



PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

DEWAN NEGARA (SENATE)

OFFICIAL REPORT

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FEDERATION OF MALAYA
DEWAN NEGARA (SENATE)
Official Report

Vol. III

Third Session of the First Dewan Negara

No. 2

Tuesday, 2nd May, 1961

The Senate met at Ten o'clock a.m.

PRESENT:

The Honourable Mr. President (DATO' HAJI ABDUL RAHMAN BIN MOHAMED YASIN) S.P.M.J., P.I.S., J.P. (Johore).
" the Minister of Justice (TUN LEONG YEW KOH, S.M.N.) (Appointed).
" TUAN HAJI ABBAS BIN HAJI MOHAMED (Trengganu).
" ENCHE' ABDUL HAMID BIN MAHMUD, J.M.N. (Appointed).
" ENCHE' AHMAD BIN SAID, A.M.N. (Perak).
" ENCHE' ABDULLAH BIN ISHAK (Perlis).
" ENCHE' ABDUL WAHAB BIN IDUS, P.J.K. (Negri Sembilan).
" ENCHE' AMALUDDIN BIN DARUS (Kelantan).
" ENCHE' CHAN KWONG HON, A.M.N., J.P. (Selangor).
" ENCHE' CHEAH SENG KHIM, J.P. (Penang).
" DATO' DR. CHEAH TOON LOK, J.M.N., J.P., DATO' MAHA KURNIA (Appointed).
" ENCHE' CHOO KOK LEONG (Appointed).
" DATO' J. E. S. CRAWFORD, J.M.N., J.P., DATO' KURNIA INDERA (Appointed).
" ENCHE' DA ABDUL JALIL BIN HAJI AWANG (Trengganu).
" ENCHE' HASHIM BIN AWANG, J.P. (Penang).
" ENCHE' KOH KIM LENG (Malacca).
" DATO' LEE FOONG YEE, J.M.N., P.P.T., J.P. (Negri Sembilan).
" ENCHE' LIM HEE HONG, A.M.N. (Appointed).
" ENCHE' MOHD. SALLEH BIN MOHAMED ARIFF (Malacca).
" ENCHE' MOHD. ZAHIR BIN HAJI ISMAIL (Kedah).
" ENGKU MUHSEIN BIN ABDUL KADIR, J.M.N., P.J.K. (Appointed).
" ENCHE' ATHI NAHAPPAN (Appointed).
" ENCHE' S. P. S. NATHAN (Appointed).
" TUAN HAJI NIK MOHD. ADEEB BIN HAJI NIK MOHAMED (Kelantan).
" TOK PANGKU PANDAK HAMID BIN PUTEH JALI, P.J.K. (Appointed).
" RAJA RASTAM SHAHROME BIN RAJA SAID TAUPHY (Selangor).
" DATO' SHEIKH ABU BAKAR BIN YAHYA, D.P.M.J., P.I.S., J.P. (Johore).

The Honourable DATO' G. SHELLEY, P.M.N., J.P. (Appointed).

„ TUAN SYED AHMAD BIN SYED MAHMUD SHAHABUDIN, J.M.N.
(Kedah).
„ ENCHE' T. H. TAN, J.M.N. (Appointed).
„ ENCHE' S. O. K. UBAIDULLA, J.M.N. (Appointed).
„ WAN AHMAD BIN WAN DAUD, P.J.K., J.P. (Perlis).
„ DATO' WAN IBRAHIM BIN WAN TANJONG, J.M.N., P.J.K.,
ORANG KAYA INDERA MAHARAJA PURBA JELAI (Pahang).
„ ENCHE' YAP KHEN VAN, A.M.N., J.P. (Pahang).

ABSENT:

The Honourable ENCHE' A. M. ABU BAKAR, J.M.N. (Nominated).

„ ENCHE' NIK HASSAN BIN HAJI NIK YAHYA, J.M.N. (Nominated).
„ DATO' E. E. C. THURAISINGHAM, D.P.M.J., J.P. (Nominated).
„ ENCHE' YEOH KIAN TEIK (Perak).

IN ATTENDANCE:

The Honourable the Minister of Finance, ENCHE' TAN SIEW SIN, J.P. (Malacca Tengah).

„ the Minister of Labour, ENCHE' BAHAMAN BIN SAMSUDIN (Kuala Pilah).
„ the Assistant Minister of Education, ENCHE' ABDUL HAMID KHAN BIN HAJI SAKHAWAT ALI KHAN, J.M.N., J.P. (Batang Padang).

PRAYERS

(Mr. President *in the Chair*)

(MOTION)

THE YANG DI-PERTUAN AGONG'S SPEECH

Address of Thanks

Order read for resumption of Debate on Question (1st May, 1960)—

"That a humble Address be presented to His Majesty the Yang di-Pertuan Agong,

'To beg leave to offer His Majesty the humble thanks of the House for the Gracious Speech with which the Third Session of the Parliament has been opened'."

Question again proposed.

The Minister of Labour (Enche' Bahaman bin Samsudin): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya suka mengambil peluang menjawab uchapan² Ahli² Yang Berhormat dalam Dewan ini semalam yang

menyentoh hal buroh. Saya mendapat tahu Yang Berhormat Enche' Amaluddin bin Darus telah menyatakan bahawa dalam chadangan meminda Undang² Mahkamah Perusahaan Buroh jangan-lah kata-nya membuat pindaan bagi menguntungkan capitalist sahaja dan menudoh Kerajaan sekarang ini Kera-jaan Capitalist. Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya suka menegaskan di-sini bahawa Kerajaan Persekutuan Tanah Melayu sekarang ini ia-lah Kerajaan kebangsaan yang di-pileh oleh ra'ayat mengikut Perlembagaan. Menteri²-nya ia-lah dari-pada berbagai² chorak, lawyer, doctor, bekas MCS, guru, pekebun², orang² surat khabar, ahli perniagaan dan lain².

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, jikalau Yang Berhormat itu membacha benar² Uchapan di-Raja itu ia akan dapat-ki bahawa tindakan yang di-chadangkan-nya itu bukan-nya bagi keuntungan capitalist, tetapi ia-lah bagi faedah orang ramai. Tujuan-nya ia-lah untuk mengekalkan perhubungan yang baik antara pekerja² dan majikan². Sikap Kementerian Buroh ia-lah sa-bagai

orang tengah sahaja dan akan champor tangan ia itu apabila di-fikirkan perbalahan akan mengancham keselamatan dengan perbalahan ini berjalan berlanjutan dan akan merugikan besar kedua pehak dan harus menimbulkan kekerasan atau tumpah darah saperti yang telah terjadi di-Seremban sedikit masa dahulu.

Saya suka memberi jaminan bahawa Kementerian saya tidak menyebelah pada mana² pehak dalam sa-suatu perbalahan, tetapi ia-lah menchuba menchari berbagai² ikhtiar supaya perbalahan dapat di-sclesaikan dengan chepat dengan tidak memberi akibat yang burok. Satu daripada ikhtiar itu ia-lah mengadakan Jawatan-Kuasa Penyiasat Bebas. Saya perchaya Yang Berhormat itu bersetuju dengan chadangan ini.

Yang Berhormat Enche' Da Abdul Jalil telah menyebutkan bahawa Kesatuan Sakerja Sharikat Bus Trengganu tidak di-iktirafkan oleh Sharikat Bus itu dan di-chadangkan mengadakan undang² untuk memaksa majikan mengiktirafkan-nya. Tuan Yang di-Pertua, semasa lawatan saya di-Trengganu dalam bulan yang lepas saya telah memanggil ketua² kedua pehak: Sharikat Bus dan Kesatuan dan telah menerangkan dasar Kerajaan pada mereka itu. Melihat pada sambutan yang di-beri oleh mereka itu saya ada harapan baik dalam sedikit masa lagi Kesatuan itu akan di-iktirafkan oleh Sharikat Bus.

Saya suka menerangkan kapada Yang Berhormat itu dan juga Ahli² Yang Berhormat yang lain bahawa dasar Kerajaan dalam memperbaiki perhubungan majikan dengan buroh ia-lah tidak menggunakan kekerasan atau paksaan, dan mengadakan perundingan antara kedua pehak dengan chara suak-rela, dalam bahasa Inggeris-nya "Voluntary system of negotiation". Chara ini telah di-akui baik dan di-terima oleh pertubuhan majikan dan pekerja dan saperti yang kita dapat sekarang ini keadaan dalam perusahaan² ada-lah tenteram. Oleh itu tidak perlu di-adakan undang² saperti yang di-shor-kan oleh Yang Berhormat itu.

Penyudah-nya saya uchapkan terima kaseh kapada Yang Berhormat Dr.

Cheah Toon Lok yang telah memuji bahawa oleh ada-nya keamanan pada masa ini antara majikan dengan pekerja maka tiada pemogokan yang besar terjadi.

The Minister of Finance (Enche' Tan Siew Sin): Mr. President, Sir, in the absence of my Honourable friend, the Deputy Prime Minister, it has fallen to my lot to wind up this very interesting and instructive debate on behalf of the Government.

At the outset, I should like to say how pleased we are, how delighted we are to see that the Royal Address has been given such a warm and enthusiastic welcome from nearly all quarters in this House. In fact, the Honourable Mover of the motion, my Honourable friend Dato' Thuraisingham, was so enthusiastic in his welcome that, I think, he almost allowed his enthusiasm to run away with him. I refer in this respect to his statement that the Government has promised to give free primary education by 1962. As my Honourable friend, the Assistant Minister of Education, has already pointed out, the words in the King's Speech do not quite tell the same story. If I may be permitted by you, Sir, to read out the exact words, I would like to do so, so that there should be no misunderstanding in this respect—

"Consideration is being given to the introduction as soon as possible of free primary education and the decision whether this is to be done in 1962 or later will be made when the 1962 Budget is being prepared for presentation to Parliament".

It is the Government's firm intention that the recommendations of the Rahman Talib Report should be carried out as soon as practicable—and one of them, in fact, one of the most important of them is the introduction of free primary education—but this will have, as I have stated on previous occasions, to be subject to the availability of finance. I should also like to make it clear, in view of a certain misunderstanding with regard to this, that the function of a Royal Address to Parliament is not so much a comprehensive review of Government policy during the coming year as the high-lighting of changes in policy or new developments; that, in practice, would mean that only

changes of policy or new developments, which would be rather different from existing policy, would be mentioned in the King's Speech. It would obviously be impossible in the course of a 90-minute Address—that is the usual length of a Royal Address—to touch upon every facet of Government policy during the past year or during the forthcoming year, because that would involve not a few minutes of speech making but a few days of speech making. And, therefore, Honourable Members should not deduce from any omission that the Government does not pay particular attention to any aspect of Government policy however important that may be provided no change is contemplated.

My Honourable friend Enche' Amaluddin bin Darus has dwelt at very great length with the policy of the Alliance Government towards the East Coast States, in particular Kelantan and Trengganu. My colleagues have already replied to this at great length, but I should like to say that co-operation is a two-way traffic and the Alliance Government has always reiterated its policy to co-operate, if co-operation is forthcoming from the other side. In the case of the East Coast States, there is no question of shortage of land and, if they are prepared to alienate land on reasonable terms, I see no reason why finance should be a prohibitive factor. On a number of occasions in the past, I have stressed in the National Finance Council that the State Governments can do something to help themselves in the matter of finance, and they should not depend entirely upon the Federal Government for their sources of development finance. Under the Constitution they are given certain rights of taxation and there is no reason why they should not exercise those rights. As far as I know, not a single State so far has introduced any new tax or raise existing taxes since 1959.

The same Honourable Member also criticised the Government for its alleged lack of policy in matters of foreign affairs. I do not think that is quite correct. In particular, he referred to the lack of any Government policy in regard to Cuba. About a week ago, my Honourable friend the Prime Minister, in a

speech delivered in Jinjang New Village, had this to say—

"I am sorry, as are all the members of the Commonwealth, that the Cuban rebellion has taken place at this time, particularly when some blame can be put at the door of America. It cannot be denied that the rebels used as their base of operation American territory, and when confronted the President used strongly challenging words to Russia".

And he went on to say that this abortive revolt might prejudice the forthcoming disarmament talks. I do not, therefore, think that the Honourable Member can say that the Alliance has got no foreign policy at all. It has a completely independent policy, for although we are sympathetic to the Western world, we do not hesitate, when we think that the moment is opportune, to criticise the West for their actions in connection with foreign affairs.

I think he also said that the Government might be involved in Laos in case S.E.A.T.O. decides to take strong action. This, again, is not quite correct, because although we have this Anglo-Malayan Defence Treaty, our relations with the United Kingdom in all matters of defence will be strictly governed by that Treaty; and as my Honourable friend, the Deputy Prime Minister has reiterated on a number of occasions in the past, we have no intention whatever of getting involved in the affairs of S.E.A.T.O. I would advise my Honourable friend not to accuse the Government before it has committed an offence. I think in this respect he has more or less taken the line that we are bound to commit the offence and, therefore, it is only right that we should be criticised even before we have committed it.

My Honourable friend Mr. T. H. Tan referred to the question of Government's policy in regard to the ratio of advances to deposits in the commercial banks. The Government feels that the ratio of 60 per cent is desirable, because it is very important to distinguish the operations of a bank from that of, say, a limited liability company. A limited liability company employs its own resources, namely, the resources of its own shareholders. In the case of a bank, it has got two sources of funds: firstly, its own

capital drawn from its shareholders; and secondly, the deposits made by members of the general public, and in nearly every case the amount of deposits is far greater than that of its own capital. To put it in another way, whereas an ordinary commercial company uses its own funds, the funds employed by a bank—or at least a high proportion of the funds employed by a bank—usually come from the members of the outside public and are therefore not its own. It is, therefore, the duty of the Government to ensure that the banks are properly run, because if they are not so properly run, they will fail, and if they fail, it is not they who will suffer. It is the members of the general public who will suffer, because quite often they use money which is not their own—to put it bluntly. This ratio therefore does ensure that the banks do not over-trade, or do not lend more than is considered prudent by normal banking standards. He says that this rule is only enforced in Malaya. I do not think that is quite correct. It is enforced in nearly every civilised country that I know of, although not quite in the same terms. To put it in another way, in most countries the Government requires commercial banks to deposit liquid assets with the Central Bank. But the effect is exactly the same. He also wonders why a ceiling of 4 per cent has been put on time deposits. That again is essential because if we allow a free for all—and there are 23 registered banks in the Federation today—there will be cut throat competition, and what will happen? Every bank will try to get more business by trying to pay more. Well, if it pays more for deposits, it has got to lend at a higher rate. And if it lends at an exorbitant rate of interest, it can only do so by lending to unsound enterprises, and that again might have the effect of making the bank less secure, and when it is less secure the danger is that the public will eventually suffer. Therefore, this ceiling of 4 per cent on deposits is a very sound rule. He also suggested that Government accounts should be distributed among the local banks as well. I agree that is a reasonable suggestion, but at the same time I should like to emphasise that Government accounts can only be deposited with local banks which are soundly managed,

and one of the criteria is that it must adopt a sound lending and borrowing policy.

My Honourable friend Dato' Dr. Cheah Toon Lok referred to the question of judges' remuneration. I have every sympathy with members of the Bar who have been recruited to the Bench, because I realise that in every case probably they have to be satisfied with a greatly reduced level of earning. But we must remember, Sir, that for the foreseeable future at least the Judiciary will have to be staffed from the ranks of the Legal Service, and that in turn means that the scale of salaries paid to judges must have some relation to the scale of salaries paid to the rest of the Public Service. So I think we have to reconcile this question of being fair to the judges to the desirability also of maintaining a proper balance between judicial salaries and the salaries paid to the rest of the Public Service in general and the Legal Service in particular. I do not think the time has come yet when the Judiciary can be separated from the Legal Service because the demands in the immediate future are so great that it would not be possible, or desirable perhaps, to fill the ranks of the Judiciary solely from members of the Bar—that I believe is the position in the U.K., but conditions here, I think, are different.

Question put, and agreed to.

Resolved,

That a humble Address be presented to His Majesty the Yang di-Pertuan Agong,

To beg leave to offer His Majesty the humble thanks of the House for the Gracious Speech with which the Third Session of the Parliament has been opened.

BILLS

THE PENAL CODE (AMENDMENT) BILL

Second Reading

The Minister of Justice (Tun Leong Yew Koh): Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move that a Bill intituled "an Act to amend the Penal Code" be read a second time.

Sir, a brief explanation of this Bill, and of the Criminal Procedure Codes (Amendment) Bill which I hope to take through all stages today, may be of assistance to members.

For many years, it has been an offence under sections 230 to 263 of the Penal Code to forge, mutilate or otherwise tamper with coinage, whether the coinage is domestic or foreign. The reasons for this are purely historical—coinage is almost as old as mankind, whilst currency notes are of relatively recent introduction. When these latter came into circulation many years ago, the Penal Code was amended to make forgery of bank notes and currency notes an offence under sections 489A to 489D. It has transpired that this sanction applies only against forgers of domestic currency notes, and that forgers of foreign currency notes can ply their trade with immunity. The same applies in many other countries.

To correct this state of affairs, an International Convention has been drawn up by the United Nations Organisation, and the Member Nations of U.N.O. have been invited to subscribe to this Convention. In order that we may do so, it is necessary for us to amend our law. I am sure that Honourable Members will agree that this is a wholly laudable objective: once the Member Nations of the U.N.O. have subscribed to the convention, the currencies of the world will be less subject to forgery and their integrity will be the better ensured. For that reason, I invite this House to approve the second reading of this Bill.

Sir, I beg to move.

Enche' T. H. Tan: Sir, I beg to second the motion.

Dato' Dr. Cheah Toon Lok: Mr. President, Sir, I would like to know whether the expression 'currency note' means note only, or does it include coinage also. When you say 'currency note' you may mean only the notes, i.e. the five dollar and one dollar bills, etc.

Tun Leong Yew Koh: Sir, we are making the section only referring to notes.

Dato' Dr. Cheah Toon Lok: Mr. President, Sir, then I presume that it does not cover your coins—only notes. So the forgers could forge the coins if they want to!

Enche' J. E. S. Crawford: Mr. President, Sir, I think coinage is already covered. So in this Bill the intention is only to cover notes, because notes have not been covered now. The coinage is already covered in this country and elsewhere but notes were not covered—that is my understanding.

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. President 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 CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CODES (AMENDMENT) BILL

Second Reading

Tun Leong Yew Koh: Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move that a Bill intituled "an Act to amend the Criminal Procedure Codes" be read a second time.

I would refer Honourable Members to my introductory remarks in moving the second reading of the Bill which has just been passed.

Section 63 of the Criminal Procedure Codes of the States (and section 72 of the Settlements Codes) permits a police officer, with the sanction of a Chief Police Officer, to enter and search a premises if he has reason to suspect that the premises contains stolen property. We now seek to enhance the power of entry and seizure to include forged coinage or currency notes. Because forgers are notoriously suspicious people whose feet are as nimble

as their fingers, it is generally not possible for a police officer to obtain a warrant or the Chief Police Officer's sanction in time. We accordingly consider that the power to enter a premises should be given to police officers not below the rank of Inspector. We also propose that any forged coinage or currency, together with any plant or equipment used for making it, should be seizable forthwith. I do not think this is unreasonable. Once the forged money and the equipment used for making it has been seized, it will require an order of a Magistrate as to its disposal. Honourable Members will note the courts have the power to order forfeiture or destruction of these materials whether or not a conviction has been ordered. This again is, I think, reasonable. The fact that insufficient proof has been adduced against an individual to secure his conviction is no reason why forged currency should be released and allowed to recirculate.

As I have stated earlier, all this is a part of the United Nations' drive to make counterfeiting more hazardous. If and when this Bill becomes law, it will then be possible for the Federation of Malaya to accede to the International Convention for the Suppression of Counterfeit Currency—an accession which, I am sure, will commend itself to this House and to the nation.

Sir, I beg to move.

Enche' T. H. Tan: 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. President in the Chair*)

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

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

THE ELECTION OFFENCES (AMENDMENT) BILL

Second Reading

Tun Leong Yew Koh: Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move that a Bill intituled "an Act to amend the Election Offences Ordinance, 1954" be read a second time.

Sir, I do not propose to speak at any length as the Explanatory Statement at the end of the Bill is quite precise. The increase in election expenses mentioned in the Bill is recommended in the light of experience by the Election Commission. It is known that during the last Election, the maximum expenses allowed to be incurred by candidates and their agents were too small for their requirements, and hence it is reasonable for more realistic maxima to be permitted. The maxima have therefore been increased in respect of all elections, that is to say, the elections to the Dewan Ra'ayat, the Legislative Assemblies, the Local Authorities and the Local Councils.

The other fact of the Bill is to abolish the alternative method of calculating the maximum expense based on *per capita* amount in respect of each elector. The reason for this is that it has been found that the total arrived at by this alternative never amounts to even half the maximum amount being in respect of the various kind of elections.

Sir, I beg to move.

Engku Muhsin bin Abdul Kadir: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya menyokong.

Enche' Amaluddin bin Darus: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, Bill yang di-hadapan kita pada hari ini ia-lah mengenai Rang Undang² Kesalahan (Pindaan) Pilehan Raya yang di-pinda sa-hingga membolehkan chalun² mengikut kawasan pilehan raya yang membelanjakan lebih daripada biasa daripada yang di-tetapkan dalam undang² yang lama. Saya hanya mahu mengingatkan, sekali pun Dewan ini tentu akan meluluskan undang² ini, tetapi masaalah-nya ia-lah dengan pindaan ini di-buat yang membolehkan chalun² membelanjakan lebih banyak wang untuk pilehan raya. Saolah² kita menggalakkan sebarang pilehan raya ini akan di-hadapi dengan

kekuatan wang semata² dan dengan membolehkan chalun² membelanjakan wang lebuh besar sampai \$10,000 untuk Dewan Ra'ayat dalam Fasal (a) nyata-lah pada masa hadapan mungkin democracy di-negeri kita akan menjadi muram sadikit sabanyak ia-itu apabila wang telah menjadi pokok, sa-hingga jikalau tidak sechara langsung chalun² itu dapat membeli undi ra'ayat, tetapi dengan tidak sechara langsung melalui kaki-tangan yang di-upah dengan wang yang bagitu banyak, maka boleh-lah di-katakan sechara indirect dengan mengupah pengundi² itu arti-nya membeli undi untuk kepentingan chalun dalam sebarang pilehan raya dalam negeri ini.

Jadi sa-kali pun saya tidak bersetuju dan tidak hendak membangkang, tetapi ini harus menjadi peringatan dalam Dewan ini bahawa sa-barang pandangan yang merupakan bagi memper-banyakkan perbelanjaan sa-barang chalun dalam Pilehan Raya mungkin akan menjadikan suatu yang akan meng-hilangkan nilai demokrasi dalam Pilehan Raya dalam masa kita mendidek dan menimbulkan kesadaran ra'ayat menge-tahui perkembangan demokrasi dan memahami sa-benar²-nya atau memberi sadar kepada mereka sa-bagai suatu hak mereka itu sendiri.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, dalam peng-alaman PAS sa-bagai parti yang kecil pada masa dahulu dan sa-buah parti yang miskin boleh di-katakan tiap² chalun berikhtiar mendapatkan wang belanja sendiri dan tidak ada fund dari-pada parti, tetapi telah mendapat ke-jayaan saperti yang terbukti, sekali pun tidak mempunyaï jumlah mata wang sebanyak 10 ribu itu. Tidak-lah dengan kenyataan ini erti-nya PAS yang maseh miskin akan gentar untuk menghadapi Pilehan Raya. Saya mengulas masaalah ini kerana takutkan belanja yang besar itu akan di-belanjakan oleh chalun² itu dan akan membolehkan dengan sa-chara tidak langsung membeli pengundi² melalui orang² yang bekerja dengan chalun itu.

Tun Leong Yew Koh: Mr. President, Sir, this Bill has been drawn up according to the experience of the Elections Com-mission. It is a permissive Bill. It does

not force any party to raise any amount of money they want.

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. President in the Chair*)

Clauses 1 to 3 inclusive ordered to stand part of the Bill.

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

THE CORROSIVE AND EXPLOSIVE SUBSTANCES AND OFFENSIVE WEAPONS (AMENDMENT) BILL

Second Reading

Tun Leong Yew Koh: Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move that a Bill intituled "An Act to amend the Corrosive and Explosive Substances and Offensive Weapons Ordinance, 1958," be read a second time.

Under the Corrosive and Explosive Substances and Offensive Weapons Ordinance, 1958, the carrying or posses-sion of offensive weapons attracts penalties only if these are carried out in a public place.

It is considered that there are certain types of weapons, such as knuckle-dusters, chainwhips, flick-knives, etc., which are of no use to anyone except criminals, and the possession of which creates a reasonable presumption that they are to be used for offensive pur-poses. It is the object of the above Bill, therefore, to create special penalties in relation to such weapons as set out in Clause 3 of the Bill: the weapons in question being scheduled in the Second Schedule set out in Clause 5, which may be amended by the Minister from time to time.

The provisions of Clause 3 of the Bill are derived from the United Kingdom Restriction of Offensive Weapons Act, 1959, and the Minor Offences (Amend-ment) Ordinance, 1959, of the State of Singapore.

Engku Muhsein bin Abdul Kadir: Sir, I beg to second the motion.

Enche' Athi Nahappan: Mr. President, Sir, this is an Amendment which should be welcomed by those who are familiar with the Ordinance. There were a number of cases which were rather harsh when especially the phrase "the possession of" was interpreted. There was one particular case where a school-teacher, who happened to have a penknife in his pocket, was arrested and brought to Court and charged for being in possession of that knife. The Ordinance as it stood merely said that any offensive weapon includes any instrument which if used as a weapon of offence is likely to cause hurt—in which case even a penknife if it is used as a weapon of offence is likely to cause hurt. The result was that this school-teacher, who lives a quiet life, just because he had the penknife in his pocket, was arrested and brought to Court and charged. Finally, when it was argued how absurdly this Clause could be interpreted and stretched, the charge was withdrawn.

Sir, there was another case where a hawker who, after his work, was taking along with him his knife, which he used to chop his meat, while he was returning home at night; he was arrested for being in possession of that knife, because if that weapon were used it could cause hurt.

Sir, it is a good thing that this Amendment is being introduced, because in the Second Schedule, "an offensive weapon" is given some kind of explanation and definition. I hope that when this Amendment is put into practice, there will be some direction to the Police Department that the Police should use its discretion in arresting people merely because they are in possession of weapons which are likely to cause hurt, as these weapons are easily purchaseable in the open market and in shops where these things are sold: I say this because if a person buys, say, a knife for a lawful purpose and keeps it in his possession, when and if he is arrested the onus of establishing that he is carrying it for a lawful purpose falls on him—and very often the excuse put forward is not accepted by the

Court, because his explanation is not convincing. Here I would like to mention the case of a person whose hobby was fishing and he had been fishing for about 20 years: while he was near the Maxwell Road river after fishing, he had a fishing rod and a small knife for cutting wood, the Police arrested him, even though he gave the explanation that he was having it for the purpose of cutting wood for use as a fishing rod. His explanation was not accepted and he was convicted. The matter went up to the Court of Appeal.

Sir, there were many instances like this, where the Ordinance, I should say, was not properly interpreted, and to some extent there was abuse. Therefore, Sir, I hope that in future there will not be room for abuse and the citizens will not be put into unnecessary difficulties or hardship merely because a good number of hoodlums or gangsters are carrying about other weapons and that innocent people should not be put into difficulties for the sake of other bad elements.

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 the Committee.

(*Mr. President in the Chair*)

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

Second Schedule ordered to stand part of the Bill.

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

THE LOAN (INTERNATIONAL TIN BUFFER STOCK) BILL

Second Reading

Tun Leong Yew Koh: Sir, I beg to move that a Bill intituled An Act to authorise the borrowing of a sum not exceeding the sum of sixty million dollars in order to finance the payment of the share of the Federation in the Buffer

Stock to be established under Article VIII of the International Tin Agreement, 1960, and for purposes incidental thereto, be read a second time.

Enche' T. H. Tan: Sir, I beg to second the motion.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Mr. President, Sir, the purpose of this Bill is to enable the Federation to borrow up to \$60 million in order to finance its contribution to the International Tin Buffer Stock to be established under Article VIII of the International Tin Agreement, 1960.

Honourable Members were informed in a White Paper Command 55 of 1960, tabled in this Dewan on 21st December, 1960, that the Federation Government would ratify the International Tin Agreement, 1960. This Agreement, which will replace the 1953 Agreement, has since been ratified. Article VIII of the Agreement makes provision for the establishment of a new tin buffer stock equivalent to 20,000 tons of metal. The Federation's share of the buffer stock will be 38%. Contributions to the buffer stock are due on 3rd July or such later date as the new Tin Council may decide. It is not possible at the present time to predict the precise amount in terms of tin metal and cash which we will be required to contribute to the buffer stock, as these matters are to be decided by the new International Tin Council. It is estimated, however, that the Federation will be called upon to pay the equivalent of not more than \$60 million in tin metal and cash. This is a maximum figure and the actual contribution may be appreciably lower.

The International Tin Agreement, 1953, expires on 30th June, 1961, and the proceeds of the First Tin Buffer Stock will be repaid to contributing countries. Here it has been decided that our share of the proceeds of the liquidation should be returned to the miners who contributed to the Buffer Stock as has been requested by them. It will not be possible, therefore, to utilise the proceeds to finance the country's contribution to the Second Buffer Stock. Such a contribution will in fact be financed by means of an overdraft to be obtained

from one or more of the Malayan Exchange Banks. Agreement has been reached with the Malayan Exchange Banks Association that the rate of interest on the loan shall be the best minimum debit interest rate as agreed between the Bank Negara and the Malayan Exchange Banks Association from time to time. This Bill seeks the necessary statutory authority for the raising of the over draft.

Repayment of the overdraft and interest thereon together with the administrative expenses involved will be made from the proceeds of a levy to be imposed on tin concentrates mined in this country. Provision for such a levy will be made in the Tin Control (Buffer Stock) Regulations, 1961, which will be gazetted shortly. The tin industry has been consulted and has agreed that the full cost of the overdraft together with the administrative expenses involved should be recovered in the manner proposed, which is in general similar to that used in respect of the overdraft previously arranged for the purpose of paying the Federation's contribution to the First International Tin Buffer Stock.

Clause 4 of the Bill states that the principal moneys together with all interest thereon shall be charged on and payable out of the Consolidated Fund. This is a constitutional requirement as the Government will be the borrower. Nevertheless, I wish to emphasise that the proposed borrowing of up to \$60 million will not in any way constitute a burden on the general revenues of the country.

Clause 6 (2) provides that all sums borrowed under the provisions of the Bill shall be repaid within a period of 4 years. It is anticipated, however, that the repayment of all sums raised under the provisions of this Bill together with interest thereon will be repaid within a period of 2½ years from the proceeds of the proposed levy on tin concentrates mined in the Federation. Repayment of the overdraft will be made daily on the basis of the sums received by Government in respect of the levy on tin concentrates. In this way the interest which will have to be paid by the tin industry on the overdraft will be kept to a minimum.

Dato' Dr. Cheah Toon Lok: Mr. President, Sir, may I ask what is the amount passed in the Lower House? It is printed down here as fifty-five million dollars, but we are now asked to approve sixty million dollars.

Mr. President: An amendment was made in the Lower House and an amendment slip has been circulated to the Honourable Members to the effect. Sixty million dollars is the correct figure.

Dato' Dr. Cheah Toon Lok: I have not got it, Sir. Thank you.

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. President *in the Chair*)

Clauses 1 to 6 inclusive ordered to stand part of the Bill,

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

THE LOAN (LOCAL) BILL

Second Reading

Tun Leong Yew Koh: Sir, I beg to move that a Bill intituled "an Act to authorise a sum not exceeding one hundred million dollars at any one time to be raised in the Federation by way of loan" be read a second time.

Enche' T. H. Tan: Sir, I beg to second the motion.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Mr. President, Sir, this Bill authorises the Minister of Finance to raise local loans not exceeding \$100 million at any one time, the period of any loan not to exceed 5 years.

Honourable Members are aware that it is the policy of the Government to stimulate the interest of domestic investors in Government securities. The Bank Negara has advised that in order to stimulate the interest of institutional investors, in particular banks and insurance companies, it is desirable that short-term loans, i.e., loans for periods

of between two to five years, should be issued and this Bill will enable such loans to be issued. The stock will be transferable in the normal manner, such transfer being free of stamp duty. There is no active market in Government securities at the present time but the short life of the loans and their marketability should encourage investors, particularly the banks and other institutional investors, to employ their surplus funds in taking up such stock rather than remitting them overseas for investment as is done at present to a great extent.

The purposes for which the monies received by the issue of loans under the provisions of this Bill may be used are set out in Clause 4. Whilst it would be unsound practice to rely heavily on short-term loans to finance development, it is considered that at least a proportion of the money raised by the issue of such loans can be devoted prudently to the financing of long-term investment, especially as the maximum sum which may be raised at any one time is limited to \$100 million. Clause 4 (b) therefore provides for payment of the proceeds of the loans into the Development Fund to the extent that such payment is authorised by resolution of the Dewan Ra'ayat. This provision will ensure effective Parliamentary control over the use of the funds for development.

No provision has been made for the creation of a sinking fund as it will not be readily practicable to redeem such short-term loans by means of a sinking fund. Clause 4 (c) therefore provides that loans can be redeemed from the proceeds of other loans issued under the provisions of this Bill. It is anticipated that the total amount of loans issued will increase gradually to \$100 million and that it will normally be possible to re-finance maturing issues having regard to the gradual development of a domestic money market.

The Bill otherwise follows the common form of legislation authorising the raising of domestic loans.

Dato' Dr. Cheah Toon Lok: Mr. President, Sir, if you will read clause 9(1) of this Bill you will notice that the interest upon the principal moneys

represented by stock issued under this Act shall be paid half-yearly at the office of the Bank. But there is no authority given to any person to charge any interest. Well, I want to know whether power has been given or decided to be given from time to time to the Minister to charge interest for this loan, as there is no clause in this Bill saying that the Minister has the right to charge interest for this loan.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: There is no question of the power of the Minister to decide as to what rate of interest should be charged on this loan. In fact, clause 6 does give that power. It says that the stock shall be issued "upon such terms as may be approved by the Minister". I think the word "terms" covers interest.

Dato' Dr. Cheah Toon Lok: Thank you.

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. President *in the Chair*)

Clauses 1 to 14 inclusive ordered to stand part of the Bill.

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

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL

Second Reading

Tun Leong Yew Koh: Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move that a Bill intituled "an Act to amend the Local Government Elections Act, 1960" be read a second time.

Enche' T. H. Tan: Sir, I beg to second the motion.

The Assistant Minister of the Interior (Enche' Mohamed Ismail bin Mohamed Yusof): Mr. President, Sir, the main object of this measure is to bring Local Councils within the scope of the Local Government Elections Act, 1960. The House may be aware that under Section

5 of the Local Councils Ordinance, 1952, there is provision only for an informal method of election of members of such Councils. Elections to these Councils have been conducted on simple rules of procedure devised by the Government of each State for the guidance of the District Officers. Whilst these rules might have been adequate in the past when it was difficult to get persons to stand as Councillors, the recent increase in political activities has led to a large number of people coming forward as candidates for Local Council elections, which they regard as the first step in their political careers. Unfortunately, in many cases, this political enthusiasm has sometimes led to local disturbances, which have in some cases been caused by the lack of appropriate legislation dealing with the conduct of elections and the qualifications of the electors. The Local Government Elections Act, 1960, provides for uniform qualifications for Councillors and electors and enables the Election Commission to assume responsibility for the supervision of the conduct of the elections. By this measure, electoral procedure at the Local Council level will be assimilated with that in force in relation to Town and Rural District Councils.

Under the proposed Section 5A, the Ruler or Governor of a State may provide for the election and appointment of members of a Local Council in that State. Orders must be made under that section within three months of this Act being brought into force by such particular State Government, and elections will then follow. The remaining provisions of the Bill are of a formal nature.

The object of Clause 3 is to meet the case where a State Government wishes to set up a new Council which cannot properly be called a Town Council or a Rural District Council.

Clause 5 provides for the use of current electoral rolls for the purposes of election.

Clause 6 repairs an omission in the Act of 1960.

Clause 8 restricts non-resident property owners to only one vote in the local area of a Council and provides for

the abolition of the non-residential qualification, if the Ruler or Governor so desires.

Clause 9 disposes of Parts of the Local Authorities Elections Ordinance, 1950, which no longer has any application.

Finally Clause 10 makes a consequential amendment to the Election Offences Ordinance, 1954, so applying that Ordinance to elections to Local Councils.

I would like to inform the House that the terms of this Bill have been discussed in the National Council for Local Government and have been agreed to by the Council.

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. President *in the Chair*)

Clauses 1 to 10 inclusive ordered to stand part of the Bill.

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

THE LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) BILL

Second Reading

Tun Leong Yew Koh: Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move that a Bill intituled "An Act to amend the Life Assurance Companies Ordinance, 1948" be read a second time.

Enche' T. H. Tan: Sir, I beg to second the motion.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Mr. President, Sir, as Hon'ble Members are aware, the Government intends to introduce comprehensive insurance legislation to ensure not only the sound growth of the industry in the Federation but also the maximum protection of the interests of policy-holders. The introduction of this legislation has been deferred pending the recruitment of an experienced Insurance Commissioner, whose

appointment is essential if the provisions of the proposed legislation are to be enforced effectively.

In the last year there has been a spectacular growth in the number of new insurance companies registered for the purpose of undertaking life insurance business, no less than 17 companies having been registered. These companies have very limited capital resources, and inadequate experience in the conduct of insurance business, the principal safeguard for the interests of policy-holders being the \$200,000 security deposit required to be made by each company by virtue of Section 4 of the Life Assurance Companies Ordinance, 1948. This rapid growth in the number of companies will inevitably result in fierce competition which will in all probability lead to the adoption of unsound practices, and the eventual failure of some of the weaker and more inexperienced companies, the real losses being eventually sustained by the holders of policies issued by such companies. It is therefore very necessary to check this unhealthy growth until comprehensive legislation to control the conduct of insurance business generally can be introduced.

I consider it essential that the conduct of life insurance business should, with certain exceptions which are provided for in this Bill, be confined to those companies that have adequate paid up capital resources. Clause 2 of the Bill therefore provides that only companies having a paid up capital of not less than \$1 million may conduct life insurance business. Companies already registered and conducting life insurance business prior to 20th April, 1961, will not be affected but I should like to emphasise that such companies will be made subject, in due course, to the provisions of the new Insurance Act including those provisions relating to the minimum amount of paid-up capital required.

Life insurance is at present also carried on by certain societies which provide what are known as "death benefits". Such societies if properly registered under the provisions of the Societies Ordinance and falling within the definition of "Death Benefit Societies" as contained in that Ordinance

will not be subject to the provisions of this Bill. Nevertheless the need to increase control over the conduct of these societies is being examined with a view of determining whether or not they should be brought within the scope of the proposed insurance legislation.

Co-operative insurance societies in existence before 20th April, 1961, are exempted from the provisions of this Bill, and provision has also been made for His Majesty the Yang di-Pertuan Agong to grant exemption to individual companies or societies already in existence should this be considered desirable in any particular case.

This Bill should be regarded as an interim measure to increase the degree of protection afforded to policy-holders pending the introduction of comprehensive insurance legislation.

Enche' Abdul Hamid bin Mahmud: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya suka memberi sadikit pandangan berkenaan Rang Undang² ini. Dalam negeri kita ini mengikut keterangan daripada Yang Berhormat Menteri Kewangan tadi ada banyak sharikat insuran nyawa. Saya dapati pehak yang menjalankan sharikat ini di-pantai timor khas-nya, wakil² dari Life Assurance ini memujok orang kampong supaya masok insuran nyawa. Orang kampong tidak chukup faham; tetapi mereka bayar insuran nyawa mereka itu, mithal-nya \$1,000 dalam masa beberapa tahun, tetapi mereka yang masok itu tidak faham 'premium' mereka mesti bayar bulan² atau 3 bulan sa-kali dengan mengambil masa yang panjang. Oleh kerana tidak faham, apabila mereka masok sa-tahun mereka berhenti membayar. Jadi wang yang dibayar itu hilang bagitu sahaja. Yang kedua, apabila orang membayar insuran itu mati, warith²-nya susah hendak menerima semua wang bayaran daripada sharikat insuran itu. Ada sa-orang telah pernah berjumpa saya, mengatakan ia patut menerima \$1,000 daripada sharikat insuran kerana bapa-nya mati, tetapi susah hendak mendapatkan wang itu, terpaksa pergi High Court, mengambil L.A. dan sa-bagai-nya. Jadi orang² kampong yang tidak mempunyai wang tentu-lah wang yang mereka patut terima itu sa-bahagian besar-nya habis

di-tengah jalan. Kerajaan patut mengambil perhatian tentang perkara ini.

Yang ketiga, berhubong dengan insuran motokar. Sa-siapa yang memakai motokar mesti membayar 'insurance first atau third party'. Apabila berlaku satu² kemalangan pehak insuran ini tidak memberi perhatian penoh tentang bayaran ini. Mithal-nya, motokar itu di-baiki dengan harga \$100 pehak sharikat tidak dapat memberi dengan sa-penoh kehendak orang itu, kadang² sharikat itu bayar lebih daripada yang patut di-bayar dan kadang² tidak patut dan ada masa-nya tidak mahu bayar. Hal ini berlaku bukan sahaja satu dua tetapi banyak. Oleh sebab mereka terpaksa membayar insuran, saya harap Kerajaan patut mengambil perhatian yang berat di atas insuran yang di-kenakan kepada motokar.

Pada fikiran saya di-masa yang akan datang ini Kerajaan, patut menimbangkan sama ada patut Kerajaan menubohkan 'corporation' bagi menjalankan insuran motokar ini sebab perkara ini ada-lah sangat mustahak bagi ra'ayat dan bagi Kerajaan negeri ini. Keuntongan yang di-dapati daripada insuran motokar itu saya perchaya sangat besar, dan oleh itu sa-elok-nya-lah Kerajaan sendiri mengambil tanggong-jawab dalam usaha menjalankan insuran motokar ini.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Mr. President, Sir, I can appreciate the anxiety of my Honourable friend Enche' Abdul Hamid in regard to those who are gullible enough to be persuaded to take out policies from insurance companies when, perhaps, it may not be so desirable or necessary for them to do so. I think the moral of that story is that one should be very careful in choosing an insurance company from which to take out policies. As I have already stated, it is Government's intention to introduce comprehensive legislation to control insurance business generally in this country and that legislation, when introduced, will take care of some of the problems raised by the Honourable Member.

He also stated that Government should form its own insurance company to deal with the insurance of motor

vehicles. As we have stated repeatedly, both inside and outside this House, it is not the intention of this Government to indulge in private enterprise—I hope I will be excused if I use the word "indulge"—as I think that is an extremely expensive pastime; and if past experience is any guide, it will also be a disastrous business, particularly for the Government. Even if it is decided that Government should participate in private enterprise, I would say that the last form of business which it should take part in is the insurance of motor vehicles. Even insurance companies do not find it a lucrative business, and if they with their experience and technical know-how find it difficult to carry on this business, I think that is the last form of private enterprise Government should take part in. I am sure there is no money in it and it will only result in heavy bills which will eventually have to be paid by the taxpayers themselves.

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. President *in the Chair*)

Clauses 1 to 3 inclusive ordered to stand part of the Bill.

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

MOTIONS

COMMITTEE OF SELECTION

Tun Leong Yew Koh: Sir, I beg to move,

That, in pursuance of paragraph (1) of Standing Order 70, a Committee consisting of the President as Chairman and the following Senators of the House, be appointed to serve as the Committee of Selection:

The Minister of Justice
Enche' T. H. Tan
Nik Hassan bin Haji Nik Yahya
Raja Rastam Shahrome bin Raja Said
Tauphy

Dato' Wan Ibrahim bin Wan Tanjong:
Sir, I beg to second the motion.

Question put, and agreed to.

Resolved,

That, in pursuance of paragraph (1) of Standing Order 70, a Committee consisting of the President as Chairman and the following Senators of the House, be appointed to serve as the Committee of Selection:

The Minister of Justice
Enche' T. H. Tan
Nik Hassan bin Haji Nik Yahya
Raja Rastam Shahrome bin Raja Said
Tauphy

THE REVISED EDITION OF THE LAWS ORDINANCE, 1959

Draft Order, 1961

Tun Leong Yew Koh: Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move,

That pursuant to the provisions of subsection (1) of section 7 of the Revised Edition of the Laws Ordinance, 1959, the alterations and amendments specified in the Revised Edition of the Laws (Draft) Order, 1961, tabled as Command Paper No. 13 of 1961, being alterations and amendments desirable in the opinion of the Commissioner of Law Revision in the preparation of the First Volume of the Revised Edition of the laws, be approved.

Sir, this motion is of a largely formal nature, and I need not detain this House for long over it.

The first volume of the Revised Laws is now about to go to Press. As the House is aware, the Commissioner for Law Revision has certain powers to tidy-up and consolidate the various laws and so keep them up-to-date. The Commissioner has however no power to make any substantive amendment to the laws—he is not permitted to change their meaning or import. This can only be done by Parliament. In the ordinary course of events, any amendment would require an amending Bill taken through all stages in both Houses; but for the purpose of revision, the Revised Edition of the Laws Ordinance of 1959 permits certain consequential amendments to be made by resolution in both Houses. This is an economical and expeditious method of making minor adjustments without the pomp, bother and time-consuming procedure which is inherent in an amending Bill.

Honourable Senators will see from the explanatory statement that all these amendments are of a minor nature and are in no way controversial. Indeed, most of them might have been made by way of modification of the laws during the first two years of Merdeka. His Majesty has been graciously pleased to give his sanction that the present draft Order, tabled as Command Paper No. 13 of 1961, should be presented to Parliament, and it now only remains for me to ask this House to approve its terms. I should however emphasise that approval of this Order is merely a preliminary to the actual printing of the first volume of the Revised Edition; once the volume has been printed it will be laid on the table of both Houses of Parliament and can only come into force following a further resolution by the two Houses.

Enche' T. H. Tan: Sir, I beg to second the motion.

Question put, and agreed to.

Resolved,

That pursuant to the provisions of subsection (1) of section 7 of the Revised Edition of the Laws Ordinance, 1959, the alterations and amendments specified in the Revised Edition of the Laws (Draft) Order, 1961, tabled as Command Paper No. 13 of 1961, being alterations and amendments desirable in the opinion of the Commissioner of Law Revision in the preparation of the First Volume of the Revised Edition of the laws, be approved.

ADJOURNMENT SINE DIE

(Motion)

Tun Leong Yew Koh: Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move,

That the House do now adjourn *sine die*.

Enche' T. H. Tan: Sir, I beg to second the motion.

Question put, and agreed to.

Resolved,

That the House do now adjourn *sine die*.

Adjourned sine die at 11.40 a.m.