato' Dr Ismail: I was coming to that very point in my next observation. He asked, why is it that the S.U.P.P. is not banned? Well, Sir, this is a democratic country. We follow the progress of the enemies of this country. We stretch democracy in this country. The S.U.P.P. has not come

to the point where it is necessary to ban it; but, as usual, I would like to give a proper warning (*Laughter*). It is not good enough for the leaders of the S.U.P.P. to say that the S.U.P.P. as a whole is not acting against the country—just as I have said individual members go to Indonesia for training and so they are not responsible for it. But nevertheless, we will take appropriate steps to see that the Party is responsible for the actions of the members as such.

Now, Sir, I come to the observations made by the Honourable Member for Batu. He gleefully says that we are being urged on by such powers as the United States and others to go on with this confrontation.

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: On a point of clarification, I did not mention United States. I mentioned Australia in particular.

Dato' Dr Ismail: Yes, but the fact is that you used that expression or words to that effect. Now, let me make it quite clear that in opposing Indonesia to crush Malaysia, we do it because we do not want our country to be crushed (*Applause*)—not because we are urged on by the other powers. Sir, if we take all the other activities of the Socialist Front and couple them with the observations of the Member for Batu in this House, who represents his Party, we cannot but come to the conclusion that the Socialist Front is a stooge of Soekarno in this country. (*Applause*) it speaks well for democracy of this country that such a Party as the Socialist Front is allowed to function. But, again, I warn the Socialist Front that it cannot deny forever its activities against this country. The time will come when we have stretched democracy to the limit, and here it will have to suffer the consequences. (*Applause*)

The Honourable Member has mentioned about the delegation from the United States coming here to negotiate with us, and he asks in what way the United States can help us. Sir, he is a literate man; he reads newspapers. He knows that the negotiations had

concluded but it had to be submitted to the Cabinet for approval. It is also said there, and it has been said by the Prime Minister, that we are not going to beg from anybody and that we are going to pay.

Now, as regards the help that we get from such countries as Australia, from the United Kingdom, that is in accordance with our Defence Agreement. The Honourable Member may not agree with the Defence Agreement, that is his right in this House, but he cannot say that these people are just on the sidelines egging us on to confront Indonesia. That I say is evident that he is helping Soekarno to crush this country.

Sir, Members of the Opposition—I refer, of course, to the Socialist Front and to the S.U.P.P.—they talked about democracy, but all I know is that what they are trying to do is to abuse the privilege given by democracy. Sir, in all other countries, when the country is threatened, all Opposition will unite against the enemy, and I can tell the Honourable Members from the Socialist Front and the S.U.P.P. that if this country falls into the hands of Soekarno, the Honourable Member for Batu and the Honourable Enche' Stephen Yong from Sarawak cannot give the excuse to Soekarno that he is not responsible for the activities of the members of his Party. Their heads will be chopped off by President Soekarno. So, it speaks well for the Alliance Government, in fact it is a tribute to the Alliance Government, that in spite of the presence of these political parties who work against us, we have extended democracy to the limit. I say the limit, but if they go beyond the limit, they will have to suffer the consequences. (*Applause*)

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—

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: Mr Chairman, Sir, may I speak on Clause 2? Here a sum of \$50 million is being requested of the House to approve. Sir, since this expenditure, as already been admitted by the Government, has been spent on things like Solidarity Week and the like, with your permission, Sir, may I touch a little things like Solidarity Week, loyalty to the country and the like? I did not touch on this matter before because, perhaps, I did not think it fit to stir up the hornet's nest when things like \$50 million are required for the security of the country.

Mr Chairman, Sir, like the Honourable Member for Ipoh and Enche' Stephen Yong from Sarawak, I too was very perturbed at the utterances of the Honourable Assistant Minister of Justice who, in particular, singled out the Socialist Front and the S.U.P.P. But now that I have got his explanation about the banning of the Socialist Front and the S.U.P.P., I am glad of that assurance, that because we did not participate in it, we should be banned. I am glad for that assurance, and I shall in due course try and get the proper copy of the *Berita Harian* and look it up. If not, perhaps, the Minister of Information may get his Director of Information to give me a copy of that speech, because I would like to see the original of that speech since the *Straits Times* has given a very distorted version, I think. I am not saying that the *Straits Times* did that deliberately, because we saw down there, "Ban the Socialist Front", "Ban the S.U.P.P."; and we in the Socialist Front were naturally perturbed that just because we did not participate in the Solidarity Week, just because we do not see eye to eye with the Government on this matter, we should be banned.

Mr Chairman, Sir, as has been admitted by the Honourable Minister of Information, there have been flaws in the Solidarity Week, which were pointed out by the Honourable Mem-

ber for Ipoh. He has agreed that there have been flaws, perhaps unintentional, about calling people to rally to this—he has admitted himself—and as such you cannot blame the Opposition if we do not look at the gift horse in the mouth.

Another flaw which I wish to bring forward to the Honourable Minister concerned is this. If this is a national effort, it is an effort of the Government and not of the Alliance Party, then, Mr Chairman, Sir, I fail to understand why the Ministers of the Government, who are already far overworked should be sent to the four corners of the States of Malaysia to head this Week. I say this because we know that in Singapore the P.A.P. Government is in control of that State and in Kelantan the Honourable Mentri Besar is the Head of that State; and as such if it is going to be a national effort, why should not the Prime Minister of Singapore be asked to spearhead that National Solidarity Week? Mr Chairman, Sir, here I am not trying to curry favour of the P.A.P. (*Laughter*) or to speak for the P.A.P., but I am merely saying that if it is going to be a national effort, why should not the Prime Minister of Singapore be asked to spearhead that and why an Alliance Minister be asked to spearhead the National Solidarity Week there. In the like manner, why should not the Honourable the Mentri Besar of Kelantan be asked to spearhead? Then you can show the country that this is a national effort. Why should it be that everything should be done by the Alliance? If it is to be a national effort, then, properly speaking, the Heads of those two States should be asked to spearhead that Solidarity Week. I hope these observations will be taken into account by the Honourable Minister concerned when, perhaps, there may be another Solidarity Week in the years to come. We hope confrontation ends before that time—perhaps, I am naive enough to say it will end before another year is over—but if there is going to be another National Solidarity Week, then we should, properly speaking, ask both the Heads of

these two States to spearhead that Week.

Enche' Senu bin Abdul Rahman: Mr Chairman, Sir, may I clarify the point made by the Honourable Member just now? As a matter of fact, the Central Government Ministers, who were at the States, were representing the Central Government. They were there actually to convey the message of the Prime Minister about the Solidarity Week, and actually the Menteri Besar, or the Prime Minister, or the Chief Minister are the Heads. If you want to call them spearheads, they are the spearheads in the States concerned and it is not the intention of the Central Government to interfere, and there is no opposition at all from the State Governments which the Honourable Member mentioned just now.

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: Sir, I am grateful for that clarification. From press reports—after all we can only judge from press reports—including those handouts from the Department of Information, it would appear that this Minggu Perpaduan was spearheaded by the Alliance Ministers concerned, and I am grateful for the clarification by the Honourable Minister just now, and no doubt the Heads of the various States concerned are also very grateful for that.

There is one more little point. I quite rightly believe that the Assistant Minister of Justice has pointed out that those who do not participate in the Minggu Perpaduan wilfully are disloyal and are giving another bullet to the firearms of the Indonesian Government. Sir, I think that is a very sweeping statement to make because, although the Socialist Front, for the reasons already enunciated, feared that this would turn out to be an Alliance stunt and therefore chose not to participate in the Minggu Perpaduan, it does not mean that we are disloyal. Take me for example—if I may quote my own instance. Sir—I belong to the medical profession and I belong to the Council of the Malayan Medical Association, and we in the Council of the Malayan

Medical Association decided—I was one of the main sponsors of it—that all the doctors in private practice should rally round to the Government and offer our services voluntarily to the Government in times of emergency; and none other than the Minister of Health has said that this is the best news that he has heard for a long, long time. I was a part of that—I was a part in initiating that move in the Malayan Medical Council—being a member of the Council of the Malayan Medical Association.

Dato' Dr Ismail: Mr Chairman, Sir, on a point of information, is that how the Honourable Member is so popular in the Socialist Front by dealing out medicine? (*Laughter*).

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: Sir, I do not know what my profession of medicine has got to do with my politics. I try as far as possible not to mix my politics with my medicine (*Laughter*). Perhaps, I can assure the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs that I do not give the wrong political prescription to my patients (*Laughter*). Mr Chairman, Sir, I only just wish to say that I endorse all that has been said by the Honourable Member for Ipoh and the Honourable Member from Sarawak.

One final word, Sir. This fund is being provided for the maintenance of internal security meaning, of course, national security as well. We would hope that it really means national security and that national security does not become synonymous with the security of the Alliance party. If it is synonymous with the security of the Alliance party, and if the Alliance party is in danger of being toppled at the polls, then the Government might well make use of this sum of money, in the name of national security, to put lots of us behind bars and see that we do not take part in the polls in the years to come. It has been openly stated by the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs and Justice that both the S.U.P.P. and the Socialist Front are in danger of being proscribed. If, Mr

Chairman, Sir, the Government has such an overwhelming evidence of our connivance, our treacheries, so called, or collaboration with the Government, then I challenge the Government to publish a White Paper on that. Let it publish a White Paper on the disloyal activities of both the S.U.P.P. and the Socialist Front and let the whole country judge whether we are loyal or disloyal.

Dato' V. T. Sambanthan: Mr Chairman, Sir, while I was seated here, I was observing the speech of the Member for Batu and I thought that he was belabouring the point much too much and that he really suffered from a guilt complex, his party suffered from a guilt complex

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: Is the Honourable Minister saying that I suffer from guilt complex or my party suffers from guilt complex?

Dato' V. T. Sambanthan: I think both suffer from guilt complex. In the end, however, he thought that the best thing was to put on a bold front and he has put it on, but I think everyone knows—he does more than anybody else—the truth.

Enche' Tan Toh Hong (Bukit Bintang): Mr Chairman, Sir, I would like to refute the suggestion given by the Honourable Member for Batu who has said that the National Solidarity Week is not a national effort. Had he attended the public meeting, which was publicised well in advance by the press on October 26 in Dewan Pustaka, he would have known

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: Mr Chairman, Sir, on a point of order, is the House going to sit beyond 12 o'clock? *(Laughter).*

Mr Chairman: If the Honourable Member is going to be long, then I have to ask him to continue his speech this afternoon!

Enche' Tan Toh Hong: I won't be very long, Sir, and I will take only five minutes.

Mr Chairman: Five minutes' time is quite long enough. *(Laughter).*

Enche' Tan Toh Hong: Three minutes?

Mr Chairman: No.

Sitting suspended at 12.03 p.m.

Sitting resumed at 4.30 p.m.

(Mr Speaker in the Chair)

THE CONSOLIDATED FUND (NATIONAL SECURITY EXPENDITURE) BILL

Committee Stage

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.

Preamble ordered to stand as the preamble of the Bill.

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

THE TOLLS (ROADS AND BRIDGES BILL

Second Reading

Dato' V. T. Sambanthan: Mr Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that a Bill intituled "an Act to provide for the payment of tolls for the use of certain roads and bridges" be read a second time.

Sir, the intention of this Bill is quite simple. It is to empower the Government to impose tolls on roads and bridges.

In our country, we have embarked on a big scheme of improvements to roads and bridges, and the results can be seen throughout the country. However, this has resulted in a fair degree of expenditure, and it is felt that at certain stretches where tolls can be imposed, it is proper that this be levied on traffic using such roads. This would in a way help the Government in the building of more roads and bridges, because it would mean that the traffic which uses such roads and bridges would help repay the cost of such expense. However, I wish to

assure the House that it is not the intention to impose tolls in reckless abandon all over the country.

Sir, I beg to move.

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

Enche' Tajudin bin Ali: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya bangun menyokong Bill yang telah di-kemukakan oleh Yang Berhormat Menteri Kerjaraya, Pos dan Talikom ini berkenaan dengan chukai lalu-lintas dalam Malaysia. Saya sangat sukachita mendengar berkenaan dengan Rang Undang² ini telah di-kemukakan, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, kerana 4 tahun dahulu saya telah mendatangkan satu shor dalam Dewan yang lama memikrkan perbelanjaan Kerajaan di-atas membuat jalan baharu, jambatan dan sakalian-nya sangat-lah besar perbelanjaan dari sa-tahun ka-satahun dan perkara ini, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, satu perkara yang baharu kepada negara kita tetapi di-dalam negara² yang lebeh maju daripada kita seperti di-Amerika, Australia dan lain²-nya chukai sa-demikian ini memang-lah berjalan sampai hari ini pun. Umpa-nya, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, satu jambatan yang besar di-Sydney ia-itu satu jambatan yang mempunyai satu keagongan dalam dunia ini sampai hari ini pun mengutip chukai sa-demikian ini juga.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, satu² Kementerian yang chuma mengeluarkan perbelanjaan tiap² tahun berjuta² ringgit banyak-nya dan tidak mengutip apa² perbelanjaan balek ia-lah Kementerian Kerjaraya. Kita perhatikan, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, Menteri ini bekerja sangat kuat sampai badan-nya kurus panjang (*Ketawa*) dan berjemor sampai hitam badan-nya kerana berkhidmat kepada negara dan ra'ayat. Jadi saya rasa kalau orang² yang bertanggung-jawab di-atas kerja² beliau yang sangat kuat itu dan di-atas wang yang di-churah²-kan untuk kema'amoran dan kesenangan ra'ayat jelata patut sangat-lah di-kutip balek. Jalan kita telah pun terkenal yang terbaik sa-kali di-Tenggara Asia dan satu daripada jalan yang baik dalam dunia ini. Kita, bila bawa motokar seperti-lah

kita membawa di-atas sa-helai kain puteh baik-nya jalan kita ini. Di-atas kerja yang baik ini saya memberi tahniah kepada Menteri yang berkenaan. Perkara sa-demikian ini. Tuan Yang di-Pertua, bukan mudah hendak di-jalankan. Negeri² di-Persekutuan Tanah Melayu pun berchadang bersunggo² hendak membuat jalan raya dan jambatan seperti Kerajaan PAS di-Kelantan. PAS chuma hendak membuat satu jambatan dan satu pertiga daripada negara-nya telah pun di-jual atau pun tergadai. Ini saya menunjokkan kesusahan-nya buat satu² perkara itu, Tuan Yang di-Pertua. Tetapi al-hamdulillah, Kerajaan Perikatan dalam Malaysia ini membuat ranchangan yang besaran²—buat jambatan beribu banyak-nya dan membaiki jalan raya tidak satu inchi tanah pun tergadai atau di-jual di-dalam negeri kita ini. Jadi sudah sampai-lah masa-nya, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, ra'ayat jelata sakalian yang mampu membayar chukai ini mesti membayar-nya. Kita jangan-lah hendak-nya ia-itu kita ra'ayat sama ada ta'at kepada Undang² atau pun tidak ta'at, dudok dalam negara ini, mesti membayar juga. Jadi jangan-lah kita harap sa-mata² daripada usaha dan tenaga daripada Kerajaan—kita mesti bayar chukai ini. Saya yakin dan perchaya chukai ini tidak akan memberi kesusahan kepada orang ramai. Tuan Yang di-Pertua, kita bernasib baik dalam Malaysia ini kerana Kerajaan sanggup membuat ranchangan yang besaran² seperti yang ada pada hari ini khas-nya jalan raya, jambatan dan sa-bagai-nya.

Dalam ucapan saya pada tahun² yang lampau berkenaan dengan hal ini, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya telah katakan dengan tegas-nya, kalau sa-kira-nya Kerajaan tidak ada daya upaya atau pun tidak mampu membuat ranchangan yang besaran² bagini boleh-lah kita berikan kepada sharikat atau pun co-operation menyelenggarakan-nya.

Tetapi nasib baik-lah kita dalam Pentadbiran Kerajaan Perikatan ini, segala tenaga kita membuat sa-suatu ranchangan² yang besar ini untuk faedah ra'ayat jelata. Saya harap

segala wang yang akan dapat daripada chukai² itu akan di-taborkan dalam negara kita ini untuk faedah ra'ayat jelata. Bukan satu sen pun akan masuk ka-dalam poket Menteri Kerja Raya atau pun ka-dalam poket Kerajaan Perikatan. Bahkan akan di-taborkan semua-nya seperti yang saya katakan terlebih dahulu tadi untuk faedah ra'ayat di-negeri ini.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, dahulu-nya sa-belum ada-nya sa-batang jalan dari Slim River ka-Tanjong Malim, tuan² sakalian tentu-lah maseh ingat berjalan daripada Utara ka-Selatan daripada tempat itu memakan masa lebih $\frac{1}{2}$ jam, dan sampai sahaja kita ka-Tanjong Malim, tengkok kita pun rasa sakit pinggang kita pun rasa lengoh, oleh sebab jalan itu berbengkang bengkak. Tetapi pada hari ini kita tengok satu jalan terbentang baik dan kita boleh jalan daripada Slim River sampai ka-Tanjong Malim, memakan masa lebih² 10 minit sahaja lama-nya.

Satu perkara yang saya hendak men-datangkan shor di-sini, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, ia-lah berkenaan dengan chukai yang akan di-kutip. Pemandu kereta dalam negara kita ini ia-lah dudok-nya di-sabelah kanan, jadi teringat-lah saya apabila lebih chukai yang hendak di-pungut tentu-lah pondok² itu atau pejabat ini akan di-adakan. Kawan² saya daripada bangsa China atau India terutama-nya akan lebih memberi sokongan kepada Bill ini, tetapi mereka tentu-lah merasa susah sedikit kalau sa-kira-nya pada tiap² tempat hendak di-kutip wang chukai itu, memakan masa. Umpama-nya, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, sampai sa-saorang driver motokar di-situ, orang di-Pejabat itu kata, hendak nama, hendak passport dan hendak bermacam² lagi. Jadi saya rasa perkara yang seperti itu, mesti-lah di-elakkan, kerana terutama sa-kali peniaga² dalam negara kita ini sudi membantu Kerajaan dengan sa-penoh²-nya, perkara yang mereka tidak ingin ia-lah membuang masa, pada tempat yang akan mengutip chukai² itu.

Oleh yang demikian saya menda-tangkan shor di-sini, ia-itu pondok² atau pun pejabat² yang hendak mengu-

tip chukai² itu, hendak-lah di-adakan sa-belah kanan. Jadi driver² itu bila sampai di-situ beri duit terus jalan, dan mesti-lah tidak memakan masa lebih daripada satu seken atau pun jangan lebih daripada satu seken. Biar lebih sedikit pembayaran-nya, tidak apa, tetapi tolong jangan meng-ambil masa atau pun membuang masa mereka itu di-situ. Sakian-lah, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, terima kaseh.

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: Mr Speaker, Sir, before I commence on my speech proper, I wish to say that the previous speaker although congratulating and supporting the Minister of Works, Posts and Telecommunications has brought to his attention one difficulty of the ra'ayat—i.e., the waste of time—and he has drawn the attention of the Minister that we should have a *pondok*, or a collecting house, which is to be situated right where a person passes and, if I remember rightly, he does not have to spend more than a minute in paying for his toll and off he goes on his journey.

Enche' Tajudin bin Ali: Only one second.

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: I am sorry, he wanted it to be one second. But I do not know how the Minister of works is going to resolve that—but I will leave it to him. No doubt he will be going to contrive or compute that fast enough.

Nevertheless, as the Honourable Minister of Works has seen, there is at least one doubt regarding this Bill. Mr Speaker, Sir, the Honourable Minister of Finance on Wednesday afternoon reminded this House that fuel tax is ideal. Now, if added to it you have such a novel tax like this, then it is generally safe to say that such a tax will draw on it adverse comments, for this tax is not ideal. As I can see it, the Bill before me has a good deal of flaws, and I shall bring them to the attention of the Minister concerned.

Mr Speaker, Sir, during the Middle Ages in England the lord of a manor used to place an obstacle across the road and, of course, he was the "lord of all his survey" and anyone who

wished to cross his land had to pay a toll—it is just as simple as that. But I hope the Honourable the Minister of works does not regard himself as the “lord of all his survey” in Malaysia. Fortunately, if I heard him correctly, he stated that he was not going to receive this toll discriminately. For this mercy the ra’ayat will have to be thankful to the Honourable Minister of Works for his firm assurance that he was not going to be very discriminate.

Mr Speaker, Sir, if I remember rightly, before the beginning of World War I, there was only one place in Malaya where toll was collected and that was where you had to cross the Iskandar Bridge. Here, correct me if I am wrong, I remember I used to cross this Iskandar Bridge—I think I used to cross it on a bicycle in those days and had to pay a toll (that was before the war), just like in the Middle Ages the lord of a manor collected his toll. But the British Raj in his wisdom dispensed with the toll after the war. Then, during the Emergency in the days of General Templer a number of roads, for strategic reasons, were built, a classic example of which was the Maran Road which is just as lovely and just as safe as the Slim River Road mentioned just now. Now, if under the colonial regime, under the British Raj, the British Raj did not think it fit to inflict such a toll on the people, whom they ruled over, then I feel that it is a retrograde step if we have to impose a toll.

Before I go further, Mr Speaker, Sir, I think it is fit and proper that I should congratulate the Minister of Works for the wonderful job he has done. My job here today is not only to criticise, but to give credit where credit is due. The Minister—rather, his Ministry—has done a wonderful job over the Slim River road; and, of course, the bridges in the East Coast would never have been built if we were not an independent country, and likewise the bridges over the Batu Pahat river and the Muar River. If we were under the British Raj, the British Raj would probably say, “To hell with these people. Let them go by ferry. We

need not worry about the East Coast; the people in any case cannot pay the tax.”

Mr Speaker, Sir, having said that, I must say that today I wish to voice the views of those who are voiceless in this country, because, as the Minister knows, I myself personally am not affected a great deal by it. Unfortunately, owing to the nature of my work, I am bound to Kuala Lumpur all the time and consequently I cannot savour of the delights of driving at 100 miles an hour along the Slim River road, or savour of the delights of the beautiful sights along the East Coast, and not having to waste my time and temper waiting for ferries to ferry me across the rivers. But, no doubt, the Minister of Works has noticed some adverse criticisms in the press by the people who will be using all these roads and bridges, and it is their views that I wish to bring to the attention of the Minister of Works.

Now, I have said that this Bill has lots of flaws in it, because, to my simple mind, Sir, the word “vehicle” down here has not been defined. It is safe to say that if it is a lorry, it is a vehicle; if it is a motor car, it is a vehicle; but when you come down to a motor cycle, I do not know whether that is classified as a vehicle. You may say that if it has to be registered with the R.I.M.V., of course it is a vehicle. But when you come to a bicycle, if one has to push a bicycle across the bridge around the stretch of Slim River, then I do not know whether that is classified as a vehicle. This Bill here unfortunately did not define the word “vehicle”. I would like to have a clarification from the Minister of the word “vehicle”, because it vitally affects the cyclists, who, as the Minister, I hope, will agree, does very little damage to the road in the course of his use of the road.

Then, Mr Speaker, Sir, although this Bill gives the Minister concerned a great deal of discretionary powers, unfortunately, to my mind at least, it is very ambiguous. For example, if it is the intention of this Bill to recover part or whole of the money spent on

the construction of the road, then will the Minister kindly say so. For instance, if the Slim River stretch of road has cost the Government \$5 million, let the Minister say that as soon as he has collected \$5 million, he will stop collecting. Then, I think, this House and the *ra'ayat jelata* will be a little more reassured, because—I do hope that the Minister will agree with me—such tolls, if they go on *ad infinitum*, would not be right; and particularly to the tourists whom we are hoping to attract to this country. If a tourist to the East Coast has to stop every time at every bridge and pay a toll of \$1 or \$2, then he would say, “Good Lord! Are we going back to the Middle Ages? Is this a progressive country? Is this Malaysia another manor that is being administered by the Minister of Works?” Consequently, a statement from the Minister that he would at a certain stage, whether it is three-quarters of the money spent or half of the money spent or 100 per cent of the money spent were collected back, stop collecting tolls would be most reassuring to the people using these bridges and roads.

Another point, Mr Speaker, is this. For a casual motorist like me, I go along the Slim River stretch of road once in six months and, perhaps, the Minister may think my capacity to pay that toll should not cause me too much trouble and consequently I should not grumble—that I agree with him. I use the road very seldom and perhaps my capacity, in his opinion, would not trouble me very much and I would be able to bear that toll. But, Mr Speaker, Sir, that is beside the point. The point is, what about those people who have to use the bridges and the road regularly? That is the point. That is the fear that has been voiced not only in the press but by many people to me. Supposing you have to cross the bridge at Temerloh to Mentakab and *vice versa*,—and the school-children have to cross it three or four times a day on a bicycle—then you have to pay a great deal of money, apart from the time that is spent in collecting the toll. Then, again, there

is the question of the office worker who has to go backwards and forwards in the course of his daily duties across a particular bridge. Although I draw attention to the question of the bridge at Temerloh, no doubt there are lots of other bridges where people have to cross them not just once—like me, if I go along the East Coast,—but many times along the East Coast. Then, what happens? He will have to pay a great deal of money. Then, what about the lorries which carry goods that have to make use of these bridges many times during the course of the day? Already the business community in this country—and here, Mr Speaker, Sir, I want to make it quite clear that I am no apologist for the capitalists in this country; I only want to bring to the notice of the Minister of Works—are howling over the imposition of turnover tax, capital gains tax, payroll tax and they are going in a huddle over it, and if you add on this additional tax to them what is going to happen is that they do not suffer, they merely add it on to the consumer and it is the poor consumer in the end that is to bear the brunt of this new imposition on their expenses.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I do know that under the Bill that is before us the Minister has very wide discretionary powers. For example, under Clause 5, he may even exempt any vehicle from the payment of tolls. He has very wide discretionary powers. A statement by the Minister would allay all the fears that I have voiced today, and it will go a great deal towards assuaging the fears of many of these people who are voiceless in this Chamber. Thank you, Mr Speaker.

Enche' Hussein bin To' Muda Hassan (Raub): Tuan Speaker, saya bersama² menyokong Bill ini. Agaknya Menteri ini akan mengenakan chukai lalu-lintas ini ia-lah jalan Tanjong Malim ka-Slim River. Saya sa-bagai Wakil Ra'ayat kawasan Raub dan Cameron Highland selalu-lah menggunakan jalan ini. Tiap² kali saya lalu di-jalan ini mesti berjumpa kemalangan, kadang² saya terpaksa membawa orang² yang kena kemalangan itu balek ka-Tanjong Malim.

Saya telah kena dua kali. Saya harap sa-telah kita kenakan chukai kepada ra'ayat, Kementerian ini mesti mengambil ingatan ia-itu pada tiap² hari hendak-lah mengadakan "patrol ambulance" di-jalan itu, kerana saya dapati apabila lepas daripada bandar Tanjong Malim atau Slim River motor-kar yang burok yang boleh berjalan 25 batu sa-jam chuba lari sampai 50 batu sa-jam, kerana jalan itu orang puteh kata "tempted" hendak lari kuat. Saya shorkan kepada Menteri ini sa-bagai membalas balek kepada ra'ayat yang membayar chukai kerana melalui jalan itu mengadakan "patrol ambulance" supaya kalau ada kemalangan boleh membawa orang sakit itu ka-hospital sama ada ka-Tanjong Malim atau ka-Tapah.

Tuan Haji Rahmat bin Haji Daud: Yang Berhormat Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya menyokong Rang Undang² ini. Saya ada chita² kalau-lah "tolls" itu di-kenakan kepada jambatan², maka Kerajaan akan dapat hasil yang banyak lagi di-atas jambatan² baharu yang besar di-buat di-dalam negeri kita.

Johor atau Malaya ini di-sambong dengan Singapura oleh Causeway dan Causeway itu di-buat pada tahun 1922 kalau saya tidak salah, masa itu kenderaan sangat sedikit dan manusia pun tidak berapa banyak sa-bagaimana sekarang. Maka di-Singapura ada kenderaan lebeh kurang 100,000, kalau di-pandang masa ini kereta² yang datang dari Singapura ka-Tanah Melayu sangat banyak, sa-hingga banyak accident telah terjadi di-atas Causeway itu dan juga kereta² yang daripada utara hendak ka-selatan pun banyak. Baharu² ini Causeway itu telah di-besarkan sa-lebar 6 kaki lagi dan di-buat dengan molek, tempat orang berjalan kaki pun ada. Dalam pandangan saya dalam tempoh 5 atau 10 tahun lagi Causeway itu akan menjadi sempit sa-bagaimana yang telah sudah juga dan kemalangan akan terjadi lebeh banyak lagi. Dengan di-kenakan tolls ini Kerajaan tentu-lah akan mendapat hasil. Jika sa-kira-nya Causeway itu di-buat jambatan salapis lagi di-atas untuk menyambungkan Johor dengan Singapura, kereta

daripada utara boleh menggunakan jambatan di-atas dan kereta² dari Singapura menggunakan Causeway. Saya fikir kalau ini di-buat, banyak-lah nyawa akan terselamat dan kereta² boleh-lah lalu dengan lichen. Demikian-lah saya harap Kementerian yang berkenaan akan memandangkan perkara ini dengan satu pandangan yang sangat berat mudah²an Causeway itu dapat di-perbetulkan. Terima kaseh.

Dato' V. T. Sambanthan: Mr Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank all the Honourable Members for the words they have said for the Ministry of Works and the people who have worked so hard in the various jobs that they had to do.

The Member for Batu has asked a number of questions. Among these is one with regard to vehicles. He did not know what really was meant by "vehicle" and whether "vehicle" included bicycles. Well, it is not our intention to impose a toll on bicycles, because we think that the common man should be exempted from paying this. It would be imposed on other vehicles such as motor-cycles, motor-cars, taxis, lorries, buses and "what have you".

He also wanted to know whether we were going to collect the whole cost, part of the cost or whether we would be collecting even after the whole cost had been recovered. The Explanatory Statement says here very clearly that tolls would be imposed till the amount is wholly or partly collected. This has been rather loosely worded in the interest of the public and we want to have a certain degree of elasticity in the imposition of tolls. It may well be that at a certain time we would feel that the necessity does not require more money to be collected, and so we would just withdraw that toll.

The Member for Batu also mentioned that this was a noble idea that after Iskandar Bridge he had not heard of any tolls. I must assure him that a lot of water has flown down the river below Iskandar Bridge between 1941 and now, and it is not the old middle ages when they had tolls, but it is the custom of modern countries to impose tolls on roads and bridges because it

is a very simple economic proposition. So, there is nothing new. It is, in fact, welcomed in every country, and the public have got to face up to the fact that if they want better roads and easier roads, they have got to bear part of the cost.

There was some mention made about Slim Road just now. The Slim Road, as we know, is one of the roads where we intend imposing a toll, because we have an alternative road alongside there, that is the old road from Tanjong Malim to Slim which, in fact, takes about 45 minutes, driving fairly fast, but on the new road you could cover this distance, which is about 12 miles, may be in nine, ten or twelve minutes depending on the speed that you go. Certain motorists, of course, would like to try and see how many "revs." their car could do and what the maximum speed of that would be. I must confess that I have tried the speed of it myself in my own car—and this is in fact a dangerous occupation for anyone to undertake: just going fast is by no means something which can be taken on without any knowledge of the danger that is involved. The car has got to be good, the brakes have got to be good, the road has got to be dry, and the tyres have got to be good; at the same time the perception of course has also got to be there.

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: Mr Speaker, Sir, may I seek a clarification? Is the Minister aware that during the opening of the Federal Highway, when he opened the road with the Minister of Transport, it was proudly stated that the Honourable Minister of Works drove his car at one hundred miles per hour—and both of them were very proud of that fact? Is that conducive to safe driving along the Slim River stretch? (*Laughter*).

Dato' V. T. Sambanthan: Well, as the Minister of Works, I had to see how fast that road could take. (*Laughter*). The Police were there on guard at both the entrance and the exit and, therefore, there was no other traffic. The road was quite dry, the tyres were good, the car was quite new and I wanted to see how fast it could go.

An Honourable Member: Bad driver!

Dato' V. T. Sambanthan: The driver might have been a bad one, but he was lucky.

Sir, I am grateful if the House would support this Bill. It is a very necessary Bill, I might add.

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: Sir, on a point of clarification, unless the Honourable Minister wants me to draw his attention in the Committee stage, I have asked a few other questions which he has not answered: for example, about children driving motor-cycles across the bridges, office workers going across the bridges several times a day, buses going across several times a day, lorries going across several times a day and the like. Will there be concession rates for these people? Will there be a monthly pass for these people?

Dato' V. T. Sambanthan: I think these are details which will have to be worked out in the light of experience and in the light of requirements. I cannot at this moment commit the Government to saying what we will do it, but it is quite reasonable to expect that where a car uses a road a number of times, then we may possibly have to have some sort of season tickets. But then I cannot definitely say at this moment what we intend doing. Even the rates have not been fixed yet.

Enche' Hussein bin To' Muda Hassan: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya suka hendak mengetahui daripada Yang Berhormat Menteri, ia-itu semenjak jalan Tanjong Malim ka-Slim River itu siap, ada-kah dia mengetahui berapa banyak *accident* yang agak menche-maskan telah terjadi di-jalan itu?

Dato' V. T. Sambanthan: Saya belum tahu, Tuan Yang di-Pertua.

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 5—

Enche' Hussein bin To' Muda Hassan: Tuan Pengerusi, di-dalam Clause 5 ini mengatakan:

"The Minister may by order exempt any vehicle from the payment of tolls."

Apa-kah jenis motokar yang akan di-kechualikan daripada chukai itu?

Dato' V. T. Sambanthan: Motokar² kerajaan, barangkali.

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: Mr Chairman, Sir, Clause 1 (2) reads—"This Act shall apply only to the States of Malaya." Mr Chairman, Sir, it is the declared intention of the Central Government to spread the good things of life to the Bornean States. That at least has been declared time and again in this House, and the good things of life in any country—as the Minister of Works will agree with me—will also include good bridges and roads. But in this Bill it is clearly stated that it will apply only to the States of Malaya. I hope in the Bornean States also there will be roads and bridges built extensively. They too, I hope this House will agree with me, should have a share of the good things of life down there. That being so, will the Minister give us an idea when the good things of life are extended down there and will this be applied to the Bornean States as well?

Dato' V. T. Sambanthan: Let us do things by stages. People may not like tolls and we do not want to go ahead imposing tolls all over Malaysia. This is the first stage, may be later on, but this is to be decided by time.

With regard to the question of the Member for Raub as to what vehicles can be exempted, we think primarily of the vehicles used by the Government, like P.W.D. vehicles and such likes. If he is thinking probably of Members of Parliament, I have no comment to make at this moment (*Laughter*).

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: On a point of clarification, I don't see why Members of Parliament should be exempted.

Dato' V. T. Sambanthan: I agree.

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: Is the statement by the Minister of Works that we will think about this, is that a hint of the shape of things to come for the Bornean States. Is this being used as the thin edge of the wedge for the people down there? Before thinking of the collection of tolls, I hope the Government is going to embark on a huge extension of the roads and bridges in the Bornean States.

Dato' V. T. Sambanthan: I am surprised at the manner that the Member for Batu is putting words into my mouth. In the beginning he just asked whether this should not go to the States of East Malaysia and I said that we were having a limited exercise, we thought only of Malaya at the moment and that it was too soon for me to say what would happen in the areas of East Malaysia. Now, he states that this is the thin point of the wedge and that we would be imposing tolls in East Malaysia or the Borneo States.

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: I merely asked the question. I did not say that the Minister stated that.

Dato' V. T. Sambanthan: He asked a question and then he inferred. I don't know what this inference is. I am not in a position to commit the States of Borneo and I am not in a position now to say what we will do. These things have got to be done by consultation and agreement.

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

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

THE ESTATE HOSPITAL ASSISTANTS (REGISTRATION) BILL

Second Reading

The Minister of Health (Enche' Bahaman bin Samsudin): Mr Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that a Bill intitled "an Act to provide for the registration of estate hospital assistants and probationer estate hospital assistants and for matters connected therewith" be read a second time.

Sir, the Bill is a straight forward one and will, among others, provide for the

setting up of a Statutory Board which will maintain a register of estate hospital assistants and probationer estate hospital assistants, registrable under the Act, and for the passing of Regulations in respect of maintenance of the Register, training of estate hospital assistants, the conduct of examinations and the approval of training institutions.

Prior to 1954, Estate Dressers were eligible to sit for the Government Hospital Assistants Examination. However, after that year, when Government changed the system of training and examination for Government hospital assistants, the estate hospital assistants were precluded from sitting for these examinations because even under the old arrangement, when the Government Hospital Assistants Examinations were in vogue, the position was not entirely satisfactory, as the duties of estate dressers differed from those of hospital assistants and the said examinations were designed primarily for Government hospital assistants.

It is felt that with the setting up of a Statutory Board under the proposed Act, it would be possible for the standard of training for estate hospital assistants throughout the States of Malaya to be made more uniform. It would also ensure that estate hospital assistants after such training as may be prescribed under the Act, would be in a much better position to discharge their functions and responsibilities at the estate hospitals more efficiently and effectively.

I might also add, here, Sir, that this Bill has been drawn up in close consultation with the Ministry of Labour, the All-Malayan Estate Staff Union and the United Planting Association of Malaya.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I beg to move.

The Minister of Labour (Enche' V. Manickavasagam): Sir, I beg to second the motion.

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: Mr Speaker, Sir, I wish to congratulate the Minister of Health for at long last being aware of the deplorable conditions of the estate hospitals and for bringing up

this Bill. But that does not mean that I am giving him my unqualified approval. Mr Speaker, Sir, I welcome this long overdue move to register estate hospital assistants. I would have very much liked to congratulate him and the Government for this Bill. However, this Bill, though a good one, only attempts to remedy an infinitesimal portion of the rot that exists in the administration, management and moreover in the dispensation of medicines on estates and, as such, I cannot give it my unqualified approval although I welcome this Bill.

Mr Speaker, Sir, the estate hospital assistants are required to be trained and have to pass certain examinations conducted by the Ministry of Health, as the Honourable Minister of Health has mentioned, up to 1964 under the Labour Code. Laudable as the service is, it ends there and no provision exists for the supervision and further training of this group of people who serve in remote stations where thousands of people depend on these hospital assistants for their medical treatment. Many of these hospital assistants manage hospitals and make their own prescriptions and they also decide whether or not a particular case should be sent to a Government Hospital for better or for more expert treatment.

Mr Speaker, Sir, some of these people are unqualified as a result of the stoppage of their training to take the State Government examination. Their salary and conditions of service are left to the whims and fancies of the management, who are more interested in profits for their shareholders and less for the lives of the hospital assistants or for the workers themselves. Therefore, it would go a long way towards helping these people, if the Government would, in addition to registration, provide a law for the minimum salary scale and minimum conditions of service for these people.

Apart from their normal duties, estate hospital assistants have to work under intolerable conditions and drastically limited and inadequate facilities. Some estate hospital assistants are unqualified in some cases: they are

underpaid and overworked; they are the captives of the estate management, because by virtue of their qualification they cannot get employment outside. I know of estate managers who have refused to sanction the purchase of the latest drugs and medicine for use by hospital assistants. Improvements to estate hospitals made by the assistants, or even by the officials of the Ministry of Labour, have been ignored. Visiting doctors engaged by the management to comply with the requirements of the Labour Code are powerless to do anything and lose interest in their jobs, as the funds for these are controlled by the manager. Even requests to send cases to hospital have been frowned upon by the managers who have reduced the status of an estate hospital assistant to the rank of another labourer in the estate. In many instances many estate hospital assistants have been made to do other jobs as conductors, or even as toddy sellers. As a result of these restrictions, the care and treatment of the sick in estates is very low and the mortality rate is high. The condition of estate hospitals is appalling and has been the subject of comment of former colonial Directors of Medical Services in the successive annual reports which have ceased to be published since 1958.

Estate hospital assistants play a vital part of that section of the community which produce the greater portion of the wealth of this country. I call upon the Government to take a direct interest in the welfare of estate workers and estate hospitals. The magnitude of the problem and the services rendered by estate hospital assistants can be appreciated if we realise that in 1958—and these are the only figures that I can get—according to the report issued by the Ministry of Health for that year, which is the latest, there were 109 estate hospitals which admitted 86,869 patients. This was 31 per cent more than the admission of Government hospitals throughout Malaya; added to those are thousands of dispensaries run by hospital assistants in the estates in this country i.e., Malaya. As such, they cater for the health and the medical needs of a large

and significant proportion of the people. Therefore, it is imperative that the Government should take over the management of the estate hospitals in the country, and this need not entail too much cost as the estates themselves could be required to pay for the whole or part of the costs of the running of the hospitals. Today estate hospitals and dispensaries are neither subsidised nor adequately supervised. If estate hospitals cannot be taken over by the Government, then, at least, the system of visiting doctors should be replaced by inspection of Government doctors, who should have the power to order any improvement in the supply of drugs and other medical stores which could be supplied from the Government Medical Stores, the cost could then be charged to the estates. Mr Speaker, Sir, the health of the people in the estates have been neglected for too long, and it is the moral and sacred duty of the Government to take over the estate hospitals.

Today we have embarked on a programme to build clinics and health centres in the rural areas. As such, the health of the labourers and their dependants in the estates is equally important, if not more, as they produce most of the wealth of the country. My suggestion is neither radical nor noble. Some 30 years ago all private schools are brought under Government control through a system of grants-in-aid, and estate schools were supervised by the Ministry of Education. Today, all schools are controlled directly from the Ministry of Education and estate schools are financed from public funds. As such, estate hospitals should also receive similar, if not better, consideration as the health of the people is of paramount importance, if not on economic grounds but at least on moral grounds as well.

Let me reiterate, again, that the estate hospital system is anachronism that is intolerable in an independent country. If I remember rightly, the present Minister of Works, Posts and Telecommunications—who is not here now—when he was the Minister of Health, had visited a number of estate

hospitals and was shocked by the prevailing conditions. I believe I am right in saying that he found a number of patients sleeping on planks with no bed sheets, much less on blankets and pillows. It is not my intention to describe all estate hospitals as being in such a deplorable condition as I have described. I must give credit where credit is due by saying that there are some estate hospitals which are up to the standard of Government District Hospitals and that the medical care is of a reasonable high standard. But by and large estate hospitals are in a deplorable condition as I have already described.

The present Minister for Health has visited almost all the big hospitals in Malaysia and he had been shocked by the deplorable conditions in some of the Government hospitals. May I suggest that he should now tour the estate hospitals, at least those in the States of Malaya. I can assure him that should he go on such a tour, it is in his own interest that he should bring a doctor with him, because he is in for bigger shocks, and perhaps he might collapse and the attendance of a doctor is most essential for such tours for him. If this cannot be done by the Minister, then he should see that there is greater and stricter supervision of the running of the estate hospitals by the Government.

I have already cited instances of how powerless the hospital assistants or visiting medical officers are in the matter of ordering of drugs and other hospital supplies. They are completely at the mercy of the estate managers.

Next, I have mentioned how unsatisfactory is the supervision of estates by either the visiting medical officers—i.e. V.M.Os—or by resident medical officers. It is a wellknown fact that almost all the V.M.Os. in the estates are European doctors, who invariably own shares in the estates concerned. As such they are not likely to incur a large outlay on medical expenditure. Furthermore, even if they wanted to, they would be overruled by the estate managers or by the directors of the estates concerned.

It is also a wellknown fact that the medical inspection and medical care undertaken by these medical officers is very often a cursory one. Thus very often when a visiting medical officer reaches the estate he does not even get out of his car, but the relevant books, e.g. poison books, are brought to him to sign. Then he retires to the bungalow of the estate manager where he has a *sa-tengah*. That is the sum total of the work of the V.M.Os. and the sum total of the medical care that is given to the estate workers. This, I am sure, is no secret either to the Minister of Labour or to the Minister of Health. This is well known to many of us in private practice and also many medical practitioners in the Government hospitals.

Then again, there is another very wellknown fact that until recently there is a doctor who practises in Klang—I am sure the Minister of Labour knows this very well—and he is a visiting medical officer of several estates in Kelantan. Now he hardly or ever visits estates in Kelantan, yet he is the visiting medical officer of those estates in Kelantan. How on earth he can look after the medical care of the people working in Kelantan I cannot fathom, and it is for the Minister of Health to look into this. I am told he has an assistant now and this assistant makes periodical trips to Kelantan to comply with the regulations of the law. Abuses such as this are committed not only by this medical practitioner but by several other medical practitioners.

When I was in Cameron Highlands, I went up to the Boh Estates. I asked the workers: “Annae, Enna Doctor irukkara?” They replied: “Doctor Teluk Ansonil irukkaru.” An estate officer later told me that he is a doctor in Teluk Anson, Boh Estate, as we know, is a very big estate with a very large staff and you have a visiting medical officer stationed in Teluk Anson, who, perhaps, goes to Boh Estate once a month, and maybe as I have mentioned before, he does not get out of his car, signs the book and retires to the bungalow of the

manager concerned. Under these circumstances it is not surprising that the supervision by the V.M.Os. of the estate hospital assistants is very poor and this has resulted in fatalities. With your permission, Mr Speaker, Sir, I shall quote from the *Straits Times* of the 20th October, 1964, just to enlighten this House on how poor is the supervision of the estate hospital assistants by the V.M.Os., and how poor is the system itself. It is not only the hospital assistants were at fault, but the whole system is wrong. Mr Speaker, Sir, the caption of this write-up is "Children's Death: Warrant for Hospital Assistant—Malacca, Monday—

The Jasin coroner, Mr Ramanatha Iyer, today issued a warrant for the arrest of an estate hospital assistant, John Paul, 20, at the inquest on three children.

The three children were two girls, R. Abhiramasundari and G. Padmavathy, both aged six, and a boy, R. Devadas, aged five.

The children, whose parents are tappers on Serkam Estate, 23 miles from here, died as a result of taking embrocation at the estate dispensary on April 14.

At the end of the inquest, the jury returned a verdict of negligence against John Paul who was in charge of the dispensary.

The coroner was told that the three deceased children and three other children went to the estate dispensary for treatment for colds on the evening of April 14.

The children were given medicine by an amah who assisted John Paul.

After returning home, the six children began vomiting and were taken to the dispensary two hours later.

Paul then gave them a mixture of bismuth and sent them home as he was under the impression that they were suffering from food.

When the vomiting failed to stop, the children were then taken to the estate group hospital where they were treated as out-patients again.

Later in the night, the condition of some of the children worsened and Abhiramasundari was moved to the General Hospital where she died soon after admission.

The other five were also taken to the hospital later. But Devadas died on the way and Padmavathy shortly after admission.

The other three children were cured after treatment.

The police later took possession of the bottle of medicine which was given to the children. It was found to contain embrocation. The stomach contents of the children confirmed this."

Mr Speaker, Sir, this goes to show how lax is the supervision of the estate hospitals. I hope the Minister of Health heard what I said about John Paul. He was aged 20, and as such I do not see what sort of training he could have got, because after 1954 there were no examinations held for such people. Consequently from 1954 till now—1964, a period of 10 years—he could not have had any training whatsoever; and such a person has been placed to work in an estate hospital. It is a case of the blind leading the blind. John Paul, who is presumably totally untrained, gets an untrained amah to give medicine which turns out to be embrocation to the children. In this case, literally the cure, if you can call it a cure, is worse than the disease. After all, the children went there for merely a cold and the cure resulted in death of three persons.

Mr Speaker, Sir, it is no secret that the worst cases of anaemia in the maternity hospitals in this country are found amongst estate workers. This is mainly because the estates are unwilling to spend money on purchasing drugs, e.g. iron tablets for the expectant mothers.

Then again, as I have stated before, patients with ailments and other illnesses are often sent to hospital too late with disastrous results to the patients themselves.

Recently, there was an outbreak of malaria in Carey Island off Port Swettenham. It affected almost the whole labour force and, as usual, this was hushed up and nothing appeared in the press. I don't know whether the Minister of Labour or the Minister of Health was aware of this mass outbreak of malaria which occurred, I think, about two months ago. This shows how inefficient and lax is the medical care of the estate workers.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I hope I have convinced this House not only of the deplorable conditions of the estate hospitals but also of the gross inefficiency and laxity of the medical care of the estate hospitals.

The Minister, in his introductory speech of this Bill, has stated that he has consulted a number of people, and I do not know whether it is the practice of the Minister to consult the employers only. If I remember rightly, he stated that he consulted the U.P.A.M., but I did not hear him say that he consulted the N.U.P.W. Now, I have checked it up with the N.U.P.W. which has told me that it has not been consulted on this. Now, Mr Speaker, Sir, it is very strange that on such a legislation of this nature, as I have pointed out to the House before, where it affects the worker, very often the Government chooses to consult

Enche' Bahaman bin Samsudin: Mr Speaker, Sir, I wish to clarify. The Ministry has consulted the Ministry of Labour and the All Malayan Estates Staff Union, where the dressers and everybody are in, and also the United Planting Association of Malaya.

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: Sir, I am grateful for that clarification. I have stated before that the All Malayan Estates Staff Association is a very small one and in any case I think the Hospital Assistants belong to this group. But it is the workers that you should consult to find out whether they are satisfied with the medical care. After all, it is the worker who is at the receiving end of these deplorable conditions and of these inadequate medical facilities. As I have said before, I have checked it up with the N.U.P.W. which has told me that it has not been consulted. Why on such an important issue it should not be consulted, I do not know, Mr Speaker, Sir.

Another point is this. Although this ostensibly concerns only the Estate Hospital Assistants, it is of great interest to the medical profession—here I mean the Malayan Medical Association. I would have thought that the Minister or the Government, in bringing such a piece of legislation before this House, should also seek the views of the Malayan Medical Association. Why the Minister should

ignore such a body, I fail to understand again. The Malayan Medical Association has time and again drawn the attention of the Government to the deplorable conditions of the estate hospitals, and why they should not be consulted, I do not know. In view of this lack of consultation with the Malayan Medical Association and with the N.U.P.W., I think it is not out of order for me to suggest to the Minister that he should withdraw this Bill not just because it is a bad Bill, but he should withdraw it so that the Malayan Medical Association and the N.U.P.W. could be consulted so as to enable us to look at the situation as a whole, rather than from the estate Hospital Assistants' point of view; and, perhaps, the Minister can present a much better Bill to his House subsequently.

Enche' Bahaman bin Samsudin: Mr Speaker, Sir, I thank the Honourable Member for Batu for welcoming this Bill and also for his appreciation of Government's action on this matter—of course, that was at the beginning of his speech, but towards the end of his speech, his welcoming has come to nothing. *(Laughter)*.

Sir, I do not know whether conditions in some hospitals generally are deplorable or not. But we hope that by the passing of this Bill, there will be improvements.

The suggestion by the Honourable Member for taking over all estate hospitals by the Government will be taken into consideration. In fact, we have been thinking on this line for some time now.

With regard to his suggestion that I tour the estate hospitals, I shall certainly do so in due time.

I wish to inform the Honourable Member that the Government is not bound to consult the M.M.A. or the N.U.P.W.

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: Mr Speaker, Sir, on a point of clarification, I did not say that the Minister must consult. We all know that the Minister is not bound, or the Government is not duty bound, to consult anybody.

But in the interest of better relationship between the Minister and the medical profession, one would have hoped that the Minister would consult or seek the views of the profession concerned.

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—

Dr Tan Chee Khoon: May I ask for clarification of Clause 1 (2)—“This Act shall not apply to the States of Singapore, Sabah and Sarawak.” Mr Chairman, Sir, I am not trying to pose myself as the champion of the Bornean States, but I really do not see why every time a Bill is brought up before this House there is this clause—just now we had the Bill on tolls on roads and bridges where the Bornean States were excluded—in this case not only the Bornean States but also Singapore is excluded. As you know, Mr Chairman, Sir, in Singapore this presents no problem, because there are no large estates and most of the estates are in any case taken up for development. But with the Borneo States it is a different matter altogether. Vast tracts of land in the Borneo States are being opened up or are going to be opened up and as required by law, they must provide estate hospitals for those areas. I do not know whether the Minister is aware of that; and if he is aware of that, will he consider extending this Bill to the Bornean States as well?

Enche' Bahaman bin Samsudin: Mr Chairman, Sir, this will be considered after consultation with the Bornean States and Singapore.

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

Clauses 5 to 11 inclusive ordered to stand part of the Bill.

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

THE FEDERAL INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (INCORPORATION) BILL

Second Reading

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Dr Lim Swee Aun): Mr Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that a Bill intituled “an Act to incorporate the Federal Industrial Development Authority to be charged with responsibility for the promotion and co-ordination of industrial development in Malaysia” be read a second time.

Sir, Honourable Members will recall that the Rueff Economic Mission which visited Malaya and the other States that were to form Malaysia in 1963 recommended, amongst other things, in its report and recommendations on the economic aspects of Malaysia, the establishment of an autonomous central agency to be called the Federal Industrial Development Authority or FIDA, as a measure to co-ordinate industrial development policies and activities and to stimulate and accelerate the growth of industrial development in Malaysia, which, at the present time, are carried out by several agencies and governments in the various States of Malaysia. One of the main functions of this Authority would be to carry out feasibility studies in order to determine specific industrial projects which could be economically established in Malaysia. This information will greatly help to speed up the industrialisation of the country as it will facilitate promotion and provide investors with a readily available list of investment possibilities. At the moment investors have to make their own investigations and estimation of investment opportunities in the country. The Authority, through the composition of its membership, will be able to co-ordinate the industrial development policies and activities of the various States and organisations engaged in industrial development. The Authority would advise the Government on the formulation of a co-ordinated industrial

development policy throughout Malaysia.

The Rueff Mission, however, recommended that as there already exists a number of industrial financing institutions the activities of FIDA should exclude industrial finance. These recommendations have been welcomed and endorsed by all the States. The States of Singapore, Sabah and Sarawak have been consulted on the draft of the Bill and they have expressed no objection to the Bill.

As Honourable Members will note, the Bill provides for the incorporation of FIDA, the composition for its membership and its main functions. The Authority will be responsible to the Minister of Commerce and industry who may give direction to the Authority of a general nature not inconsistent with the provisions of the Bill. The constitution of the Authority provides membership for all those agencies or institutions engaged in commerce, manufacturing, industrial financing and industrial development. The Authority is also empowered to undertake development of industrial sites either on its own account or on behalf of State Governments in view of the importance of such developed sites in promoting industrial development.

The Authority will be financed by Government grants. The Bill also provides for procedure of meetings of the Authority and the Minister is empowered to make such regulations as he deems necessary.

In relation to Singapore, this subject is concurrent and, as such, Article 79 (2) of the Constitution would apply. However, Sir, because of the urgency and the fact that the Singapore Government has been consulted and has no objection to the Bill, I would ask that this Bill be allowed to be proceeded with.

Sir, I beg to move that this Bill be read a second time.

The Minister for Welfare Services (Tuan Haji Abdul Hamid Khan): Sir, I beg to second the motion.

Enche' Tan Toh Hong (Bukit Bintang): Mr Speaker, Sir, in-so-far as F.I.D.A. is to be formed with the view of accelerating industrial growth and development in our new nation, I am sure many of our colleagues will give this motion their whole-hearted support. Particularly, Mr Speaker, Sir, as far as the pioneer status is concerned, each of the States of Sabah, Sarawak, Singapore and the Federation of Malaya has its own Pioneer Status Ordinance. The existing arrangement leads to a complicated and unco-ordinated industrial activities. particularly, if I recall rightly, some time last year, within a very short period of time, the Government of Singapore, the P.A.P. Government, started to grant pioneer status to a number of companies. And, in fact, if I may say so, they became cheaper by the dozens and this was done without consideration of the impact on the rest of the nation. As such, if the F.I.D.A. could be made an efficient instrument to co-ordinate all industrial activities, every right thinking economist would commend the Honourable Minister of Commerce and Industry for bringing before this House this motion. Thank you, Sir.

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—

Dr Lim Swee Aun: Sir, in Clause 2, sub-section 3 (f), I beg to move that the word "in" between the words "and" and "industrial" be deleted.

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

Clauses 5 to 7—

Dr Lim Swee Aun: Sir, I beg to move that the word "of" in Clause

5. line one, between the words "be" and "functions" be deleted and the word "the" be replaced.

Clauses 5 to 7 inclusive, as amended, ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Clauses 8 to 11 inclusive ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Schedule ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Long Title—

Dr Lim Swee Aun: Sir, I beg to move that the word "to" between the words "responsibility" and "for" in the long title of the Bill be deleted.

Long title, as amended, ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Bill reported with amendment: read the third time and passed.

THE RAILWAY (AMENDMENT) BILL

Second Reading

Enche' Bahaman bin Samsudin: Mr Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the Bill intituled "An Act to amend the Railway Ordinance, 1948" be read a second time.

Sir, this Bill is simple and straightforward. It seeks to give powers to the Malayan Railway Administration to borrow monies which may be required by the Administration for the performance of its duties and functions under the Railway Ordinance either from the Government or from any other person.

Sir, I beg to move.

Dr Lim Swee Aun: Sir, I beg to second the motion.

Enche' Mohamed Yusof bin Mahmud: Tuan Speaker, Bill di-depan kita ia-lah satu Bill meminta kuasa daripada Dewan ini supaya Railway Administration boleh meminjam wang dan sa-bagai-nya. Tuan Yang di-Per-tua, sunggoh pun chara mendapat keuntungan, asalkan memperbaiki lagi perkhidmatan² dengan chara memin-jam ini, patut Menteri atau Kerajaan memandang berat terhadap chara²

Malayan Railway ini menjalankan perkhidmatan-nya. Sebab bertahun² yang lepas daripada Penyata yang depan kita, chuma tahun 1961 sahaja yang Perkhidmatan ini ada mendapat keuntungan, sa-lain daripada itu tiap² tahun terpaksa-lah Kerajaan mem-bantu-nya. Saya memandang Railway ia-lah satu perkhidmatan perniagaan pengangkutan yang besar, yang utama di-tanah ayer kita dan saya tak fikir satu² perkhidmatan perniagaan ma-cham ini boleh mendapat kerugian. Jadi, saya khuatir dengan chara kita memberi kuasa, Perkhidmatan ini, boleh meminjam wang pada hal me-reka tiap² tahun, rugi, mengakibatkan kita lagi menambah lagi pertolongan pada mereka yang saya fikir perjalanan dan perkhidmatan mereka itu tidak sa-bagaimana yang sa-patut kita kehendaki. Sebab kita perhatikan, perkhidmatan pengangkutan yang lain² itu tidak pernah menanggung keru-gian.

Di-sini rasa saya, sa-telah kita menengok Penyata ini dari sa-tahun ka-satahun, patut-lah Perkhidmatan ini memikirkan, mensesuaikan diri dengan pendapatan dan perbelanjaan-nya. Kalau ambil satu dua contoh, bagaimana mereka² ini menjalankan perkhidmatan, ia-itu pegawai², ia-itu kerja kereta railway ini, saya berasa banyak lagi tempat² yang boleh di-kurangkan perbelanjaan² ini. Um-pama-nya, pada satu hari saya naik keretapi, Pemeriksa Tiket² di-dalam itu, yang pergi bersama² empat orang sa-kali, Chief Guard, Sub. Guard dan dua orang lagi semua sa-kali. Jadi patut kerja boleh di-jalankan oleh sa-orang, tidak mustahak ka-empat² sa-kali. Jadi saya rasa, ini-lah satu chara perbelanjaan yang membazir. Sa-belum kita mendapat kemerdekaan, sa-belum perang, saya perhatikan ta' pernah lebeh daripada dua sa-banyak²-nya orang yang memeriksa tiket² di-dalam keretapi, sekarang empat. Jadi ini-lah rasa saya satu²-nya.

Yang kedua, saya ada bertanya kapada peniaga² kita, mengapa-kah mereka² ini ta' mahu menggunakan perkhidmatan keretapi ini. Kata dia, belanja terlampau tinggi, masa terlam-pau panjang, kalau mahukan satu²

gerabak yang patut saudagar² menggunakan dengan chepat-nya, tidak boleh di-dapati dengan chepat-nya. Bagitu juga pengangkutan² menurunkan barang² pun tidak mensesuaikan sa-bagaimana sa-patut-nya yang kere-tapi ini mesti berlumba dengan per-khidmatan pengangkutan yang lain kerana apa mereka memikirkan, “kami orang Kerajaan, tiap² bulan dapat gaji, apa gadoh”, tidak menginginkan pendapatan yang mereka dapat dari-pada perusahaan itu.

Jadi, rasa saya, saya khuatir kalau kita tidak menjaga mereka ini, yang mengakibatkan kita lagi bertanggung-jawab segala hutang² yang akan mereka buat, bukan daripada Kera-jaan, tetapi di-luar daripada Kerajaan dan saya perchaya ini mengakibatkan rungutan daripada orang ramai yang membayar-nya. Jadi, rasa saya, saya minta kepada Kerajaan untuk meng-ambil berat dalam hal ini, dan sa-boleh²-nya hendak-lah perkhidmatan ini mensesuaikan dengan pendapatan²-nya. Kalau umpama-nya perbelanjaan lebeh, patut-lah di-kurangkan per-belanjaan²-nya, saperti perbelanjaan yang lebeh yang tidak mustahak, atau perbelanjaan yang lebeh, yang tidak sa-imbang dengan pendapatan hendak-lah di-hapuskan langsung.

Kita tengok sekarang pegawai² yang bekerja dalam perkhidmatan ini beria² sangat hendak minta mengikti-rakkan mereka sa-bagai pegawai² Kerajaan, dan ini saya pandang, mereka fikir jikalau sa-bagai sa-orang pegawai Kerajaan, tidak-lah ada tanggung-jawab mereka itu, bagai-mana-kah hendak mendapatkan pendapatan yang lebeh daripada per-usahaan² itu. Jadi, rasa saya, kalau mensesuaikan masa, patut-lah per-khidmatan keretapi ini di-jadikan satu private company terus, di-mana saya perchaya, usaha² bagi mereka² dalam perkara itu betul² mencari wang dalam perusahaan² itu—tidak sa-bagaimana sekarang yang mana me-reka memikirkan, ah! tidak mustahak aku hendak bekerja kuat, kerana aku tetap di-bayar gaji pada tiap² bulan dan kerja aku tetap. Jadi, rasa saya, sa-kali lagi saya memandang berat dalam hal ini untuk kepentingan,

bukan sahaja kapada kita sa-bagai orang² yang membayar chukai, tetapi bagi orang² perniagaan juga boleh menggunakan dengan baik dan boleh menggunakan dengan elok perkhid-matan² itu. Terima kaseh.

Enche' Othman bin Abdullah (Perlis Utara): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, di-samping mengalu²kan Bill ini, saya tumpang hendak memberikan pendap-at sedikit terhadap soal yang berlaku dalam perkhidmatan keretapi kita ini. Sa-panjang yang kita dapati pada tiap² tahun penyata² perkhidmatan keretapi kita ini menanggung kerugian yang pada himat dan pendapat saya bukan-lah di-sebabkan oleh tidak ada kecekapan pegawai², kaki-tangan dan pekerja², tetapi ada-lah beberapa per-kara yang perlu saya shorkan di-sini.

Perkhidmatan Keretapi ini ada-lah hak milek negara kita sendiri yang mana satu daripada perkara yang patut di-perbaiki pada hari ini ia-lah berhubung dengan keadaan², tempat² yang akan menjadi daya penarek bagi orang ramai yang hendak menaiki keretapi itu, terutama sa-kali ber-hubong dengan pembenaan station. Oleh sebab keretapi ini hak negara, maka keadaan² station, perlu-lah di-kaji dan di-perbaiki dengan lebeh indah dan terator supaya menarek perhatian pelanchong² dan orang ramai yang akan menaiki keretapi itu.

Perkara yang kedua ia-lah peman-dangan² di-tepi jalan. Sa-panjang jalan keretapi itu kita dapati pada masa ini ada-lah melalui hutan rimba yang luas yang tidak ada satu pun pemandangan² yang indah dan chantek, pada hal negeri kita pada masa ini sedang di-dalam pembangunan yang kita sudah bena bangunan², pemandangan² yang chantek yang boleh menarek perhatian dan pengetahuan kapada penumpang² keretapi itu. Jadi, sa-bagai satu chara untuk menarek orang ramai menaiki keretapi itu, sama ada berjalan atau mengembara dengan keretapi dari utara sampai ka-selatan, maka pembenaan tempat² yang sesuai di-kiri kanan jalan kere-tapi itu perlu-lah di-perbaiki supaya pelanchong² tidak kechiwa menaiki keretapi, kerana sa-panjang yang kita

tahu di-station² keretapi pada masa ini sedang mengadakan iklan² yang chantek dan indah pemandangan²-nya supaya menarek perhatian orang ramai bagi menaiki keretapi, tetapi ada sa-tengah² tempat merasa hampa terhadap pemandangan bagi penumpang² keretapi itu, kerana apa yang terkandung di-dalam iklan itu tidak dapat di-lihat dengan tepat-nya.

Jadi, dengan sebab itu, saya mengshorkan kepada Perkhidmatan Keretapi ini supaya memikirkan dan mengkaji soal² ini supaya di-kiri kanan jalan keretapi itu di-perbaiki dengan lebeh sempurna dan terator serta pemandangan² yang chantek.

Satu perkara lagi, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, khas-nya bagi perkhidmatan bahagian utara ia-itu daripada Pulau Pinang—Pulau Pinang, atau pun Bukit Mertajam ka-utara, sa-panjang yang saya alami bahawa penumpang² keretapi yang datang daripada negeri Thai menerusi Padang Besar, kebanyakan mereka itu lebeh suka menaiki taxi, atau pun kereta sewa terus ka-Pulau Pinang, kerana menaiki keretapi malam, kerana keretapi malam pada waktu malam itu ada-lah lebeh sempurna lagi dengan ada-nya tempat² kelas satu yang paling sempurna. Jadi, bagitu-lah juga, bukan sahaja bagi penumpang² dari negeri Siam, tetapi penumpang² dari negeri Perlis, dan Kedah juga mengalami bagitu, ia-itu mereka lebeh suka menaiki taxi, atau pun kereta sendiri pergi ka-Bukit Mertajam, atau pun Prai untuk mendapatkan keretapi kelas satu, atau kelas dua yang lebeh sempurna di-situ.

Jadi, saya shorkan untuk menambahkan pendapatan, untuk mengiklankan satu² perniagaan, ia-itu hak negara kita sendiri, maka tempat² kelas satu dan kelas dua bagi perkhidmatan dari Padang Besar ka-Pulau Pinang dan sa-terus-nya, hendak-lah di-lengkapi sama ada keretapi siang, atau pun keretapi pada waktu malam. Jadi, dengan ada-nya tiga² chara yang saya katakan tadi, ini saya rasa sedikit sa-banyak akan membawa kesan, akan menarek perhatian penumpang², atau pun pelanchong² bagi menaiki keretapi dari utara ia-itu daripada Padang

Besar menerusi ka-selatan sampai ka-Singapura, dan sa-terus-nya sampai ka-pantai timor dan sa-balek-nya.

Itu-lah shor² saya yang ketiga² ini dan di-minta kepada pehak yang berkenaan supaya dapat mengkaji dengan sa-halus²-nya dan dapat di-laksanakan dengan sempurna-nya. Terima kasih.

Dr Mahathir bin Mohamad (Kota Star Selatan): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya perchaya tujuan Bill ini ia-lah supaya dapat Perkhidmatan Keretapi ini di-jalankan dengan lebeh sempurna lagi. Saperti mana yang kita tahu Perkhidmatan Keretapi ini telah pun di-jadikan sa-bahagian daripada Kerajaan dan saya perchaya satu daripada undang² Kerajaan ia-lah pegawai²-nya tidak-lah patut menerima tip, atau pun sagu hati daripada orang ramai. Semacham kita tahu pegawai² keretapi ini dahulu-nya di-benarkan menerima tip, saperti porter² dan cabin² boy dan sa-bagai-nya. Saya ingin tahu, apa-kah pandangan Kerajaan berkenaan dengan perkara tip ini?

Lagi satu perkara ia-lah berkenaan dengan Express Service antara pekan² yang besar. Kita dapati, ada Express Service antara Kuala Lumpur dengan Pulau Pinang, tetapi malang-nya express ini chuma pada nama sahaja express, tetapi yang sa-benar-nya local train, dengan kerana keretapi ini kerap kali berhenti; ada tempat yang dipanggil "halt" pun dia berhenti, station yang ta' ada pernah di-naiki orang pun dia berhenti. Jadi dengan kerana itu maka lambat-lah perjalanan keretapi ini dan juga keretapi express ini tidak pernah sa-umor hidup saya simpan masa yang tertib mengikut jadual yang di-buat oleh Kerajaan. Bagi diri saya yang bekerja di-Alor Star saya selalu ingin sampai di-Alor Star supaya sempat saya pergi office. Sa-patut-nya keretapi mail ini sampai ka-Bukit Mertajam pada jam 6½ pagi, tetapi pada tiap² kali saya berjalan menggunakan keretapi ini tidak pernah-lah yang saya ingat keretapi ini sampai ka-Bukit Mertajam pada pukul 6½ dan oleh kerana itu saya selalu-lah pergi kerja terlewat. Jadi saya harap kalau pada masa akhir²

ini kita hendak pinjam wang untuk memperbaiki perkhidmatan keretapi ini mahu-lah kita menjalankan perkhidmatan ini dengan sa-chara yang sempurna supaya dapat memberi kesenangan² yang patut di-beri kepada orang² yang menggunakan keretapi ini.

Enche' Abdul Razak bin Haji Hussin (Lipis): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya menyokong Bill yang di-kemukakan ini dan saya bersetuju Kerajaan memberi pinjaman dari sa-masa ka-samasa kepada Pentadbiran Keretapi. Sebab² saya kata demikian ia-lah kita tahu Pentadbiran Keretapi menghadapi kerugian beberapa tahun, chuma pada tahun 1961 ada mendapat keuntungan dan saya dengar dalam tahun ini pun ada mendapat sedikit keuntungan. Jadi sa-bagai satu badan yang berdasarkan perniagaan kita mesti menchuba supaya menambah memperbaiki keadaan itu dari masa ka-masa. Jalan yang utama membaiki keadaan itu mesti-lah kita menambah memberi pinjaman dan pertolongan kewangan kepada Pentadbiran Keretapi. Ini satu jalan yang boleh membaiki keadaan itu, tetapi di-samping itu juga kita harus memperbaiki keadaan keretapi itu sendiri supaya keadaan-nya lebih baik supaya penompang² lebih suka menaik keretapi.

Sa-panjang yang saya ingat, sebab saya datang dari pantai timor, masalah keretapi ini patut di-bangkitkan di-pantai timor-lah, nama keretapi ini Keretapi Express Sumpit Emas. Ini satu sahaja yang kita boleh jadualkan perjalanan keretapi ini tetap pada masa-nya, pada waktu yang lain tidak kurang lewat-nya, ada masa lewat sampai 6 jam. Bila saya bertanya Pegawai Keretapi mengapa keretapi lambat? Punctured-kah? (*Ketawa*). Jawab-nya, perhubungan talipon rosak. Bila perhubungan talipon rosak di-sasuat seteshen itu tidak dapat berhubung, jadi keretapi tidak boleh lalu. Jadi masalah keretapi ini rugi, sedikit sa-banyak ada kait-mengait-nya dengan Kementerian Talikom. Jadi dalam masalah ini saya memberi pandangan supaya pehak keretapi ini dan Kementerian Talikom mesti-lah ada perhubungan yang erat. Pada satu masa

saya pergi daripada Kuala Lipis ka-seteshen Mela, tambang-nya \$1.00 bagi Kelas Tiga, saya berlepas pada pukul 4.00 pagi dari Kuala Lipis hendak pergi ka-sabuah tempat, sampai di-rumah pada pukul 4 pagi esok-nya. Kalau ini berlaku dua kali saya fikir tidak ada orang mahu naik keretapi lagi, tetapi kerana tidak ada jalan perhubungan lain lagi kita mesti naik keretapi juga. Saya yakin dan percaya dengan sebab² yang demikian keretapi mendapat kerugian. Kalau keadaan ini boleh di-baiki, masa yang di-jadualkan itu tepat, saya fikir keretapi tidak boleh mendapat kerugian.

Saya dengar pada satu masa Yang Berhormat Menteri Pengangkutan mengatakan dalam lawatan Yang di-Pertuan Agong keretapi tidak lewat—satu minit tidak kurang. Saya ketawa dan suka. Kalau Menteri sendiri pun, saya fikir tepat pada waktu-nya keretapi itu sampai. Jadi pehak keretapi ini pandai, mereka menengok siapa yang naik. Tetapi dengan sebab sekarang ini kaki-tangan keretapi sudah jadi kaki-tangan kerajaan dan Kerajaan akan beri pinjam wang dari masa ka-masa, kita harap pehak keretapi boleh memikirkan bahawa badan ini ada-lah badan orang ramai yang mustahak kita gunakan bila² masa. Satu contoh, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, mana tempat yang patut berhenti keretapi mail ini tidak berhenti. Saya beri contoh di-Kuala Tembeling ada 4 Mukim, di-sana keretapi tidak berhenti, dia berhenti di-seteshen Mela, 3 batu lebih awal. Jadi, sekarang ini kalau orang hendak pergi ka-Mekah mereka tidak mahu tunggu di-Kuala Tembeling, mereka naik motobot pergi ka-Jerantut. Mengapa sampai bagini Pentadbiran Keretapi tidak mahu menimbangkan? Kita mahu wang di-mana tempat patut berhenti hendaklah berhenti. Kalau perkara ini di-baiki dari masa ka-masa saya percaya Pentadbiran Keretapi boleh mendapat keuntungan yang lebih baik. Sa-lain daripada itu, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, manusia memilih yang baharu, murah, mudah dan senang. Kalau gerabak² keretapi di-baiki dan diperelokkan, terutama di-pantai timor, orang² di-pantai timor lebih suka

naik keretapi daripada motokar atau motobot, kerana keretapi selamat dan jarang² terbalek. Keadaan keretapi sekarang ini di-pantai timor kelas dua-nya, lebeh baik kelas tiga di-pantai barat. Daripada perbezaan Pentadbiran Keretapi ini pun orang akan fikir lebeh baik naik kereta sampai Kuala Lipis kemudian naik teksi terus ka-Kuala Lumpur walau pun tambangnya lebeh mahal daripada tambang keretapi, sebab-nya ia-lah ada lebeh kemudahan daripada keretapi. Jadi, saya fikir dan saya minta kepada Menteri yang berkenaan supaya membaiki keadaan ini dari masa ka-masa. Saya faham kesulitan ini tidak boleh di-atasi dengan sa-kali gus.

EXEMPTED BUSINESS

(Motion)

Dato' Dr Ismail: Mr Speaker, Sir, I beg to move:

That notwithstanding Standing Order 12 the House shall not adjourn today until all Government business is completed.

Dr Lim Swee Aun: Sir, I beg to second the motion.

Question put, and agreed to.

Resolved,

That notwithstanding Standing Order 12 the House shall not adjourn today until all Government business is completed.

THE RAILWAY (AMENDMENT) BILL

Second Reading

Debate resumed.

Enche' Abdul Razak bin Haji Hussin: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, jadi bagaimana pandangan yang saya sebutkan tadi saya berharap Pentadbiran Keretapi boleh membaiki pentadbirannya dari masa ka-masa, saya perchaya Pentadbiran Keretapi akan dapat keuntungan. Jadi, saya merayu sa-lain daripada saya memberi pandangan saya memohon kepada Yang Berhormat Menteri supaya dapat membuat perkiraan tentang keretapi mail di-tempat saya yang saya sebutkan tadi supaya di-timbangkan. Kalau boleh keretapi itu berhenti di-situ dan yang kedua membaiki gerabak² supaya keadaan

keretapi di-pantai timor kalau tidak lebeh daripada pantai barat ini sa-kurang²-nya sama. Dengan jalan yang demikian saya yakin dan perchaya pandangan penompang² di-pantai timor akan lebeh menggalakkan dan lebeh suka naik keretapi jika sa-kiranya keadaan ini di-perbaiki. Tuan Yang di-Pertua, pada akhir-nya saya menyokong Bill ini. Terima kasih.

Enche' Abdul Ghani bin Ishak (Melaka Utara): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, di-samping saya menyokong Rang Undang² ini saya suka mengambil sedikit masa berchakap dalam hal keretapi. Saya tidak perchaya keretapi di-Malaysia ini tidak boleh mendapat keuntungan, kerana chontoh yang terang ada saperti di-negeri Jepun, mereka di-sana ada keretapi A, B dan C. Keretapi ini berlumba² antara satu sama lain. Ini menandakan satu daripada kenaikan yang boleh di-majukan ia-lah keretapi, tetapi bagaimana gaya-nya keretapi di-negeri kita ini mengikut laporan yang kita terima sekarang ini lemah atau pun kurang tentang kewangan-nya.

Saya suka menyatakan guna-nya keretapi ini ada dua: yang pertama mengangkat barang dan yang kedua mengangkat orang, tetapi dalam masa kita menyiasat kerugian yang tertimpa ka-atas Pentadbiran Keretapi ini, ada kenaikan² yang sa-rupa tujuan-nya ia itu mengangkat orang daripada Pulau Pinang ka-Kuala Lumpur. Ini boleh menyaingi, merendah atau merugikan keretapi. Bagitu juga tentang transport hari ini, saya tanya dengan saudara yang membawa barang² daripada Kuala Lumpur ka-Melaka mithal-nya daripada 100 barangkali 99 memilih menaikkan barang²-nya dengan jalan lori. Kita memberi permit dan kita mengatakan kita rugi menjalankan keretapi. Jadi saya tidak tahu macham mana chara kita dapat siasat, kita dapat susun balek chara² keadaan keretapi pada masa akan datang dapat menchapai kemajuan-nya.

Sa-lain daripada itu pemerhatian saya daripada segala peringkat walhal pentadbiran keretapi ini ia-lah satu pentadbiran yang di-tujukan kepada berniaga. Tetapi saya nampak, Tuan

Yang di-Pertua, daripada segala peringkat, saya nampak kaki-tangan daripada jabatan keretapi ini lebeh *meref* dan boleh di-katakan macham 100 peratus, erti-nya macham orang kerja Kerajaan. Ada kerja, kerja, tidak ada kerja, tidak. Chari jalan hendak memajukan macham kata berniaga tidak ada nampak langsung. Sedangkan orang yang menjaga tiket itu kadang² kasar. Jadi, makin orang kata daripada naik keretapi lebeh baik naik Express, ta' payah nanti pukul 11.00 daripada Tampin. Kalau keadaan² macham ini berlaku, kemudian ini-lah yang saya rasa, pada masa akan datang apabila Bill ini di-luluskan kalau dapat pinjam wang daripada luar, harus-lah kita pelajari daripada negeri² yang telah maju yang menggunakan sistem keretapi ini, supaya jangan umpama-nya kata orang² tua di-tempat saya, "perkakas-nya banyak, jala ada, lukah ada tetapi pakai gantong² sahaja." Jadi berma'ana kita menyediakan benda ini, benda yang makin merugikan, lama² *péroi*. Pada hal kita sekarang ini hendak mencapai kemajuan patut-lah daripada segala segi, terutama sa-kali pengangkutan yang menyaingi keretapi ini di-bawah Kementerian Pengangkutan, juga yang patut dapat menyesuaikan atau pun menchari rundingan dengan sa-baik²-nya supaya tujuan atau pun perjalanan pentadbiran keretapi ini akan datang tidak-lah di-sebutkan; kok pulang modal sahaja sa-barang masa pun ada juga kebaikan Kerajaan yang mengeluarkan duit itu, untuk membantu orang ramai, tetapi kalau rugi, rugi, rugi sahaja, tentu-lah bagi pehak kita ranchangan itu lapok, fikiran kita tidak dapat hendak menchari kemajuan sedangkan di-negara asing perusahaan keretapi ini ada-lah urusan keretapi yang boleh menjadi sa-bahagian besar hasil negara mereka masing², terima kaseh.

Tuan Haji Ahmad bin Abdullah (Kelantan Hilir): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya hendak mengambil bahagian sedikit di-dalam perbahathan ini. Saya pun menyokong Bill yang ada di-hadapan kita ini tetapi suka-lah saya hendak menarek pandangan Rumah yang mulia ini di-atas dua tiga perkara yang saya

padang mustahak yang bersangkutan paut dengan perkara keretapi. Pada fikiran saya tidak-lah memada'i kita chuma mengesahkan Undang² yang ada di-hadapan kita ini untuk membolehkan pejabat keretapi ini berhutang, kerana sebab-nya kalau perjalanan pejabat keretapi itu tidak terator dan tidak betul maka tidak-lah berguna kita membolehkan pejabat keretapi ini berhutang kerana hutang itu akhir-nya akan tidak dapat memperbaiki perjalanan keretapi sa-bagaimana yang mesti.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, kita chukup tahu bahawasa-nya ada-lah keretapi ini ia-lah satu chara pengangkutan yang paling mustahak sa-kali bagi satu² negeri yang merdeka lebeh² lagi di-masa dharurat, kerana dengan keretapi-lah di-masa dharurat itu atau di-dalam masa peperangan boleh mengangkut tentera² dan alat² senjata daripada satu tempat di-dalam negeri itu kapada tempat yang lain dengan chepat dan dengan baik. Ini ada-lah satu sebab² strategic yang penting yang telah diakui oleh sakalian negara² yang merdeka dan oleh sebab yang demikian mereka itu telah menumpukan perhatian mereka itu kapada pengangkutan keretapi. Tetapi nampak-nya di-negeri kita ini ada-lah perjalanan keretapi tidak-lah memuaskan kerana banyak-lah sebab²-nya sa-tengah-nya telah pun di-sebutkan oleh Ahli² Yang Berhormat yang telah berchakap sa-belum saya tadi.

Oleh sebab yang demikian, saya fikir sangat-lah mustahak bagi Kerajaan mengambil berat di-atas perkara ini kerana memandang mustahak-nya keretapi berjalan dengan chukup baik dan dapat memberi keuntongan pula kapada pejabat ini. Sayugia-lah Kerajaan melantek Jawatan-kuasa atau Commission untuk mengkaji apa-kah sebab-nya dan chara lain² perkara lagi yang telah menjadikan perjalanan keretapi ini rugi dan tidak maju. Saya fikir dengan mendirikan satu Commission maka dapat-lah Commission ini mengkaji dengan teliti dan halus-nya sebab² yang telah menyebabkan kerugian perjalanan keretapi di-dalam negara kita. Saya pun sering kali mendengar tudohan² yang telah di-buat atau pun sebab² yang telah di-kemukakan yang menyebabkan kerugian perjalanan

keretapi dalam negeri kita ini. Sa-tengah daripada-nya ia-lah perlumbaan di-antara keretapi dengan transport yang lain² lagi sangat-lah kuat kerana Kerajaan telah mengeluarkan lesen² kepada bus², taxi² dan juga kepada lori². Apabila Kerajaan mengeluarkan lesen² dengan mudah dan banyak kepada kereta² yang saya sebutkan tadi maka tidak dapat-lah lagi keretapi membawa penumpang² atau barang² untuk di-angkut daripada satu tempat ka-satu tempat. Maka ini-lah satu daripada sebab²-nya yang telah mendatangkan kerugian kepada pejabat keretapi. Yang lain lagi ia-lah kerana kelambatan; tidak-lah boleh kita nafikan bahawasa-nya perjalanan keretapi tidak mengikut masa-nya, selalu lambat, sa-tengah jam, kadang² lebeh lagi daripada sa-tengah jam. Dan demikian juga Pejabat Keretapi sangat-lah lambat untuk memberi kemudahan² kepada saudagar² untuk mengangkat barang² mereka itu dengan sa-berapa chepat, bahkan terpaksa mereka itu menanti hingga sampai satu hari atau dua hari maka kemudian baharu-lah keretapi boleh mengangkat barang² mereka itu kepada tempat yang mereka itu kehendaki. Maka ini ia-lah sa-tengah daripada sebab² yang telah mendorongkan ahli² perniagaan daripada membawa dan mengangkat barang² mereka itu dengan lori dan lain² lagi. Sekian-lah.

Enche' Bahaman bin Shamsuddin:

Tuan Speaker, saya suka menjawab tegoran² Ahli Yang Berhormat itu dengan pendek sahaja. Semua tegoran² di-ambil perhatian. Sunggoh pun kebanyakan daripada tegoran² itu tidak ada kena-mengena dengan tegoran, dengan tujuan rayuan² itu, untuk di-beri kuasa meminjam wang, saya suka menyatakan di-sini bahawa Kerajaan sekarang ini berchadang melantek sa-orang pakar—*railway expert*—daripada luar negeri untuk menyiasat kerja² yang di-jalankan oleh Perkhidmatan Keretapi ini supaya dapat di-perbaiki keadaan kita masa ini.

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 the third time and passed.

THE IMMIGRATION (AMENDMENT) BILL

Second Reading

The Minister of Home Affairs (Dato' Dr Ismail bin Dato' Haji Abdul Rahman): Mr Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the Bill intituled "An Act to amend the Immigration Ordinance, 1959" be now read a second time.

Section 15 (2) of the Immigration Ordinance, 1959, which provides that a person shall not remain in the Federation if he is deemed to be unlawfully in the Federation, as it stands does not distinctly include any person whose presence under the former legislation of North Borneo, Sarawak or Singapore was illegal in North Borneo, Sarawak or Singapore.

This modification was omitted by an oversight from the Immigration (Transitional Provisions) Order, 1963. To make it clear that any person whose presence in the Borneo States or Singapore before Malaysia Day was illegal is committing an offence if he has continued to remain in the territory after Malaysia Day, it is necessary to amend Section 15 (2) of the Immigration Ordinance, 1959. The object of this Bill, therefore, is to amend the said Section 15 (2).

Sir, I beg to move.

Dr Lim Swee Aun: 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 inclusive ordered to stand part of the Bill.

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

THE COMPANIES (VOTING RIGHTS) BILL

Second Reading

Dr Lim Swee Aun: Mr Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the Companies (Voting Rights) Bill be read a second time.

Under the existing Companies Ordinance it is left entirely on the constitution of the company to confer voting rights on its shareholders and the company can, if it wishes, have different voting rights in respect of each class of shares in the company. As a result there are certain companies whose share capital have been divided into different classes of shares with disproportionate voting rights. The effect of this is that the holder of a similar class of share does not have an equal voting right and thereby has no equal say in the affairs of the company.

Hon'ble Members will, I am sure, agree with me that this practice of having disproportionate voting rights in company share holdings is contrary to the democratic working of companies. This practice denies investors in ordinary shares, howsoever large their shareholding may be, the right to participate effectively in the management of the companies, or conversely it perpetuates company control in the hands of a few whose share-holding may be small.

In order to remedy this state of affairs and to discontinue this inequitable practice in the future the Bill before Hon'ble Members provides for the giving of equal voting rights to all shareholders.

I would like to draw the attention of Hon'ble Members that this Bill requires existing companies which have issued shares (not being preferential shares) on which have been conferred disproportionate voting rights to ad-

just the voting rights in their shares within 12 months of the coming into force of the Bill.

This Bill will not affect private companies unless they were subsidiaries of a public company, companies incorporated outside Malaysia, and companies without a share-capital.

I would, however, like to draw the attention of Hon'ble Members that if private companies with shares having disproportionate voting rights convert themselves into public companies, they cannot invite public subscriptions until the voting rights of the existing shares have been adjusted. I regret very much that due to omission in printing the saving section (Section 5) of the Bill excluding private companies, companies incorporated outside Malaysia, and companies without share capital from the provision of this Bill was not embodied in the original Bill. An amendment has been circulated to Hon'ble Members to incorporate this section, which I will move in the Committee stage.

Sir, I beg to move.

Tuan Haji Abdul Khalid: Sir, I beg to second.

Datin Fatimah binti Haji Hashim (Jitra-Padang Terap): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya bangun memberi sokongan saya terhadap Rang Undang² yang telah di-kemukakan oleh Yang Berhormat Menteri Perdagangan dan Perusahaan baharu² tadi. Tuan Yang di-Pertua, pada fikiran saya sudahlah sampai masa-nya kita mengadakan undang² yang memberi tiap² pemegang saham akan mengundi.

Negeri ini, saya tahu, banyak sharikat² yang sunggoh pun sa-bahagian besar saham yang di-punyai oleh anak negeri ini, tetapi mereka² itu tiada mempunyai hak mengundi dan menguasai pentadbiran sharikat² itu di-negeri ini. Sharikat² seperti ini masih lagi di-kuasai oleh sa-gelintir orang yang tiada tinggal di-negeri ini yang sa-mata² menjalankan dasar²-nya kerana keuntongan-nya.

Saya fikir ada lagi sharikat seperti surat khabar di-negeri ini, umpamanya di-control oleh sa-gelintir

pemegang² saham yang tinggal di-London dan tiada sedikit pun menghiraukan semangat kebangsaan. Mereka selalu menyuarakan yang berkaitan dengan kepentingan² yang tertentu yang tiada menguntongkan bagi negeri kita ini. System ini sudah berjalan sangat lama, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, ia-itu pada masa penjajah dahulu, dan saya harap kita mengadakan undang² ini tidak terlewat bagi membetulkan perkara² yang merugikan ra'ayat negeri ini sendiri. Terima kaseh.

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 6 inclusive ordered to stand part of the Bill.

New Clause immediately after Clause 4.

New Clause brought up and read the first time:

"Saving. 5. This Act shall not apply to—

- (a) a company not having a share capital;
- (b) a private company unless it is subsidiary of a public company;
- (c) a company incorporated outside the Federation."

New Clause read a second time and added to the Bill.

Bill reported with amendment: read the third time and passed.

Mr Speaker: The House is adjourned till tomorrow at 10 o'clock a.m.

Adjourned at 7.00 p.m.