PHILBY, HAROLD ADRIAN RUSSELL

PF 604,584/V17

SEE ALSO LIST INSIDE COVER

Serial No	Star Designation	Date	Serial No	Star Designation	Date	Serial No	Star Designation	Date

KV 2/4739

S. 960 Edn2

PF 604,584/V17

Reference P.F. 604,584 vol.17

Previous volume closed at serial 836a dated 26.6.63

837

28.6.63	Note re 835a	837a

838

28.6.63	Intercept letter	838a

CODE 18-76

839

28.6.63. Intercept letter. 839a

Cat (b) 2.7

841.

~~D.D.G.~~ through ~~D.~~ and ~~D.1.~~

The Home Office Warrants P.S/12765 and T.S/2403 on Mrs. Eleanor PHILBY are due for review on 11th July, 1963.

2. The Warrants are producing useful information and as the case is still of current interest I should like to renew the Warrants for a further six months.

D.1.
1.7.63.

E. McBarnet.

843.

1.7.63. Copy of T/C 843a

844.

1.7.63. Intercept letter. 844a
1.7.63. Ext. from T/C. 844b

845.

1.7.63. Intercept letter. 845a
.63. Two Hansards re PHILBY. 845b

846.

.7.63. Note re P.Q. 846y
2.7.63. Note for file. 846z

Code 18-75
3.7.63. Telegram from Foreign Office. 846a
3.7.63. Newspaper cuttings from S.L.O. Washington. 846b

847

.7.63.	Note by D.G.	847z
.7.63.	Intercept letter.	847a

849

.7.63.	Intercept letter.	849a

850

.7.63.	Ext. from House of Commons Hansard.	850a
.7.63.	Note for file by D.	850b
.7.63.	From Cabinet Office to D.G.	850d

851

8.7.63.	Intercept letter.	851a

852

8.7.63.	Intercept letter.	852a

853

8.7.63.	Intercept letter.	853a
.7.63.	Extract from Hansard, House of Commons.	853b
.7.63.	Extract from Hansard, House of Commons.	853c
8.7.63.	Note for file by D.	853d
.7.63.	Loose minute from A.1. to D.G.	853e

		856	
9.7.63.	Loose minute from C.4/K.T.		856a
		857	
9.7.63.	Note for file.		857a
		858	
9.7.63.	Note for file.		858a
		859	
9.7.63.	To G.P.O. re addition to H.O.W.		859a
		860	
10.7.63.	Note for file.		860a

861

~~9.7.63.~~ ~~Note for file.~~ ~~861a~~

Removed on authority of D/EMCB 15.7.63.
+ PA'd in PF604584 Supp J at Serial 1a

862

10.7.63. Intercept letter. 862a

863

10.7.63. Note to D.1. from D. 863a

866

11.7.63. Extract from Hansard. 866a

11.7.63. F.4. source report. 866b

Reference PF 604,584

869

12.7.63.	Ext. from T/C material.	869a

870

15.7.63.	Letter to Saunders, G.P.O.	870a

871

15.7.63.	Intercept letter.	871a

873

15.7.63.	~~Intercept letter.~~ Dect. authority DELETED	~~873a~~

874

15.7.63.	Extract from Hansard.	874b
15.7.63.	Loose minute to D.1.	874c

Code 18-75

875

5.7.63. Intercept letter. 875a

6.7.63. Cutting from Hansard. 875b

879

.7.63. ~~Intercept letter.~~ Dest. authorities D/E M&B 879a

880

2.7.63. Intercept letter. 880a

882

2.7.63. Intercept letter. 882a

Reference PF 604,584

	883	
22.7.63.	Intercept letter.	883a
	884	
24.7.63.	Note re PHILBY Interviews.	884a
26.7.63.	Intercept letter.	884b
	885	
29.7.63.	Intercept letter.	885a
	886	
29.7.63.	Intercept letter.	886a
	887	
29.7.63.	~~Intercept letter.~~ Desc. authority FOI/ETC.(3)	887a
	888	
29.7.63.	Intercept letter.	888a
	889	
30.7.63.	Intercept letter.	889a
31.7.63.	Note for file.	889b
	890	
1.8.63.	Moscow telegram to F.O.	890a
	891	
1.8.63.	Intercept letter.	891a

892

.8.63. Intercept letter. Dest. Authority DIETICS. 892a

893

.8.63. Note for file. 893a

894

.8.63. Newspaper cutting from S.L.O. Washington. 894a

895

2.8.63. Intercept letter. 895a

897

5.8.63. Intercept letter. 897a

Reference PF 604584

		900	
.8.63.	Intercept letter.		900a
		901	
7.8.63.	Intercept letter.		901a
		902	
7.8.63.	Intercept letter.		902a

FILE CLOSED

FILE CLOSED

Aug. 6th. 1963. SECRET B 9

To WI/EMB
-6 AUG 1963
P.A. in

PHILBY

Mrs. P. Milne
18 Carrick Court
Kensington Park Road

3 Aug. 1963

Dearest EKP,

Can't tell you how sorry I am about the latest news. And again I repeat, if you need me just shout. Don't know what I'd use for money but something would turn up. Or if you want to come here – come – anytime you want to.

At any rate you know I'm with you. Let me know what your next move is, and if there is anything you want me to do.

I have had not a word from anyone in Beirut except for a short note from L. some time ago. I expect she has written to you more recently.

Write as soon as you can.

Much love

Kay Brennan

17

898a
899a

Aug. 3rd. 1963. SECRET B 8

0776

8977A

To D1/EMB
- 6 AUG 1963
P.A. in
PARLBY

KENSINGTON 12 45PM 2 AUG 1963 W.8.

Mrs Milne
18 Garrick Court
Kennington Park Rd.
S.E. 11

R/Rs
7/7/64
D1. DRI
6.8.63.

Aug. 3rd. 1963. SECRET B 8

Brought by hand by a man who asked if there was an answer

Mrs. Eleanor Philby,
c/o Jack Ivens, Esq.,
37 Holland Villas Road,
LONDON, W.14.

THE OBSERVER
·1791·
The Observer Limited
22 TUDOR STREET
LONDON, E.C.4
TELEPHONE:
FLEET STREET 0202

2nd August, 1963

Dear Mrs. Philby,

I wonder if, in view of this week's developments, I might ask one of our reporters - you already know Roy Perrott, for example - to come along and talk to you.

I can acutely imagine what an upset the last few weeks must have been for you. However, you were kind enough to say that if you felt you had some things to say you would say them to The Observer first.

Particularly as you and Kim had a double relationship with us in the sense of him being our correspondent and now a figure very much in the news, I hope you will agree to talk to Roy Perrott or one of our other reporters - either privately or, probably better, saying something that we could quote for publication.

I am sure you will appreciate that the paper itself has felt a little embarrassed, shall we say, when the rest of the Press and television have asked about one of our correspondents . . .

Yours sincerely,

John Thompson

John Thompson

Mrs. Eleanor Philby,
c/o Jack Ivens, Esq.,
37 Holland Villas Road,
LONDON, W.14.

896a.

Aug. 1st. 1963.

SECRET J 2

8-9-1

895A

To: DI/EmB
2 AUG 1963
P.A. in

PA/LBY

POST OFFICE
EXPRESS
DELIVERY

Mrs. Milne,
18 Carrick Court,
Kennington Park Road,
London, S.E. 11.

PA/LBY
6-8-63

3140

Aug. 1st. 1963.

SECRET J 2 X 8-9-1

Mrs. Eleanor Philby

PLS RETURN

THE SUNDAY TIMES JULY 14 1963

GRAHAM GREENE

A Third Man entertainment on SECURITY

IN ROOM 51

OFTEN during these last weeks, as the word "security" becomes more and more an ugly one, I look back with nostalgia to the happy carefree months I spent in 1943 and 1944 working in a large Edwardian house off St. James's Street.

Security in those days was quite a flippant word; we were not concerned with the fate of Governments, we were free from Press and Parliament, we were able to enjoy our small secrets. Even M.I.5 was only a voice down the telephone, often an unintelligible voice, after I had responded like a clumsy and old-fashioned dancer to the invitation, "Shall we scramble?"

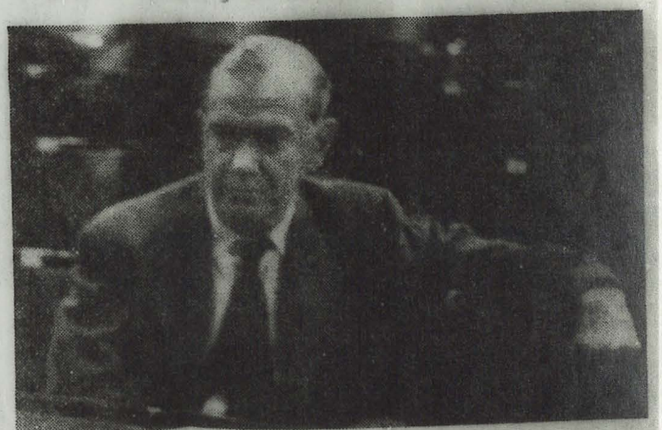
The house was divided between two organisations. On the upper floor lived a group—rather suspect to us—belonging to the O.S.S., the predecessors of the C.I.A. (I sometimes wonder what treacheries may yet be disclosed under a different regime. Which of us then were betraying secrets to our American allies? Which of us in the far past at Oxford and Cambridge had become corrupted by the capitalist way of life?).

Professor Norman Pearson, who later helped Professor Auden to compile the best of all anthologies of English poetry, used regularly to call on me, but I at any rate had never been a member of the English-Speaking Union, and I carefully guarded from his eyes my card-index of suspected German agents working in Portugal. My conversations with Professor Pearson, as I remember them, always began with literature—I think we disagreed about the merits of Professor Day-Lewis, but they would nearly always end with some query about an unpronounceable character in the by-ways of Lisbon (I knew no Portuguese).

It was at this period that I wrote a book which is my rarest first edition: a Who's Who, with introductory essays, to the Azores. It was limited to twelve copies and I regret not having kept one. My chief, whom I remember with great affection, was Kim Philby. While I felt able to write (I cannot remember how) about local government and land-tenure, I had to leave the essay on radio-communications to him.

Security was a game we played less against the enemy than against the allies on the upper floor. There was a legend—I'm sure it was untrue—that they had landed the first time at Bristol Airport with revolvers on their hips (I can't imagine Professor Pearson with a revolver) and demanded special transport to London, claiming "We are the American Secret Service."

I had special reason to disbelieve the story because in Sierra Leone a year before I had been aproached by an O.S.S. agent who had arrived in a convoy and couldn't get away from Freetown. He was in a very sad state of mind because he really detested Freetown (I don't understand why) and was supposed to be in the Middle East. The only possible transport was by R.A.F. plane, but naturally an unknown civilian was not allowed on board. It was a bit of an impasse because he was unwilling to break security by disclosing himself to the British General in command at Freetown. This makes me think that Americans must always have taken security more seriously than we did.



Apart from our allies on the floors above there was, of course,

a danger from bombs. It was always possible that our card-indices might be blasted one night over the whole of St. James's, with all kinds of documents drifting into Boodles and White's, and it was a rule therefore that all "secret documents" were to be locked in a safe before the owner left the building. Those on fire-guard duty had to search the building and deposit any documents left exposed on the night-duty officer's desk. The culprit next day would be reprimanded and fined.

My own turn of duty as fire-guard came round once a week. I looked forward to that night with pleasure, because I had discovered a steel cupboard in one of the O.S.S. offices which was buckled. With a little effort I could insert my fingers and pull out sheaves of paper marked Top Secret (I never bothered to read them—all secrets were much alike and rather indigestible if you worked among them all day). These O.S.S. secrets I would stack on the duty-officer's desk, choosing a moment when he was not in the room, and next morning a fine would be exacted from our puzzled and harassed allies.

The game went happily on for weeks before the source of the documents was discovered. It is possible that I gave myself away—perhaps to Kim Philby over drinks in the King's Arms behind St. James's Street, where we would meet between sirens. (I hope if he reads this essay he will accept the salute of genuine affection. I am of a nature which resents authority, but my only disagreement with Kim Philby was over an attempt he made to promote me—a promotion which I considered unjust.)

However it came about — perhaps it was Professor Pearson who tumbled to my trick—one day the game was over. I found an office-order on my desk, in course of circulation to all the members of the department. (The Government might well issue a similar order today, for it cleared up this matter of security with one embracing sentence and left the situation morally intact). "*For Fire-Guard Officers. In future the steel cupboard in room 51 is to be regarded as a safe and documents locked in the cupboard are to be regarded as secure.*"

Gently, tactfully, without publicity, the rules of security had been altered to contain rather than to close the leak. (All is a matter of semantics. We use much the same technique today when we class nuclear tactical weapons as conventional ones.)

The notice, strictly speaking, should have been passed to our charwomen too, but perhaps they were not sufficiently trusted. It might have given them an idea to follow in the famous path plotted by the archetypal charwoman of the Dreyfus case. As for that Third Man with whom the Press has made us so familiar, there was no danger from him in those days, for I hadn't yet invented him.

894b.

894A

With the compliments of

THE BRITISH EMBASSY

To: Head Office, for the attention of Director D.

ENCL. 1 cutting

- 1 AUG 1963

TO. D

REF Rf 60+584.

WASHINGTON, D.C.
H.C.M. Stone.

D14/7

31.7.63

HE60 PS

6.8.63.

Newspaper cutting from the
New York Times dated
31.7.63. sent by S.L.O.
Washington.

ON HER MAJESTY'S SERVICE

New York Times 31 July 63

THE

Spy Tale's 'Third Man'

Harold Adrian Russell Philby

HANDSOME and quiet-spoken, Harold Adrian Russell Philby looks every bit the suave undercover agent of Britain's popular spy thrillers.

A bizarre background, extending from childhood in India to diplomacy and counter-intelligence on three continents, makes him a fitting character for Ian Fleming's novels about James Bond. The announcement in Moscow yesterday that the former British diplomat and journalist had asked for asylum and for Soviet citizenship deepened rather than solved the mystery of Philby's life. His quiet disappearance from his fifth-floor flat on the Rue Kantari in Beirut, Lebanon, last Jan. 31, just before a dinner with a British Embassy official, went almost unnoticed.

Man in the News

Six months later, the British Government identified him the "third" man who, in 1951, helped Donald Maclean and Guy Burgess flee to the Soviet Union just as the British intelligence services were preparing to arrest them on espionage charges.

Ironically, this man who stands accused in a series of espionage cases that have rocked the British Government spent almost all of World War II in British counterespionage for the Foreign Office. For his analyses of foreign intelligence reports he was awarded the Order of the British Empire.

Linked to Penkovsky

While it appears likely that Philby was working for the Soviet Union at the same time, speculation recently linked him to Oleg Penkovsky, the Soviet scientist who confessed last May to having spied for the West and who was executed.

The suspicion that Philby was a double agent, at least at one time, was heightened when Prime Minister Macmillan and Harold Wilson, leader of the Opposition Labor party, agreed in the House of Commons two weeks ago not to refer to his disappearance.

Among these who know him, there is wide agreement that Philby played his roles convincingly and won the loyalty of friends and associates. Shortly after he left the Foreign Service in 1955, Mr. Macmillan, then Foreign Secretary, emphasized that no evidence had been found to show that Philby had warned Burgess or Maclean that they were in danger.

The Foreign Office quietly recommended Philby to The Economist and The London Observer, for whom he was working as a reporter in the Middle East when he disappeared.

Diplomacy and journalism had attracted Philby since his childhood in India, where he was born in the city of Ambala on New Year's Day in 1912.

His father, Harry St. John Philby—author, desert explorer, Arab scholar, Moslem convert, friend of T. E. Lawrence of Arabia and adviser to King Ibn Saud—was in the Indian Civil Service.

Kim Philby, as the son was known, had a brilliant record at Westminster School and at Trinity College of Cambridge University, where he first showed an interest in Communism.

"I have always been on the left," he once said, "but I have never been a Communist, although I have known people who were Communists at Cambridge and for years afterward."

Associated Press

Played roles convincingly

These associations at Cambridge were cited as the reason for his separation from the Foreign Service.

One of his college friends was Burges, with whom he later worked at the British Embassy in Washington.

He was assigned to the embassy in 1949. He was First Secretary, and diplomats assumed he was also the chief British security officer in the capital.

To many, Philby was pathetic though not an "outcast. He was shy, and stuttered slightly, smiled engagingly and was usually good natured. His marriage to his third wife, Eleanor, seemed extremely happy.

Colleagues Knew of Past

Philby's past Communist associations were no secret to other newsmen in the Middle East, but until his disappearance none of them thought he was continuing those contacts.

One theory among his former associates is that he may have admitted Soviet connections to someone in an unguarded moment and, realizing he had exposed himself, decided to bolt.

This speculation was prompted by the Government statement in the Commons that his espionage activities had come to light through "an admission by Philby himself."

Philby's first marriage ended in divorce in 1938. He has two sons and three daughters by his second wife, Melinda, who died in 1957. The children are in England, as is his present wife, Eleanor, who flew to London from Beirut on May 31. Mrs. Philby was formerly married to Sam Pope Brewer, a reporter for The New York Times.

Friends of the family say that before Mr. Philby disappeared, he quietly provided for his family within his limited means. He is believed, however, to have been in serious financial straits. He was trying to write two books and was unable to make headway on either.

SECRET

Reference PF.604,584.

P1t

893

NOTE.

Mott rang me and asked for my advice on the following facts. The Foreign Office wish to prevent Mrs. PHILBY taking to Russia two children by a prior marriage of PHILBY's who are presently in the United Kingdom and who have legal guardians.

2. I asked Mott if the guardians had been appointed by will or by deed. Mott told me by deed. I gave Mott my legal opinion:-

(i) That the Foreign Office or no agency of Government had any standing in this matter and could not initiate any proceedings in the courts to prevent the children being taken out of the United Kingdom.

(ii) Not having seen the terms of the deed appointing the guardians I could express no opinion, but if this deed did in fact put the guardians in the status of loco parentis to the children, then the guardians might be able to make an application to the court to make the children wards of court; then the children could not be taken out without leave of the court, but I said whether this could be legally done or not must depend upon the terms of the trust deed and I thought the guardians would be well advised to consult their own solicitors to see whether such action could be taken.

3. I pointed out to Mott that there was a House of Lords' decision which had some relevance to this matter, namely the SCHTRAKS case when the House of Lords held that the fact that a parent might send children to Russia was no defence to an abduction of the child by a third party.

B. A. Hill

B.A. Hill.

L.A.
1.8.63.

See ASM.

D.1. to see and p.a.

2.8.63.
D1.

SECRET

July 31st. 1963.

SECRET J 10

To Mr Emb
1 AUG 1963
P.A. in
PHILBY

Kaigasse 19

30 July

Dearest E Leanor

was very relieved to get your letter and know that you are still bucking along. I dont believe everything I read in the papers either, so that makes 2 of us.

By all means plan to come here in September, or any time for that matter. If the weather holds out the fall is loveliest. And the tourists begin to drift away. You can stay as long as you like, and you know I would love to have you. Meanwhile I hope you get to N Y. Give A my love. I wrote her a letter telling her about my trip back but have had nothing in return. Poor kiddie, its a rough time for her as well, and really my estimation of spb has now slipped to rock bottom. I think he is just plain stupid.

Sorry about the brown bag. I had no idea that N had not emptied it completely. It felt so empty when he returned it that it just did not occur to me to check.

The weather has been exceptional here this summer. Was even wonderfully hot for 2 weeks and my health improved, then it rained for 2 days and got cold and my lungs felt like a couple of bags of wet cement. You can imagine how much air managed to get thru and how hard I had to work at it. N ow it is beautiful again and cold. You would love it and I hope it holds out until you get here.

Festival has started and I have my press card. which enables me to see most of the photo-rehersals. I say most and not all because, as usual, Karajan, the bastard, wont let the photogs in. He is such a princess and the pea type that the click of a shutter 10 rows back upsets his mastylittle nervous system something awful. All the photogs hate his guts. It cuts us out of Rosenkavalier and Troubador --this one with Leontyne Price--which latter I would give my eye teeth to hear. Other people are giving a 1000 schillings ($40) for tickets. Anyhow I have already seen Magic Flute, Marriage of Figaro, Abduction from Serail, Jedermann. Tonight is Iphigenie in Aulis, then comes Cosi fan tutte and Faust--the play not the opera. Not bad, eh. After all we sit in the first row or anywhere else we want. The pix I will send to N Y just to keep my conscience clear.

On the other hand the town is packed with tourists. It is impossible to drive thru it or to park. Incidentally poor old car cost 200 bucks to get back in shape and when I add the cost of those Turkish tires and various en route repairs it is closer to 300. Quite a blow but the trip was still worth it. Myrtle is a wonderful travel companion and we had great fun together.

Have had one hurried note from L Lorraine Copland WD otherwise no news out of B. Bunny Glad the kids are OK. Send me their addresses so I can write them PCs.

Much love,

K. Kay B

013

FROM MOSCOW TO FOREIGN OFFICE

En Clair

FOREIGN OFFICE AND WHITEHALL DISTRIBUTION

Sir H. Trevelyan
No. 1681
July 30, 1963

D: 4.44 p.m. July 30, 1963
R: 7.21 p.m. July 30, 1963

IMMEDIATE

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 1681 of July 30.
Repeated for information to: Washington.

Philby.

Tonight's Izvestya carries the following item

"English Intelligence Officer has asked for political asylum. H.A.R. Philby who held a leading position in the English Intelligence Service has applied to the Soviet authorities for political asylum and Soviet citizenship. It is learned that the Supreme Soviet has granted the request of H.A.R. Philby."

Foreign Office please pass Immediate to Washington as my telegram No. 1681.

[Repeated as requested]

ADVANCE COPIES:

Private Secretary
Sir H. Caccia
Sir B. Burrows
Head P.U.S.D.
Head Eastern Department
Head News Department
Resident Clerk

JJJJJ

CONFIDENTIAL SF.53-25-1.

889A

NOTE.

Admiral Thomson rang me last night and told me that Colonel Lohan would be away until next Friday and that during his absence he was taking his calls and dealing with his affairs.

The Admiral asked me if I wanted to give him any special guidance on PHILBY. I told him that I didn't think he could stop the Press publishing anything about PHILBY now and there was no need for me to give him any special guidance.

I asked the Admiral how he was getting on. He said he was now making good progress, but he still couldn't move about though he had been to see the Editor of The Observer.

B. A. Hill

B.A. Hill.

L.A.
31.7.63.

✓ Copy to D.

CONFIDENTIAL

July 29th. 1963.

SECRET | F | 6

P.O. Box 4380

889A

To D'EMB
30 JUL 1963
P.A. in
PHILBY

Mrs. P. Milne
18, Cannick Close,
Kennington Park Road
London S.E. 11

20P. LIBAN POSTE AERIENNE

بالبريد الجوي
AIR MAIL

ROYAUME DU ROI DES JOUETS & D'ARTIFICES

CESAR AMER

BEYROUTH - Liban RUE DE DAMAS - Tél. : 233639
SALLE D'EXPOSITION & DÉPOT : Rue Mo: 'chalsié - Tél. 256016

La plus grande et la plus célèbre maison des Jouets et Feux d'Artifice en Orient fondée en 1920 avec un capital d'une seule livre libanaise

SUCCURSALES :
Tripoli Tel. 21910
Saida Tel. 720816 - Zahlé
Bikiaya Tél. 96
Dhour Choueir Tél. 78
Aley Tél. 9/33 Bhamdoun 2/87

Beyrouth, le 8/7/1963

Relevé de Compte loyer Monsieur Philby

Doit

5500 L.L. du 1/11/62 au 30/10/63

		L.L.
	Versements du 13/2/63	1700
	Versements du 11/4/63	1050
	Versements du 17/6/63	1000
3750		3750

1750 L.L. ~~solde débiteur~~ reste à regler

Prière de regler ce montant le plutôt possible ~~dans~~ d'ici au 15 juillet 63. vu notre nécessité à cette somme, Merci d'avance.

17/7/64
D2. D28
31.7.63

Wed.

P.S. Have mislaid
Solicitors' address — Please
send soonest.

Dear Eleanor,

We have had a slight hitch with the Landlord, but it may all turn out for the best in the end —

Everything was going swummingly yesterday, all your stuff was carefully crated & boxed & marked FRAGILE, & we were just getting it all down to the street & onto the truck when down swooped the Landlord & said "STOP! Nothing leaves this house till I get my money!" It seems that your lease runs out in October, 31st & you therefore owe him £1,750 rent (See enclosed bill). I got him more or less calmed down & assured him he would get what was due to him, & then he said that, of course, there would be a discount if the flat was vacated before October, but he was absolutely adamant about not letting the furniture go. His position was — let it stay in the flat — why pay storage fees — since you would have to pay him something, why pay more to Debbas?

So I had to agree — the situation therefore is, that the flat is yours until end of Oct, & as far as he is concerned the Stuff may stay there as long as he gets the rest of the rent. From what Debbas said, if you intended storing your personal stuff with him for any length of time, it might run up to more than that amount anyway.

I told him Cesar Amer that he would hear from your Solicitors in London and that all further communications would be between them & him, as I was going away (this is true — holiday in Cyprus)

The minute he releases the furniture he will inform Debbas who will then remove it — the Stuff for Sale up to our garage, & the crated stuff to await an address. It means putting off the Sale of course, until then.

I have been very lucky so far in not actually having to say who I was & not giving anybody anyway to get in touch with me. I have referred them all

to your Solicitor or to Elie down at the Normandy. You could send him the money, but it would be better for the solicitor to haggle a bit I think.

I have been absolutely forbidden by various groups not to get involved in negociations — I'm sorry to say. But at least the stuff is safe and all valuables are boxed & I still have the keys. I will sneak over there from time to time to water the plants, & will tell way to say you are not here & not coming & your stuff is in storage — all of which is true!

Not a sign of the press happily they were asking about me on Saturday, & on Monday went off to Cairo for Nasser Day — Ha Ha! The Packers came Tuesday!

Do write me that you have received this, & what you intend to do about it. Meanwhile all is at a standstill, alas!

Much love, in haste,

Lorraine

COPELAND

July 27th. 1963. SECRET F 7 888A

بالبريد الجوي
AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

P.O. Box 4380
Beirut

PHILBY

D1/EMCB
25 JUL 1963
PHILBY

Mrs. P. Milne,
18, Carrick Court,
Kennington Park Road,
London S.E.11

~~Caselli Dome Hotel~~
KYRE

P.O. Box 4380
Beirut

July 19th.

Dear Eleanor,

Time out for a Progress Report — I would have written before except that I had no Progress to report — only maddening delays of one sort or another. At one point I thought I had a client who would take flat & furniture, but that fell thru — then I couldn't go near the house for weeks as Way said newsmen were picketing the place — and after all the fuss about G.B.P, I didn't think I wanted to meet any types on your doorstep. I might have caused a large furore by socking one — — Anyway, they are all off coup-watching in Syria today, so I went round and did a lot of organizing:— Debbas' packers are coming on Tuesday. He gave me an estimate of LL 2,500 for packing your personal stuff & sending to London. (I strongly advise you sending me an address where it could be sent, as everyone says how bad it is to keep things in storage in Beirut — everything goes mouldy, including electrical gagets. Would you like to see the tape

recorder? I have a buyer.) He will put all the rest of the stuff in a truck and take it up to our garage, where I will sell it privately as & when I can. (Have commitments on most of it already, luckily) He gave me no special cost on this minor operation, but it shouldn't be much. I kept out the objects you wanted sent separately & he will get them off soonest — didn't give me a price on this either as he couldn't weigh them. Should I include stuff in brown bag (except jewellery?)??

Elie was desolated at being given the sack, but soon perked up when I gave her some loot — the bed in the balcony, some torn covers & blankets and stained pillows. She is meeting me next week to get her money and by that time maybe Said will have got her a job with some nice family. I also gave her some odd garments of the children that I don't expect they'll miss, and some plastic utensils and the iron. She has been very loyal and has kept off batteries of types & was only defeated once (by the Sureté, who came with some TV men, & she had to let them in. Nothing came of this however, as far as we can

learn.) So I would rather give unsaleable items to her than chuck them out. The iron was just a present. Hope you approve.

I enclose Bickers' report — sorry for the delay, but his nurse (the old sour one) insisted that I must be coming because I was pregnant, & kept telling me Dr. Bickers was away in the States. Finally she coughed up the report, (after giving it a long going over) & said "Its too late now — Mrs Philby has probably had the baby" ! I ask you!

The copy of Annie's report is not forthcoming as yet — when I call, no one is in charge — they are all off on some summer camp. Betts is going to get this however, through some teacher she knows.

Margot is still with us as the entire B-P. family have mumps up at Ain-ab. Nanny is much better, but may still have to have a skin graft.

The parrots are going to Anne Gordon as soon as she gets up here to pick them up. Meanwhile they are enjoying my balcony & we are getting quite fond of them. I can't charge her too much for them

but she'll give them a good home - lives down in Ain Mreissi in a cute vrella on the sea I never knew existed, near the mosque.

I am, as you gather, not having a Grand Sale as have been advised not to — people can be very morbid and there have been absolutely poisonous things said, & altogether something quieter would be better for Niles' & my sake. And anyway, as I said, a lot is spoken for already - Betts wants most of the kids furniture for her little girls who are emerging from the crib stage - Elizabeth wants the stove & frig for her summer cottage and Mary wants the bar & chairs in balcony, so this doesn't leave very much. Plants go to Waf. I haven't got the price list out of the P.O. yet as my passport has been in the hands of the Visa Office for 2 weeks - I'm getting a new Residence Card. I intend putting a notice up in the U.S. & British Embassy notice boards, & telling people like Isabel privately, & I don't think we'll have any trouble.

I have swiped all the things you

bequeathed to me — for which many thanks. Everything is coming in handy, at the beach or at home. Way doesn't want very much, specially as she is going away on leave. I'll keep the plants for her at my place.

What about the telephone? Is that yours or the landlords? And the Butagas tank? I have an appointment with Cesar Ami on Monday, though I may let Elie at Normandy handle this as you suggest. You are apparently paid up thru July 31st. Do you think he'll make a fuss about not getting notice? I intend giving him your Solicitors' address — that may fix him! You had better warn them! (I couldn't give him notice as naturally I didn't want him showing people over all the time!)

Paid the concierge 15 ff which he said was his monthly wage. Your cheque brought in ff 1,079, of which I have spent ff. 20 (Smiths). 15 (concierge) 115 (Elie and 20 (cleaning) and the Electric bill (I think about 30 ff — left bill at flat.

July 27th. 1963. **SECRET** F 7 886A

BIAN AMERICAN OIL COMPANY
DHAHRAN, SAUDI ARABIA
G. Simpson, Box 2584

DHAHRAN-AIRPORT 23.7.63

To DI/ETCB
29 JUL 1963
P.A. to PF 104584

PHILBY

VIA AIR MAIL

Mrs. Pat Milne
18 Carrick Court
Kennington Park Road
London S.E. 11
England

Box 2584 Aramco
Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

22 July 1963

Dear Eleanor:

Unfortunately your cable arrived too late (July 9 at 0845) to be acted upon. Both Farid and Khalid were at the Dhahran Airport with their mother to take the noon plane to Beirut. Homer met them at the Beirut airport, took the mother to the mountains, and the boys out for the day. (I had sent your message to him on the same plane, and it put him in an awful flap) -- But he is writing telling you what precautions he has taken, at the school etc. which I hope to enclose herein as I couldn't give him Pat's address and the only other one he has for her is at the Ministry of Power at Millbank.

I rather think there may be the means of H. St. Philby ("Abdullah")

He didn't have time - will send later

Exp. to PF.40,408 - St. John PHILBY

(Homer went to London on the 3rd of July and said that he was going to get in touch with Pat, but apparently changedhis mind while there because he didn't want to bother her during that particular time.)

Heard last week through devious sources that Lorraine had received my letter of how to send owl, and had acted upon it. It is now in Saudi Arabia, and no doubt we shall get it in a week or so after it has cleared customs. I shall leave additional polishing for you - some time, some where, it will keep you busy.

Enclosed is Bibby's letter to Faisal about Thaj which I am sure you (and Pat if she is interested in archaeology too) will find most interesting and titellating, especially if Bibby ever gets permission to dig. God! if he does, I should dearly love to be taken on as an unpaid sifter of the sands, or perhaps for just one little bitty whole statute. Aramco, in the persons of no less than Tom Barger, and most surprisingly Paul Arnot who is an old shoe string saver turned potpicker, have told Bibby that Aramco will assist in financial undertakings. They, too, will probably go up every weekend to "assist" in the "pickings"(with Kathy doing the picking no doubt). I don't know that you should say to anyone that you have a copy of this letter (knowing about it is all right I think) as I had no permission to make copies. Barger told Bibby, incidentally, that the cost of digging one water well for their personal purposes while encamped there would cost in the neighborhood of $12,500."

What on earth has come over Sam to become a bit "nicer" - perhaps he has realized that you get further with honey, than vinegar, or perhaps it might be Annie's influence?? Do send me her address the next time - preferably at shcool ~~is~~ if she is going to boarding school.

(Judging from your letter, when you took "time out for lunch", all I can say ~~for~~ from the remainder of the note that it was some liquidlunch!)

In re having drinks - and as you know I am passing this on in good spirit - Homer on his return from London said that he had heard you were drinking quite a bit. From whence he got this information, I have no idea, and did not ask. If you are in seclusion, how would anybody know?? How people like to talk, and always nastily, never kindly.

2-2-2

Allan and I are going up to Beirut on Wednesday the 31st of July just for the weekend to attend the wedding of Glen Peek and Ester Carlson, I hope at the Community Church with Rev. Eder presiding. It will indeed be strange to be in Bei. and not see you and the kids. I shall of course call Lorraine to thank her, and to see if we can be of any help. If you would like any chores done, do let me know ASAP. Plan to stay at the Phoenicia, unfortunately. (You may remember Glen and Esther, they too were at our wedding all of three years ago) (wonderful couple)

I can just see you having Kay in England with you! (I wish there were another punctuation mark other than ! which to me expresses joy, delight, surprise; one that would register complete shock in the depressing, ugly, despairing sense) While my feeling toward Kay, that of friendship, hasn't changed (I don't think), I've seen enough of her this year to last me for another. I do hope that she will change her demanding, rather selfish, ways and return to her old self. She was so much fun to be with, and so enduring.

We've been having a few shamals, very nasty, but generally the weather has been good. The high winds haven't kept us from going to the pool every day, which we both enjoy so much. We hope to go to Ras al-Ghar this weekend, beach is so very lovely there.

Where do you think you might be in October? And haveyou given any thought to my visiting with you for a bit? Should dearly love to see you, if it wouldn't be burdonsome to you. If you're not going to be there, or if it would be inconvenient, we might look into the Spain situation. Let us know, we're flexible.

We all send you our love, and wish we could send you some spirit too. Thank the good Lord that you have Pat, she must be a wonderful person. Please, too, remember us to Harry and Miranda - we shall drop them a note if you let us know addresses.(or should we send them to Pat too?)

Keep the upper lip stiff old bean, and drop us a note when the spirit moves you.

Love
Allan + Doris
SIMPSON

July 27th. 1963. SECRET F 7

البعثة الدانماركية للتنقيب عن الآثار

DANSK ARKÆOLOGISK EXPEDITION

Director Professor P. V. Glob Ph.D.
[illegible] Dr. [illegible] T. G. Bibby, M.A.

Forhistorisk Museum,
Vester Allé,
Aarhus, Denmark.
22nd April 1963.

His Royal Highness Prince Faisal,
Prime Minister,
The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Your Royal Highness,

On behalf of the Danish Archeological Expedition, which for the past ten years has been researching into the pre-Islamic history of the states of Bahrain, Qatar and Kuwait, I beg to be allowed to make application hereby for permission to undertake research into the prehistory of certain selected sites within the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Our ten years of work in the other states bordering the Arabian Gulf have been carried out with the approval, and with the support, of the governments of those states, and have succeeded in throwing new light upon the important part played by the lands of the Arabian peninsula in the history of the world during the four thousand years before the rise of Islam. And during a short visit which I had the opportunity to make to Saudi Arabia last November (for the purpose of delivering a lecture to the Arabian-American Oil Company about our work in the Arabian Gulf states) I was able to identify from surface indications a number of sites in Saudi Arabia which connect closely with the new civilisations which we have identified in the Gulf states.

In these lands we have found evidence of important and rich civilisations existing during two distinct periods:-

1) From about 2500 to 1500 BC a rich mercantile civilization, which we know from Mesopotamian records to have been called

Dilmun, existed along the Arabian coast, gaining its wealth from the sea trade between Mesopotamia and India. We have found cities belonging to this civilization in Kuwait and in Bahrain. During my visit to Saudi Arabia I was able to identify pottery of the Dilmun civilization on the surface of the desert south of Dhahran, and can therefore say with some certainty that cities of this civilization must lie buried on the Arabian coast between Qatar and Kuwait.

2) It is known that, at the time when Alexander the Great (about 330 BC) had conquered the whole of the Middle East from Egypt to India, Arabia refused to submit to him, and he was preparing a campaign against Arabia when he died in 323 BC. His successors, who rules in Syria and Iraq for the next 300 years, were never able to conquer Arabia, which retained its independence throughout.

Our expedition has found in Kuwait the southernmost outpost of Alexander's empire, a Greek fort on Failaka Island facing the Arabian mainland. And in Bahrain and in Qatar we have found towns and villages belonging to the time of Alexander but showing no sign of belonging to his empire.

It had been previously believed that the only centre of Arab civilization at this period was in the southwest, in the Yemen, and that the rest of Arabia was inhabited only by nomads. But during my visit to Saudi Arabia I was taken to see the ruins of a very large city, at Thaj.

Greek pottery lying on the surface at Thaj shows that it was last occupied at the time of Alexander and his successors, while the presence there of a large number of inscriptions, on stone and pottery, in the pre-Islamic script of Arabia, shows that this city was <u>not</u> Greek, but was a city of independent Arabia. It must clearly have been the capital (or one of the capitals) of a rich civilization - previously unsuspected - existing in north and central Arabia. And this civilization must be that against which Alexander was preparing to make war at the time of his death.

Clearly excavation at Thaj would certainly throw considerable light on the history of Arabia just a thousand years before the dawn of Islam, and it seems likely that it would show north Arabia to have been the possessor at that time of a city civilization quite as rich and cultured as the contemporary

civilisations of Persia, Egypt and Greece.

I think that the potential importance of the results which might thus be obtained from Excavation at Thaj and at the earlier settlements which might be found in the neighbourhood of Dhahran are sufficient to justify our application to be allowed to excavate at Thaj and to look for (with occasional trial excavations) settlements of the Dilmun civilization in the coastal area. If Your Royal Highness would be prepared to grant us permission for this investigation I should hope to be able to begin, with a staff of about four Danish archeologists, in January of next year, 1964.

While we should be grateful for any financial support which the Government of Saudi Arabia might be prepared to make towards this project, such support would not be a condition for our undertaking it. Nor would it be a condition that any specified proportion of the objects found should be retained by us, though I hope that the Government of Saudi Arabia would permit us to retain a representative collection of the typical objects which we might find.

I need hardly say that we should be careful to refrain from disturbing any relics of Islamic date, and in general be prepared to conform to any conditions for our excavation which the Government of Saudi Arabia wished to impose.

I have the honour to send Your Royal Highness
the assurance of my deepest respect.

T.G. Bibby,
Field Director.

July 27th. 1963. **SECRET** F 7 88SA

ARABIAN AMERICAN OIL COMPANY
DHAHRAN, SAUDI ARABIA
A.G.Simpson Box 2584

VIA AIR MAIL

To D1/EMCB
29 JUL 1963
PA in PF60584

Mrs. Patricia Milne
18 Carrick Court
Kennington Park Road
London S.E. 11
ENGLAND

PHILBY Copied to PF.40,408 - St. John PHILBY

D1/INT/CB
5.6.68.

29 July 1963

cf. John PHILBY's cards

Dear Friends,

God willing this note will find you well in body and healing in spirit. I met Khalid, Faris and their mother on their arrival in Beirut from Riyadh 9 July. The mother went directly to a village in the mountains with friends and the boys and I went to a small hotel till the next morning when they registered in the English Boarding Section of the International College (AUB prep school). Having received your telegram on the same plane with the boys, having been warned by friends in Beirut that somehow, an English TV team and some London reporters had gotten news that the boys were to be in Lebanon and were on their trail, and having been in England the previous weekend and discussed the boys plans with our mutual friends there, I took every precaution to see that the boys are not disturbed. Among others, we called on the Saudi Ambassador, whose home and office are but a few blocks from the I.C. dormitory. The Ambassador has taken a personal interest in them. I also talked to friends in the US and UK embassies, in Tapline (David Dodge is to be referred to by the I.C. President, Tom Schuler should any problem arise), in AUB, and among Lebanese officials. All of them could not have been more co-operative and sympathetic to the idea of preserving the privacy of the family. The boys + I went to the village on Friday 12 July + I have since heard from

July 27th. 1963. SECRET F 7

Khalid saying that they returned to school on Sunday and began classes on Monday 15 July. I continue to keep my fingers crossed but feel that all will go well. I hope to visit them in mid August and will fetch them back to Addis around mid-Sept.

Khalid has read all the newspapers, has very sensibly reserved all judgments and has expressed his desire to be of help to you and the children. May I join him in this offer and in sending all of you our warmest greetings and prayers for your well-being.

Sincerely,

Homer

Mueller's P.O.Box #1608

July 25th. 1963. | SECRET | B | 10

0222

Copied to F3/13 through K7/0 on Loose Minute re David HOLDEN on 19/12/77

884B

To DH/EMB
26 JUL 1963
P.A. in

PHILBY

WEST KENSINGTON
5 PM
24 JUL
1963
W.14.

Mrs Milne
18 Carrick Court
Kennington Park Rd.
S.E.11

2126

July 25th. 1963. | SECRET | B | 10 | X

88445

L.V.

Mr Jack Evens
37 Holland Villas Rd
London W 14

PF 604686

Copied to PF 606,614

Sub-file

KNIghtsbridge 1334
David HOLDEN,
53 Ennismore Gardens,
S.W.7.

Knightsbridge 1334
KNI -

Dear Eleanor -

well, things do work out oddly. Door to M.E. more or less shut until usual onafu clears. Was lucky enough to get David's flat until August 5th, when he & wife return from 'hols'. (influenza!)

Have nought to do all day & evenings mostly, but not all, with Paul.

July 25th. 1963. SECRET B 10 X

Call me, please, so we can fix to meet anytime, anywhere. I'm in the Kensington area - but undeterred by the vagaries and/or problems offered by the underground + bus system. I go out for an hour or two at most, to pick up food or air.

Love, Olga

HYKA

884ab
884abb

884A

NOTE

Interviews with H.A.R. PHILBY

PHILBY arrived in the U.K. on 12.6.51.

1st. Interview on 12.6.51. with D.B.

2nd. Interview on 14.6.51. with D.B.

3rd. Interview on 16.6.51. with D.B.

MILMO Interrogation on 12.12.51.

Interview with Skardon 28.12.51.

Interview with Skardon 7.1.52.

Interview with Skardon 14.1.52.

PHILBY left the U.K. on 6.9.56.

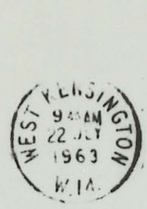
D.1.
24.7.63.

883b.

July 22nd. 1963. **SECRET** B 7

883A

To Dr Eteb
22 JUL 1963
P.A. in PF 604584



Mrs Milne
18 Carrick Court
Kennington Park Rd
London S.E. 11.

37, HOLLAND VILLAS ROAD,
W.14.

21/7/63

Dear Eleanor

We just returned from the Canary Islands and heard that my housekeeper has sent you your letter addressed to Mrs Philby.

I do apologise, very much, for this, and I do hope you did not have

July 22nd. 1963. **SECRET** B 7

any inconvenience.

I tried to ring you this afternoon but there was no reply -

I do hope your foot is well now - I am going to Paris Tuesday but only for 2 or 3 days - Jack will be here if you want to get in touch with him

Hope to see you and Pat on my return

Lots of love to both

Anna

July 20th. 1963.

SECRET F 8

To Dir Ethelb
22 JUL 1963
P.A. to

PHILBY

882A

Mrs. Milne,
18, Carrick Court,
Kennington Park Road,
LONDON. S.E.11.

TELEGRAMS: "TOOXAM" HOLB LONDON
TELEPHONE: HOLBORN 6061, 6062 AND 9147

With A. & G. Tooth's
Compliments

Nat Tooth

11 New Square,
Lincoln's Inn, W.C.2

ANK
AC
ECD
REC
RY-
LANCE
ANCE
ICE
CE
COUNTS-
S FARGO BANK
T

DIR.
23-7-63

July 20th. 1963. SECRET F 8

WELLS FARGO BANK
TRUST DEPARTMENT

ACCOUNT NUMBER

ESTATE OF
NATHANIEL H CALLARD DECD

15321

STATEMENT OF
RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

DATE	DESCRIPTION	$ AMOUNT
	-CASH SUMMARY-	
4-12-63	PREVIOUS PRINCIPAL BALANCE	286.71 *
	RECEIPTS	.00
	DISBURSEMENTS	.00-
7-12-63	CURRENT PRINCIPAL BALANCE	286.71 *
4-12-63	PREVIOUS INCOME BALANCE	.00 *
	RECEIPTS	590.26
	DISBURSEMENTS	590.26-
7-12-63	CURRENT INCOME BALANCE	.00 *
	-OTHER CASH ACCOUNTS-	
	CASH RESERVE	286.39
	PRINCIPAL SVGS WELLS FARGO BANK	8.51
	T	294.90 *

WELLS FARGO BANK
TRUST DEPARTMENT

ACCOUNT NUMBER

15321

STATEMENT OF
RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

DATE		DESCRIPTION	$ AMOUNT
		-INCOME RECEIPTS-	
6-11-63 DIV	6,567	WELLS FARGO FIXED INC FD UNITS	336.98
6-11-63 DIV	5,767	WELLS FARGO COM STOCK FD UNITS	253.28
		TOTAL	590.26
		-INCOME DISBURSEMENTS-	
7-12-63		TRANSFER TO RESERVE ACCT	47.22
7-12-63		EXCHANGE DEPT NEW YORK DRAFT TO ELEANOR KERNS PHILBY	543.04
		TOTAL	590.26

881a.

880A

July 19th. 1963.

SECRET F 9

To DIFMER
22 JUL 1963
P.A. in
PARLBY

Mrs. Milne,
18, Carrick Court,
Kennington Park Road,
LONDON. S.E.11.

TELEGRAMS: "TOOXAM" HOLB LONDON
TELEPHONE: HOLBORN 6061, 6062 AND 9147

BANK

TRU

With A. & G. Tooth's
Compliments

A G Tooth

TRUST

on vacation, your lett
gned for reply.

nce was sent to you a
cial situation.

pass concerning the f
we will inform you as
n to dispose of these
for your own financial

unds presently availab
tional payments to you
isions, it will be
d and the purposes

11 New Square,
Lincoln's Inn, W.C.2

addressed to The Chase
Manhattan Bank in London which you may use as an introduction in order to establish an account. Because of the attendant publicity, we feel that it is preferable to send the letter to you instead of to the bank.

Sincerely yours,

963. SECRET F 9

Since 1852

WELLS FARGO BANK

July 15, 1963

TRUST DEPARTMENT

HEAD OFFICE
464 CALIFORNIA STREET
SAN FRANCISCO 20, CALIFORNIA

3-15321

AIR MAIL

Mrs. Eleanor K. Philby

Dear Mrs. Philby: NATHANIEL H. CALLARD TRUST

In the absence of Mr. Sahlberg, who is on vacation, your letter of July 3, 1963 has been referred to the undersigned for reply.

Recently your regular quarterly remittance was sent to you and we hope it will assist you in your present financial situation.

We have had no further word from Mr. Copass concerning the final distribution of assets from the other estate and we will inform you as soon as they are received. We would see no reason to dispose of these assets unless and until you need to raise funds for your own financial requirements.

In your letter you have set forth the funds presently available to you and in giving consideration to making additional payments to you from the trust pursuant to the discretionary provisions, it will be necessary for you to let us know how much you need and the purposes therefor.

We are enclosing in duplicate a letter addressed to The Chase Manhattan Bank in London which you may use as an introduction in order to establish an account. Because of the attendant publicity, we feel that it is preferable to send the letter to you instead of to the bank.

Sincerely yours,

A. Millar
Trust Officer

AM:vk
Enclosure

19th. 1963. SECRET F 9

COPY

WELLS FARGO BANK

HEAD OFFICE
464 CALIFORNIA STREET
SAN FRANCISCO

July 15, 1963

3-15321

Manager
The Chase Manhattan Bank
46 Berkeley Branch
London W.1, England

Dear Sir:

This will serve to introduce Mrs. Eleanor K. Philby, a valued client of this bank, who has indicated a desire to open an account at your bank. We would appreciate any courtesy which you may extend to Mrs. Philby.

For your information, we enclose a specimen of her recent signature.

Sincerely yours,

A. Millar
Trust Officer

AM:vk
Enclosure

July 19th. 1963. SECRET F 9

WELLS FARGO BANK
464 CALIFORNIA STREET
SAN FRANCISCO 20, CALIFORNIA

32

Manager
The Chase Manhattan Bank
46 Berkeley Branch
London W.1, England

Since 1852

WELLS FARGO BANK

July 15, 1963

HEAD OFFICE
464 CALIFORNIA STREET
SAN FRANCISCO 20, CALIFORNIA

TRUST DEPARTMENT

3-15321

Manager
The Chase Manhattan Bank
46 Berkeley Branch
London W.1, England

Dear Sir:

This will serve to introduce Mrs. Eleanor K. Philby, a valued client of this bank, who has indicated a desire to open an account at your bank. We would appreciate any courtesy which you may extend to Mrs. Philby.

For your information, we enclose a specimen of her recent signature.

Sincerely yours,

A. Millar
Trust Officer

AM:vk
Enclosure

Yours most sincerely,
Eleanor K. Philby
Eleanor K. Philby

220

876a.
877a
878a.

From Secretariat

To D1.

as requested,
Cutting from
Hansard.

Date 19-7-63

Please File in PF 604,584

Philby.

For p.a. in PF 604,584 - PHILBY.

875B

Cutting from Hansard, House of Commons, 16 July, 1963.

Mr Harold Philby.

MR. HAROLD PHILBY

Q7. **Mr. MacDermot** asked the Prime Minister whether he will make a statement following the further inquiries into the case of Mr. Philby.

Q8 and Q9. **Mr. W. Hamilton** asked the Prime Minister (1) on what date in the last seven years Mr. H. Philby renewed his passport;

(2) whether Mr. H. A. R. Philby was invited by Her Majesty's Government to return to Great Britain at any time in the last three months; and what was the nature of the reply to such invitation.

Q10. **Mr. Greenwood** asked the Prime Minister what instructions were given by his Department to diplomatic representatives in the Middle East as to the kinds of information which should or should not be made available to Mr. Philby.

Q11. **Mr. Lipton** asked the Prime Minister on how many occasions Mr. Philby was asked to official functions in Beirut by the British Embassy during the last three years.

The Prime Minister: I have made the most careful investigation into all the relevant events in this case and I have discussed them in detail with the right hon. Gentleman the Leader of the Opposition.

I hope the House will accept that it would not be in the national interest for hon. Members to inquire further into the past history of the case and I would ask the House therefore to refrain from any further public discussion of these matters.

Mr. MacDermot: I appreciate the difficulties about public discussion of this matter, but can I put two questions to the Prime Minister? First, does he not agree that the statement that Mr. Philby worked with the Soviet authorities before 1946 is perhaps the most serious aspect of the matter, in view of the position then held by him? Secondly, did the assertions by the Lord Privy Seal, that the security services had never closed

Continued/

RLS 11/7/64 DT 2185 19.7.63

For pa in PF 604.584. - Philby.

their files on this matter and that they thought that it was wise that Mr. Philby should be helped to find other employment, mean that he was still regarded then as being a security risk and, if so, was not this singularly unwise employment to find for him?

The Prime Minister: I appreciate the hon. and learned Member's knowledge of these matters in which, I think, he has some experience. He will also know the importance of the old tradition of the House that we should not discuss some of these aspects of our national functions. I would only appeal to the House to revert to this older tradition, which I think is in the national interest. I have had the advantage of having discussions with the Leader of the Opposition—another very old tradition of our Parliamentary system—and I hope to have further discussions with him as to the best way in which we can try to regulate these affairs in the general interests of the nation.

Mr. Hamilton: Does the Prime Minister appreciate that we well understand why he wants to play this down, but can he specifically answer my first Question, namely, when Philby applied for the renewal of his passport and whether he was questioned by the authorities at that time about his past movements? Does the right hon. Gentleman appreciate that this is a question not of security but of the facts of the case, which the House has a right to have in its possession?

The Prime Minister: No, Sir. We lead from one question to another and one question leads to another. It is dangerous and bad for our general national interest to discuss these matters. It has been a very long tradition of the House to trust the relations between the two parties to discussions between the Leader of the Opposition of the day and the Prime Minister of the day. I ask the House now to revert to the older tradition—[HON. MEMBERS: "No."]—which I think is in our real interests. Otherwise, we would risk destroying services which are of the utmost value to us.

Mr. H. Wilson: Is the right hon. Gentleman aware that I can confirm what he has just said? In the two meetings which we have had, he has given my right hon. Friend and me a very full and frank account of this case, which raises a number of issues which, frankly, cannot be discussed across the Floor of the House. While we still have some grave anxieties about the way in which it has been handled, which I think it best we should pursue in further confidential discussions with the right hon. Gentleman, we feel that in the public interest this is a matter which should now be left where it is and not made the subject of further public discussion or public inquiry.

The Prime Minister: I am grateful to the right hon. Gentleman. As he knows, I am always willing to discuss with him, as I was with his predecessor, all these matters which always, through our history, have been questions outside party and which the Leader of the Opposition of the day and the Prime Minister of the day have a right and duty to discuss with each other.

Mr. Grimond: While appreciating what the Prime Minister has said, may I ask him whether he is aware that the Government and the House also have a duty to the public? A statement was made in the House, no doubt quite rightly, and the public are naturally interested in certain aspects of this case. Apart from the security aspects, there has been considerable speculation about how it came that this man was recommended to a newspaper, which apparently was not informed or warned or in any way asked about the inquiries which subsequently went on. It would be useful for the public at large if the Prime Minister could assure us that there was no lack of liaison between whatever branch is inquiring into Mr. Philby's activities and the Foreign Office, which apparently was not in a position to warn the *Observer* what was going on.

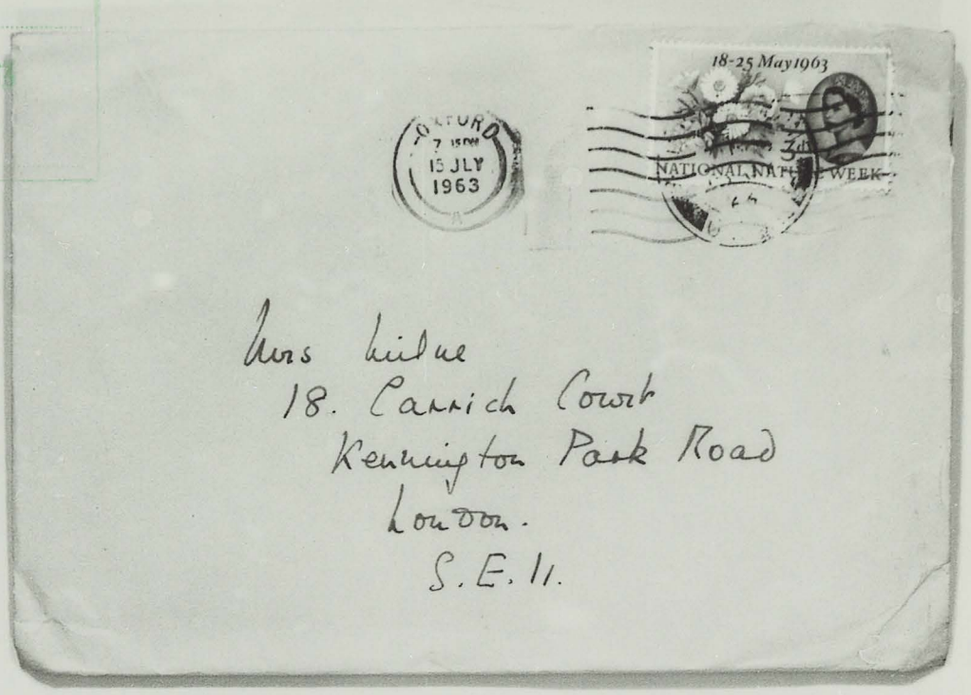
The Prime Minister: This question is just an example of the danger of being led into answering exactly the kind of points which the right hon. Gentleman has made. If he had any experience—which, alas, I have and which others have—of the operations which we are forced to undertake in the present condition of the world, he would not have put his question.

July 16th. 1963. | SECRET | E 8

875A

To DI/EmB
16 JUL 1963
P.A. in

PHILDY



Mrs Milne
18. Carrick Court
Kennington Park Road
London.
S.E. 11.

Eleanor.

July 16th. 1963. SECRET E 8

FROM P. H. B. LEAROYD. ORCHARD CLOSE. BRITWELL SALOME. NR. WATLINGTON. OXON.
TELEPHONE: WATLINGTON 257

July 15th.

My dear Eleanor.

I'm enclosing a letter from Harry which came this morning with one to me & one to Miranda. I have forwarded on the postcards & presume the passport photo is for Harry which I will send off when I next write to him.

Now Philip & I have got to go to London for a wedding on Thursday, July 25th & it's the day that Harry breaks up. Miranda asked if she could meet the school train at Islerton at 2.15 pm. & take Harry off somewhere for the afternoon until we picked them both up after the reception to come back here. I wondered if you could possibly meet Mandy in London that morning somewhere (we could, say, drop her at Peter Jones or

FROM P. H. B. LEAROYD. ORCHARD CLOSE. BRITWELL SALOME. NR. WATLINGTON. OXON.
TELEPHONE: WATLINGTON 257

you & all the family.

John rang me up last evening. He's going up to Diana today to work on a farm for a bit & then said he wanted to go to Spain for a holiday. I'm afraid I was a bit terse with him & said that was out of the question & he would really have to work the whole or nearly whole of the holidays & earn some money. He has won some prize at Hornsey which entitles him to a 3yr course at a University but unless he goes on scholarship terms it will really be out of the question. However I have to find out from him far more about this & I've told him to put it all down on paper to me. Then I hope to know exactly how he stands. It's going to be a terrific strain on the finances

Harrods). Have lunch together. Then perhaps meet H.G. with her? We shall be lunching with my Cousins in Sloane Street, & no doubt they won't mind if Mandy dropped Harry's overnight bag at their flat before they set out for an afternoon spree. They could return to the flat when ready to come back here with us. And I'm sure my cousins would love to see you too if you wanted to go with Mr. & H. in the afternoon. Will you be a dear & let me know about this soon? I know you must be having a lot of appointments & may already be fixed up to do something else on the 25th. If this is so we shall all understand & no doubt Miranda will, in her efficient way, meet Harry. So all that's necessary.

The news in the papers is all most puzzling & worrying but I do hope we all get some better news soon. I can't begin to describe how I feel for

:) John doesn't start earning a living wage for another 3 yrs.

I have no news from the bank about the money from Beirut so I will write to them again now & ask "What goes on?"

With love for now.

Your Melanie

Reference Loose Minute.

D.G. You may wish to see

16/7/63

874C

15/7

D.1.

D to see

With reference to the Aide Memoire for the Prime Minister's talk with Mr. Harold Wilson, the first sentence of paragraph 4 states "It was after PHILBY's resignation that enquiries by the Security Service produced the first evidence of early Communist sympathies". In a memorandum on 26th June, 1951, reference was made to the possibility that PHILBY had been a Communist and such evidence as we had at that time of his left wing views and associations was quoted:

COPIED to thst/1

1) that he was a member of the Cambridge University Socialist Society in 1933;

2) that he was a subscriber in 1933 to the Communist periodical "Labour Monthly";

3) that in 1934 he was associated with H.P. SMOLKA @ SMOLLETT in starting a press agency. SMOLKA had been reported to be a Communist from 1930 onwards;

4) that his first wife Alice FRIEDMANN was a member of the Austrian Communist Party when he married her in 1934.

2. It was also recorded that PHILBY had admitted that friends who knew him at Cambridge might have thought he was a Communist, and that he knew that his wife was one.

3. PHILBY was required to resign in mid July 1951.

Evelyn McBarnet

D.1.
15.7.63.

E. McBarnet.

Extract from Hansard - House of Commons - dated Monday, 15th July, 1963 Volume 681 No.147 Columns 26 and 27 for PF 604,584 - PHILBY.

874B

FOREIGN OFFICE

(EX-OFFICIALS)

Mr. Shinwell asked the Lord Privy Seal on how many occasions in the last 10 years the Foreign Office has asked British newspapers to find employment for ex-officials of that Department.

Mr. Heath: Full records are not kept of approaches made by the Foreign Office to outside employers on behalf of former employees. But the Foreign Office always tries to help former members of the Service, who have retired or resigned, to find jobs for which they appear to be suitably qualified.

Mr. Shinwell: Is it not most unusual for the Foreign Office to seek employment for an ex-official of the Department who has been at one time or another under suspicion, to put it no higher than that? Can the right hon. Gentleman inform the House who was the Foreign Official official who approached the Observer in order to try to obtain employment for Mr. Philby?

Mr. Heath: I dealt last week with the case which the right hon. Gentleman is raising. As for the general matters to which his Question refers, I should have thought that it was not unusual but only the work of any good employer to try to help people in those circumstances.

Dame Irene Ward: May I ask my right hon. Friend whether, if we are to have this question perpetually from the other side of the House, he could please inform me on whose authority Burgess became established in the Foreign Office at the time of the Labour Government?

Mr. Speaker: That question is again hypothetical.

Dame Irene Ward: On a point of order. It is not hypthetical at all.

Mr. Speaker: I am sorry to differ with the hon. Lady, as at all times, but a proposition beginning, "If we are to have this question ..." appears to me to be hypothetical.

Mr. Shinwell: The right hon. Gentleman has just informed the House that he dealt with one aspect of my Question last week, but he did not tell the House who was the Foreign Office official who approached the Observer to obtain employment for Mr. Philby. Can we now be informed?

Mr. Heath: No Sir. I do not think that it would be appropriate for me to tell the House of Commons the name of a particular official dealing with matters in the Foreign Office. This was dealt with through the usual channels.

17.7.63

874a.

872a

July 13th. 1963.

SECRET E

6·8·6

To DI/EMB
15 JUL 1963
P.A. in

PHILBY

871A

Mrs Milne,
Flat 18,
Carrick Court,
Kennington Park Road,
S.E.11.

Elek Books Limited
14, GREAT JAMES STREET,
LONDON, W.C.1.

Mrs. Philby,
c/o The Observer,
22 Tudor Street,
LONDON, E.C.4.

Elek Books Limited

Directors: E. Elek P. Elek

14 Great James Street, London, W.C.1
Telephone: HOLborn 1705 (4 lines)
Telegraphic Address—
Inland: Elekbooks, Holb, London
Overseas: Elekbooks, London, W.C.1

Your ref. Our ref.

5th July, 1963.

Mrs. Philby,
c/o The Observer,
22 Tudor Street,
London, E.C.4.

Dear Mrs. Philby,

We are book publishers and I would like to meet you some time to discuss an idea. Perhaps you would care to get in touch with me.

Yours sincerely,

I would very much like to meet you

Paul Elek.

17/7/64
DR. 15/7/63

2616

TOP SECRET & PERSONAL

670A

PF 604,584/D.1/EMcB.

15th July, 1963.

Dear Mr. Saunders,

With reference to our telephone conversation this morning, I enclose herewith a piece of PHILBY's handwriting and a typed letter simply signed by him.

Yours sincerely,

E. McBarnet.

C.J. Saunders, Esq.,
G.P.O.
Encs.

EMcB/DFG.

TOP SECRET & PERSONAL

SECRET

S. Form 81/rev. 12. 53

B.943. M.795766/7699. 3/60. 200M. H. E. & S. Gp.862/1

EXTRACT

869A

Extract for File No.: PF 604,584 Name: PEACH

Original in File No.:* PF 604,584 Supp Z Vol.: 34 Serial: 2127a Receipt Date: 12.7.63.

Original from: T/C Under Ref.: 4114 Dated: 12.7.63.

Extracted on: 15.7.63. by: DFG Section: D.1.

*If the original is in the file of an individual include the name of the file owner.

Ext. from T/C on RELIANCE 8612 - Eleanor PHILBY.

.....

ELEANOR said she was going to write and ask SAM for the air fare and the money to keep Annie somewhere for a couple of weeks before her school began.
ELISABETH felt sure she should go for longer.
ELEANOR replied -'I've got to be in contact here - I'm on a spot - I'm really on a spot'. She thought that Annie was in Canada at the moment. ELISABETH said she should go for at least three weeks.

.....

15.01.

SECRET

866c
867a.
868a.

Copied for Gen 1855/D1/EMcB - PURDY

SECRET

866B

Part 1.

Section and Officer of origin F.4./MK. Report No. 49810

Action copy to D.1./E.McB. Information copy to Typing Date 11.7.63.

REPORT

Anthony PURDY.

The following information has been received:

PURDY has recently stated that he had heard all about 'Kim' PHILBY from a former Security Officer at the British Embassy in Washington, who is now retired and keeping a public house or hotel somewhere in Buckinghamshire.

Part II. COMMENTS BY SECTION OF ORIGIN

Source reliable. Unfortunately, circumstances did not and do not permit further enquiries which might help in locating or identifying the former Security Officer.

Part III. COMMENTS BY CONSUMER SECTION

(Value, interest, probability, extent to which confirmed by other sources, etc.)

Many thanks. We do know the identity of this man, the name is THOMSON. He was a security offic in Washington and wrote a flip relating about PHILBY affe.

S Form 343/re 3.59/4m.2.63

SECRET

Extract from Hansard - House of Commons - dated Thursday, 11th July, 1963, Volume 680 No.145 Column 175 for PF 604,584 - PHILBY.

866A

Mr. PHILBY

Mr. W. Hamilton asked the Lord Privy Seal on what date Her Majesty's Government first knew that Mr. PHILBY had passed on a warning to Messrs. Burgess and Maclean.

Mr. Heath: As I told the House on 8th July, it was shortly before Philby's disappearance on 23rd January, 1963, that he admitted that he had warned Maclean through Burgess. News of his admission reached Her Majesty's Government not long after it was made. This was the first admission by Philby of which we had knowledge and the first occasion on which we knew of this fact.

12.2.63

864a
865a

Reference PF.604,584 863A

10/7

D.T. (As spoken with E. McB)

EMcB 10/7

Bates rang to say State Dept. Washington state that according to U.S. Passport Office records Mrs. Eleanor PHILBY has not held a valid U.S. passport for ten years. Their records show that the last passport she held was in the name of BREWER.

Bates said he would be grateful for details of the U.S. passport which she is currently using.

EMcB for action.

I took the opportunity to tell Bates that the relevant U.K. authorities had now concluded there was no way of preventing Mrs. PHILBY going behind the Iron Curtain if she was determined to do so.

M.E.D. Cumming

D.

10th July 1963

E 18-76

July 9th. 1963.

SECRET

B 8

PH/L84

To D.I. EMB
10 JUL 1963
P.A. in

P.O. Box 4380
Beirut

Please forward

Mrs. P. Milne
18, Carrick Court
Kennington Park Road
London S.E. 11.
ENGLAND

بالبريد الجوي
AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

862A

July 9th. 1963. SECRET B 8

July 4th

Dear Eleanor,

Well! Large headlines in our Favourite English-language newspaper, enclosed. However, all is quiet on the home front after a slight flurry of interest when someone started a rumour that you might be back in your flat — I squashed that right away, as you see; I didn't want people going up there & ringing the bell and bothering Elie & so on. But — funny thing — lots of people find they suddenly want to buy the parrots! As you know, I've been discretely advertising their disposal. I think I'll let Anne Gordon (AUB) have them, as she's a particularly nice person —

I haven't seen way lately, since we decided to hold off a little — however I imagine your original instructions still stand, & we'll get on with everything. Don't forget the list of prices! We are helpless without that. I haven't cashed your cheque yet, but will have to do so to pay off Elie etc.

Margot is still with us — Mavny is back in the Clinic with a skin-graft to try & heal up the wound in her foot which has been getting

bigger and bigger — poor Glenn is coping somehow but they cant go up to Lin Ab fell next week. We are all swellering in the heat — having a 4th July party at our Cabin tonight. Everyone is extremely sympathetic since the news broke, & send their love and hopeful wishes for the future. We feel specially sad about the children having to start a new "life" with this on their necks — please send them our kids love, and Margot's! I think they are going to need all the affection they can get this next few months and I know you'll see they get it!

Later. July 6th

I'm going over to the flat now to pay Elie her wages, I located the brown bag you talked about — its in the hall cupboard, & seems to contain valuables — what shall I do with it? I had a letter from Kay, saying she was worried about you — felt very out of touch. I guess by now she's heard! She reminded me of something I did forget — to tie your head together. Will do it this morning! Am also gradually getting the tape unravelled which, like the "skein of time" takes forever! Or am I misquoting the bard?

Write soon, & tell us how it all looks from back there. Love, Lorraine

Reference PF 604,584.

860A

NOTE FOR FILE

Charles Bates, F.B.I., telephoned this morning to Director D. to tell him that the State Department say that Eleanor PHILBY has not had a State Department passport for 10 years.

2. I telephoned to Charles Bates to tell him that I thought there really must be some kind of error, as Mrs. PHILBY had arrived here on a valid American passport No. 221805 issued in Beirut on 22nd October, 1959. He said he thought that this must, in fact, have been renewed in 1961 as Consular passports were normally valid for three years only, but agreed that there must be some mistake in State Department records. He said that he would check back.

D.1.
10.7.63.

Evelyn McBarnet
E. McBarnet.

07.DB.
10.703

CODE 18-76

SECRET

859A

G.P.O. [redacted]

Mr. C. J. Saunders*
~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~
Mr. N. A. Hawkins*

Home Office Warrant Change of Address/Telephone Number

Please make the following amendment to H.O.W. No. TS/2403.

in the name of Mrs. Eleanor PHILBY :—

ADD: DELETE:

Cunningham 5564

Date 9.7.63. *Signature* G. MITCHELL

Copy to: A.2

*Delete whichever is inapplicable.

S. Form 417 rev.3.59

SECRET

Reference PF 604,584.

NOTE FOR FILE

an urgent enquiry from the Foreign Office relating to a report from the United States, to the effect that the State Department had said that they had no evidence that Mrs. PHILBY was still an American citizen, or that she was travelling on an American passport.

By reference to the Home Office minute forwarded to me by Miss Coates on 13th June (822b) when Mrs. Eleanor Kerns PHILBY arrived in this country on 31st May, 1963, she was described by the Immigration Officer as a natural born American travelling with American Passport number 221805, issued in Beirut on 22nd October, 1959.

D.1.
9.7.63.

E. McBarnet.

CODE 18-76

Reference PF 604,584.

857A

NOTE FOR FILE

Mrs. Eleanor PHILBY was going to stay with Miss Helen WILMOT (with whom she had been in touch on the telephone).

2. Miss WILMOT's address is 52 Abbey House, N.W.8., telephone number Cunningham 5564. After consulting Mr. Hawkins, G.P.O., I decided to ask for this number to be added to the existing H.O.W.

D.1.
9.7.63.

E. McBarnet.

CODE 18-76

Loose Minute
Reference C.4./Gen./KT/JL.....

SECRET & PERSONAL

856A

D.1.

I attach a copy of the note which I showed you concerning PHILBY's widowed sister. This was sent to me by Squadron Leader George Parker, now retired and working in a lay capacity for the Bishop of Coventry. His address is 13, Styvechale Avenue, Coventry. Telephone number Coventry 74139.

2. Parker has on two previous occasions volunteered information of potential security significance. In the first instance his information proved to be correct (it was passed to D.4.) and he was absolutely right in coming forward with it. In the second instance we still await a follow up of the initial information and therefore cannot yet pass judgement. Parker is quite well-known personally to David Sutherland Sutherland regards him as a little odd in some ways but not the sort of man to say anything which he did not believe to be true.

3. Parker is known to me personally since the final stages of the WRAIGHT case. After his trial WRAIGHT, whom I interviewed in Wormwood Scrubs, was prepared to give full detail of all the R.A.F. technical information which he had betrayed to the Russians when de-briefed by them in Moscow in November and December, 1956. Parker, then a Flight Lieutenant, was the R.A.F. Officer deputed to handle these technical matters during the series of interviews in Wormwood Scrubs. There may be a little more information about him on WRAIGHT's file at the date April/May 1960.

4. I understand you see no need at present for Parker to be contacted by your section but, should occasion arise in the future, I have already arranged with him that he will be content to be contacted by phone or otherwise by any officer who introduces himself simply as " a colleague of Kenneth Tolson."

C.4.

9th July, 1963.

K. Tolson.

SECRET & PERSONAL

Code 10-75

856a.

HAROLD PHILBY has a widowed Sister

HELEN ENGLEBACH

ADDRESS:- 'Startings'
Great Mary Way
Ferring by Sea
Sussex

Tel: Goring by Sea 45843

This is incorrect. See serial in Vol. 18.

HISTORY:- Married Flt. Lt. P. ENGLEBACH 1946/47

Went to CAMBRIDGE with him when he studied Russian 1948/49.
Subsequently went to PARIS with him for further studies 1949.
Based in GERMANY - R.A.F. BAD EILSEN while he was engaged on research work for G.C.H.Q. 1949/50.
Finally based with 365 Signals Unit, R.A.F. UETERSEN, HAMBURG 1950/52.
Returned to U.K. in 1952 on husband's promotion and return to flying duties.
Husband killed in flying accident 1953/54.
Mrs. ENGLEBACH was perfectly familiar with the activities of all the above mentioned Units and personnel concerned.
The R.A.F. Benevolent Fund assist in the education of her son.
She appears to own the house/bungalow where she lives.
She has a car.
She is employed by a local Hotel.

TOP SECRET

Reference Loose Minute.

853E

Director General

As directed, I attach a memorandum on my telephone discussion with Mr. Chinchen, Chief Inspector of Immigration on the evening of Friday, 5 July.

A.1.
8.7.63.

A. M. MacDonald.

Dr. DR.
10.7.63.

CODE 18-76

TOP SECRET

1. On Friday, 5 July, on instructions from the D.G. I telephoned Mr. Chinchen, Chief Inspector of Immigration, and put to him the following hypothetical cases.

(a) An American woman married to a British subject but retaining her American nationality, resident in the United Kingdom, presents herself at a port. Her passport has been endorsed by the American authorities as valid only for a single journey to the United States. She states that she wishes to embark for a country other than the United States. Could Immigration Branch take any steps to prevent her leaving the U.K. ? Mr. Chinchen replied that although the Immigration Branch could under certain circumstances refuse an alien leave to embark, were they to do so in this case it would be an improper use of the Aliens Order. The restriction was imposed by the Americans and they would look to the Americans to enforce it by extradition or other means.

(b) The same woman presents herself with no passport or travel document. Mr. Chinchen said that the Immigration Officer would point out to her that she might be refused leave to land at her destination. If, however, the carrier raised no objection and was willing to run the risk of having to bring the woman back to the U.K., Immigration would allow her to proceed.

2. I then asked Mr. Chinchen whether, even under these circumstances the Immigration Branch would be prepared to refuse leave to embark if asked to do so by the Security Service. He said he would consult Mr. Paice, Assistant Under Secretary of State. Mr. Chinchen later telephoned to say that Mr. Paice had given it as his opinion that if the Security Service wished the Immigration Branch to refuse leave to embark under either of the set of circumstances mentioned in (a) and (b) above, it would be necessary for the Director General to obtain the authority of the Secretary of State.

3. For reasons of security and because this discussion was conducted by telephone I did not refer to the specific case of Mrs. H. A. R. PHILBY.

A.1.
8.7.63.

854z
855a.

Reference PF.604,584

D.1. to see and P.A.
A.1. to see

NOTE

D.G. told me today that a decision had been taken not to attempt to take any action at a U.K. Port to prevent Mrs. PHILBY from going behind the Iron Curtain if she was determined to do so.

M.E.D. Cumming

D.

8th July 1963

CODE 18-76

PF 604,584 - PHILBY

853C

Cutting from Hansard - House of Commons - Volume 680 No.142 dated Monday, 8th July, 1963. Columns 107-108

MR. HAROLD PHILBY

Captain Kerby asked the Lord Privy Seal what cash compensation was paid out of public funds to Mr. Philby when he was requested to resign from Her Majesty's Foreign Service.

Mr. Heath: I must refer my hon. and gallant Friend to the reply given to him on this subject on 21st November, 1955, which stated that no officials were dismissed or transferred as a result of the inquiries into the Maclean and Burgess affair but that one was asked to resign in consequence and received a financial settlement in accordance with the terms of his engagement. As my hon. and gallant Friend will be aware, Mr. Philby had already been named in the House as the person who was asked to resign.

Captain Kerby asked the Lord Privy Seal what orders were given to British Embassy personnel in Beirut regarding their contacts with Mr. Philby following his admission that he was the man who warned Maclean and Burgess of the proposed action of the security services

30 E 42

gainst them; and if these orders were in force on 23rd January.

Mr. Heath: All members of the Foreign Service are regularly reminded of the security regulations which are designed to prevent the disclosure of official information to unauthorised persons. These orders were of course in force on 23rd January, 1963.

11/7/64

Mr. Rankin: Do not those figures awaken the hon. Gentleman and his right hon. Friend, and the Government, from the sleep in which they have been indulging? Can the hon. Gentleman say what is being done to try to do something for the tremendous number of persons who have been thrown out of work as the result of the decline of the shipbuilding industry in Govan?

Mr. Whitelaw: The hon. Gentleman is very well aware of the £30 million scheme to help shipowners recently announced by my right hon. Friend the Minister of Transport to finance new orders. To that, there has been an encouraging response——

Mr. Rankin *rose*——

Mr. Whitelaw: —and the hon. Gentleman had better remain in his place, because I have more to say.

The industry must do all in its power to make itself competitive with foreign shipyards. My right hon. Friend has established a joint working party to work out practical proposals for improving the industry's relations and competitive ability. This working party is making progress though, my right hon. Friend must say, not as rapidly as the urgency of the situation demands.

Mr. Rankin: Is the Parliamentary Secretary not aware that the £30 million scheme was only announced about a month ago, and that it has taken nearly ten years to accumulate those 4,000 unemployed in Govan? What was he doing before the £30 million scheme was introduced?

Mr. Whitelaw: Much consideration has been given to improving the position of the shipyards, but the hon. Gentleman will be the first to appreciate that this is a world-wide problem of supply and demand.

MR. HAROLD PHILBY

The following Questions stood upon the Order Paper:

51 and 56. Lieut.-Colonel CORDEAUX: To ask the Lord Privy Seal (1) if he will state the nature of the reply sent by him to the inquiry from the *Observer* newspaper on 28th February 1963, concerning the whereabouts of Mr. Philby;

(2) by what authority an official of the Foreign Office urged the *Observer* newspaper to employ Mr. Philby; and whether his department or the *Observer* newspaper took the initiative in this matter.

52. Mr. A. LEWIS: To ask the Lord Privy Seal on what date or dates Mr. Philby himself admitted that he worked for the Soviet authorities before 1946.

55. Mr. WADE: To ask the Lord Privy Seal what assurances and recommendations were given to the editor of the *Observer* and the editor of the *Economist* by the Foreign Office before Mr. H. A. R. Philby was employed by them as a correspondent in the Middle East.

57 and 61. Mr. GRIMOND: To ask the Lord Privy Seal (1) what information was given by his Department to the *Observer* and other papers as to the suitability of Mr. Philby as a correspondent in the Middle East;

(2) what evidence he has that Mr. Philby has been living outside British legal jurisdiction for the last seven years.

64. Mr. A. LEWIS: To ask the Lord Privy Seal, in view of the Foreign Office's request for the resignation of Mr. Harold Philby as a security risk in 1951, why they advised his appointment with the *Observer* in 1956.

The Lord Privy Seal (Mr. Edward Heath): Mr. Philby's name was given by the Foreign Office to the *Observer* in 1956 as a former journalist who was seeking employment. In reply to inquiries about him, the Foreign Office based itself on the statement made in the House of Commons by my right hon. Friend the Prime Minister, then Foreign Secretary, on 7th November, 1955. The Foreign Office acted in this matter on the authority of that ministerial statement.

The *Observer* was also informed that the circumstances in which Mr. Philby was asked to resign from the public service made it highly unlikely that he would ever again be employed in any

work involving access to official information. As I told the House on the 1st of July, he has had no such access since 1951.

As to the *Observer's* inquiry on 28th February, 1963, the foreign editor of the *Observer* was given the same information as I gave the House on 20th March, in reply to a Question from my hon. and gallant Friend the Member for Nottingham, Central (Lieut.-Colonel Cordeaux) concerning the whereabouts of Mr. Philby.

It was shortly before his disappearance on 23rd January, 1963, that Mr. Philby admitted that he worked for the Soviet authorities before 1946 and had warned Maclean, through Burgess, that the security services were about to take action against him.

During the seven years before his disappearance Mr. Philby is known to have been living outside British jurisdiction, having made his home in Beirut. He paid a number of visits to the United Kingdom during that period. He is also believed, in the course of his journalistic activities, to have visited territories under British jurisdiction in the Middle East.

Mr. A. Lewis: The Lord Privy Seal has now admitted that Mr. Philby has been here at least on two occasions. Why did the right hon. Gentleman say that he had not been within British jurisdiction, when he was entertained here in London? If the right hon. Gentleman will look at the *Daily Sketch* of last Friday he will find that it seems to have more information than the Foreign Office. Why was it that only yesterday the deputy-editor of the *Observer* said that at no time had that paper had any inquiries made of it officially by M.I.5. or anyone working for M.I.5? Why not?

Mr. Heath: As I said in my original statement a week ago, Mr. Philby had lived outside British jurisdiction. I stated today that he made his home in Beirut and was domiciled in the Lebanon. I have also said today that he made visits to this country and also, in his journalistic activities, to some colonial territories in the Middle East.

As for the last supplementary question, it would not have been appropriate, in inquiries made about Mr. Philby, to have made inquiries from the newspapers.

Mr. Grimond: Does the right hon. Gentleman not think it rather strange that, when, as we have been informed, the file has been open during all these years, and inquiries have been going on, the *Observer* was encouraged to take on Mr. Philby and employ him in Beirut? Can the right hon. Gentleman tell us when it was suspected that Mr. Philby was a possible agent? Why were no inquiries made of the *Observer* and why did the Lord Privy Seal say that during the last seven years Mr. Philby has been living outside British legal jurisdiction? Surely the point was that he was not available for questioning, otherwise what was the point? Did the right hon. Gentleman know that during that time Mr. Philby has visited Britain and has been within the jurisdiction and could have been available for questioning?

Mr. Heath: Mr. Philby was recommended to the *Observer* in 1956 on the strength of a statement made to the House of Commons that there was no evidence against him at that time. [HON. MEMBERS: "Why?"] I am coming to that point. He was recommended because it was thought not unreasonable, and, indeed, wise, at that time that he should be in employment. [HON. MEMBERS: "Why?"] There is a difference between the reason why he was asked to resign in 1951 by the then Foreign Secretary, because of his previous association, and the question of employment with a newspaper. It was thought, as the then Foreign Secretary stated in the House of Commons in 1955, that there was no evidence against him, and that it was not unreasonable that he should be employed by a newspaper. For that reason, it was put to the *Observer*.

As for the second part of the question with which the right hon. Gentleman was concerned, I was aware that Mr. Philby had made his home in Beirut. The point about the legal jurisdiction was that it was possible to reach conclusions, as a result of the admissions made by Mr. Philby, only at a time when he was living outside British legal jurisdiction. He did not return to this country between that time and the time he disappeared. I was not aware of the details of his return to this country during the course of his journalistic conferences with his papers.

Mr. Wall: Would my right hon. Friend make quite clear who took the initiative in finding Mr. Philby a job? Was it the Foreign Office or the *Observer*.

Mr. Heath: The Foreign Office took the initiative with the *Observer*. The *Observer* took the initiative with the *Economist*.

Mr. Grimond: I am greatly obliged to the right hon. Gentleman, but did he know when he answered Questions last Monday that Mr. Philby had visited this country at least twice?

Mr. Heath: I stated very clearly that I was not aware of the details of his return to this country.

Mr. Biggs-Davison: Since the *Observer* and the *Economist* have considerable attention paid to them, particularly, perhaps, overseas, may we now hope that since Mr. Philby must have influenced their judgment on the Nasserite régime there will be an agonising reappraisal of their Middle East views on the part of these two journals?

Mr. Heath: It was a question for the two papers employing him to judge his work and its value to them. It was entirely within their competence and for them to decide whether he should continue in their employment. It will be seen from the *Observer* yesterday that it discussed in great detail the quality of his work while he was employed by the newspaper.

Mr. G. Brown: Will the right hon. Gentleman answer this extraordinary position? The Foreign Office asks a man to resign for reasons which had to do with his past political associations. Why did the Foreign Office then take the initiative to get a newspaper to employ him in the Middle East? The Foreign Office is not normally an employment agency. Is the right hon. Gentleman aware that this sort of thing is bringing out in the open a lot of things which as a rule, ought to remain not discussed in the open? Why did the Foreign Office do this?

Mr. Heath: There seems to be a slight contradiction in the right hon. Gentleman's saying that these matters ought not to be discussed in the open and then asking me directly why the suggestion was made about Mr. Philby. I ask the right hon. Gentleman, who has certain experience of these matters, to recognise that fact.

After Mr. Philby was asked to resign in 1951 by the then Foreign Secretary, because of his previous associations, there was a period in which he had some employment, arranged presumably by himself. In 1955, the then Foreign Secretary stated that after a thorough examination of this matter no evidence had been found against Mr. Philby and, therefore, no charge of any kind was brought against him.

In these circumstances it was thought not unreasonable, and, indeed, in some circumstances, as perhaps the right hon. Gentleman will now recognise, wise, that it should be suggested that he should resume his previous journalistic employment. For that reason an approach was made to the *Observer*.

Dame Irene Ward: While detesting Communism, may I ask my right hon. Friend whether he thinks that in this free world, for which at the appropriate time many Communists fought, nobody who had Communist leanings at any time should ever be able to earn a livelihood again? Would my right hon. Friend like me to outline in the House the number of Communists appointed by right hon. Gentlemen opposite when they were in office?

Mr. Heath: I think that my hon. Friend is referring to the point which I was trying to make—that there is a difference between the reasons for which Mr. Philby was asked to resign, owing to his previous associations, and which surely are not incompatible with employment on a newspaper if the proprietors so decide, and the question of his security risk in Government employment where he has access to secret information.

Mr. G. Brown: Is the Lord Privy Seal aware of what he is now saying? The only interest of the Foreign Office in this man being employed by somebody so that he could work in the Middle East could have been a Foreign Office interest. What was that Foreign Office interest? Was it that he should be available for work that he had been doing before, which was security work? Why should the Foreign Office put itself out,

when a man had been asked to resign because he was not regarded as security-worthwhile, and ask somebody else to employ him to go back there to do security work; and subsequently, when he was found out not to be security worthwhile, why should not the Foreign Office accept responsibility?

Mr. Heath: The right hon. Gentleman is not entitled to draw the conclusions that he has just drawn. In any case, he will not expect me to make any further comment upon conclusions of that kind.

Mr. Burden: My right hon. Friend gave the House to understand, I believe, that the abilities of this journalist were assessed by the newspaper that employed him, but surely their assessment of his value and of his ability was coloured by the fact that he was suggested for employment by the Foreign Office.

Dame Irene Ward: Rubbish.

Mr. Burden: I do not believe that is rubbish. Is it not dangerous for the Foreign Office to suggest to newspapers that any particular journalist should be given employment? Is this proper behaviour?

Mr. Heath: No suggestions were made by the Foreign Office about the quality of Mr. Philby's work, or his capacity for carrying out journalistic tasks. What the Foreign Office did was to suggest his name to the *Observer*, and it was always the responsibility of the *Observer*—[*Interruption.*] I am dealing with my hon. Friend's question. It was always the responsibility of the *Observer* and the *Economist*, or whoever else employed Mr. Philby, to make a judgment about his work. If my hon. Friend casts his mind back to the time of these episodes he will recollect that one of these newspapers took the view that Mr. Philby had been somewhat unfairly treated in that at the time when there was no evidence against him he was unable to secure employment.

Mr. M. Foot: Can the right hon. Gentleman tell us whether the statement he made a week ago about Mr. Philby was because of the Government's ingrained preference for complete candour, or was there a less evident reason for it?

Mr. Heath: I made the statement to the House because all the possible conclusions had been reached in this case, and I thought it right to tell the House at that time what those conclusions were. It is for similar reasons that I have answered these Questions after the normal Question hour today.

Mr. Gordon Walker: The right hon. Gentleman has told us that Mr. Philby made his admission just before his disappearance, presumably last January. Could he explain why, on 20th March he told the House that he had given the House all the information in the Government's possession? Did he not know about this admission at that time, or was he not giving us all the information in his possession?

Mr. Heath: I can give the answer to that one very easily. The Question asked by my hon. and gallant Friend who asked Question No. 51 today concerned the whereabouts of Mr. Philby. If the right hon. Gentleman looks at my Answer he will see that I gave all the information that we had at the time about Mr. Philby's whereabouts. It was later than that that we gained further information about the suggestion that he might have gone behind the Iron Curtain. As the work on this particular case was still being carried on, it would, in any event, have been quite inappropriate for me and not in the national interest to have given such other information as we had.

Several Hon. Members *rose*——

Mr. Speaker: We cannot debate this matter now without a Question before the House. [An Hon. Member: "It ought to be debated."] That may be, but not now.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE (SUPPLY)

Ordered,

That this day Business other than the Business of Supply may be taken before Ten o'clock.—[*Mr. Redmayne.*]

WELSH AFFAIRS

Tourism in Wales and Monmouthshire, being a matter relating exclusively to Wales and Monmouthshire, referred to the Welsh Grand Committee for their consideration.—[*Sir K. Joseph.*]

PF 604,584 - PHILBY

853B

Cutting from Hansard - House of Commons - Volume 680 No.142 dated Monday, 8th July, 1963. Columns 863 - 870.

July 8th. 1963.

SECRET J 2

9.6.3

853A

To M/Emas
- 8 JUL 1963
P.A.

-4.VII.63-16

-4.VII.63-16

-4.VII.63-16

LIBAN

Mrs. P. Milne
18 CARRICK COURT
KENNINGTON PARK ROAD,
LONDON, S.E. 11
ENGLAND.

AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

July 15

Have just found the enclosed in my purse! Will write a further bulletin Soonest. All O.K. here.

Love

L

1555

Dr. DK.
8.7.63

June 24th

Dear Eleanor,

I'm writing this on your balcony - have just given Margot a flea-powder treatment & am about to take her to the beach - poor dog, she's had rather a thin time of it this week as we brought her back here because she came in heat! After several nights rendered sleepless on account of Ozzie's passions, we gave up. Elie deals with her in the morning, & I at night, & the beach during the day. The BP's will take her to Air Afr next week, which will solve everything. We have found a potential home for the Canary - Susan Young, a friend of Jennie's wants it. Will start working on parrots next week.

Everything is jogging along back at your flat, have not told Elie anything. Way & I will break the sad news on Friday, so she can get other work (Said, the Maid-Man, will help here). We didn't find anyone who wanted to move in, but have several potential buyers for objects, e.g. Refrigerator. There's just one insuperable obstacle to carrying out your instructions - I don't know what to charge for anything. PLEASE, by return post, send me a price list, because after all, you know what you paid for everything - I haven't a clue. I'm defeated by the thought of having to run round to eg the Basta to find out what a bentwood rocking-chair should sell for - also just plain don't have time, what with the kids on holiday & heckling me to take their places. So - will do nothing re

July 8th. 1963. SECRET J 2 9.6.3

the sale until I hear from you.

As for the packing, I see no problems there except that I feel it would be better to NOT have the maids around — they will surely fill their pockets with small objects once they know you're not returning. Miles suggests we get them back to clean after your valuables are safely in crates. Therefore I'll start Elie dusting the books today —

One more problem — the rent: Kay left me a £1,000 cheque to pay thru Elie at the Normandy. Was that the rent up to July 15th? or beyond? Do you pay by the month? What should I reply if the landlord says I must give (or pay) 3 months notice? [Do I hear a distant rude noise ??]

Have paid all outstanding bills which almost exactly used up the money left for me by Kay (electric & aramco & dactarium, 67 & 29 £)

I enclose a letter from Doris S.; Hadj Debbas come and crate the owl. Hope this was O.K.

Should you get some sort of deposit back on your gas bottles? Who owns the fittings? (curtain rods, towel racks) Re Miranda's room — is that included in your rent? I keep thinking up more questions! I must now take this to the office and mail it. I need hardly say how sad all this seems — Way & I both feel we ought'nt to be in too much of a hurry to get on with the dissolution of the Philby ménage — maybe if we wait a bit we'll hear better news. Anyway that's what we're hoping —

Love to all; we have our fingers permanently crossed .....!

Lorraine

July 6th. 1963. SECRET E 2

8-2-9

852A

~~PM in PI~~ Copied to PF 606, 614

DUBLIN
INTERCONTINENTAL PEMBROKE ROAD, DUBLIN 4, IRELAND

To DI/EMB
-8 JUL 1963
P.A. in

PATLBY

Jack P. Evans, Esq
37 Holland Villas Road
London W 14

July 5th

also received via the MILNE check -

Eleanor, dear

I was really glad to know you were somewhere in one piece, even though sick in foot and worried, of course. The news ~~xxxx~~ has come as a terrible shock to me and I have disbelieved it steadily -- but Clare Hollingworth's articles sound so definite. If it is true, I suppose you will follow, as I guess I know your feelings for your sobs.

I wish, though, that you would go to Annie - who must be even more puzzled and confused than I am ...and who will feel betrayed. She needs reassurance and perhaps the Suttons can give her that -- and maybe her father will too - but a mother's a mother.

If you come here there are plenty of places on the west coast, which is the nicest part..... one called the Twelve Pins in Barna near Galway would be ideal for you. Only 4 rooms - excellent food - charming owners (your type of garrullous Irish - witty etc) ....and on the sea. Otherwise there is Dublin. I am leaving in a day or two or three for Beirut, and never hope to stir from there, barring act of god or war.

If you stay on our side, you can find me there c/o Chehab, 28 Rue Mexique or Phoenicia --(they'll take my mail) --- much love and god bless you. My St. Christopher from you was on my hand until July 2nd - when it broke from the chain. It is now in my bag. THINK ,,, there is no returning.

Olga HYKA

July 6th. 1963.

SECRET

T 2

8-8-3

851A

To DI EMB

-8 JUL 1963

P.A. in

PHILBY

Mrs Milne
18, Carrick Court
Kennington Park Road
London
S.E. 11.

RR
17/7/64

240

July 6th. 1963. SECRET T 2 X 8-8-3

310 West 11 Street
New York 14

July 2, 1963

Dear Eleanor:

I am sorry things seem to be going badly. All the British press have been on my back. For your information--I told them I had heard from yoy from London but that you had not given me an address.

When they wanted to know what you adid about Kim, I said simply that you told me he was working on a legitimate enterprise of his own somewhere in the Middle East.

They are all interested in Annie. I said simply that she was staying with me until the situation was cleared up.

Annie did splendidly in her new school, was on the honor roll both months and got very laudatory remarks from all her teachers.

What do you think about putting her into a boarding school here? It would be a sound idea regardless of other events, and she has told Ann and Lis and various other people that she would like to go to boarding school. She is very much against the idea of college, and it might help her to make up her mind one way or the other.

Please let me know what you can of your plans.

Sincerely,
Sam

Brewer
310 West 11
New York 14

NEW YORK JUL 22 1 30 PM 1963

Mrs. Eleanor Phibby
c/o Mrs. Learoyd
Orchard Close
Britwell Salome
near WATLINGTON
Oxfordshire

ENGLAND

2/4

CABINET OFFICE,

GREAT GEORGE STREET,

S.W.1

With the
Secretary's Compliments

Sir Roger Hollis, C.B.,
O.B.E.

Confidential.

MR. WOODFIELD

I attach a Draft Answer and Notes for Supplementaries for two Questions which the Prime Minister is to be asked on Tuesday, 9th July. I am sending copies, on Sir Burke Trend's instructions, to Sir Laurence Helsby, Sir Bernard Burrows, Sir Roger Hollis and 'C'. I will let you know if they have any comments.

B. BOWERTOWN

9th July, 1963

Mr. Arthur Lewis (West Ham, North): To ask the Prime Minister, whether he will move to appoint a tribunal under the Tribunals of Inquiry (Evidence) Act 1921 to inquire into matters concerning Messrs. Philby, Burgess and Maclean.

Mr. Niall MacDermot (Derby, North): To ask the Prime Minister, whether he will appoint an independent person or tribunal to inquire into the security aspects of the case of Mr. Harold Philby.

DRAFT ANSWER

With permission I will answer Questions and together.

No sir.

NOTES FOR SUPPLEMENTARIES

1. Q. Why not?

A. It is 12 years since Burgess and Maclean left this country and since Philby resigned from the Foreign Service. Moreover, the only remaining point of doubt has now been removed by Philby's own admission. In these circumstances I doubt whether it would be profitable to appoint a special tribunal of inquiry to look into this case.

2. Q. The Government has, apparently, only discovered now what was known by others in 1955 - that it was Philby who tipped off Burgess and Maclean. Does this not argue a continuing security failure which should be investigated?

A. What we have now done is to confirm something which others could only suspect in 1955 and which the Government felt unable to accept at that time in the absence of sufficient evidence.

In this field all our successes can be represented as failures. Whenever we catch a spy or identify a traitor we can be - and usually are - criticised for not having done so sooner.

3. Q. What has happened about the proposal to set up some sort of permanent Government machinery to look into security cases of this kind?

A. This is being examined but the matter is complicated.

4. Q. Surely it is ridiculous for the Government to say there is no question of security to be investigated when a man is identified as a traitor after being compensated from public funds on resignation from the Foreign Service, recommended by the Foreign Office for employment with the "Observer" and "The Economist" and then - very recently - made freely welcome in British diplomatic circles in the Middle East?

A. [Answers to supplementaries on these detailed points will have to be given in the light of - and perhaps by reference to - proceedings at Question Time on Monday, 8th July, when the Lord Privy Seal is to be asked a number of questions about Philby.]

To ~~D.G.~~ Room. 3/7

NOTICE OF PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION

given Tuesday 9 July.

* 61 **Mr Arthur Lewis** (West Ham, North): To ask the Prime Minister, whether he will move to appoint a tribunal under the Tribunals of Inquiry (Evidence) Act 1921 to inquire into matters concerning Messrs Philby, Burgess and Maclean.

* 63 **Mr Niall MacDermot** (Derby, North): To ask the Prime Minister, whether he will appoint an independent person or tribunal to inquire into the security aspects of the case of Mr Harold Philby.

Date 3 July 1963

Secretariat

S. Form 335/rev 5.61/250 5.61

850c

PF 604,584 - PEACH

85A

Extract from Hansard - House of Commons - Volume 680 No.141 dated Friday, 5th July, 1963, Columns 102-103.

Mr. PHILBY

Captain Kerby asked the Lord Privy Seal upon what date Her Majesty's Government first learned that Mr. Philby had moved behind the Iron Curtain; upon what date Her Majesty's Government first learned that Mr. Philby was responsible for warning Messrs. Maclean and Burgess; and what details are known of any association between Mr. Philby and Mr. Blake, late of Her Majesty's Foreign Service and now serving a prison sentence for espionage.

Mr. Heath: As I informed the House on 1st July, there is, as yet, no certainty about Mr. Philby's whereabouts. It would not be appropriate for me to give details of either the exact time or place at which various items of information bearing on the case were received by Her Majesty's Government. I am not aware of any association between Mr. Philby and Mr. Blake.

Reference PF.604,584 850B

D.1. to see and P.A.

NOTE

PEACH

1. the P.M. hoped everything possible was being done to ensure that Mrs. PEACH (an American subject) did not depart behind the Iron Curtain as this would be most unfortunate in the present climate.

Mrs. PEACH was going to talk to Tomas HARRIS, now back in U.K. HARRIS had told Dick Brooman White of this impending talk.

2. I informed D.G., who instructed:

(a) That we consider whether, if the Americans could endorse her passport as valid for a single trip to the U.S., steps could be taken at a U.K. Port to secure she went there and there only. (Spoke A and A.1.)

(b) That we should discuss the position with F.B.I. and C.I.A. London.

I informed Bates and Cram of the latest letter Mrs. PEACH had received, and of the present predicament. They said her departure behind the Iron Curtain would have impact on the U.S. also and readily undertook to consider D.G.'s suggestion. They pointed out, however, that it was not possible to force a U.S. citizen over here to hand in their passport).

COPIED to HIST/1

3. After reference by A.1. to Home Office Aliens and Immigration Branches, we informed D.G. that we could not readily see that an Immigration Officer could prevent her going whenever she wished - passport-less or passport 'limited' - if the carrier was willing to take her. Any special action would require special authority from Secretary of State. (Full details being recorded by A.1.)

M.E.D. Cumming

D.
5th July 1963

July 5th. 1963.

SECRET T 2

849A

Mrs Milne
18. Carrick Court
Kennington Park Road
London
S.E. 11.

FROM [redacted], ORCHARD CLOSE. BRITWELL SALOME. NR. WATLINGTON. OXON.
TELEPHONE: WATLINGTON 257

July 3rd.

My dear Pat -
Words fail me on the strength of what we've seen in the papers & heard over the news. I can't help thinking there's some awful mistake somewhere -
Since the news broke we've been plagued by reporters (even at 1 a.m. in the morning) but they've been sent away with nothing to write about - but they did get the information from the post office that the Children were always looked after by me when in this country. However today they've left us alone & yesterday I got Mandy over to friends others about 70 miles away - Will you let me know if there is anything I can do now for you - E or anyone else?

To DI/ETCB
-5 JUL 1963
P.A. in

PFKIRBY

July 5th. 1963.

SECRET

T 2

I don't like to ring you up but perhaps you could ring me sometime.

I've heard nothing from John - maybe you have? I will write to him again & see if I can persuade him to come ~~& see~~ us one day to discuss the future etc: As you can both imagine I have some financial headaches ahead for me.

Both J. & M. have taken the news very calmly but naturally they are terribly upset.

With love for now to you & E. I feel very deeply for you all & just now don't think it's wise to say any more

M.

HEATHCOAT AMORY

848a

she then produced another letter which she had received from PEACH.

3. The basic facts about this new letter are as follows:-

(i) It was posted in Chiswick on the 24th June and addressed to Mrs. Glen Milne, Ministry of Fuel and Power, Millbank. Mrs. Milne received it on Tuesday morning 25th June and brought it back to Mrs. PEACH at lunchtime.

(ii) The envelope was type-written very close to the left-hand side of the envelope. Inside the envelope was a type-written covering letter to Mrs. Milne and apparently signed by PEACH in ink. The letter for Mrs. PEACH was in a cheap, pale green envelope which was stuck up and had 'Eleanor' written in ink in apparently PEACH's hand-writing on the outside.

4. The covering letter (as well as the letter for Mrs. PEACH) was type-written on cheap bumph without any water-mark. Mrs. PEACH's letter had the word 'Kim' written in ink (and apparently in his hand-writing) at the end of it and nothing else in hand-writing apart from the correction of one letter

/in

848a

in the type-written script. This was either an 'h' to 'g' or visa versa.

5. The following are the main points contained in the letter

a) PEACH was taking advantage of a visit to England by a friend of his to send her this letter.

b) He had had news of the meeting with his friend in Beirut on 30th May. This had plunged him into black gloom.

c) He thought she had been misled by the American Consulate (or was it by someone else?) over fears of kidnapping by his friends. This was out of the question. She had nothing to fear. Furthermore she had done nothing wrong and could go where she pleased.

d) She had been wrong to refuse money. Next time she should accept it. He did not want her to have any financial worries.

e) When she went back to Beirut he presumed it would not be for long. She must let him know what she had in her mind and what her plans were. He would send the address to which she could write in the near future.

f) Their new home was being got ready for them and good progress was being made over it.

g) There were various personal messages about his own children but no mention of Annie.

h) She must bear up. They were both going through difficult times. It would work out all right in the end. She must not worry.

6. As a result of the Chiswick post-mark both Mrs. Milne and Mrs. PEACH think that whoever posted the letter may first have gone to Mrs. Milne's old abode which was in Chiswick. Mrs. PEACH is, on the whole, cheered by it as it does at least indicate to her both that he is alive and has not abandoned her. For the time being i.e. until she gets the follow-up letter which PEACH has promised (giving the address to which she can write) she has firmly decided to avoid the press and, if they catch up with her, to say nothing to them. She realises that her story is doubtless worth a lot of money (in her view just as much as Miss KEELER's), but though hard up she does not intend to cash in on it at the moment.

/7.

848a

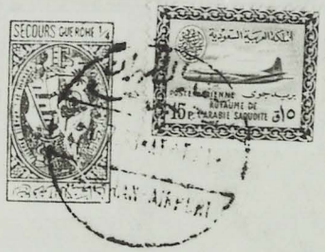
7. [redacted] Mrs. Milne is taking the line with Mrs. PEACH [redacted] that not only is PEACH under R.I.S. control but is trying to indicate to Mrs. PEACH that she should disregard any instructions she receives.

[redacted]

2nd July, 1963.

July 3rd. 1963.

ARABIAN AMERICAN OIL COMPANY
DHAHRAN, SAUDI ARABIA
A. G. Simpson, Box 2584



VIA AIR MAIL

Mr. Jack P. Ivens
37 Holland Villas Road
London W. 14, England

July 3rd. 1963. SECRET J 8 5-2-6

Box 2584 Aramco
Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

30 June 1963

My dear Eleanor:

We were most relieved to get your letter last night and to know that the kids were in school and more or less "settled". Allan and I have decided to say that we have not heard from you at all because once that's said then the questions of "where are you" etc., will begin. Actually, the only one here who has asked me in all sincerity is Homer Mueller, who is of course, on your side but on the other hand I don't know whom he might talk to. Or would you rather we said that we had heard, that you are travelling in England, and that things are quite well.

I had sent you a letter, along with a Durrell book that George Rentz returned to me to get to you, to Ken Shyvers with the request that he call you to pick them up. Got a message back the end of May first of June, in which he said you were off to England, he had heard. Then got a note from Kay dated 5 June saying that you got off Okay. But then Homer M. said there was a little difficulty with the Lebanese at passport control with Harry's papers but that someone from Brit. Em. cleared the matter up. How the grapevine does work!!

Exr. to PP.40,408- Sc. letter PHILBY

Incidentally, Homer is sending Khalid to school in Beirut this summer, and that he is writing to Pat Milne to let her know. The school is attached to AUB. I think it is terribly kind of Homer to take such interest in the boys, their education, etc. He of course sees them whenever he is in Riyadh.

I am attaching copy of letter I wrote to you in Beirut. On June 8 I wrote to Lorraine, thinking that you had left her in charge of the flat, and gave her the instructions re the owl. I've not heard from her, as yet, but Fran Scott (Bill scott of PR's wife) said she would give her a buxx when she was up this week. So I am sure that all will be OK.

Al and I are concerned about your statement "unpleasant session with relatives over money" - If you are in need of a financial boost, please Eleanor, do let us know, we will be only too glad to assist. We don't want you to be in need.

Allan's vacation is tentatively scheduled in September or early part of October this year. He is planning on going to the States via London, have a medical checkup, see the property in Bermuda if we ever get into final negotiations on it, return to London and thence here. I know that at this time you have no idea about what your plans at that time are, but if you think you might still be in England, I would come up to see you for several weeks, and have allan join me there. It would be wonderful to see London with you and family, and perhaps go out to the country for a bit, rent a car, etc. Have you had the opportunity to see Josephine and her spouse yet? Please give her our warm regards - and of course to Harry and Miranda.

It is simply dreadful about Annie. I think Sam is being most unreasonable, and he is certainly not making a good impression on Annie at this

stage when she is approaching adulthood. It would seem to me that he is completely alienating her. What does your NY attorney think and what is he going to be able to do about it? Is the advantage of making Annie a ward of the English courts that you will have complete control of her visiting with Sam? (if ever again). I hope for Annie's and your sakes that this nasty problem will be resolved as quickly as possible. I don't think NY life with Sam is what is good for Annie at this stage.

I am sorry that you have been laid up with that good old English disease of gout. Old Homer M. occasionally has it here, too, and strangely the American doctors say that it is so. Hope it does clear up so that you can get to enjoy England, see some plays, shop and all the wonderful things available to be done there.

We had a most pleasant weekend at a point called Ras al Ghar this past week. Weather, while hot, was not unpleasant, a cool offshore breeze, no flies, water absolutely super (as the kids say), drinks and food as well as good company made it thoroughly enjoyable. We were all in the water most of the time, floating on air mattresses along the shore with the tide. There was a dhow there with a number of Jubailis aboard, who the next day gave some of us who wated a ride to their fishing grounds over the horizon.

By the way Kay said that she was staying at your flat (had been since the first) and was planning on leaving about the 6th of June. And hoped to be back in Salzburg by the 20th. But you no doubt have had news directly from her. She did manage to get in a snide remark about Ken Shyvers' being "uncooperative." My God!

I shall keep the Durrell book for you until you want me to send it. I think you mentioned someone having it and not returning it when we were up in May.

Please keep in touch, if only with a brief note. And keep up your good spirits, this can't last forever. Send my love to Annie, Harry and Miranda (is she in school yet?).

All of our love
Allan & Doris

May 27, 1963

Dear E"

Sorry but the letter was written too late for it to be hand carried up by Joe Fadil, so we have found another kind carrier in Bill Walker. I have asked that Ken Shyvers call you to tell you the letter was at the office, so as not to put them out by taking it down to the Normandy. Hope you don't mind.

We have finally gotten the instructions for shipping the owl and stand. I also think that Allan has something like a brassier at Ken's office waiting to come down too. I will get more instructions from him and add to this at home tonight.

George Rentz says to tell you he is most sorry that he is unable to go through Beirut this weekend to say so long to you, but he feels that it is important that he take a direct flight to Cairo. He has also given to me for return to you one of Gerald Durrell's books (hard-covered). I will try to get it to you with this note. Also, he has asked for the return of "Arabian Jubilee" which he had lent to Kim in Feb. 61. I think the best way to go about it as he won't be returning to Saudi Arabia again in the near future, is if you would give it to Ken Shyvers and say that George asked if he could possibly get it to Joe Fadil in the AOC office in Cairo. He won't be leaving Cairo until June 20 or thereabouts, and he will again return for two weeks in August at the end of his African trip. So Ken will have plenty of time. George particularly would like it back as he has made numerous notes in it. I think you might package it with George's name well inscribed so it won't get lost between times. (Incidentally, if you want to write to Geo. the add is below)

Please note! he is quite anxious about it.

I am enclosing a most interesting letter that Geoffrey Bibby has written to Crown Prince Faisal requesting permission to dig at Thaj, because it contains so much information, and speculation, as to the civilization it was and what part it played way BC, and Alexander's designs on it. I have also made a copy for Mrs. Dixon.

Must hurry as Happy Hour is approaching...

Love,

Doris

Aramco Overseas Office
54 Abdel Khalek Sarwat Pasha Streets
Cairo, Egypt, U.A.R.

Box 2584 Aramco
Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

25 May 1963

My dear Eleanor:

I am chagrined that I have not written before now to thank you for a very lovely 'Id holiday in Beirut. Allan, Fran, Jack and I all enjoyed ourselves enormously with you - I think it was one of the nicer holidays that we have had. I do wish it weren't so expensive - and so far - to get to Beirut.

And I'm also mighty embarrassed that I went off and did not pay Kay the Ll 10 that I borrowed from her (at the dressmaker's I think) and the LL 16 for the soap that she got for me. I would send off a check herewith, but I assume by now that she has taken off for Salzburg. Probably just in time for the disturbances in Turkey. But perhaps she ultimately decided on taking a boat, unless she was fortunate enough to find a travelling companion. I shall write to her later in Salzbg.

I don't really feel up to writing a letter, but Joe Fadil of our Cairo office is passing through Beirut and this is an excellent opportunity to have a note handcarried up. When you are ready to have the stand and owl sent off, call Ken Shyvers and ask for instructions. Allan is supposed to be getting the papers - what is called an "ERF number" and the instructions that go with it - so that they can be enclosed herewith. The "number"is good only for four months but I am sure you will use it long before that.

Allan has already made good use of the few stone working tools he got in Beirut and has been chipping away at the stones that will make the framework for our fountain. We are already enjoying the patio enormously, have planted a few hibiscus bushes, and are awaiting the installation of the pipes and motor for the fountain in the pool. We hope that the electricty lines will be installed this evening.

We again spent the weekend beaching north of Ogair, and my body is physically wracked from sleeping on the sand, swimming, drinking far far too much. Bibby had written us that he thought this particular area might be well worth potpicking, as a possible site of the old Gerra, but we all were just too damn lazy. There are a lot of old shards in the water, and there are mounds nearby, but we just didn't get to looking.

Have not as yet written to Anniebut hope that before too long I shall have gotten up a little ambition. When is school out for Miranda and Harry? Do write when you have the time - meanwhile our love -

Allan & Doris

PS Let us know if we can do anything for you.

847/2

D1
D3

With the compliments of

THE BRITISH EMBASSY

To: Head Office, for Director D.

Thought you would like to see the coverage given to the PHILBY case in the New York Times and Washington Post when the news first broke. Also note the SEVASTYANOV P.N.G. case in the same columns.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

H.C.M. Stone.

2.7.63.

ENCL. 1 envelope

TO .....

REF .....

55/17/D1

On Her Britannic Majesty's Service

CODE NO. 23-75.

"All the News That's Fit to Print"

The New York Times.

CITY EDITION
U.S. Weather Bureau Report (Page 46) forecasts: Sunny, hot and humid today. Chance of showers and less humid tomorrow. Temp. range: 97—75; yesterday: 98—73. Temp.-Hum. Index: near 80; yesterday: 82.

VOL. CXII....No. 38,510. © 1963 by The New York Times Company. Times Square, New York 36, N. Y. NEW YORK, TUESDAY, JULY 2, 1963. M TEN CENTS

SENATORS PRESS ROBERT KENNEDY ON RIGHTS PLAN

Question Attorney General Closely on Banning Color Line in Public Places

SCOPE OF BILL IS ISSUE

Panel Concerned by Extent of Enforcement—A Legal 'Precedent' Is Denied

Excerpts from Robert Kennedy's statement on Page 12.

By F. W. KENWORTHY
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, July 1—Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy was intensively questioned by the Senate Commerce Committee today on the scope of the Administration's proposed ban on discrimination in privately owned public accommodations.

He testified last Wednesday before a House Judiciary subcommittee on all seven sections of the Administration's omnibus civil rights measure. Today he confirmed himself to the public accommodations section, known as Title II.

This, the most controversial proposal in the package, had been sent to the Commerce Committee in the Senate as a separate bill for three reasons.

First, the proposal is based on the Constitution's commerce clause. Second, the committee is regarded as more friendly to it than is the Senate Judiciary Committee, headed by Senator James O. Eastland of Mississippi. Third, the Administration wanted to make sure it was reported to the floor to be melded with the House version.

[In Missouri, the Legislature adjourned until 1965 without enacting a bill to end discrimination in public facilities. Such laws, however, went into effect Monday in Kansas and South Dakota.]

A Precedent Denied

In his formal statement, Mr. Kennedy, by tone and emphasis, countered Republican cloakroom charges that the Administration was reconciled to sacrificing the public accommodations section to get the machinery it requested to speed voting and school desegregation cases.

The public accommodations section, he declared, does not set a "precedent" in Government regulation or "significant-

Continued on Page 12, Column 1

MERCURY HITS 98, YEAR'S HIGH HERE

More of Same Is Expected Today—Cool Air in Sight

By ROBERT C. DOTY

The weather broke its weekend truce with the metropolitan area yesterday with the hottest, stickiest assault of the year so far.

At 4:05 P.M. the Weather Bureau reported a temperature of 98 degrees in Manhattan, the highest since May 19, 1962, when the mercury went to 99. At the same time, the temperature-humidity index reached a high for the year of 82. A reading of 82, the Weather Bureau believes, means almost everyone is uncomfortable.

Idlewild Airport reported 102 degrees a few minutes after 3 P.M., the highest temperature since records have been kept there. Newark Airport, where the thermometer touched 100 at 4:30 P.M., had its hottest day since June 29, 1959.

More of the same sort of weather is expected today, the Weather Bureau said, but relief may be in prospect for tomorrow. A cold front moving toward the city from the northwest may bring a flow of drier and somewhat cooler air.

Long-term prospects for July are for near-normal or below-normal temperatures for most of the month in the North and South Atlantic and Gulf States and for above-normal temperatures in the rest of the Eastern two-thirds of the nation.

The Weather Bureau laid the new heat offensive to a high-pressure area loafing in the Atlantic in the region of Bermuda and extending westward to the mainland.

The clockwise movement of

Continued on Page 48, Column 1

City Has No Plans To Transfer Whites To Negro Schools

By LEONARD BUDER

Max J. Rubin, president of the Board of Education, said yesterday that the school system had no immediate plans to transport white pupils into Harlem and other Negro areas to achieve integration.

He made the statement at a news conference in reply to a question whether the board would send white pupils into Negro areas when the new term starts in the fall. However, Mr. Rubin stressed that the board was determined to take all measures consistent with sound policy.

Dr. James E. Allen Jr., State Education Commissioner, who also took part in the news conference, asserted that "there is a limit to what can be done with transportation of pupils.

The Commissioner said that he did not favor "shuffling children back and forth by bus" for integration purposes unless this would also bring about the best possible education for everyone involved.

Continued on Page 14, Column 2

3 VIRGINIA AREAS LOSE RACIAL TESTS

U.S. Courts Reject Closing of County Schools and Ban Seating by Color

Special to The New York Times

RICHMOND, Va., July 1 — Federal courts struck blows at segregation on three fronts in Virginia today.

In Richmond, the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit held that Powhatan County's school officials could not close their public schools to avoid a court integration order. It enjoined them from doing so.

Powhatan, in rural central Virginia, is one county removed from Prince Edward County, where public schools were closed in 1959 to avert desegregation.

A significant factor in the Powhatan opinion was the court's ruling that localities fighting desegregation must pay fees to the attorneys for the Negro plaintiffs.

In Alexandria, across the Potomac from Washington, a special, three-judge Federal court declared that the state's laws requiring segregated seating were unconstitutional and void. The case originated in efforts to desegregate movie theaters in northern Virginia.

The Appeals Court in Richmond also knocked down two of the prime provisions of a school segregation plan at Lynchburg, in Virginia's western mountains.

2 Dissent on Fees

A District Court had refused in the Powhatan case to require the county to pay the fees of the attorneys for Negro plaintiffs. But, said the Appeals Court, in an opinion written by Chief Judge Simon E. Sobeloff:

"The equitable remedy would be far from complete and justice would not be attained, if reasonable counsel fees were not awarded in a case so extreme."

Heretofore, in Virginia and other portions of the South fighting school desegregation, the state and localities have paid substantial fees to defense attorneys, but have refused to

Continued on Page 13, Column 2

Kaplan Appointed Civil Court Judge

By CHARLES G. BENNETT

Mayor Wagner made official yesterday his long-heralded appointment of Investigation Commissioner Louis I. Kaplan as a judge of the Civil Court. The Mayor said he would not give the city's bar associations any veto power over the selection of judges.

Mr. Wagner's office then announced that he would swear in Mr. Kaplan at City Hall at 2:15 P.M. today. The appointment to the $25,000-a-year court post will be for an interim term ending next Dec. 31.

Early this year the Association of the Bar of the City of New York opposed the projected Kaplan appointment. Last Sunday this bar group asserted that Mr. Kaplan was "lacking in the qualities of temperament, impartiality of judgment, dig-

Continued on Page 21, Column 2

LONDON CHARGES MOSCOW CAUSES FAILURE ON LAOS

Foreign Office Circulates Message to Signatories of Truce Agreement

By The Associated Press

LONDON, July1 — Britain and the Soviet Union reached a deadlock today in their efforts to strengthen the shaky peace in Laos. Britain blamed the Russians.

A Foreign Office statement said the Russians sought to hold the United States and rightist forces in Laos responsible for the trouble in the Southeast Asian country.

Britain blamed the pro-Communist Pathet Lao, the faction supported by Communist China and Communist North Vietnam, for upsetting the peace established in Laos by the Geneva conference last year.

Britain and the Soviet Union are co-chairmen of the 14-nation conference that shaped the neutrality of Laos and the rightist-leftist-neutralist coalition government headed by Premier Souvanna Phouma.

Neutralists Are Attacked

Neutralist forces in the strategic Plaine des Jarres were attacked last April by the Pathet Lao under the leadership of a Deputy Premier, Prince Souphanouvong. The rightist forces of Gen. Phoumi Nosavan, also a Deputy Premier, were not involved directly in the fighting.

Before a cease-fire was declared, the Pathet Lao seized all but a small portion of the important plateau. Sporadic fighting has erupted since.

Peace talks in Laos between Prince Souvanna Phouma and Prince Souphanouvong, his half-brother, broke down in May, threatening a resumption of the Laotian civil war.

The British sent the entire record of the talks with the Russians to the 14 nations who were members of the Geneva Conference.

The Foreign Office said the search for an agreement with the Soviet Union would go on.

Qualified diplomats here expected a joint United States-British bid for Soviet cooperation soon.

W. Averell Harriman, United States Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs, and British Science Minister, Lord Hailsham, are going to Moscow for talks on a nuclear test ban treaty July 15. They also may undertake discussions on Laos.

New Conference Opposed

WASHINGTON, July 1 (AP) —The State Department today opposed a second Geneva Conference to reactivate the peacekeeping machinery in Laos.

Word that the British Government had disclosed collapse of efforts to reach an agreement with the Soviet Union to halt hostilities in Laos brought this comment from Robert McClos-

Continued on Page 9, Column 2

F.B.I. Photos Show Meeting of Soviet Diplomat and C.I.A. Employe

Gennadiy G. Sevastyanov, left, expelled Soviet Embassy attaché, waits with brother of unidentified U.S. employe for the arrival of the employe. Scene is Virginia bus stop.

United Press International Telephotos

The employe, whose face was blocked out by F.B.I., arrives and is greeted by his brother, Volodya, who was brought to U.S. to lure the employe back to Soviet Union. Pictures were made at one of three meetings of the three after the employe had notified the F.B.I. of the initial approach.

RUSSIAN IS OUSTED BY U.S. IN SPY CASE

Embassy Aide Said to Have Tried to Enlist Immigrant Now Working for C.I.A.

By HENRY RAYMONT
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, July 1—The United States accused an attaché of the Soviet Embassy today of having attempted to recruit an employe of the Central Intelligence Agency by "threatening reprisals" against relatives living in the Soviet Union.

The Soviet diplomat, Gennadiy G. Sevastyanov, was declared persona non grata and given 48 hours to leave the country. The C.I.A. employe was not identified.

The decision to expel the Russian was transmitted to the Soviet Chargè d'affaires, Georgi M. Kornienko, who was summoned to the State Department. He met briefly with Richard H. Davis, acting Assistant Secretary of State for European Affairs.

The meeting lasted five minutes. As he left it, Mr. Kornienko brushed reporters aside, declaring, "I have nothing to say."

However, later in the afternoon, a Soviet Embassy spokesman said:

"The statement about improper activities by a Soviet diplomat is completely groundless."

The charges against Mr. Se-

Continued on Page 2, Column 6

British Link Ex-Diplomat To Burgess-Maclean Case

By SYDNEY GRUSON
Special to The New York Times

LONDON, July 1—H. A. R. Philby, 51-year-old former British diplomat and newspaper correspondent, was named by the Government today as a Soviet agent and the "third man" in the Burgess-Maclean spy case of a decade ago.

Edward Heath, Lord Privy Seal, told the House of Commons that Mr. Philby, Middle East correspondent of The Observer of London until he disappeared from Beirut, Lebanon, last January, was believed to be behind the Iron Curtain.

It was Mr. Philby, Mr. Heath said, who warned Donald Maclean and Guy Burgess that the security services were about to move against them. This was in 1951, when the two men, then Foreign Ofice diplomats, vanished.

Two Suspected of Spying

They later turned up in the Soviet Union, where they have lived since. In 1955 the Government said Burgess and Maclean were suspected of having been Soviet spies while employed in the Foreign Office.

Mr. Heath reviewed some history involving the three men.

On Nov. 7, 1955, Prime Minister MacMillan, then Foreign Secretary, told the Commons that Mr. Philby resigned from the foreign service by request in July, 1951, after his "Communist associatetions,' hae become known.

Mr. Macmillan also said that a "close investigation" had uncovered no evidence that Mr. Philby had warned Burgess an Maclean "or that he had betrayed the interests of this country.

Mr. Heath then continued:

"In fact, the security services have never closed their file on this case and now have further information.

"They are now aware, apparently as a result of an admission by Philby himslf, that he worked for the Soviet authoities before 1946 and that in 1951 he, in fact, warned Maclean, through Buregss, that the

Continued on Page 2, Column 4

SENATORS ACCUSE 2 SUGAR LOBBYISTS

Say Lawyers Evaded Law While Acting for Trujillo —Call Record 'Shocking'

By CABELL PHILLIPS
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, July 1 — Members of a prominent Washington law firm were accused by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee today of misconduct and evasion of the Foreign Agents Registration Act while lobbying for sugar interests of the Dominican Republic during the Trujillo regime.

One member of the committee called the record "shocking." The chairman, Senator J. W. Fulbright, Democrat of Arkansas, expressed hope that the Department of Justice would examine the record for possible action.

The attorneys involved are Walter Sterling Surrey and Monroe Karasik, partners in a firm known at the time of the incidents cited — from 1954 to 1956 — as Surrey, Karasik, Gould and Efron. Samuel Efron resigned from the firm in 1961 and was replaced by Francis Thornton Green.

Testimony Made Public

The information was made available today by the committee, which has been conducting a year-long inquiry into the activities of "non-diplomatic representatives of foreign principals." It was made public by the release of the transcripts of two hearings in executive session on March 13 and June 20, of this year.

The 200-page document traced in detail the efforts made by the law firm to win from Congress an increase in the sugar quota assigned to the Dominican Republic.

The record contains references to a contingent fee arrangement. Under this the lobbyists were to be paid on a sliding scale — in addition to a $95,000 retainer — according

Continued on Page 11, Column 2

U.S. AIDES SHOVED BY POLICE IN ROME

Protest Is Filed After Bundy and Sorenson Are Kept From Leaders' Talk

Special to The New York Times

ROME, July 1—United States officials protested informally today against rough treatment given to members of President Kennedy's party by Italian policemen and security agents.

Italian and United States spokesmen declined to comment on the protest, made by Angier Biddle Duke, head of United States protocol, to the Italian chief of protocol.

The protest was made after two Presidential aides, McGeorge Bundy and Theodore Sorenson, were prevented from entering the gates of Quirinal Palace by Italian secret service agents to attend talks between United States and Italian officials.

They were jostled and shoved.

President Kennedy had entered Quirinal Palace earlier to confer with Italy's President, Antonio Segni. The palace is Mr. Segni's official residence.

Incident Involving Kennedy

Another minor incident occurred after the President attended wreath-laying ceremonies at the tomb of Italy's Unknown Soldier.

Before entering the car, the President paused to greet individual members of the crowd. The Italian police moved in, although the President was protected by United States Secret Service agents, and one motorcycle policeman was knocked down after the motorcade started moving. The President's car had to stop abruptly.

Many White House reporters and photographers also complained over the treatment tby Italian agents.

Duke Reported Pushed

ROME, July 1 (AP)—Angier Biddle Duke, State Department chief of protocol, was

Continued on Page 3, Column 3

KENNEDY MEETS ITALIANS ON WAYS TO BOLSTER NATO

His Efforts in Rome to Stir Interest in Nuclear Force Said to Win Backing

STUDIES PARTY TRENDS

Talks With Chiefs Also Deal With Economic Matters and Test-Ban Parley

Kennedy speech at Segni's dinner is on Page 3.

By ARNALDO CORTESI
Special to The New York Times

ROME, July 1 — President Kennedy conferred with leading Italian statesmen for two hours today on means of strengthening the Atlantic alliance.

On the first day of his two-day visit the President was particularly interested in stimulating Italian interest in a proposed nuclear force for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. It is understood that the Italians were responsive, though relieved to find that Mr. Kennedy did not press them for a commitment at this moment.

Mr. Kennedy also wished to be informed of the possible effects on Italy's attitude toward NATO of recent Italian political developments. These consist chiefly of a considerable increase in the Communist vote in April's general elections and an increase in power for Pietro Nenni's neutralist Left-wing Socialist party over Italian governments and their policies.

Effort to Allay Fears

The Italians sought to allay President Kennedy's fears. They felt confident that even though future governments might need the support in Parliament of Mr. Nenni's party, they could nevertheless live up to their Atlantic Treaty commitments. They scoffed at the suggestion made in some quarters that maintenance of a free democracy in Italy had been endangered in any way.

After todays' conversations the Italian President's press office issued the following official statement: "Today's talks centered on NATO, economic matters and the upcoming nuclear test talks in Moscow. On the latter, the Italian Government supported the United States-British approach on this matter."

The President will be received in private audience by Pope Paul VI tomorrow morning and will go to Naples in the afternoon to inspect NATO headquarters there. It was announced that he would return to Washington from Naples. He is expected to arrive in Washington at 12:30 A.M. Wednesday.

He Sees 2 Needs

Mr. Kennedy made clear as soon as he got off his plane from Milan at Rome's Fiumicino Airport that the thoughts uppermost in his mind were the necessity of maintaining Italian democracy and the urgency of preventing any relaxation of Italy's alliance ties.

He was replying to a speech of welcome in which President Antonio Segni of Italy had spoken about the alliance and how it had strengthened ties be-

Continued on Page 3, Column 1

101 on a Faculty-Student Flight To Europe Are Stranded Here

By JOHN C. DEVLIN

A group of 101 college professors and students and members of their families found themselves stranded here last night in a dispute over arrangements for a charters flight to Europe.

The group, en route from Oakland, Calif., to London and others capitals, reported a series of difficulties that culminated here when they were informed they had no contract to be flown overseas.

They had paid fares ranging from $399 for a round trip to England, to $521 for a round trip to Greece.

"This is a terrible situation to be subjected to," said John Stewart, a part-time student from San Fernando Valley State College, as the group crowded into an old unused Port Authority building to get out of the blazing sun. He had paid $399 for the London trip.

"We paid our money and we are stuck. We don't know whether we are going to go back to Oakland, stay here or go to Europe. We don't have too much time anyway."

Miss Pearl Pappas, 24, a part-time student at San Jose State College, said she had paid $521 to go to Greece to visit relatives.

"They held us up leaving Oakland," she said, "and when we got to Chicago they would not let us back on board the plane till we signed a release saying we agreed to return to this country by July 16. My contract with a travel agency said I would return Sept. 16."

The passengers said that whe they landed at LaGuardia Airport and were transferred to Idlewild, they were charged an additional fee of $15 "for someting orother."

Their complaints did not go unheard.

At the request of Intercontinental U S., Inc., a charter service with headquarters in Luxembourg, and with offices at Idlewild and at 201 West 72d Street, Donald R. Sloan, a confidential investigator for State Attorney General Louis J. Lefkowitz interviewed the passengers at the airport.

Mr. Sloan said he has been conducting an investigation into repeated complaints of persons making charter flights. He said he was receiving the cooperation of the Federal Aviation Administration and the Civ Aeronautics Board.

Mr. Sloan said he was working under the direction of Barnett Levy of the Consumer Fraud and Protection Bureau of the Attorney General's office.

The cause or causes of the

Continued on Page 32, Column 7

Judge's Son Freed In Auto Death of 5

Three Criminal Court judges cleared the 23-year-old son of a fellow judge yesterday of criminal responsibility for a traffic accident that killed five persons in the Bronx six weeks ago.

The three-judge panel found Gareth Martinis not guilty of drunken driving, reckless driving and leaving the scene of the accident. He is the son of Criminal Court Judge Joseph A. Martinis of 3616 Henry Hudson Parkway.

The unanimous verdict was announced by Judge Francis X. O'Brien shortly after 3 P.M. He and Judges Ambrose J. Haddock and Morris Weinfeld had deliberated about five minutes.

The younger Mr. Martinis remains to be tried on an assault charge brought by a newspaper photographer in an incident arising out of the fatal accident. Trial on the complaint, filed by

Continued on Page 21, Column 4

Cuba Invites 15 in U.S. to Attend Anniversary of Castro's Group

By PETER KIHSS
Special to The New York Times

The Cuban Government has invited "15 to 20" Americans to attend the 10th anniversary celebration this month of Premier Fidel Castro's 26th of July Movement, and has offered to set up a Mexico-Havana trip for them.

Among those who have received invitations by cablegram are Louis E. Lomax, a Negro author whose latest book is "The Negro Revolt;" Truman Nelson, a white historian and novelist of the anti - slavery movement before the Civil War, and James L. Hicks, editor of The Amsterdam News.

The Cuban move could raise in another form the issue of the United States ban on travel to Cuba, for which exceptions have been made for reporters, lawyers, and businessmen. Fifty-nine United States students arrived in Havana Sunday on an all-expense-paid trip by way of Prague. Officials in the State Department have indicated that the students' passports will be withdrawn when the group returns to the United States.

Mr. Lomax has asked for State Department advice.

"My own desire," he said, "is to go and to have my say. First, that this race thing in America is a fight between brothers, and there's no room in it for Communists. Second, that Cubans have a right to their form of Government, and we to ours, and all of us look to the day when tensions between the two nations will be eased."

In Salem, Mass., Mr. Nelson said he had at first been "inclined to accept, in the spirit of free inquiry into politics outside our own country," but had

Continued on Page 10, Column 2

NEWS INDEX

WARREN FAVORS WORLDWIDE LAWS

Tells Athens Parley Strong Court Would Aid Peace

By ANTHONY LEWIS
Special to The New York Times

ATHENS, July 1—Earl Warren, the Chief Justice of the United States, called today for an effective international court with power to enforce its judgments.

A working system of international law, Mr. Warren said, is an "absolute necessity" today. The Chief Justice charged lawyers in all countries with a special responsibility for bringing about "international order based upon law."

The Chief Justice spoke to an unusual gathering of 1,000 lawyers from more than 100 countries. They are holding the first world conference on "Peace Through Law" intended to develop a program to strengthen international law and judicial machinery.

Two lawyers from every country in the world were invited to represent their profession rather than their Governments. Many others have come as observers. Supreme court justices from 20 countries are present.

No response was received from the Soviet Union or from Communist China, but there is still some belief that before the week is out delegates may turn up from the Soviet Union, which had representatives at an earliet meeting.

U.S. Bar Inspired Parley

The idea for this international gathering of lawyers came from the American Bar Association four years ago. There have been preliminary sessions in San José, Costa Rica; Tokyo, Lagos, Nigeria, and Rome. The United States Government has been interested in the program since its inception. Some foreign-aid funds and a Ford Foundation grant have been supplied.

United States officials here to speak this week are the legal adviser of the State Department, Abram J. Chayes, and Deputy Attorney General Nicholas deB. Katzenbach.

President Kennedy, in a letter of greeting, praised the attempt to "strengthen the legal machinery that must form the basis for peaceful relations among all nations."

Delegates here recognize that they are involved in "idealistic endeavor," as Sylvester C. Smith Jr., president of the American Bar Association, put it today.

But in this polyglot group of all colors and costumes and languages there is a tangible feeling that lawyers can suggest practical first steps toward effective international law.

Proposals to be considered include the creation of a permanent world organization of lawyers and the establishment of new tribunals to supplement and strengthen the International Court of Justice at The Hague.

The Court at The Hague lacks powers to enforce its decisions. If a country disregards a decision, the country that won it may appeal to the United Nations Security Council for action.

The Court comprises 15 judges elected by the General Assembly and by the Security Council for nine-year terms.

Only 39 of 111 countries in the United Nations have granted compulsory jurisdiction to the Court. Some have set up severe restrictions, such as the Connally reservation, which gives the United States the right to declare itself beyond the Court's power in any case the country considers a "domestic issue."

The World Court has rendered final decisions in only 13 cases since its birth 18 years ago; the conference is seeking to enlarge the machinery of international law and to increase its use.

U. S. Speaker Cites Politics

In an address to the opening session, Mr. Smith said the role of international law depended now on political considerations. Nevertheless, he said, world public opinion can encourage countries to comply with treaties and conventions.

Charles R. Rhyne of the United States, general chairman of the conference, said: "Lawyers learn to lose as well as to win, and their leaders must do likewise. Leaders of nations must attune the thinking of their people to accept even an unpopular Court decision."

Mr. Warren, sounding the same theme, said international legal order "must spring from the hearts of the people."

The Chief Justice flew here from Rome, where he headed the United States representatives at the Coronation of Pope Paul VI.

The conference opened today with a welcome by King Paul and Premier Panayotis Pipinelis of Greece. The sessions will continue through the week at the Athens Hilton Hotel.

Lord Hill Named TV Head

Special to The New York Times

Lord Hill was appointed today chairman of the Independent Television Authority, the controlling agency of Britain's commercial television network, for five years. He succeeds Sir Ivone Kirkpatrick.

British Link Ex-Diplomatic Aide To Burgess-Maclean Spy Case

Continued From Page 1, Col. 5

security services were about to take action against him."

Mr. Heath said Mr. Philby had had no access to "any kind of official information" since he resigned. The minister noted that Mr. Philby had lived outside British legal jurisdiction for the last seven years.

Until 1951, Mr. Heath said, Mr. Philby had "knowledge of certain information," which he had passed to Burgess and Maclean. Mr. Philby served as first secretary in the British Embassy in Washington from late 1949 to April, 1951, when he was recalled. Burgess lived with him for the last six months of that period.

Diligence Is Questioned

Under sharp questioning by opposition Labor members, Mr. Heath refused to disclose to whom Mr. Philby had admitted his role in the Burgess-Maclean case.

The minister also rejected an implication by Patrick Gordon Walker, Labor's spokesman on foreign affairs, that "more diligent" investigations would have turned up Mr. Philby's Soviet connections in 1955.

During a Commons debate on Burgess and Maclean in November, 1955, Marcus Lipton, a Labor member, implied that Mr. Philby was the mysterious "third man" in the Burgess-Maclean case.

Mr. Philby, who was decorated for his counter-espionage work for the Foreign Office during World War II, challenged Mr. Lipton to repeat the charges outside Parliament. Mr. Lipton apologized and asked permission of the House to withdraw his remarks.

Today Mr. Lipton asked Mr. Heath: "Does that statement mean that Mr. Philby was, in fact, the third man they wre talking about when Burgess and Maclean disappeared?"

"Yes sir," Mr. Heath replied with deliberation.

Shortly after Mr. Philby disappeared from Beirut, his American wife, Eleanor, said she had received word from him in Cairo. She described the reports of his disappearance as a "misunderstanding" and said that her husband had left "in a great hurry on a long assignment." Mrs. Philby now is in Britain.

More recently, Mr. Heath told the Commons, Mrs. Philby received messages from her husband "purporting to come from behind the Iron Curtain."

Philby Reported in Yemen

The minister noted, however, that the Soviet Government newspaper Izvestia reported on June 3 that Mr. Philby was working for the deposed Imam of Yeman. Mr. Philby's father, St. John Philby, was a famous explorer of Arabia. Izvestia said Mr. Philby's disappearance was just another edisode in the Middle East "Machinations," of British and American agents.

In May, the official Middle East News Agency in Cairo circulated a story that Mr. Philby was trying to raise an army on behalf of the Yemeni royalists against the republican President, Abdullah al-Salal. The story said that Mr. Philby and Prince Abdullah al-Hassan, cousin of the deposed Imam, were "sleeping in caves and eating mountain rabbits."

Mr. Heath told the House that the British Government had no confirmation of Izvestia's report that Mr. Philby was in Yemen.

Morrison Cautions Press

The Earl of Dundee, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, repeated Mr. Heath's statement to the House of Lords.

It drew from Lord Morrison the remark that newspapers, especially those mainly edited "by long-haired journalists," should exercise "reasonable care" about whom they employ. Lord Morrison, then Herbert Morrison, was the Labor Government's Foreign Secretary at the time of Mr. Philby's resignation.

"We have a free press and an interesting press and I do not wish to interfere with that," Lord Morrison commented. "But I throw out the hint that a little discrimination about whom they employ, especially on sensitive jobs, would be to the best."

"What harm this man may have done when he was in the foreign service we do not yet know. It is a good thing that it has been found with reasonable certainty who was the third man who tipped off Burgess and Maclean and it is com-

Associated Press
H. A. R. Philby

forting to know he has been discovered."

Lord Morrison said he assumed that Mr. Philby would be liable to prosecution under the Official Secrets Act if he came within British jurisdiction. The former Foreign Secretary added:

"I do not see why these people guilty of treachery to the state should be able freely to draw money from this country to keep themselves going. I just do not understand it."

Lord Morrison was believed to be alluding to the fact that Burgess, for one, is believed to be drawing dividends from stocks and bonds he holds in Britain.

The Government gave no reason for the timing of its disclosures about Mr. Philby. But there had been reports both here and in Washington that a new security case was brewing to cap the so-called Profumo affair, and bits of the Philby case were beginning to leak out.

Starting with the Burgess-Maclean case, several security breaches involving Government officials or employes have been revealed. The most sensational of these has centered on John D. Profumo, the former Secretary of State for War.

He admitted, after first denying it, that he had had an affair with Christine Keeler in 1961 while the 21-year-old party girl was the mistress of a Soviet deputy naval attaché in London.

Defectors Deny Contact

Special to The New York Times

MOSCOW, July 1—Guy Burgess and Donald Maclean declared in separate interviews here tonight that they did not know whether H. A. R. Philby was behind the Iron Curtain.

Burgess denied assertions that Mr. Philby, prior to their flight, had warned either him or Maclean of imminent arrest by the British counter - intelligence service.

Maclean declined to comment on the case beyond saying that he did not know Mr. Philby's whereabouts.

Burgess said it was not Mr. Philby but the Special Branch, the intelligence arm of Scotland Yard, that directed his and Maclean's attention to the imminent danger of arrest.

He said Maclean found that they were being shadowed when his cab was bumped accidentally in St. James Square, London, by a car of the Special Branch. After that it was easy for them to spot the agents who were keeping them under surveillance, he added.

"It was this and this alone that revealed to Maclean that he was being followed," Burgess said.

Burgess described Mr. Philby as one of his oldest and closest friends and said that if Mr. Philby was in Moscow he would certainly have got in touch with him. He added: "If I had heard he was in Prague or some place like that, I would have gone there to see him."

RUSSIAN IS OUSTED BY U.S. IN SPY CASE

Continued From Page 1, Col. 4

vastyanov were contained in a lengthy account furnished by the State Department that read like a spy thriller. The statement began:

"At approximately 9 P.M. on the evening of 28 April of this year, a resident alien on his way to becoming an American citizen, who was a U.S. Government employe with access to classified information, whom we shall call John, returned to his apartment in the suburbs of Washington, D.C.

"As he paused at the door, a voice behind him whispered, 'Johnny.' He turned to find at his side his brother, Volodya, whom he had not seen for 23 years."

The State Department contended that Volodya had been brought to the United States April 6 disquised as a Soviet Government official under the false name of Vladimir I. Gridnev. The purpose, the department said, was to lure his brother back to the Soviet Union.

The two brothers are said to have met three times between April 28 and May 2. Each time, the department said, Volodya was accompanied by a chauffeur who was really Mr. Sevastyanov.

F.B.I. Follows Men

The United States Government employe notified the Federal Bureau of Investigation of his brother's visit on April 28. He was advised to continue the meetings, which were then observed and photographed by F.B.I. agents.

Mr. Sevastyanov, who is 33 years old, came to Washington on a diplomatic passport in 1959, officials said. They identified him as an agent of the Committee for State Security—the KGB—the Soviet Union's secret police.

The State Department said there were no plans to identify "John" beyond the fact that he was a Russian national who had escaped to Germany and then come to the United States after World War II.

In the photographs alledgedly showing the meetings that he held with Volodya and Mr. Sevastyanov his face was blocked out.

United States officials said the Russian immigrant worked for an office connected with the Central Intelligence Agency that hired foreign nationals whose language abilities and other technical knowledge were needed by the Government.

A security check disclosed that "John" had relatives in the Soviet Union. However, the agency said it was confident of his loyalty and did not regard the incident as detrimental to his service.

The State Department characterized Mr. Sevastyanov's contacts with "John" as "an attempt by the Soviet secret police to recruit a United States Government employe with access to secret information as an agent for espionage and other purposes by exploiting his affection for his family in Russia."

"Both coercion, in the explicit threat of reprisals against members of his family, and temptation in the offers of a well-paying position in the Soviet Union, were employed in the effort to get this man to work against the interests of the United States in direct violation of its laws," the department said.

It said the case illustrated the KGB's emphasis on the seeking out of former Soviet citizens and using them as instruments of the Soviet espionage system.

The last time the United States ordered the expulsion of a Soviet Embassy official was on Aug. 13, 1960. He was the first secretary of the embassy, Valentin M. Ivanov, who was charged with having paid an American citizen "substantia sums of money" to seek a United States Government job.

The American was identified as Roger C. Foss, who described himself as a member of the Nazi Party of Ameri2ca.

Two Soviet employes of the United Nations were dismissed in September, 1962, after the United States Justice Department accused them of having engaged in "illegitimate intelligence activities."

In disclosing the latest spy plot, the State Department said "John" at one of his meetings with his brother was told:

"I think you understand that before you can return, you must show your appreciation and gratitude, that although you have lived in America, you have not become an American but are still one of us."

Later in the same meeting, the department said, Mr. Sevastyanov took charge of the conversation, promising "John" a "better position in life" if he cooperated with Soviet authorities by continuing his work with the United States Government for an indefinite period.

The Soviet official was said to have closely questioned "John" about his work, which involved the use of classified material.

At the end of a third meeting on May 2, Mr. Sevastyanov allegedly gave "John" instruccontacts that were to take place in front of a Washington tions for further clandestine movie theater at 9 P.M. on the second Tuesday of each month. It was there that he was to deliver specific information.

This was the last meeting between "John" and Mr. Sevastyanov, the State Department siad.

Officials said no attempt was made to interfere with the borther's departure from the United States on May 4 because he was considered "a helpless tool" of the Soviet secret police.

"It is not unlikely that he was coerced to play his role by threats to himself or his family" one said.

The officials also said they were confident that becuase of his demonstration of loyalty to the United States, "John" would receive his American citizenship as soon as his resident requirements were completed.

ITALY'S NATO ROLE BACKED BY LEONE

Premier Outlines Views in Bid for Confidence Vote

By PAUL HOFMANN
Special to The New York Times

ROME, July 1—Premier Giovanni Leone asked Parliament tonight for votes of confidence in his 10-day-old stopgap Government. He plegded Italy would be faithful to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

In a statement read first to the Senate and then to the Chamber of Deputies, Mr. Leone advocated East-West talks. He said Italy would go on contributing "to possible developments that within the framework of Western solidarity" might ease international tension.

The Premier told the members of Parliament that President Kennedy, with whom he had met earlier, was a welcome guest. Mr. Leone halled Mr. Kennedy's speech June 10 calling for a halt in the cold war.

To Report on Talks

The Premier promised to tell Parliament about his conversations with President Kennedy during the confidence debate that is scheduled to start in the Senate Wednesday and in the Chamber early next week.

In brief remarks on Italian foreign policy, Mr. Leone underlined "the undiscussed defensive character" of NATO. He said participation in the alliance allowed Italy to plan an active part in efforts for lasting peace "that can only be the result of a negotiated solution of international problems."

The Premier made no reference to proposals for an allied nuclear force.

Mr. Leone called for economic and political unification of Europe with Britain participating and the United States cooperating. This concept of a Europe that would be "democratic and open toward outside areas" was judged by members of Parliament to be in contrast to the Gaullist idea.

Gaullist and Italian views were reported to have been examined in talks held yesterday by Mr. Leone, President Antonio Segni and Premier Georges Pompidou of France and his Foreign Minister, Maurice Couve de Murville. The French leaders were in Rome for the coronation of Pope Paul VI.

Mr. Leone said his Government was limited in tenure and scope. The Cabinet, he said, would see to it that Parliament passed the new budget within the legal period — four months from today — and that beyond that, the Cabinet would take up only undelayable business.

The Premier said he hoped that in due course a cabinet with a firm majority could be formed again.

Associated Press

Vacation-Bound

Marilyn Rice-Davies, a key witness in Britain's sex and security scandal, carried a toy animal as she prepared to board a plane in London yesterday for a vacation trip to Majorca. Miss Rice-Davies attracted so much attention at the airport that an American tourist inquired who she was. Hearing the inquiry, Marilyn answered the question herself. "I'm notorious," she said. "I shall go down in history as another Lady Hamilton." Lady Hamilton was the mistress of Lord Nelson.

Missing British Double Agent Warned 2 Turncoats in 1951

By Raymond E. Palmer

LONDON, July 1 (AP)—Britain's scandal-shaken government reported today former diplomat Harold Philby was a Soviet spy in World War II and the mysterious "third man" who tipped two turncoat spies so they could flee to Moscow in 1951.

The charge by Deputy Foreign Minister Edward Heath came while Prime Minister Harold Macmillan's government still reeled from the scandal following former War Minister John Profumo's resignation when it was revealed he shared the favors of call girl Christine Keeler with a former Soviet Assistant Naval Attache, Evgeny Ivanov.

Heath told the House of Commons Philby, 51, was believed to have joined the former diplomats Burgess and Maclean behind the Iron Curtain.

Double Agent

There were indications that Philby, a dark-haired, dashingly handsome man who once served as first secretary at the British Embassy in Washington, was apparently a double agent, spying for both East and West. Britain and the Soviet Union were allies in World War II.

Philby was first secretary of the British Embassy in Washington from October 1949 until June 1951, returning to Britain a month after Burgess and Maclean fled to Russia. U. S. officials said they are looking into the case for any aspects that may involve the country.

Philby disappeared from his post as a foreign correspondent in Beirut, Lebanon, one night last January. He left his American wife in a taxi on the way to a dinner date, saying he would join her in a few minutes.

He has not been reported seen since.

While Heath said he believed Philby was behind the Iron Curtain, the Soviet newspaper Izvestia last June 3 denounced Philby as an agent for British and American intelligence.

The newspaper said he had left Beirut to work with counterrevolutionary forces of the deposed ruler of Yemen in Saudi Arabia.

Philby is the son of the late Harry St. John Bridger Philby, noted Middle East expert and explorer.

Decorated Agent

The younger Philby worked as a correspondent for the London Times until the outbreak of World War II. He is reputed to have been engaged on intelligence work connected with counterespionage for the Foreign Office from 1939. But this has never been confirmed.

His wartime exploits—whatever they were—earned him the Order of the British Empire, a decoration for services to Britain.

But, Heath said, British Security Services now know he was working for the Russians before 1946 — when he officially joined the Foreign Office.

Philby's rapid rise in the Foreign Service was believed due to his real job—an intelligence agent working for MI 6 — Britain's counterintelligence agency.

In 1949 he was sent to Washington. Within a month, Guy Burgess, whom Philby had known before the war, joined the Embassy as second secretary.

At that time Burgess, and his friend Maclean, who was working in the British Embassy in Cairo, were passing secrets to the Russians. Maclean had left the Washington Embassy shortly before Philby arrived.

Warns Spies

Two years later, in 1951, Philby warned Maclean through Burgess that counterintelligence agents were on his trail and about to pounce, said Heath. Burgess and Maclean left Britain secretly. They revealed their presence in Moscow in November, 1956.

A month after Burgess and Maclean skipped the country, Philby was recalled to London by the Foreign Office. He resigned three months later.

United Press International

HAROLD PHILBY
. . . behind Iron Curtain?

The revelations by Heath, after 12 years of counter intelligence work on the case, were yet another security setback for Prime Minister Macmillan.

Macmillan was in charge of the Foreign Office at the time Burgess and Maclean disappeared. In 1955, during a debate in which a Laborite legislator accused Philby of being the "third man" who tipped them off, Macmillan declared:

Macmillan Defense

"No evidence has been found to show that he was responsible for warning Burgess or Maclean. While in government service he carried out his duties ably and conscientiously. I have no reason to conclude that Mr. Philby has at any time betrayed the interest of this country or to identify him with the so-called 'third man', if, indeed, there was one."

Since then there has been a series of espionage cases which have shocked the country and rocked Macmillan's grip on the government.

In 1961 counter intelligence agents broke up a Soviet spy ring of two Americans, two Britons and a Soviet master spy, which filched secrets from the naval underwater experiments base at Portland.

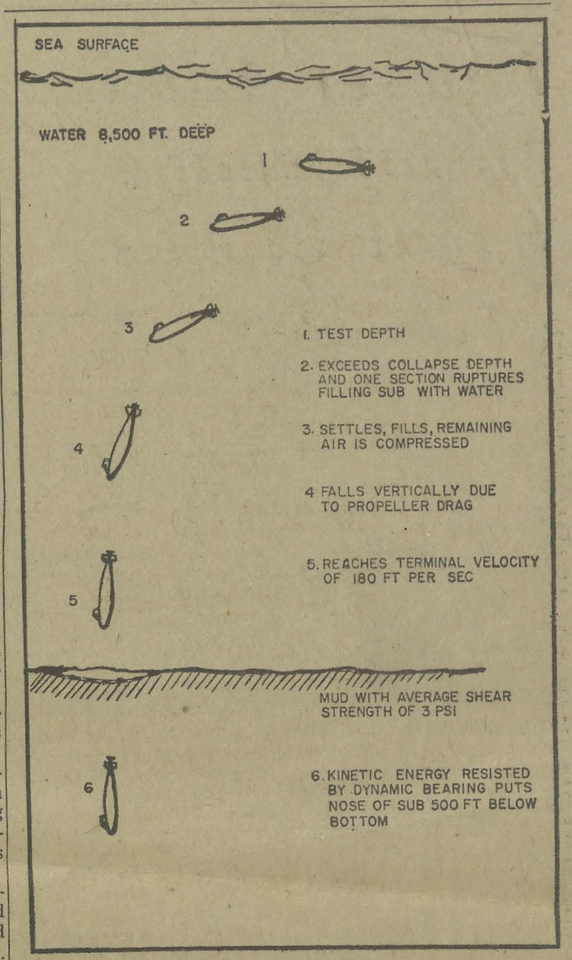
Last December, Barbara Fell, a government information worker was jailed for two years for passing confidential Foreign Service documents to a Yugoslav press attache.

At present, Guiseppe Martilli, a 40-year-old Italian atomic expert, is awaiting trial for alleged offenses under Britain's official secrets act.

In 1962 John Vassall, an accused homosexual employed at the Admiralty, was jailed for 18 years as a Russian spy.

Two months ago Macmillan announced he has decided to establish a permanent security commission to improve Britain's spy catching ability.

Meanwhile, Tuesday in Washington the U. S. Government ordered an attache at the Soviet embassy expelled on grounds he tried to recruit a Government employe as a spy.



Theory on Thresher

This is an artist's conception of one theory of what may have happened to the nuclear submarine Thresher when it sank in the Atlantic in April. The submarine, according to this theory, was diving at a speed of about 125 miles an hour in position 5. The sediment on the ocean floor is estimated to have an average sheer strength of 3 pounds per square inch. The kinetic energy referred to at position 6 is the total force of the plunging craft; i.e., its weight plus its speed. Story on Page A1.

Philby Protected By Iron Curtain

By Robert H. Estabrook
The Washington Post Foreign Service

ROME, July 1 — President Kennedy was informed by British officials at Birch Grove over the weekend that Harold Philby, the third man in the Burgess-Maclean security case of a decade ago, had turned up behind the Iron Curtain.

An American course confirmed privately tonight that Lord Privy Seal Edward Health, number two official in the British Foreign Office, told the presidential party of the House of Commons. Knowledge of the impending Philby case contributed to Administration disillusionment with the political situation of the Macmillan government.

Some memebrs of the presidential group were said to feel that Masmillan had lost his command of events.

Reportedly the information on Philby's whereabouts was pieced together three weeks ago, although the government —then being buffeted by the Profumo scandal — chose not to make the disclosure until now.

The case is sure to rock the conservative government even further because Macmillan himself some years ago personally defended the inconclusive investigation of Philby's connection with the defection of the two British diplomats to Moscow.

Philby was not prosecuted despite unconfirmed allegations that he had tipped off Burgess and Maclean about their impending arrest, but was allowed to resign from the Foreign Service. The conservative government of Winston Churchill was in power at the time.

2 Defectors Deny Word Of Newsman

Reuters

MOSCOW, July 1 — Guy Burgess and Donald MasLean, former British diplomats who defected to Russia in 1951, said in separate interviews tonight did not know anything about an English newsman who is reported to have followed them behind the Iron Curtain.

Burgess and MacLean gave differing replies when asked if H.A.R. "Kim" Philby, who disappeared from Beirut earlier this year, informed them they were in danger in 1951.

Burgess denied the charge and said MacLean was tipped off when a car carrying "over-eager MIS sleuths" bumped into his car in London.

MacLean's only comment was: "I have nothing to say."

Burgess ridiculed Foreign Minister Edward Heath's statement in the House of Commons that Philby was the "third man" in the sensational flight to Moscow by Burgess and MacLean.

Burgess recalled that Philby had told a press conference that he (Burgess) was "one of my oldest friends, one of those good friends in bad times as well as good."

Burgess added:

"Philby was that sort of chap. I would have thought he would have got in touch with me but he has not."

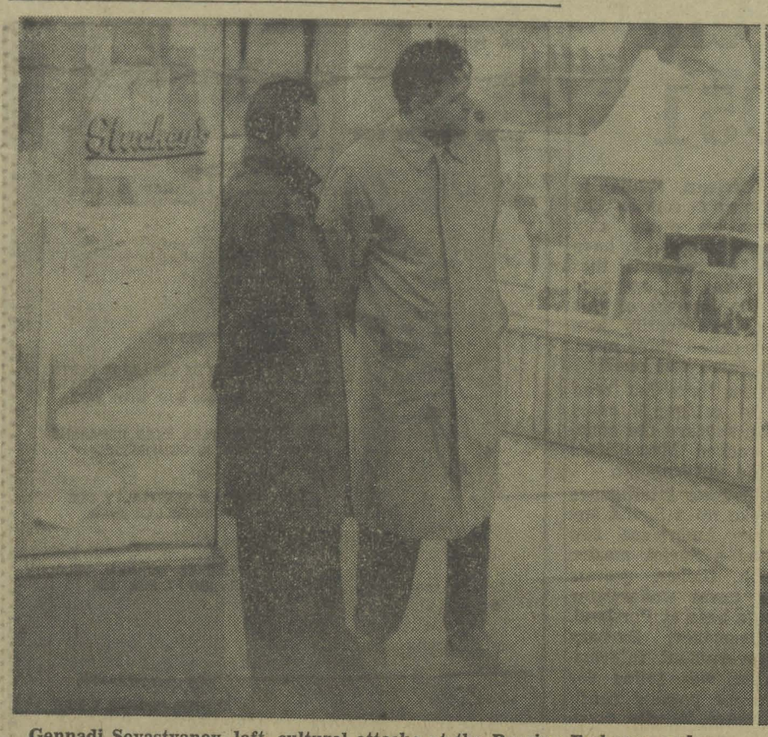
When asked about the report that Philby was a Com-Burgess paused for a moment, munist and a Soviet spy, then said: "To my certain knowledge Kim was never a member of the Communist Party at Cambridge. He joined the secret service as an assistant of mine."

Asked if he knew that Philby gave information to the Russians, Burgess sharply "No."

60 Face Charges

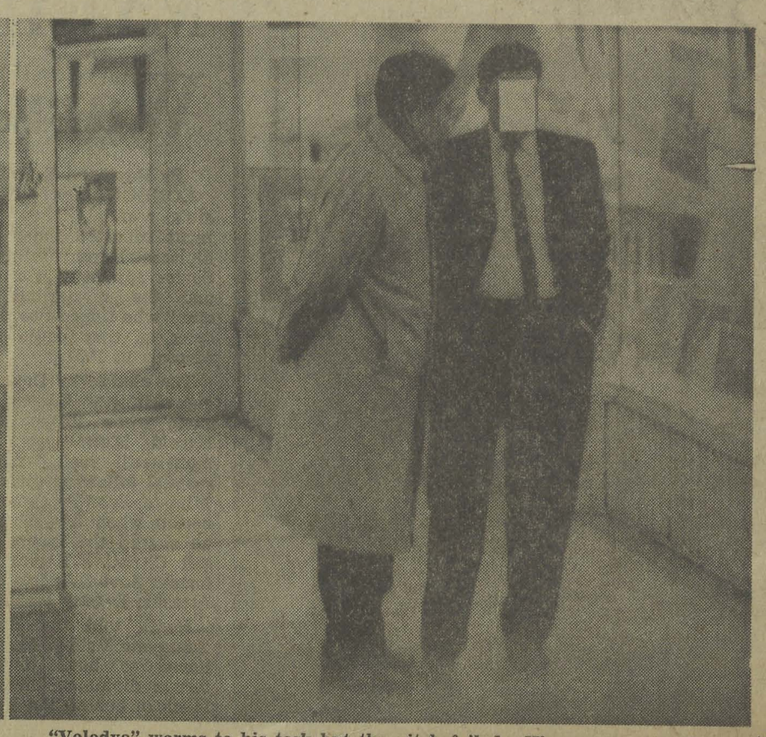
Reuters

DJAKARTA, Indonesia, July 1—Sixty persons will be tried on charges arising out of anti-Chinese riots in West Java in May, according to the government news agency Antara.



Gennadi Sevastyanov, left, cultural attache at the Russian Embassy, and "Volodya" wait in Arlington for "Volodya's" brother.

Sevastyanov walks away to enable "Volodya" (center) to try to convince his brother he should go to work as a Red agent.



"Volodya" warms to his task but the pitch failed. His younger brother, a CIA employe, reported all meetings to his superiors.

MONEY—*From Page A1*

World Monetary Policy Shift Idea Gains Favor

by the Federal Reserve Board. The Treasury last year threw cold water on a British plan to revamp the Fund. Treasury officials say they are receptive to the study of new proposals. But they are now relying on the bilateral arrangements they have designed.

Under those plans, the United States swaps dollars for foreign currencies to prevent speculative raids on the dollar and also borrows foreign currencies to help cover deficits in the balance of payments.

While the Treasury has the single biggest say, it no longer has the sole voice on international money policy.

As one aide put it; "This subject is no longer a monopoly. Rather it's an oligopoly in which the Treasury has price leadership."

Mr. Kennedy's Council of Economic Advisers and the State Department are among those known to favor some new approach. It would provide a more nearly automatic way of drawing on the surplus reserves of major powers than the present arrangements.

Backers Heartened

Mr. Kennedy's cryptic call in Frankfurt last week for "common efforts" to "control our monetary problems" heartened those in the Administration who favor change.

The President is reported to be irritated with the potential curbs on a more expansive domestic policy that are imposed by the balance-of-payments deficit.

For example, the Federal Reserve might pursue an easier money policy if it did not fear that lower interest rates would drive more dollars overseas.

Another factor said to be influencing the President is the continued deficit in the Nation's balance of payments. The United States sells more abroad than it buys, but this surplus is reversed by the dollars going overseas for military aid and private investment.

Last year, the over-all deficit was $2.2 billion. The Treasury had forecast that the accounts would be in balance by the end of this year, but that is not now considered possible. In the first three months, the deficit ran at a yearly rate of $3.2 billion.

Several Plans Advanced

Apart from the immediate problem of the deficit, some economists believe that the world faces a shortage of liquidity or means to pay for the growing volume of international trade. Now, the means of payment grow only as the stock of monetary gold increases and as foreign central banks are willing to hold more dollars.

Several plans have been advanced by those seeking change. One set would convert the IMF into a kind of international central bank that could create currency reserves as needed just as the money-creating national central banks do. Other more modest proposals would provide easier

GENNADIY SEVASTYANOV

ways to transfer the reserves of surplus nations to strong debtor countries.

Apart from the domestic pressures against change, some officials in nations with surpluses in their balance of payments are uninterested in or hostile to new approaches that would make life easier for debtors. Several officials in France, Italy and Germany fall into this category.

The whole subject is expected to be explored further in the talks next fall between the United States and the other nine leading countries that last year set up a six-billion-dollar supplement to the IMF's 15-billion-dollar currency pool.

Boy Bubble Deflated

FALMOUTH, England., July 1 (UPI) — Falmouth Boys Grammar School officials said today 15-year-old Douglas Kain would be chastised for spoiling a class photograph by blowing "the biggest bubble of my life" just as the camera clicked.

EXPEL—*From Page A1*

U. S. Expels Soviet Embassy Attache In Plot to Recruit CIA Aide As Spy

in the Soviet Union if he did not cooperate."

A Soviet Embassy spokesman later termed the charges "completely groundless." And Sevastyanov's wife, when reached by telephone at her home, first asked, "Is this something for the news?" And then added: "No comment, Sir."

The Washington spy case, which comes in the wake of espionage crackdowns in Britain and Sweden, involved only three men: Sevastyanov; the CIA employe whom Government officials protected with the pseudonymn of "John;" and "John's brother, "Volodya," a Soviet resident and citizen who U. S. sources said entered this country on April 6 "disguised as a Soviet government official using the false name of Vladimir I. Gridnev."

Here is the way official sources in Washington described the attempt to recruit CIA employe "John" into the Soviet spy ring:

The Soviet Embassy's Sevastyanov, posing as a driver named "Ivan Ivanovitch," accompanied brother "Volodya" to "John's" suburban apartment around 9 p. m. of April 28, catching "John" just as he was entering the door.

"Volodya" had not seen his brother since "John" left the Soviet Union 23 years ago. He explained it "had been arranged" for him to come to the United States by the "Committee for the Return to the Homeland" to persuade "John" to make a trip back to the Soviet Union, where he was regarded as "still one of us."

Went to Restaurant

Sevastyanov returned on April 30 then drove the two brothers to a restaurant where, according to official Washington sources, Sevastyanov told "John" that "for a while he should serve Soviet interests while working for the U. S. Government. Later he could return to the U. S. S. R. where he would be well taken care of."

Sevastyanov then asked "John" "specific questions about his work which involved the use of classified material . . . sort of operational data . . . not classified information as such, but information that could be used to try to penetrate an office."

At the third and last meeting on May 2, in which brother "Volodya" said his farewell before returning to the Soviet Union, the Soviet Embassy's Sevastyanov gave "John" his instructions.

Given Password

This included a password "in the form of a question" and a rendezvous point in front of a movie theater at 9 p. m. "the second Thursday of each month" at which "John" was to remain for five minutes until either Sevastyanov or his delegate appeared. Then "John" was to "follow at a distance and wait to be spoken to."

U. S. sources said brother "Volodya" was allowed to return to the Soviet Union May 4 without interference since he was considered to be a "helpless tool." "John" himself reportedly never kept any further appointments with Sevastyanov.

U. S. sources said Sevastyanov's employer, the KGB, has a special "Department Nine" which handles emigre cases. And under "Department Nine," according to U. S. sources, is the "Committee for the Return to the Homeland." This was described as an outfit which has 20 officials in its East Berlin office alone and which, "despite its name, does little these days to help people go to the U. S. S. R.—unless they accept the kind of "offer" made to CIA's "John."

U. S. in Eye-Care Plan

OUAGADOUGOU, Upper Volta, July 1 (UPI)—The United States has announced an eye-care program by two teams of eye specialists and nurses working in Senegal, Upper Volta Niger, Mali, Ivory Coast, Dahomey, Mauritania, and Guinea.

Educational Planning Center Nears Opening

The first research center devoted exclusively to education in developing countries moved a step closer yesterday to opening its doors.

The International Institute for Educational Planning, a new organization backed by several world agencies, announced that it had chosen a board of directors. Sir Sidney Caine, director of the London School of Economics, will be chairman.

The Institute begins its official life in Paris on July 18. It will undertake research and train officials who are revamping school systems in poor nations.

The Institute's establishment reflects a growing belief among development specialists that economic aid by itself cannot promote material well-being. Economists and others are talking more and more of the need to invest in human resources, of a need to ensure that a developing nation has trained persons to carry out development tasks.

The new Institute will conduct seminars, sponsor research and hold courses for experts advising on the contents and techniques of school systems in developing lands.

The director of the Institute is Philip H. Combs, an economist and former Assistant Secretary of State for Educational and Cultural Affairs. The center was created by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and is drawing support from the World Bank, Ford Foundation and the French government.

Other newly elected directors are Ly Abdoulaye of Senegal, Helmut Becker of Germany, G. Betancur Mejia of Colombia, C. D. Deshmukh of India, and Nicolas K. Gontcharov of the Soviet Union.

CONFIDENTIAL

Cypher/OTP
and By Bag

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO CERTAIN OF HER MAJESTY'S REPRESENTATIVES

By Telegram:

Bonn	Paris	UKDEL NATO
Rome	Washington	B.I.S. New York
UK Mission New York	Beirut	Cairo

[All Immediate]

Ankara	Athens	Brussels
Belgrade	Moscow	Amman
Baghdad	Bahrain	Damascus
Jedda	Kuwait	Tel Aviv

[All Priority]

Tehran

FOREIGN OFFICE AND WHITEHALL
DISTRIBUTION

No. 362 Guidance
July 1, 1963

D: 5.00 p.m. July 1, 1963

IMMEDIATE
CONFIDENTIAL

H.A.R. Philby

The Lord Privy Seal will inform Parliament today that H.A.R. Philby (until his recent disappearances "Observer" and "Economist" correspondent in the Middle East) is now known to have been responsible in 1951 for warning Maclean through Burgess that the Security Services were about to take action against him. On the record you should not go beyond the statement and answers to supplementaries (which will be telegraphed to posts mainly concerned). Off the record you may if necessary say (if these points are not covered by supplementaries)

(a) If asked whether there was any further leakeage of information leading to Philby's disappearance you can say that Philby was outside British jurisdiction at the time of his disappearance (and has been for the last seven years).

/Moreover

CONFIDENTIAL

54/2/81

Moreover Philby's own admission was part of the evidence received by the Security Services.

(b) In his admission Philby claimed that he had ceased to work for the Russians in 1946 and that his warning to Maclean was an isolated act. We have no positive evidence to the contrary.

(c) A story appeared in Izvestiya on June 3 expressing the view that Philby is with the Imam of the Yemen. There is no confirmation of this.

[Copies sent to Colonial Office and C.R.O. for overseas distribution]

@@@@

3.7 ~~DDG.~~ You may can to see 8462 2/7

D to see

Note for PF.604,584

COPIED to HMST/1

I was informed by D.D.G. on the evening of 1 July that I might be required to attend at Admiralty House the following morning to brief the P.M.'s office on aspects of the PHILBY case. In particular I would be required to provide details of the briefing given to Mr. Macmillan (then Foreign Secretary) on the basis of which he made his statement to the House in 1955. Additionally I might be required to comment on what was said to Mr. Herbert Morrison in 1951 at the time of the MACLEAN/BURGESS disappearance, since the Government had it in mind to attack the Labour Government's failure to be frank with the House then. I was told that I would be accompanying Mr. John Street of the Foreign Office Security Department to Admiralty House.

2. Early on the morning of 2 July the D.G. told me that Sir Dick White would be attending a meeting at Admiralty House and that he wished me to ensure that we spoke with one voice. [redacted] recommend that the Government should defend Mr. Macmillan's 1955 statement on the basis that it accurately represented the position at the time, namely that there was no evidence which would stand up in a Court of Law to show that PHILBY was either a spy or had tipped off BURGESS and MACLEAN.

3. I then telephoned Street who said that he now thought it unlikely that we would be required at Admiralty House.

4. Later on the morning of 2 July [redacted] I learned that PHILBY had communicated with his wife by letter during the past week. [redacted]

5. [redacted] a further meeting was to be held on the evening of 2 July when the Lord Privy Seal would be interviewing the editors of the Observer and the Economist. The Lord Privy Seal would be trying to persuade the editors not to make a public statement to the effect that they had been encouraged by the Foreign Office to employ PHILBY. To this end the Lord Privy Seal wished to have an expert on the case at his elbow to answer any questions. [redacted]

A.S. Martin

D.1.

A.S. Martin

2.7.63.

10/7/64 D.D.R. 4.7.63

15 D 16

845D

ON HER MAJESTY'S SERVICE

ENCLOSED:

1 House of Commons Hansard dated 1st July, 1963.

1 House of Lords Hansard dated 1st July, 1963.

ADDITIONAL SUPPLEMENTARY

Q. When and where did Philby confess?

A. That is a question which I am sure hon. Members who have some knowledge of this realise should not be asked and certainly not be answered.

Dr. DIR.
K. 7-63.

Volume 680
No. 137

Monday
1st July, 1963

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(HANSARD)

HOUSE OF COMMONS

OFFICIAL REPORT

CONTENTS

LONDON
HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
PRICE 1*s.* 6*d.* NET

Members who wish to have the Daily Report of the Debates forwarded to them should give notice at the Vote Office.

The Bound Volumes will also be sent to Members who similarly express their desire to have them

No proofs of the Daily Reports can be supplied, nor can corrections be made in the Weekly Edition. Corrections which Members suggest for the Bound Volume should be clearly marked in the Daily Report, but not telephoned, and *the copy containing the corrections must be received at the Editor's Room, House of Commons*

not later than

Friday, 5th July, 1963

STRICT ADHERENCE TO THIS ARRANGEMENT
GREATLY FACILITATES THE
PROMPT PUBLICATION
OF THE VOLUMES

Members may obtain excerpts of their Speeches from the Official Report (within one month from the date of Publication), on application to the Controller of H.M. Stationery Office, c/o the Editor of the Official Report, House of Commons, from whom the terms and conditions of reprinting may be ascertained. Application forms are available at the Vote Office.

PRICES AND SUBSCRIPTION RATES

DAILY PARTS

Single copies:

Commons, 1s. 6d. (by post 1s. 11d.); Lords, 1s. 6d. (by post 1s. 10d.).

Annual subscriptions:

Commons, £13 10s. 0d.; Lords, £9 5s. 0d.; Both Houses, £20 10s. 0d.

WEEKLY HANSARD

Single copies:

Commons, 4s. 6d. (by post 5s. 7d.); Lords, 3s. 0d. (by post 3s. 5d.).

Annual subscriptions:

Commons, £9 15s. 0d.; including Index, £11 7s. 6d.

Lords, £5 18s. 6d.; including Index, £7 0s. 0d.

Index—Single copies:

Commons, 1s. 0d. (by post 1s. 3d.); Lords, 9d. (by post 1s. 0d.).

Annual subscriptions: Commons, £2 0s. 0d.; Lords, £1 12s. 0d.

BOUND VOLUMES of Debates are issued periodically during the session. There is no fixed subscription rate, but prices will be quoted and standing orders entered on application.

THE INDEX to each Bound Volume of House of Commons Debates, which may be used in conjunction with the corresponding Daily Parts and Weekly Hansard, is published separately at 3s. (by post 3s. 3d.) and can be supplied to standing order.

All subscription rates are inclusive of postage.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

To be purchased from

York House, Kingsway, LONDON, W.C.2
13a Castle Street, EDINBURGH, 2
39 King Street, MANCHESTER, 2
35 Smallbrook, Ringway, BIRMINGHAM, 5
423 Oxford Street, LONDON, W.1
109 St. Mary Street, CARDIFF
50 Fairfax Street, BRISTOL, 1
80 Chichester Street, BELFAST

or from any Bookseller

PRINTED IN ENGLAND

HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT

(FORMED BY THE RIGHT HON. HAROLD MACMILLAN, JANUARY, 1957)

MEMBERS OF THE CABINET

PRIME MINISTER AND FIRST LORD OF THE TREASURY—Rt. Hon. Harold Macmillan, M.P.

FIRST SECRETARY OF STATE—Rt. Hon. R. A. Butler, C.H., M.P.

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS—Rt. Hon. The Earl of Home, K.T.

LORD PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL AND MINISTER FOR SCIENCE—Rt. Hon. Viscount Hailsham, Q.C.

LORD CHANCELLOR—Rt. Hon. Lord Dilhorne.

CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER—Rt. Hon. Reginald Maudling, M.P.

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE HOME DEPARTMENT—Rt. Hon. Henry Brooke, M.P.

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS AND SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES—Rt. Hon. Duncan Sandys, M.P.

CHANCELLOR OF THE DUCHY OF LANCASTER—Rt. Hon. Iain Macleod, M.P.

MINISTER OF DEFENCE—Rt. Hon. Peter Thorneycroft, M.P.

MINISTER OF LABOUR—Rt. Hon. John Hare, O.B.E., M.P.

LORD PRIVY SEAL—Rt. Hon. Edward Heath, M.B.E., M.P.

MINISTER OF TRANSPORT—Rt. Hon. Ernest Marples, M.P.

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FOOD—Rt. Hon. Christopher Soames, C.B.E., M.P.

PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF TRADE—Rt. Hon. F. J. Erroll, M.P.

CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE TREASURY AND PAYMASTER-GENERAL—Rt. Hon. John Boyd-Carpenter, M.P.

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR SCOTLAND—Rt. Hon. Michael Noble, M.P.

MINISTER OF HEALTH—Rt. Hon. Enoch Powell, M.B.E., M.P.

MINISTER OF EDUCATION—Rt. Hon. Sir Edward Boyle, Bt., M.P.

MINISTER OF HOUSING AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND MINISTER FOR WELSH AFFAIRS—Rt. Hon. Sir Keith Joseph, Bt., M.P.

MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO—Rt. Hon. W. F. Deedes, M.C., M.P.

MINISTERS NOT IN THE CABINET

FIRST LORD OF THE ADMIRALTY—Rt. Hon. Lord Carrington, K.C.M.G., M.C.

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR WAR—Rt. Hon. J. B. Godber, M.P.

MINISTER OF AVIATION—Rt. Hon. Julian Amery, M.P.

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR AIR—Rt. Hon. Hugh Fraser, M.B.E., M.P.

MINISTER OF POWER—Rt. Hon. Richard Wood, M.P.

MINISTER OF PENSIONS AND NATIONAL INSURANCE—Rt. Hon. Niall Macpherson, M.P.

MINISTER OF PUBLIC BUILDING AND WORKS—Rt. Hon. Geoffrey Rippon, M.P.

POSTMASTER-GENERAL—Rt. Hon. Reginald Bevins, M.P.

SECRETARY FOR TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION—Rt. Hon. Robert Carr, M.P.

MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS—Rt. Hon. The Earl of Dundee.

MINISTER OF STATE FOR WELSH AFFAIRS—Rt. Hon. Lord Brecon.

MINISTER OF STATE, SCOTTISH OFFICE—Rt. Hon. Lord Craigton, C.B.E.

MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS—Peter Thomas, Esq., M.P.

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COLONIAL AFFAIRS—The Marquess of Lansdowne.

MINISTER OF STATE, HOME OFFICE—The Earl Jellicoe, D.S.O., M.C.

MINISTER OF STATE, BOARD OF TRADE—Alan Green, Esq., M.P.

MINISTER OF STATE, COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS OFFICE—The Duke of Devonshire, M.C.

MINISTER OF STATE, BOARD OF TRADE—The Lord Derwent.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL—Rt. Hon. Sir John Hobson, O.B.E., T.D., Q.C., M.P.

LORD ADVOCATE—Rt. Hon. Ian Hamilton Shearer, Q.C.

SOLICITOR-GENERAL—Sir Peter Rawlinson, Q.C., M.P.

SOLICITOR-GENERAL FOR SCOTLAND—D. C. Anderson, Esq., V.R.D., Q.C.

DEPARTMENTS OF STATE AND MINISTERS

Admiralty—
FIRST LORD—Rt. Hon. Lord Carrington, K.C.M.G., M.C.
CIVIL LORD—John Hay, Esq., M.P.

Agriculture, Fisheries and Food—
MINISTER—Rt. Hon. Christopher Soames, C.B.E., M.P.
JOINT PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIES—
The Lord St. Oswald, M.C.
James Scott-Hopkins, Esq., M.P.

Air—
SECRETARY OF STATE—Rt. Hon. Hugh Fraser, M.B.E., M.P.
UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE—Julian Ridsdale, Esq., M.P.

Aviation—
MINISTER—Rt. Hon. Julian Amery, M.P.
PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY—Neil Marten, Esq., M.P.

Colonies—
SECRETARY OF STATE—Rt. Hon. Duncan Sandys, M.P.
MINISTER OF STATE—The Marquess of Lansdowne.
UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE—Nigel Fisher, Esq., M.C., M.P.

Commonwealth Relations—
SECRETARY OF STATE—Rt. Hon. Duncan Sandys, M.P.
MINISTER OF STATE—The Duke of Devonshire, M.C.
UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE—John Tilney, Esq., T.D., M.P.

Defence—
MINISTER—Rt. Hon. Peter Thorneycroft, M.P.

Duchy of Lancaster—
CHANCELLOR—Rt. Hon. Iain Macleod, M.P.

Education—
MINISTER—Rt. Hon. Sir Edward Boyle, Bt., M.P.
PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY—Christopher Chataway, Esq., M.P.

First Secretary of State—
Rt. Hon. R. A. Butler, C.H., M.P.

Foreign Affairs—
SECRETARY OF STATE—Rt. Hon. The Earl of Home, K.T.
MINISTER OF STATE—Rt. Hon. The Earl of Dundee.
MINISTER OF STATE—Peter Thomas, Esq., M.P.
UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE—Peter Smithers, Esq., V.R.D., M.P.

Health—
MINISTER—Rt. Hon. Enoch Powell, M.B.E., M.P.
JOINT PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIES—
Bernard Braine, Esq., M.P.
The Lord Newton.

Home Department—
SECRETARY OF STATE—Rt. Hon. Henry Brooke, M.P.
MINISTER OF STATE—The Earl Jellicoe, D.S.O., M.C.
JOINT UNDER-SECRETARIES OF STATE—
Hon. C. M. Woodhouse, D.S.O., O.B.E., M.P.
Miss Mervyn Pike, M.P.

Housing and Local Government—
MINISTER—Rt. Hon. Sir Keith Joseph, Bt., M.P.
JOINT PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIES—
F. V. Corfield, Esq., M.P.
The Lord Hastings.

Labour—
MINISTER—Rt. Hon. John Hare, O.B.E., M.P.
PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY—William Whitelaw, Esq., M.C., M.P.

Law Officers—
ATTORNEY-GENERAL—Rt. Hon. Sir John Hobson, O.B.E., T.D., Q.C., M.P.
LORD ADVOCATE—Rt. Hon. Ian Hamilton Shearer, Q.C.
SOLICITOR-GENERAL—Sir Peter Rawlinson, Q.C., M.P.
SOLICITOR-GENERAL FOR SCOTLAND—D. C. Anderson, Esq., V.R.D., Q.C.

Lord Chancellor—
Rt. Hon. Lord Dilhorne.

Lord President of the Council—
Rt. Hon. Viscount Hailsham, Q.C.

Lord Privy Seal—
Rt. Hon. Edward Heath, M.B.E., M.P.

Minister without Portfolio—
Rt. Hon. W. F. Deedes, M.C., M.P.

Paymaster-General—
Rt. Hon. John Boyd-Carpenter, M.P.

Pensions and National Insurance—
MINISTER—Rt. Hon. Niall Macpherson, M.P.
JOINT PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIES—
Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, M.P.
Lieutenant-Commander S. L. C. Maydon, R.N. (Retd.), D.S.O., D.S.C., M.P.

Post Office—
POSTMASTER-GENERAL—Rt. Hon. Reginald Bevins, M.P.
ASSISTANT POSTMASTER-GENERAL—Ray Mawby, Esq., M.P.

Power—
MINISTER—Rt. Hon. Richard Wood, M.P.
PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY—John Peyton, Esq., M.P.

Public Building and Works—
MINISTER—Rt. Hon. Geoffrey Rippon, M.P.
PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY—Richard Sharples, Esq., O.B.E., M.C., M.P.

Science—
MINISTER—Rt. Hon. Viscount Hailsham, Q.C.
PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY—Denzil Freeth, Esq., M.P.

Scotland—
SECRETARY OF STATE—Rt. Hon. Michael Noble, M.P.
MINISTER OF STATE—Rt. Hon. Lord Craigton, C.B.E.
UNDER-SECRETARIES OF STATE—
Gilmour Leburn, Esq., T.D., M.P.
R. Brooman-White, Esq., M.P.
The Lady Tweedsmuir, M.P.

Technical Co-operation—
SECRETARY—Rt. Hon. Robert Carr, M.P.

Trade, Board of—
PRESIDENT—Rt. Hon. F. J. Erroll, M.P.
MINISTER OF STATE—Alan Green, Esq., M.P.
MINISTER OF STATE—The Lord Derwent.
PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY—David Price, Esq., M.P.

Transport—

MINISTER—Rt. Hon. Ernest Marples, M.P.

PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIES—
The Lord Chesham.
Vice-Admiral John Hughes Hallett, C.B., D.S.O., M.P.
Hon. T. G. D. Galbraith, M.P.

Treasury—

PRIME MINISTER AND FIRST LORD OF THE TREASURY—Rt. Hon. Harold Macmillan, M.P.

CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER—Rt. Hon. Reginald Maudling, M.P.

CHIEF SECRETARY—Rt. Hon. John Boyd-Carpenter, M.P.

PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY—Rt. Hon. Martin Redmayne, D.S.O., M.P.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY—Anthony Barber, Esq., T.D., M.P.

ECONOMIC SECRETARY—Edward du Cann, Esq., M.P.

LORDS COMMISSIONERS—
J. E. B. Hill, Esq., M.P.
John Peel, Esq., M.P.
Frank Pearson, Esq., M.B.E., M.P.
Gordon Campbell, Esq., M.C., M.P.
Michael Hamilton, Esq., M.P.

ASSISTANT WHIPS (*unpaid*)—
Martin McLaren, Esq., M.P.
Brian Batsford, Esq., M.P.
Ian Fraser, Esq., M.C., M.P.
Hugh Rees, Esq., M.P.
Ian MacArthur, Esq., M.P.
Francis Pym, Esq., M.C., M.P.

War—

SECRETARY OF STATE—Rt. Hon. J. B. Godber, M.P.

UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE AND FINANCIAL SECRETARY—James Ramsden, Esq., M.P.

Welsh Affairs—

MINISTER—Rt. Hon. Sir Keith Joseph, Bt., M.P.

MINISTER OF STATE—Rt. Hon. Lord Brecon.

Her Majesty's Household—

LORD CHAMBERLAIN—Rt. Hon. Lord Cobbold.

LORD STEWARD—The Duke of Hamilton and Brandon, P.C., K.T., G.C.V.O., A.F.C.

MASTER OF THE HORSE—The Duke of Beaufort, K.G., P.C., G.C.V.O.

TREASURER—Michael Hughes-Young, Esq., M.C., M.P.

COMPTROLLER—Robert Chichester-Clark, Esq., M.P.

VICE-CHAMBERLAIN—Graeme Finlay, Esq., E.R.D., M.P.

CAPTAIN OF THE HONOURABLE CORPS OF GENTLEMEN-AT-ARMS—Rt. Hon. The Earl St. Aldwyn, T.D.

CAPTAIN OF THE QUEEN'S BODYGUARD OF THE YEOMEN OF THE GUARD—The Viscount Goschen, O.B.E.

LORDS IN WAITING—
The Earl of Eldon, K.C.V.O.; The Earl of Westmorland; The Lord Denham; The Marquess of Lothian; The Earl Ferrers.

SECOND CHURCH ESTATES COMMISSIONER REPRESENTING CHURCH COMMISSIONERS—John Arbuthnot, Esq., M.B.E., T.D., M.P.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

PRINCIPAL OFFICERS AND OFFICIALS

THE SPEAKER—Rt. Hon. Sir HARRY HYLTON-FOSTER, Q.C., M.P.

CHAIRMAN OF WAYS AND MEANS—Rt. Hon. Sir William Anstruther-Gray, Bt., M.C., M.P.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF WAYS AND MEANS—Sir Robert Grimston, Bt., M.P.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS—Sir Barnett Cocks, K.C.B., O.B.E.

CLERK-ASSISTANT—D. W. S. Lidderdale, C.B.

SECOND CLERK-ASSISTANT—R. D. Barlas, O.B.E.

PRINCIPAL CLERKS—

CLERK OF PUBLIC BILLS—K. R. Mackenzie.
CLERK OF THE JOURNALS—S. C. Hawtrey.
CLERK OF COMMITTEES—H. R. M. Farmer.
FOURTH CLERK AT THE TABLE—C. A. S. S. Gordon.
CLERK OF STANDING COMMITTEES—A. C. Marples.
CLERK OF PRIVATE BILLS—T. G. Odling.

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL CLERKS—D. Scott, E. S. Taylor, Ph.D., M. H. Lawrence, F. G. Allen, A. A. Birley.

SENIOR CLERKS—

R. S. Lankester, K. A. Bradshaw, D. A. M. Pring, M.C., J. H. Willcox, J. P. S. Taylor, C. A. James, H. M. Barclay, M. T. Ryle, D. McW. Millar, C. J. Boulton, J. F. Sweetman, A. A. Barrett, D. W. Limon, R. V. R. James, J. R. Rose.

ASSISTANT-CLERKS—R. K. Middlemas, G. S. Ecclestone, C. B. Winnifrith, A. J. Hastings, W. R. McKay, R. J. Willoughby.

SUPERINTENDENT OF PRINTING THE VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS—G. F. Bright ; DEPUTY—F. G. R. Turmaine.

EXAMINERS OF PETITIONS FOR PRIVATE BILLS—T. G. Odling, E. D. Graham.

TAXING OFFICER—T. G. Odling.

CHIEF OFFICE CLERKS—W. S. Maxwell, M.B.E., D. A. Brown, J. B. Brown.

DEPARTMENT OF THE SPEAKER

SPEAKER'S SECRETARY—Brigadier F. S. Reid, C.B.E.

COUNSEL TO THE SPEAKER—Sir Robert Speed, C.B., Q.C.

CHAPLAIN TO THE SPEAKER—Rev. Canon M. S. Stancliffe, M.A.

TRAINBEARER TO THE SPEAKER—W. J. Betts.

LIBRARIAN—Strathearn Gordon, O.B.E.

ASSISTANT LIBRARIANS—A. B. Pepin, D. C. L. Holland.

DEPUTY ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN—D. Menhennet, D.Phil.

SENIOR LIBRARY CLERKS—R. F. C. Butcher, V.R.D., E. C. Thompson, R. H. V. C. Morgan, D. J. T. Englefield, H. J. Palmer, G. F. Lock.
JUNIOR LIBRARY CLERKS—G. Williams, Miss J. M. Hodlin.
EXECUTIVE LIBRARY ASSISTANT—R. G. Brown.
CATALOGUER—M. Griffith-Jones.
CHIEF OFFICE CLERK—S. E. Dickason.
INFORMATION OFFICER—Miss M. R. O'Reilly.

ACCOUNTANT—F. J. Wilkin, D.F.M

DEPUTY ACCOUNTANT—H. McE. Allen.

ASSISTANT ACCOUNTANT—G. Powter.

SUPERINTENDING CLERK, FEES OFFICE—N. E. E. Hatt.

CHIEF OFFICE CLERK—A. C. Langford.

OFFICIAL REPORT OF DEBATES (HANSARD)—

EDITOR—L. W. Bear.

DEPUTY EDITOR—W. M. Bussey.

ASSISTANT EDITORS—R. P. Dring, L. A. Giles.

SENIOR REPORTERS—C. A. H. Allen, H. Jochimsen, H. W. S. Scott, R. E. G. Slade, E. D. Holmes.

REPORTERS—W. J. Wreford, W. P. Brooks, A. Haynes, R. H. Dagworthy, G. B. Parry, G. E. Rudd, P. D. Adam, K. S. Morgan, H. C. Bacon, R. V. Hadlow, L. R. Johns, F. G. Brotherston, C. Watson, J. Robinson.

VOTE OFFICE—DELIVERER OF THE VOTE—P. K. Marsden; ASSISTANT (ACTING)—N. Woods, M.B.E.

CHIEF OFFICE CLERK—H. McNally.

SALE OFFICE—CHIEF OFFICE CLERK—G. Eales-Johnson, M.B.E.

DEPARTMENT OF THE SERJEANT AT ARMS

SERJEANT AT ARMS—Rear Admiral A. H. C. Gordon Lennox, C.B., D.S.O.

DEPUTY SERJEANT AT ARMS—Lieutenant-Colonel P. F. Thorne.

ASSISTANT SERJEANT AT ARMS—Commander D. Swanton, D.S.O., D.S.C., R.N. (Retd.).

DEPUTY ASSISTANT SERJEANT AT ARMS—Major G. V. S. Le Fanu.

CLERK IN CHARGE (SERJEANT AT ARMS DEPARTMENT)—C. T. Plymen.

ASSISTANT CLERK IN CHARGE (SERJEANT AT ARMS DEPARTMENT)—D. J. Mouat.

ADMISSION ORDER OFFICE—W. H. Russell, G. P. Smith.

PRINCIPAL DOORKEEPER—W. R. Lishman. SECOND PRINCIPAL DOORKEEPER—W. Perkins.

SHORTHAND WRITER TO THE HOUSE—A. R. Kennedy.

DEPUTY SHORTHAND WRITER—A. P. M. Brewin.

SURVEYOR—L. W. Brimley.

RESIDENT ENGINEER—T. A. Hoyland.

SUPERINTENDENT OF WORKS—J. Matthews (Surveyors' Department). W. Watson, M.B.E. (Engineers' Department).

POSTMASTER—W. G. Birch.

INSPECTOR OF POLICE—G. Blackmore, D.C.M.

REFRESHMENT ROOM MANAGER—E. G. Roberts.

Revised—1st July, 1963.

THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
OFFICIAL REPORT

IN THE FOURTH SESSION OF THE FORTY-SECOND PARLIAMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND WHICH OPENED 30th OCTOBER, 1962

IN THE

TWELFTH YEAR OF THE REIGN OF

HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II

FIFTH SERIES **VOLUME 680**

FIFTEENTH VOLUME OF SESSION 1962-63

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Monday, 1st July, 1963

The House met at half-past Two o'clock

PRAYERS

[Mr. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

HOSPITALS

Psychiatric Hospitals (Nurses)

1. **Mr. Pavitt** asked the Minister of Health what incentives are offered to those in the ward sister-charge nurse grade to serve in psychiatric hospitals rather than in general nursing.

The Minister of Health (Mr. Enoch Powell): All but the most senior nurses on the psychiatric register receive a lead over those on the general register.

Mr. Pavitt: Why has the increased incentive at staff nurse level been retained in the new scale but eliminated at the ward sister-charge nurse level? Is he aware that this £50 decrease is having a very bad effect on recruitment in psychiatric hospitals? Is he further aware that on the female side of psychiatric hospitals there are already acute difficulties because of the shortage of nursing staff?

Mr. Powell: The hon. Member is mistaken. It is only at the very top of the scale that the lead has been eliminated. This is the result of the award of the Industrial Court, and I gather the view is taken that at the top of the scale there is not a difference in responsibilities.

Almoners

2. **Mr. Boyden** asked the Minister of Health how many almoners and student almoners, respectively, are now employed in the hospital service.

The Joint Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Health (Mr. Bernard Braine): One thousand and twenty-two whole-time equivalents last September. The number of students attached to hospitals is not known.

Mr. Boyden: Would not the Joint Parliamentary Secretary agree that the total number is far from adequate and that the rate of increase is deplorable?

Mr. Braine: I would agree that most hospitals would like to recruit more almoners, but I am glad to say that the numbers in post are increasing, though not as rapidly as we would like.

Therapeutic Dietitians

3. **Mr. Boyden** asked the Minister of Health how many therapeutic dietitians and student therapeutic dietitians, respectively, are now employed in the hospital service.

Mr. Braine: One hundred and eighty-two whole-time equivalents last September. The number of students attached to hospitals is not known.

Mr. Boyden: Is not the rate of increase in therapeutic dietitians even worse than the rate of increase in almoners? Do not these figures disclose that a good many general hospitals, probably the majority, have not got anybody devoted to this work?

Mr. Braine: I quite agree. Again, there is a shortage here. Sixty-eight students started training in England and Wales in the autumn of last year: this is some improvement. There are now six institutions in England and Wales running courses to train dietitians. New courses for school leavers have started in recent years at Leeds and Llandaff. I agree that there is a need to recruit still more.

Amenity Beds

4. **Mr. John Hall** asked the Minister of Health how many amenity beds are now available in hospitals in England and Wales; whether this number is likely to be increased; and what action he is taking to draw public attention to the existence of these beds and the conditions under which they can be obtained.

Mr. Powell: Five thousand and twelve at the end of last year; this will depend on demand; the hospital authorities concerned are asked to remind doctors and prospective patients that these beds are available.

Mr. Hall: Is my right hon. Friend aware that many people who would wish to have a private room in a hospital are unaware of the existence of amenity beds and many who are aware of the facility are unable to take advantage of it because there appear to be too few per hospital? Will he take steps to publicise the existence of these beds so that people know about them? If a need is shown, will he then agree to increase the number of amenity beds available?

Mr. Powell: I will certainly consider any application made to me by a hospital authority for an increase in the number of amenity beds. I agree with my hon. Friend that the existence of this facility is in many places insufficiently known, and I have asked hospital authorities to do all they can to make it known. I am informed that a booklet in preparation giving information about the hospital in my hon. Friend's division will include specific reference to this facility.

Mrs. Braddock: Will the Minister be very careful about this matter, because there has been much complaint that people at the moment are able to jump the queue? Waiting lists are very long. Where people can pay extra, they can get into hospital for the treatment they need, whether they need it urgently or not. An increase in the number of amenity beds available will merely increase the possibility of people being able to jump the queue if they are able to pay, thus making waiting lists even longer.

Mr. Powell: No, that cannot arise because amenity beds are available for other patients as and whenever they need them.

Mr. K. Robinson: Since the occupancy rate of amenity beds is substantially higher than that of pay beds, would he consider converting some Section 5 beds into Section 4 beds?

Mr. Powell: Without notice, I am not sure that there is very much difference between the two. There is a big difference between the occupancy for paying patients and the total occupancy.

Consultants (Out-Patients)

7. **Mrs. Slater** asked the Minister of Health what recommendations he has made to hospital authorities on the arrangements at hospitals for National Health patients to see consultants.

Mr. Powell: I am sending the hon. Lady copies of the recommendations.

Mrs. Slater: I thank the Minister for that reply. Does he realise, however, that throughout the country considerable dissatisfaction is being expressed by people about the length of time they often have to wait to see a consultant if they wish to have a consultation through the National Health Service? Is he further aware that these people are saying—and this has a bearing on what was said earlier by my hon. Friend the Member for Liverpool, Exchange (Mrs. Braddock) in another context—that if one is prepared to pay one can obtain almost instant treatment? If we are to have a National Health Service, should it not be a comprehensive one rather than a system under which money gives one the first opportunity?

Mr. Powell: Waiting lists for consultation are closely connected with waiting

lists for treatment. I have asked hospital authorities to make the reduction of these lists a major objective this year, and a great deal of work on this is being done.

Management Committees

8. **Mr. Jeger** asked the Minister of Health whether he is aware of the opinion of local authorities that they should be entitled to direct representation on the local hospital management committees; and whether he will seek to amend the National Health Service Act, 1946, to this end.

Mr. Powell: Some authorities have expressed this opinion; no, Sir.

Mr. Jeger: Does the Minister not consider that the many years of practical experience of the present system of representation reveal that the time has now arrived for a review to be made of the terms of membership of these committees? Should not local people be entitled to representation on these committees, which are at present rather unbalanced and seem to operate very much in accord with the "old pals act" rather than the National Health Service?

Mr. Powell: There is, in fact, a big representation on these committees of members of local authorities, particularly local health authorities. About one-third of all members of hospital management committees are also members of local authorities. I do not think that direct representation is practicable or right in the case of authorities which are the agents of regional hospital boards.

Royal Berkshire Hospital

17. **Mr. Peter Emery** asked the Minister of Health what extra measures he is taking to speed up the building of the new Royal Berkshire Hospital.

Mr. Powell: Building should start early next year; progress is now satisfactory.

Mr. Emery: Is my right hon. Friend satisfied with the position when the first and second general surgical operating theatres had to close in April because of serious defects in the structure and all the operations had to be carried out in the E.N.T. and gynaecological theatres? Can he not do something to advance the date from 1964 to this year, and will he do what he can to ensure that Phase 4 of the overall plan is approved in the immediate future?

Mr. Powell: I think we have the earliest practical dates at the moment. I have been aware of the difficulties my hon. Friend mentions and of the great pressure under which this hospital has been working, and I have been personally concerned with the planning at several stages.

Mr. Emery: I am very grateful to my right hon. Friend for his assistance, but will he not do a little more to see that these dates are brought forward? The staff are doing a superlative job under these conditions, but does my right hon. Friend realise that, though the hospital is still able to get recruits, unless something is done before the early stage of 1964 the position will become critical?

Mr. Powell: I will do everything I can to accelerate the successive stages of these plans, though there is a limit to the extent to which one can reduce the period of time taken in the planning and building of a hospital.

International Hospital Congress

18. **Mr. K. Lewis** asked the Minister of Health how many British delegates attended the thirteenth International Hospital Congress in Paris in June 1963 with expenses paid out of public funds; how many attended with expenses paid out of hospital free money funds; what was the cost both to the Exchequer and to free money funds; and what instructions he has issued for future attendance at this annual congress and other overseas study tours.

Mr. Braine: There were 62 from England and Wales, with expenses met from public or endowment funds; I am sending my hon. Friend a copy of the instructions, and will give him the figures of cost when available.

Mr. Lewis: Is my hon. Friend aware that there has been a suggestion that the Ministry intends to limit the numbers of those who attend these conferences? While no one who is reasonable—and I would count myself as being fairly reasonable in these matters—would want to stop a fair number going to these conferences, does not my hon. Friend think that it becomes ridiculous when it is

open to area boards and management committees to send as many people as they like out of public funds or free money?

Mr. Braine: I am sure we would all agree that my hon. Friend is reasonable in this matter as in everything else. Whilst not in any way discounting what he has said, the figures of attendance this year are not large in relation to the size of the hospital service, and I would not wish it to be thought that we have nothing to learn from or contribute to international meetings. Nevertheless, I am sure that my right hon. Friend will very much bear in mind what my hon. Friend has said.

Mr. K. Robinson: Is the Parliamentary Secretary aware that these congresses and study tours—not one of which, incidentally, I have attended in 12 years' membership of a regional board—are of considerable value to members of hospital authorities? In so far as they offer also a minimal amount of pleasure, is not that some compensation for the enormous amount of voluntary work that these people do, and will the Minister do something to curb his hon. Friend's Scrooge-like propensities?

Mr. Braine: I wholly reject the charge levelled by the hon. Member at my hon. Friend. In matters of this kind a reasonable balance clearly has to be maintained. These conferences are valuable to those who attend, and the exchange of ideas is of great value to all concerned; but this is a matter which has to be watched.

Lindley Hospital, Huddersfield

19. **Mr. J. P. W. Mallalieu** asked the Minister of Health why the buildings included in the initial phase of the new General Hospital at Green Lea, Lindley, Huddersfield, are not, immediately on completion, to be used to relieve the congestion in the Huddersfield Royal Infirmary.

5. **Mr. Wade** asked the Minister of Health when the construction of the new hospital at Lindley, Huddersfield, will be completed; when it will be in use, in whole or in part; and what is the cause of the delay.

Mr. Braine: In 1966; the board is considering if part can be brought into use sooner; the difficulty is that of using premises on which construction work is still proceeding.

Mr. Mallalieu: Will the hon. Gentleman answer the third part of Question No. 5, which is not my Question, namely, what is the cause of the delay? Is the hon. Gentleman aware that the whole of the medical profession in Huddersfield is in favour of using these premises as soon as they are ready and that the situation in the Huddersfield Royal Infirmary is becoming desperate?

Mr. Braine: If, when the hon. Gentleman refers to delay he refers to the delay in completing the first phase, that is due to a number of factors—re-appraisal during planning, the bad weather in the winter, and so forth. While I fully accept what the hon. Gentleman says about the need to bring these new premises into use as early as possible, I understand that the board has so far been hesitant about this because, with the construction going on in the second phase, the building will not really be suitable for use. However, as I told the hon. Gentleman last week, the board is keeping this aspect under review, and I am sure that what the hon. Gentleman has said in the House will be borne very much in mind.

Huddersfield Royal Infirmary

20. **Mr. J. P. W. Mallalieu** asked the Minister of Health whether he is aware that the conditions of work in the old Huddersfield Royal Infirmary are now so bad that existing staff are resigning and new staff are difficult to recruit; and what action he will take to improve conditions.

Mr. Braine: No, Sir; the hospital is being replaced.

Mr. Mallalieu: That is all very well. The hospital is being replaced, but it is 3½ years behind schedule, or something like that. Meantime, as I have said, conditions in the hospital are intolerable. Is the hon. Gentleman not aware that the only possible means of relieving congestion in the hospital is to get a move on with the new general hospital? Will he please do all he can to ensure that?

Mr. Braine: Yes, Sir. I agree entirely.

Royal Gwent and St. Woolas Hospitals

24. **Mr. Ll. Williams** asked the Minister of Health how many persons are on the waiting lists in the Royal Gwent and St. Woolas Hospitals, respectively.

Mr. Braine: 2,864 and 413 at the end of March.

Mr. Williams: Can the hon. Gentleman say whether these waiting lists are increasing or decreasing and, if happily the latter, is the decrease fairly substantial?

Mr. Braine: The numbers show some decline since 31st March, 1962. I should add that my right hon. Friend is most anxious that the board should do everything possible in the interim to keep waiting lists down and to reduce the numbers still further.

25. **Mr. Ll. Williams** asked the Minister of Health what is the most recent position in regard to the new construction of the Royal Gwent Hospital.

Mr. Braine: The boilerhouse and workshops are under construction. Tenders for the rest of Phase I have been received.

Mr. Williams: Is the hon. Gentleman aware that as the result of the advent of the vast new steelworks at Llanwern just outside and the construction of other ancillary works in the area it is highly important that the construction of this hospital should be expedited by every means?

Mr. Braine: Yes, Sir. My information at the moment is that the work is expected to start on this part of the scheme in the late summer.

Senior Hospital Medical Officers

26. **Mr. Pavitt** asked the Minister of Health how many senior hospital medical officers are holding consultant posts.

Mr. Braine: Eight hundred and two in England and Wales at 30th September last.

Mr. Pavitt: Is the hon. Gentleman satisfied that these senior hospital medical officers are giving service of full consultant quality?

Mr. Braine: I do not think that I am called upon to pronounce upon the competence of people in the profession.

Mr. Pavitt: The hon. Gentleman has announced that 800 of these people have been graded accordingly. Is he satisfied that, being graded accordingly, they are giving service of consultant quality?

Mr. Braine: If they are doing consultant work they must satisfy the requirements.

Nurses (Pay)

31. **Mr. Sorensen** asked the Minister of Health what representations he has received in respect of charges to hospital nursing staff which have diminished the real value to them of recent salary increases; and what replies he has sent.

Mr. Braine: Nine letters. I am sending the hon. Member copies.

Mr. Sorensen: Does that mean that the hon. Gentleman will also supply me with the information which I have asked for in the Question? Is the hon. Gentleman aware that the Question has been put down as a projection of a letter sent to him by a local body in which it makes these allegations? Would the hon. Gentleman say in anticipation of the letter to me whether the increased charges in some cases abolish the value of the increased salaries?

Mr. Braine: The hon. Gentleman might have surmised that the letter would set out the answer in full. What the hon. Gentleman says must be seen against the background of general increases over the last few years and the arbitration in March last. The Industrial Court accepted the view of the management side that an increase in charges was overdue. The outcome was a general increase for qualified staff. This has been accepted by the profession. I do not think that there is anything I can now do about an award by the Industrial Court.

Mr. Sorensen: May I press the hon. Gentleman and ask him whether, in certain cases at least, the increases have been entirely nullified by the increased charges? Would he give me a specific reply?

Mr. Braine: I would not accept what the hon. Gentleman says. The increases

are to some extent offset by the additional provision for remissions ; for off-duty absences of 48 hours or high multiples of 24 hours, provided the nurse is absent from the hospital. The extent to which the nurses will benefit from this provision will vary in individual cases.

Mr. Sorensen : In view of the unsatisfactory nature of the reply, I give notice that I shall raise this matter at the earliest moment on the Adjournment.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Motor Cars (Hand Control Conversion)

6. **Mrs. Slater** asked the Minister of Health when the grant for hand control conversion costs for motor cars was last fixed.

Mr. Braine : The grant is actual cost, subject to a maximum of £70 ; it was last fixed in 1954.

Mrs. Slater : In view of the substantially increased charges being made at all garages for this kind of conversion, does the joint Parliamentary Secretary not think that the time has come when there should be a revision of the amount of grant which is made to these disabled people, many of whom are among the poorest section of the community and who rely on a conversion such as this for their livelihood?

Mr. Braine : The charges have not increased by all that amount. In 1954 the cost of a hand controlled conversion ranged from £30 to £70. It now ranges from £44 to £85. Since below the maximum we pay the actual cost, the grants are not static. However, I will certainly undertake to ask my right hon. Friend to reconsider the limit.

Chiropodists

9. **Mr. Dalyell** asked the Minister of Health what steps he is taking to increase the supply of trained chiropodists.

Mr. Braine : I am not aware that any special steps are called for at present.

Mr. Dalyell : Since much chiropodic disease seemingly unnecessarily immobilises people for relatively trivial reasons, will not the Minister take steps to make it possible for rather more mature health workers to study chiropody?

Mr. Braine : The whole question of the future of this profession does not rest with my right hon. Friend ; this is one of the professions supplementary to medicine. However, I take the hon. Member's point and everything turns on the number of people entering the profession and practising in it. I am glad to say that the number of people who started training during the present academic year is more than twice the figure for four years ago.

Mrs. Slater : Is the Minister aware that there is a tremendous shortage of chiropodists and that my local authority has had the greatest difficulty in appointing a full-time one? Does he not consider that he should consult the Minister of Education on the possibility of encouraging more people to enter what is, I understand, becoming a profession with a four-year training course? Should not young people be encouraged to take up this work, particularly because of its vital importance from the point of view of the care of the aged?

Mr. Braine : I agree with the hon. Lady's remarks generally, and it may be that registration, which is now in process and which will do much, we hope, to raise the status of the profession, will help to maintain and increase the number of young people coming into it.

Prescriptions

10. **Mr. John Hall** asked the Minister of Health why the gross cost per prescription over the years 1960-62 has risen by 20 per cent.

Mr. Powell : Elimination of items obtainable under about 2s. ; prescription of larger quantities in chronic cases ; increased use of more effective and expensive drugs ; rising costs generally.

Mr. K. Robinson : Would the right hon. Gentleman not also care to add as a contributory cost that doctors are prescribing for longer periods in order to offset as far as possible the doubled prescription charge which was introduced at the beginning of this period?

Mr. Powell : I stated that in my answer. I said, " Prescription of larger quantities in chronic cases." I am glad that this is being done. It is to the advantage of the Service as well as the patient.

Cervical Cancer

11. **Dr. Bray** asked the Minister of Health how many women died from cervical cancer in 1961 ; what proportion of these deaths could have been prevented by earlier detection and treatment ; what is the average cost of taking and analysing a smear ; and what steps he proposes to take to set up an effective nation-wide detection system.

13. **Mr. K. Robinson** asked the Minister of Health what steps he is taking to encourage routine cervical smear examinations of women aged 25 to 60, and to provide the cytological facilities needed for such a service.

16. **Mr. Proudfoot** asked the Minister of Health if he will set up a scheme for the routine taking of Papanicolaou smears for all women over 20 years of age.

27. **Mr. Fernyhough** asked the Minister of Health if he will provide the necessary financial support to ensure that the work of early diagnosis of cancer in women carried out at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Gateshead, will continue uninterrupted.

Mr. Powell : There were 2,504 deaths from cervical cancer in 1961. I cannot estimate how many could have been prevented nor suggest an average cost per smear. Regional boards will consider any requests which committees make to continue or start this procedure. In general, I would refer to my reply of 28th January to the hon. Member for St. Pancras, North (Mr. K. Robinson).

Dr. Bray : Is the right hon. Gentleman aware that where these services are offered more than half the women who are offered them take advantage of them and that the bottleneck occurs in the supply of technicians and pathologists who should be recruited to do the review of the smears taken? Does the Minister not agree that it is his responsibility to see that these pathologists and technicians are trained?

Mr. Powell : I agree, but there are limitations on the rate at which this aspect of the Service can be developed. That, no doubt, is one of the reasons why I have been advised that it would be premature at present to aim at a general application ; but I do not doubt that hospital boards will consider applications from hospital committees to go forward with it or to initiate it.

Mr. Robinson : Is the Minister aware that doctors are now regarding cancer of the cervix as a preventable disease, despite the fact that it kills nearly half as many women as there are road deaths in a year? Is he further aware that there has been nearly 100 per cent. co-operation in the very few areas which have undertaken routine smearing and that estimates have been made that the cost of detecting a case is about £60, which is roughly the cost of detecting a case of pulmonary tuberculosis in the mass X-ray scheme? In view of these facts, will he reconsider the earlier and rather unsatisfactory reply he gave me?

Mr. Powell : I would rather not comment on the clinical observations of the hon. Member, but I do not at all underestimate the value and importance of this development ; and this is why I say that I am sure that the hospital authorities will give it encouragement where practicable.

Treatment and Research

12. **Dr. Bray** asked the Minister of Health what study is made by Her Majesty's Government, before allocating funds, of the cost and effectiveness of different treatments and of research in relation to the incidence and seriousness of different conditions of ill health.

Mr. Powell : Funds are not allocated for the treatment of particular conditions. The allocation of research funds is a matter for my noble Friend the Minister for Science.

Dr. Bray : Is the right hon. Gentleman saying that he does not consider the incidence of different diseases and the effectiveness of different treatments in the general allocation of funds to the different branches of the hospital service? Was not his reply to the previous Question an indication of a lack of fundamental study in the administration of his Ministry which could prevent many deaths and remove much ill-health?

Mr. Powell : No, Sir. I am sure that it would be quite impracticable to

attempt to allocate sums from the total amount available to hospital authorities either for particular conditions or particular treatments.

Typhoid

14. **Sir A. Hurd** asked the Minister of Health to what causes he attributes recent outbreaks of typhoid.

Mr. Braine: At Harlow the cause is believed to be contaminated food; at South Shields it is not yet known.

Sir A. Hurd: Does the Minister have an expert team of investigators to sift the evidence and discover the causes in order to bring the facts together, so that the public may be warned about the types of food they should avoid and those running food shops should be warned of the precautions they should take?

Mr. Braine: Our officers do, of course, co-operate with the officers of the local health authorities. That co-operation is very close, and I have every reason to believe that it is fully effective.

Mr. Snow: Can the Minister tell us the rate at which typhoid cases are now growing, taking into account all the strains, compared with, say, last year? Further, will he direct his attention to the whole question of the disposal of sewage in built-up areas, bearing in mind that there is some evidence that the building of sewage plants is not running at the same rate as the building of houses?

Mr. Braine: The subject of the latter part of the hon. Gentleman's supplementary question is not a matter for my Department. I am sure that if he puts down a Question to the appropriate Ministry he will get the answer. As for the first part of his supplementary question, if we exclude the cases traced to the outbreak at Zermatt, the number of cases this year is not abnormal so far. This year 125 cases of typhoid have been notified.

22. **Mr. Snow** asked the Minister of Health what is his estimate of the compensation which will have to be paid by local authorities under Section 41 of the Public Health Act 1961, arising out of the outbreak of typhoid at Harlow; and how many persons are involved.

Mr. Braine: No estimate is yet possible; ten under this Section and seven under the 1953 Regulations.

Mr. Snow: Can the hon. Gentleman confirm that in fact the compensation will be entirely a charge on the local authorities of the areas where these persons reside and that no finance can be secured either by the individual or by local authorities from National Insurance funds?

Mr. Braine: Yes, Sir, I think so, but I should explain that the sums involved are not large. I understand, for example, that up to now there have been 13 claims for compensation and £68, as interim payments, has been paid to six persons.

28. **Mr. Snow** asked the Minister of Health what advice is being given to travellers to Switzerland; and what precautions are being taken in respect of visitors from Switzerland, in the light of the experience gained by the Swiss health administration arising out of the outbreak of typhoid at Zermatt and the two further outbreaks.

Mr. Powell: All persons going abroad are advised to be effectively vaccinated against typhoid. None, Sir.

Mr. Snow: But is the right hon. Gentleman aware that since this Question was put down there have been further reports of suspicion about further outbreaks of typhoid in Switzerland? Has the right hon. Gentleman consulted medical opinion on whether there ought not to be special precautions with regard to Switzerland, bearing in mind the very large tourist trade in the summer and the not very good record of the relationship between the Swiss tourist industry and the Swiss health authorities, which were not above suspicion in the case of the Zermatt outbreak?

Mr. Powell: The last point is not for me to comment upon. This is a matter which is constantly looked at by my medical advisers. I am satisfied that the best way to deal with it is through local health authorities, which obtain assistance from my Department in dealing with any cases that occur and in following up the causes as promptly as possible.

Eggs (Pasteurisation)

15. **Sir A. Hurd** asked the Minister of Health when he proposes to bring forward regulations to require the pasteurisation to a satisfactory standard of all bulked liquid/whole egg intended for human consumption ; and if he has consulted the British Egg Marketing Board and the National Egg Packers' Association on the practicability of enforcing such regulations at an early date while considerable stocks of home-produced liquid egg have to be disposed of and pasteurising facilities are restricted.

Mr. Braine : This month ; the operative date is under consideration ; yes, Sir.

Sir A. Hurd : I am not quite sure what that reply means. Does it mean that home-produced liquid egg which is now held in stock will no longer be allowed to be sold for human consumption unless it has been subjected to what is now to be the approved pasteurisation process? As there does not seem to be any evidence that trouble has arisen through home-produced supplies of liquid egg, will not the Minister give a period of grace to allow these stocks, which seem to be quite safe, to be disposed of without very heavy loss to the producers?

Mr. Braine : The answer to the last part of my hon. Friend's supplementary question is that the subject is very much in my right hon. Friend's mind. As regards the first part, I was answering the Question on the Order Paper, which asked when my right hon. Friend proposes to bring forward regulations to require pasteurisation to a satisfactory standard and I said that it would be this month. The operative date of the new regulations is still under consideration, but it may be of interest to the House to know, because this has been a matter of some public comment, that, by voluntary arrangement, all whole liquid Chinese egg is already being pasteurised.

Mr. P. Browne : Is it not a fact that, originally, these regulations were to come into force on 1st August? Is it true that they have now been put back to probably 1st January of next year? Is my hon. Friend aware that all those who are involved in the poultry industry would wish these regulations to come in as soon as possible, because it is undoubtedly the fact that liquid egg has been the cause of illness and outbreaks of various diseases in the past?

Mr. Braine : I will advise my hon. Friend to await the regulations which will be shortly laid before the House.

Clerical Staff

21. **Mr. Fitch** asked the Minister of Health if he intends to recognise the School Certificate as equivalent to the General Certificate of Education for incremental purposes for the clerical grade staff in the National Health Service.

Mr. Braine : My right hon. Friend is awaiting a recommendation on this from the Whitley Council.

Mr. Fitch : Is the hon. Gentleman aware that both the National Coal Board and the Electricity Council regard the School Certificate as equivalent to the General Certificate of Education? Will he pass this information on to the Whitley Council?

Mr. Braine : Yes, Sir. I understand that a Committee of the Council agreed on 18th June to extend this provision to officers in post who possess qualifications corresponding to the School Certificate Examination. The joint secretaries are working out the details of the agreement now.

Tuberculosis (Coseley and Sedgley)

29. **Mr. R. Edwards** asked the Minister of Health whether he is aware of the high percentage of tuberculosis among school children in the Coseley and Sedgley areas of Staffordshire ; what steps are being taken to ascertain the causes of this situation ; and what action is being taken to improve it.

Mr. Powell : There has been an outbreak in one school ; the source has been discovered ; continued supervision of contacts, testing and prophylactic treatment.

Mr. Edwards : Whilst thanking the right hon. Gentleman for that reassuring reply, may I ask whether he will confirm that the main cause of tuberculosis is infected milk? Has the milk supplied to the schools been T.B. tested? Will the right hon. Gentleman agree further that

contributory causes of tuberculosis are excessive smoke fumes and dust from local industry? Is this aspect of the problem being inquired into?

Mr. Powell: There is no reason to relate the source of this particular instance in this school to either of the causes which the hon. Member mentioned. The child who was the source of this infection has been traced, but it is only at this one school that there has been anything abnormal.

Doctors (Pay)

30. **Mr. K. Robinson** asked the Minister of Health what recent discussions he has had with the medical profession regarding alternative methods of reimbursing general practitioners' practice expenses, or any other proposals for changing existing pool arrangements.

Mr. Powell: None, Sir. The present methods were accepted by the Government and the profession in 1960 following the Royal Commission Report. The Review Body recently recommended no change.

Mr. Robinson: Why has the right hon. Gentleman not had discussions? Is he aware that there is increasing evidence of dissatisfaction in the medical profession with the present arrangements? Is it not the right hon. Gentleman's duty at any rate to encourage the introduction of a better system to promote the highest standards of general practice?

Mr. Powell: The method of remuneration of the medical profession is a matter of agreement between the profession and the Government. At present it is covered by the agreement following the Royal Commission's Report, and that was looked at by the Review Body recently. It reported that there should be no change, and this has been accepted by the Government.

Mr. Rankin: Does the right hon. Gentleman not agree that when it is first announced that an increase of 14 per cent. is coming to the medical profession, and particularly the general practitioners, and it works out in the end at only 7 per cent., that system of remuneration is something which he ought to look at?

Mr. Powell: It does not work out at anything of the sort. It work out at a 14 per cent. increase in remuneration from public sources.

EMPLOYMENT

Bideford and Torrington

32. **Mr. P. Browne** asked the Minister of Labour if he will give the unemployment figure, expressed as a percentage of the insured population, for the Bideford and Torrington Employment Exchange area at the last count; and if he will give the figure for the same month in 1962.

The Minister of Labour (Mr. John Hare): 4 per cent. and 2·2 per cent., respectively.

Mr. Browne: May I first of all say how pleased I am to see my right hon. Friend back with us after his illness and express the hope that he will soon be fully recovered and get rid of his stick?

May I ask my right hon. Friend whether he is aware of the great help that we have had from the manager and staff of the local employment exchange, in particular when the shipyard in my constituency closed down suddenly in March? However, will he not agree that these are shocking figures, and will he consult his right hon. Friend the President of the Board of Trade to see what steps can be taken to alleviate the situation, bearing in mind that there is a considerable hidden figure of unemployment in the district and the fact that at the time the shipyard closed down quite a lot of men left the district?

Mr. Hare: May I thank my hon. Friend for his remarks in the first part of his supplementary?

In answer to the last part, as he knows, Bideford has now been listed as a development district. I think he is also aware that the President of the Board of Trade is willing to consider helping any firm which can get the yard going again on a satisfactory commercial basis. I hope that it will be possible for this to be done.

Mr. Lipton: As the right hon. Gentleman appears to know what the insured

population is in this particular employment exchange area, may I ask him why he always refuses to let London Members of Parliament know the insured populations in the area of employment exchanges in London?

Mr. Hare: I think that is an irrelevant supplementary question. I have given the insured population of the Bideford and Torrington Employment Exchange area.

Mr. Jay: Is the Minister aware that Dr. Beeching is proposing to close down the railway to Bideford and Torrington?

Apprentices, Hartlepools

33. **Commander Kerans** asked the Minister of Labour what proposals he has for completing the training of apprentices who were made redundant in The Hartlepools as a result of the closing of the shipyard and engineering works.

Mr. Hare: Of 155 apprentices who were made redundant, 130 are continuing their training with other employers; 14 have entered other employment; and 11 are still registered for work, of whom 7 are under submission to employers. Everything possible is being done to help these apprentices find employment in which they can continue their training.

Commander Kerans: Is my right hon. Friend aware that I am grateful to him for the efforts he has made to decrease the apprentice unemployed? May I ask if he will do what he can to assist me to obtain the C.E.G.B. contract for Richardsons Westgarth who employ a very large number of apprentices?

Mr. Hare: I can certainly promise my hon. and gallant Friend that I will do all I can to find employment for these few boys who still have not got the jobs that I should like to see them have.

Dr. Bray: Is the right hon. Gentleman aware of the extent to which the apprentices from the Tees-side works which are closing down were moved to other works which subsequently closed down? Is he further aware that Stephenson & Hawthorn of Darlington is to close down in December, for example?

Mr. Hare: Perhaps the hon. Gentleman will put down a Question on that point.

School-leavers

34. **Mr. Prentice** asked the Minister of Labour if he will make a statement on the prospects for the summer school-leavers this year for apprenticeship and other forms of occupational training; and what special steps the Government will take to improve these prospects.

Mr. Hare: Provided employers pay proper regard to the needs of an expanding economy there should be no lack of apprenticeship and other training opportunities for summer school leavers. This year's change in school leaving dates, which we have brought to the notice of employers, makes it important that firms should, in their own interests, increase their apprenticeship intake this summer, as there will be far fewer leavers at Christmas than in previous years. They should also do this in order to be in a position to take maximum advantage from the new legislation on industrial training now being prepared to give effect to the proposals in the White Paper (Cmd. 1892) published last December.

Mr. Prentice: May I first of all welcome the Minister back after his illness and express the hope that he will have a speedy recovery?

Does not the right hon. Gentleman think that the situation is particularly serious in that in the first four months of this year there was a heavy drop in the intake of apprentices all over the country compared with last year, and does this not bode ill for the much larger number of school-leavers in the summer? Should there not be an additional campaign by the right hon. Gentleman, the Department and the Industrial Training Council in the next few months to overcome this trend?

Mr. Hare: Last week my hon. Friend the Parliamentary Secretary pointed out that now the economy is expanding this is an excellent opportunity to improve the rather disappointing performance in the early part of the year. I myself, together with the Chairman of the Industrial Training Council, am putting pressure, through the Youth Employment Service, on all employers and trade unions to take as vigorous action as possible to implement the need to provide these extra training facilities during the rest of the year.

I.L.O. Conference, Geneva

36. **Mr. Brockway** asked the Minister of Labour if he will make a statement on the circumstances of the withdrawal of the African delegations from the International Labour Office conference at Geneva and the consequences on the functioning of the organisation.

40. **Mr. Prentice** asked the Minister of Labour what action has been taken by the British Government delegation at the current conference of the International Labour Office on the controversies surrounding the attendance of the South African delegation; and if he will make a statement.

Mr. Hare: On 12th June, in the I.L.O. Conference in Geneva, a number of African delegates challenged the right of the employers' delegate of South Africa to address the Conference. Subsequently, the officers of the Conference upheld the view of the legal adviser of the Organisation that all properly accredited delegates have the right to speak.

Following the speech of the South African delegate, and after consultations between representatives of the African delegations and the Director-General of the I.L.O., the African delegates announced on 19th June that they had decided to withdraw from the Conference. These questions did not involve the Conference in any vote.

On the separate question of the validation of the credentials of the workers' delegate from South Africa, I would refer to the answer I gave to the hon. Member for Eton and Slough (Mr. Brockway) on 27th June, 1963.

Mr. Brockway: Is the right hon. Gentleman aware that that does not bring the story up to date? Is he aware that when the vote was taken on the representation of the South African trade unions, the British workers' delegate voted against this on the ground that no coloured person is allowed to be a member of those trade unions, but that the representatives of the Government and of the employers abstained on that fundamental issue? Can the Minister give us any information about the whole series of votes last Saturday when the I.L.O. considered referring this matter to the United Nations? How did the Government delegate vote then?

Mr. Hare: In answer to the first part of the supplementary question, as I have indicated, the majority report of the Credentials Committee held that the workers' representative from South Africa had been chosen in accordance with the constitution of the I.L.O. but the minority took a different view. It was on this report that this particular vote was taken, and the United Kingdom delegate abstained in view of the very considerable doubt as to whether there had been a failure to follow the constitution. On the other matters, as I think the hon. Gentleman knows, a decision has now been taken for a tripartite delegation to accompany the Director-General of the I.L.O. to see the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Mr. Prentice: Will the right hon. Gentleman confirm that the stage has now been reached where an increasing number of delegations of employers, workers and Government delegates all over the world are taking the view that the South African policies are incompatible with the Charter of the I.L.O. and, therefore, with continued membership of it, and this view is shared by the Director-General, Mr. Morse? Does not the right hon. Gentleman recognise that we regard the attitude of the British Government as disappointing? Could not they at least have gone as far as the American delegation in denouncing the policy of *apartheid*, and could the right hon. Gentleman give more information about the votes on Saturday?

Mr. Hare: As I think the House knows, Her Majesty's Government have consistently condemned the policy of *apartheid*. But the important thing is to deal with South Africa in such a way as to do as little harm as possible to the I.L.O. and it was on this theme that the Director-General addressed his speech to the Conference. It must be our aim to do nothing which will damage the I.L.O.

I was asked why the Government delegate of the United Kingdom Government abstained in this vote on Saturday. The answer is that it would be premature while the question of amending the constitution of the I.L.O. was being considered, to exclude South Africa from meetings of the I.L.O.

Mr. Strachey: Does not the right hon. Gentleman agree that the Government

will very soon have to choose whether to stand by the members of the Commonwealth on these issues or to go on with these equivocal votes about South Africa? Ought not Commonwealth interests here to take a very high place in their considerations?

Mr. Hare: I am sure the right hon. Gentleman will agree that as there is a delegation about to go over to see the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and as this matter is likely to be raised in the Security Council, it is really not right for us to try to debate it at this time.

Mr. K. Lewis: Is it not deplorable that an organisation such as the International Labour Office, which does so much good, should be used as a sounding board for this kind of issue which really has nothing to do with it, and would it not be best, in the service of improving relationships between African countries, if South Africa were encouraged to be in this organisation so that it could be influenced in its labour policy within the organisation itself?

Mr. Hare: My hon. Friend will understand when I say that I do not want to be drawn on this in view of the fact that the delegation will shortly be going to New York to see the Secretary-General of the United Nations. On the general point he makes, I think the whole House will agree that it is a pity that the I.L.O.—its record has been, I think, almost unique among international organisations in that politics have played very little part in it—should now find that politics are being drawn into what it is trying to do.

Mr. Brockway: In view of the unsatisfactory replies, I beg to give notice that I shall take the earliest opportunity to raise the matter on the Adjournment.

Thorne

37. **Mr. Jeger** asked the Minister of Labour, in view of the high unemployment rate of 6·6 per cent. in Thorne, which compares with 2·4 per cent. nationally, what special action he proposes to take to find employment in that area for men, women, juveniles and registered disabled who are seeking work.

Mr. Hare: The rate of unemployment has now fallen to 5·8 per cent. compared with 2·1 per cent. nationally. My officers will continue to do everything to assist those registered with them to find suitable employment.

Mr. Jeger: Does the right hon. Gentleman recognise that reply as being the standardised one which he has been giving for a long time past? Will he take special action, in view of the special circumstances in Thorne, where, on his own admission, unemployment is at twice the national rate?

Mr. Hare: I shall do as I have just said. I shall do all I can to help place as many people as possible. The hon. Gentleman must not, I think, be too gloomy about the prospects. The economy is expanding, and I think that there will be an improvement in the position in his constitutency as well as elsewhere.

Mr. Jeger: I shall try to accept the right hon. Gentleman's advice not to be too gloomy, but how will he persuade my unemployed constituents not to be too gloomy when neither he nor the President of the Board of Trade is doing anything except wait for something to turn up?

Mr. Hare: No, we are not doing that. The Government are taking very considerable action.

Salford

38. **Mr. Frank Allaun** asked the Minister of Labour how many boys and girls are at present unemployed in Salford; how many are expected to leave school in July; and how many school leavers it is expected will be found jobs.

Mr. Hare: On 10th June, 119 boys and girls were registered as unemployed. About 1,000 are expected to leave school in July. The majority should be able to obtain employment without undue difficulty. The youth employment service will do all it can to help them.

Mr. Allaun: Is not this a tragic way for school leavers to start their industrial life, which may have lasting psychological effects and which might force them into jobs which they do not like? Will the Minister inquire into, and take some action in, the case of one of the biggest engineering firms in Manchester and Salford which has now stopped taking on apprentices altogether?

Mr. Hare: I am sure that the hon. Gentleman does not wish to exaggerate the situation. There is a youth unemployment problem, but a great deal is being done. Of the 533 Easter school leavers 13 are at present registered for employment. We must continue to make efforts to place the minority who have not yet been placed.

I have noted what the hon. Gentleman has said on the other matter which he raised.

Catering Industry (Foreign Nationals)

39. **Mr. Robert Cooke** asked the Minister of Labour whether he will speed up the procedure of granting work permits for foreign nationals seeking work in the catering industry, particularly during the summer months of maximum activity.

Mr. Hare: These permits are issued as rapidly as possible, subject to completion of the necessary inquiries. In general, I am satisfied that the procedure works smoothly, but, if my hon. Friend has a particular case in mind, perhaps he would let me know so that I can look into it.

Mr. Cooke: Will my right hon. Friend bear in mind that, although what he says may be true in some cases, there are others where it takes a very great deal longer? Will he look at a special case in Bristol at the Grand Spa Hotel which has taken six weeks?

Mr. Hare: If my hon. Friend will be good enough to give me particulars, I will certainly look at it.

Mine Workers, County Durham

41. **Mr. Shinwell** asked the Minister of Labour how many mine workers registered for employment at employment exchanges in County Durham at the last available date.

Mr. Hare: At 10th June, 1963, 1,740.

Mr. Shinwell: Is not this a very high figure of unemployed miners, particularly since efforts have been made to transfer unemployed miners to other parts of the coal field and throughout the country? As there appears to be very little hope of these unemployed miners being again employed in the Durham mining industry, can the Minister offer any prospects at all for their re-employment?

Mr. Hare: I share the right hon. Gentleman's concern about this figure. As he knows, there has been a considerable contraction in the coal mining industry during the past twelve months in Durham. There are about 6,000 fewer men on the books of the National Coal Board than there were a year ago.

The right hon. Gentleman will agree that the Coal Board is doing as good and as humane a job as possible in trying to find alternative employment and dealing with redundancy as decently as may be. On the general question of the balance of men who are left unemployed, the whole of the Government's policy to try to give special treatment to the North-East and to Scotland will, I hope, play its part in finding jobs for them.

Mr. Shinwell: But is not the right hon. Gentleman aware that there has been a great deal of, if I may use the expression, " ballyhoo " by certain individuals and organisations in the North-East about the transfer of unemployed miners to other coalfields? Does not this very large figure of over 1,700 unemployed miners, in the present depressing situation, give the lie to all this talk about the capacity to transfer unemployed miners to others parts of the coalfield?

Mr. Hare: The right hon. Gentleman will not, I am sure, wish to be unfair. The Coal Board has found work for about 3,000 miners in jobs outside Durham. However, he is right that there is left this balance about whom he feels concern. I certainly share his concern.

Mr. Popplewell: Do not these figures, combined with the figures which the Minister gave to the hon. and gallant Member for The Hartlepools (Commander Kerans) and others, indicate how serious is what is now taking place in the North-East? Will he now say, seeing that he referred to it himself, when the House is to be given the special report compiled by the noble Lord on the Government's intentions regarding what is to be done to absorb some of the unemployed in the North-East?

Mr. Hare: All I can say is that the Government are doing a great deal of work on this. Results have already flowed, and there will be further results.

Scotland

44. **Miss Herbison** asked the Minister of Labour what was the ratio of wholly unemployed women to the number of notified unfilled vacancies for women in the London and South-East region and in the Scottish region, respectively, at the latest available date.

Mr. Hare: In June, 1 to 2 and 4 to 1, respectively.

Miss Herbison: These figures ought to give the Minister great concern. What is he doing, in co-operation with the President of the Board of Trade and, perhaps, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, to ensure that women in Scotland have at least as good a chance of work as women in the South? Or is the right hon. Gentleman like all other Ministers, quite content that Scotland should be denuded of most of its workers to the Midlands and the South?

Mr. Hare: I assure the hon. Lady that neither I nor any of my colleagues are quite content with the employment situation in Scotland. That is why I have reminded the House that special priority treatment is being given not only to Scotland, of course, but to the North-East. It is by these special methods that we hope to ensure that the people of Scotland get a fairer deal than they have now.

45. **Mr. Lawson** asked the Minister of Labour what was the ratio of wholly unemployed girls of under 18 years to the number of notified unfilled vacancies for girls in the London and South-East region and in the Scottish region, respectively, at the latest available date.

Mr. Hare: At the June count, for every 100 wholly unemployed girls there were 720 notified vacancies in the London and South-Eastern region and 90 in Scotland.

Mr. Lawson: Does the Minister think about these figures at all? Does he appreciate how serious is the situation in Scotland? Is he aware that even Government Departments are telling girls in Scotland that there are no jobs for them there and that they must come to London if they want work at all? Will he see that something is done about this very urgent problem in Scotland?

Mr. Hare: I have already expressed to the hon. Lady the Member for Lanarkshire, North (Miss Herbison) my concern on this whole general subject. I think that we can all take some comfort from the fact that we are having considerable success in placing school leavers. By mid-June, only 3·4 per cent. of the total number of Easter school leavers were, in fact, registered for employment. To this extent, the picture as it affects young people is better, I think, than some people may realise.

Mr. Ross: The right hon. Gentleman seems to be very complacent. He should not be. Is he aware that a new batch of school leavers is leaving this week?

Mr. Hare: I am not complacent, and I am well aware of the fact to which the hon. Gentleman has just referred.

PRIVATE NOTICE QUESTIONS

Mr. Callaghan: May I raise a question of order on Private Notice Questions, Mr. Speaker?

As you may know, Sir, I submitted a Private Notice Question for your consideration at one o'clock last Friday, although under your rules it was not considered by you until midday today. At the same time, another Question was put down by a right hon. Member for Oral Answer next Thursday, when, I may say, it will not be reached.

It is stated on page 362 of *Erskine May* that

> "A question cannot be asked by private notice in order to anticipate a question of which notice has been given."

I did not put down a private notice question in order to anticipate a Question. I put it down at the same time. I do not know which, by a few minutes, was first. It seems to be stretching our rules—I do not say that in any denigratory sense—perhaps I should say that it seems to be a very odd feature of our rules that I should be forestalled in getting an answer on a matter which at least I think is of considerable public importance because a Member, at the same time, puts in a Question for Oral Answer which appears on the Order Paper and of which I can have no knowledge.

I have made some effort to try to contact the Member concerned to see whether he would be willing to allow his

[MR. CALLAGHAN.]
Question to be withdrawn on the ground that this is a matter of very great public importance. It is, in fact, as you know, Mr. Speaker, a bigger deal than was the I.C.I.-Courtaulds deal. Unfortunately, I cannot find the Member and, therefore, cannot get the Question withdrawn.

On 2nd May, 1944, my right hon. Friend the Member for Vauxhall (Mr. Strauss) was allowed to ask a Private Notice Question, even though the other Question had not been withdrawn, on the ground that there was considerable public interest in it and that it concerned a matter of great public importance. It was in connection with negotiations with Spain. In view of the fact that the weekend rather alters arrangements on a matter like this, I wonder whether you, Mr. Speaker, would allow me to ask the Private Notice Question which I submitted to you last Friday and which you considered this morning?

Mr. Speaker: With respect to the hon. Member, the system does not work like that. It is not a question of putting down Private Notice Questions. They can be submitted to the Chair, but the Chair never considers a Private Notice Question for Monday before Monday. The process for getting them in begins at ten o'clock. They are not ruled upon until twelve o'clock, so that it is fair to everybody.

I am sure that the hon. Member will understand that it would not be fair to the right hon. Gentleman in question to allow him, by these exceptional arrangements, to anticipate the Question which he has on the Paper. It would take all the sting and value out of it. For that reason, and although I sympathise with the hon. Member, I do not think that it would be right to do as he suggests. I do not think that it would be fair to the right hon. Member concerned.

Mr. Callaghan: I do not think, Mr. Speaker, that it would take any sting out of the Question, because it will not be answered orally on Thursday. It will receive a Written Answer. We are not pre-empting on anybody else's rights. This is surely a case of being fair all round. It is not only a question of fairness to the Member who put down the Question for answer next Thursday. It is also a question of fairness to a Member who, rightly or wrongly, may believe that a Question about a deal like this, involving about £500 million of capital, is also of public interest and should receive an Oral Answer.

May I again refer you, Mr. Speaker, to the fact that my right hon. Friend the Member for Vauxhall was allowed to ask such a Question. As there is clearly very great public interest in the Burmah Oil take-over, may I be allowed to ask the Question now by Private Notice so that any subsequent action can follow in the normal way?

Mr. Speaker: I do not think that that would be fair. The hon. Member is under a slight delusion. The Question of the right hon. Member concerned is for answer tomorrow, not Thursday. That gives us a little more time to think about it. I cannot tell what will happen about the Question tomorrow—whether it will be answered in writing or whether leave will be sought to answer it at the end of Question Time. I cannot tell those things. I sympathise with the hon. Gentleman, but I must try to be fair all round and I think that priority in fairness is to the right hon. Member whose Question is on the Order Paper for answer tomorrow. I cannot deviate from that without deviating from fairness.

Mr. Wilkins: May I direct your attention, Mr. Speaker, and that of the House to a letter which I believe all right hon. and hon. Members have received, which applies——

Mr. Speaker: Order. I suspect that the purpose of the hon. Member's remarks relates to privilege. May I deal with another matter first? We will come to that in due course. Mr. Heath.

Mr. Callaghan: May I ask you this, Mr. Speaker, on business? Would the Chancellor of the Exchequer be willing to make a statement on this matter tomorrow?

Mr. Speaker: We cannot plunge into one matter in the middle of something else.

Later—

Mr. Speaker: I do not know whether the Chancellor of the Exchequer is able to help us.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer (Mr. Reginald Maudling): If it would be of assistance to the House, perhaps the best

CSI 33 – 35.

arrangement would be that if the Question which is put down to me for Oral Answer tomorrow is not reached, I undertake, with permission, to answer it at the end of Question Time.

Mr. Callaghan: Thank you.

MR. HAROLD PHILBY

The Lord Privy Seal (Mr. Edward Heath): With your permission, Mr. Speaker, and that of the House, I wish to make a statement on the case of Mr. Harold Philby.

I informed the House on 20th March that shortly after the disappearance of Mr. H. A. R. Philby from the Lebanon Mrs. Philby received messages purporting to come from him from Cairo. At the request of his wife and of a British newspaper which he was representing, Her Majesty's Government made inquiries concerning his whereabouts from the Governments in both Cairo and Beirut, without success.

I can now tell the House that more recently Mrs. Philby has received messages purporting to come from Mr. Philby from behind the Iron Curtain. On the other hand, the Soviet newspaper *Izvestiya* reported on 3rd June that Mr. Philby was with the Imam of the Yemen. There is no confirmation of this story.

Although there is as yet no certainty concerning Mr. Philby's whereabouts, there has been a development which may throw light on the question. On 7th November, 1955, my right hon. Friend the Prime Minister, at that time Foreign Secretary, told the House that it had become known that Mr. Philby had had Communist associations and that he was asked to resign from the Foreign Service in July, 1951, which he did. My right hon. Friend also said that his case had been the subject of close investigation and that no evidence had been found up to that time to show that he was responsible for warning Burgess and Maclean or that he had betrayed the interests of this country.

My right hon. Friend added that inquiries were continuing. In fact, the security services have never closed their file on this case and now have further information. They are now aware, partly as a result of an admission by Mr. Philby himself, that he worked for the Soviet authorities before 1946 and that in 1951 he in fact warned Maclean through Burgess that the security services were about to take action against him.

This information, coupled with the latest messages received by Mrs. Philby, suggests that when he left Beirut he may have gone to one of the countries of the Soviet *bloc*.

Since Mr. Philby resigned from the Foreign Service in July, 1951, he has not had access of any kind to any official information. For the last seven years he has been living outside British legal jurisdiction.

Mr. Gordon Walker: I thank the Lord Privy Seal for taking this opportunity to put the record straight. He said in his statement that it was "partly" as a result of an admission by Mr. Philby that this new information became available. Could the right hon. Gentleman say to whom this admission was made and in what circumstances? Since the right hon. Gentleman said that it was "partly" as a result of an admission by Mr. Philby, there must have been other evidence. Could that evidence have been known if the matter had been more diligently pursued in 1955, when the Prime Minister made his statement?

Could the Lord Privy Seal tell us how an employee in the Foreign Office was able to know the intentions of the security services? This seems to me a matter of very great importance. Could the right hon. Gentleman tell us a little more about the Government's ideas as to the whereabouts of Mr. Philby? Surely it is inconceivable that he can be with the Imam if he has been working for Russia before and since 1946. If he is in the Yemen, and on the other side with the Government, can the right hon. Gentleman say whether he is having anything to do with the fate of our soldiers now in the Yemen?

Mr. Heath: We have, naturally, tried to secure confirmation of the report that he was with the Imam. There have been a number of statements or rumours of this kind, but, as I said in my statement, we have not been able to obtain confirmation.

As to the evidence, I have said that the security services have never closed their files on this matter and, therefore,

[MR. HEATH.]
over this long period of twelve years, they have continued with persistence to endeavour to find the truth about this matter. From time to time, they have been able to obtain items of information and finally, as I have said, there was, in part, the admission of Mr. Philby himself.

Mr. Gordon Walker: To the security services?

Mr. Heath: I did not say that.

Mr. Gordon Walker: To whom?

Mr. Heath: I am not prepared, nor would it be right, to give information about the way this information was finally brought together. That, however, is the conclusion we have reached.

As to Mr. Philby's activities in the Foreign Service, he was a temporary First Secretary up to July, 1951, in the Foreign Service and in that capacity, as has already been stated, he had knowledge of certain information which he was then able, we now know, to pass to Burgess and Maclean.

Mr. Gordon Walker: Can the right hon. Gentleman answer my other question, whether, in 1955, if the matter had been more diligently pursued, the other evidence that is now apparently available could have been discovered?

Mr. Heath: No, Sir; I do not think it could have been discovered. The inquiries made at that time were extensive and intensive and I do not believe that at that particular moment it was possible to come to any other conclusion that my right hon. Friend the Prime Minister, as Foreign Secretary, announced to the House in the debate.

Mr. Lipton: Does the Lord Privy Seal's statement mean that Mr. Philby was, in fact, the "third man" that we were talking about at the time of the disappearance of Burgess and Maclean?

Mr. Heath: Yes, Sir.

COMPLAINT OF PRIVILEGE

Mr. Wilkins: I wish to raise with you, Mr. Speaker, a matter which, I believe, constitutes a breach of privilege.

I believe that all right hon. and hon. Members of the House have received over the weekend a circular letter which is headed, "Textile Action Group" and is sent from 9-11, Higher Church St, Blackburn, and dated 22nd June, 1963. It reads thus:

"To all Members of Parliament. Hon. Members, The last debate on the textile industry was badly attended by Members of Parliament until the vote. On 1st July, 1963"—

that is today—

"the Textile Action Group will be at the House and will be very pleased to publish the names of Members who attend that day so that their constituents will be able to assess the interest shown.

Yours faithfully,

R. Cocks, Hon. Secretary."

I am not, of course, a representative of a constituency where textiles are a dominant industry, but I submit that this is highly offensive to right hon. and hon. Members who endeavour to attend this House regularly and who faithfully perform their duties on behalf of their constituents and the country. It is not possible for a right hon. or hon. Member always to be in his place in the House. Indeed, this will be, possibly, the situation today, as we deal with various subjects in which hon. Members are interested.

I submit, Mr. Speaker, that this is either an obvious or an implied threat to Members of the House and I ask you to be so kind as to rule whether this constitutes *prima facie* a breach of privilege of the House.

Mr. Speaker: Will the hon. Member be good enough to give me his copy of the letter?

Copy of letter handed in.

Mr. Speaker: I will consider the hon. Member's complaint and rule upon it tomorrow.

THE YEMEN (BRITISH SERVICE PERSONNEL)

Mr. Sorensen: Is it possible, Mr. Speaker, for the Government to make a statement about the continued detention of British troops in the Yemen? Are the Government desirous of doing so?

Mr. Speaker: Order. We cannot have a general discussion about something of which we have not had notice. Otherwise, all kinds of suggestions would crop up.

ROYAL DOCKYARDS (ESTIMATES COMMITTEE'S REPORTS)

3.45 p.m.

Mr. James MacColl (Widnes): I beg to move,

That this House takes note of the Ninth Report from the Estimates Committee in the last Session of Parliament and of the Fifth Special Report from the Estimates Committee relating to Her Majesty's Dockyards.

The subject which we are to consider in the first half of today's sitting ranks well among the various subjects which the Estimates Committee has invited the House to consider. Hon. Members will remember that the normal procedure in these matters is that a Sub-Committee of the Estimates Committee hears the evidence, from which it drafts a report, which is subsequently considered, amended and approved by the full Estimates Committee and is then presented to the House and published. Then, at a later date, the Department or Departments concerned in the recommendations of the Estimates Committee give their replies to the recommendations which have been made.

I am well aware that the subject of dockyards has implications which go a good deal wider than the recommendations with which the Estimates Committee is concerned. That is in the nature of things, because it is a Committee which cannot consider matters of policy and is directed entirely to securing economies and efficiency and not to more general problems of the nature of dockyards and the part which they should play.

Nevertheless, what the Estimates Committee can, and normally does do, is to offer the House the facts upon which a judgment can be made. It is a service of which hon. Members who are busy and have varying interests can well make use that we get in an Estimates Committee Report, not only the Report and recommendations, but also the evidence upon which those recommendations are based. Therefore, it is a good exercise in discipline for the Estimates Committee to curb its enthusiasm or its prejudices, whatever the case may be, and to keep strictly to the facts as published in the recorded evidence.

The dockyards—and I speak as one who knew nothing about them until I turned to study the subject in the Sub-Committee—are a fascinating subject. I do not think that many hon. Members appreciate how large they are. Our dockyard system employs about 40,000 people and has a rate of expenditure of about £60 million. It is, therefore, a big subject and involves a big slice of the national purse. It is also, owing to the nature of the siting of the dockyards, a big human problem from the point of view of their effect upon the economy of the areas in which the dockyards are to be found.

Although, in our Report, the Sub-Committee looked primarily at certain managerial points, they were not merely an academic exercise, because upon the solution of the managerial problems and the problems of efficiency depends the possibility of having in the dockyards a system which can keep up with the growing development of needs. Therefore, I make no apology for taking the time of the House in examining some of the problems which presented themselves not only to us, but to a previous Estimates Committee.

I went on to the Estimates Committee a good many years ago, just after the Sub-Committee under the chairmanship of my hon. Friend the Member for Edmonton (Mr. Albu) had been examining the dockyards. I was brought up by my hon. Friend to look upon that as the ultimate horror in Estimates Committee investigations. I was taught, "However much you grumble about the difficulty of this inquiry, it is nothing compared with what we went through on the subject of dockyards."

What happened—and I should like to tell the House what happened—was that in the 1951 Session the Eighth and Ninth Reports of the Estimates Committee were published with their recommendations, to which I shall return in a moment; nothing was heard from the Admiralty; as the months passed a number of Questions were asked, but no reply was given giving any indication of what was happening. Then my hon. Friend raised the matter on the Navy Estimates in 1952. He got a noncommittal reply that the Admiralty was still thinking. In February, 1953, the replies came from the Admiralty to the Estimates Committee, and in March, 1953, just a month later,

[MR. MACCOLL.]
they were debated in the House on an Amendment moved by the late Mr. Ronald Williams, who was then the Member for Wigan.

I therefore think that the House cannot be accused of having been dilatory. It is sometimes said that politicians are slow and hold things up. I think that it can be shown that the House then dealt fairly quickly with the replies when it got them. Now there has been some improvement, because the Ninth Report to which I am speaking was fashioned in July, 1962, and the replies were received in January, 1963, and are being debated now, just a year after we completed our Report. So at least one can say about the Admiralty that it can now turn down a recommendation of the Estimates Committee in much shorter time than it took to do it ten years ago.

There were two important recommendations which were put up by the original Committee in 1951. One was a proposal that there should be a special personnel department in each dockyard, made up of people specially qualified in that field. That was rejected by the Admiralty. By the time we arrived, to make our inquiry, it had been accepted.

The next proposal, which was of great importance, was that there should be in each dockyard a general manager. The position under the old-fashioned organisation, and which still exists in some of the dockyards, was that there were three main departments which, under the old system, were almost entirely autonomous. There were a constructional, a mechanical engineering, and an electrical engineering department. Each had its separate departmental manager, presided over by an admiral superintendent who, in the nature of things, was not an expert; he may have been an engineer, he may not; but he was there a comparatively short time; and the job was clearly not one of practical co-ordination of any kind. Therefore, a proposal was made by the Estimates Committee to have in each dockyard a general manager co-ordinating the whole operation.

That, as I say, was turned down by the Admiralty, and turned down in somewhat peremptory words. I do not want to read the whole of the long reply from the Admiralty, but it said that it had considered it with special care and turned it down because it would be difficult to impose on top of the departmental structure, and that

> "In short, the concept of a General Manager could not be relied upon to function smoothly in practice unless the existing Departmental structure of the Yard were fundamentally altered, and even then there would be no certainty that the major upheaval which would be involved would necessarily produce a better result."

All that was considered in the debate on the Amendment moved by Mr. Williams.

My hon. Friend the Member for Edmonton made a number of interesting contributions, but there was one interesting comment which, I think, is particularly worth referring to. He took up the very point which had been made, that a general manager could not be set up without a fundamental reorganisation of the dockyard structure. He said this on 16th March, 1953, ten years ago:

> "I know that, in 1945, the American Department of the Navy set up an industrial engineering department . . . and they had an inquiry made into the management of naval shipyards. They have not got these very specialised functional departmental organisations. Their shipyards are under a shipyard commander, with two operational departments—a planning officer and a production officer with their specialist branches . . . I suggest that if we have not already done so, we might have a look at this system and find out whether there is anything in it to be recommended."—[OFFICIAL REPORT, 16th March, 1953; Vol. 512, c. 1923.]

The Civil Lord of the Admiralty of the time, the hon. Member for Dorset, West (Mr. Wingfield Digby), laughed the whole thing off. He rather poked fun, and regretted that my hon. Friend had turned this debate into rather a technical one on the "narrow issue of management", as he called it. He then gave a rather unpleasant quotation from an evening newspaper about my hon. Friend the Member for Edmonton:

> "He embodies the managerial revolution in action; he is the planner, the middle class intellectual. Men of his type are, I think, the loneliest men usually in the House of Commons; when they are right nobody loves them for it; when they are wrong every traditionalist . . . turns and rends them."—[OFFICIAL REPORT, 16th March, 1953; Vol. 512, c. 1954.]

That was in 1953. In 1955 or thereabouts the Admiralty sent a working party to America. They came back, held a series of conferences about reorganisation, and, by 1958, they decided

to do precisely what my hon. Friend had suggested, and they launched upon the most complicated and difficult operation of fundamental reorganisation, the very kind of reorganisation the Admiralty had sneered at in 1953.

My hon. Friend the Member for Edmonton has got something with which he can be very satisfied. He and the present Lord Champion, his predecessor in the chairmanship of the Sub-Committee and the hon. Member for Aylesbury (Sir S. Summers) are the only Members I know who were members of that Sub-Committee.

I mention this really for three reasons. The first is that I think the House owes it to my hon. Friend to recognise that he and his Committee were fundamentally right, and that he was personally and individually right in 1953 in that debate, in spite of the sneers; and I should like to say to my hon. Friend that he was right and that I love him for it, in spite of what the hon. Member for Dorset, West had to say about him.

We ought to recognise in this House that the habit of pouring cold water on Estimates Committee Reports on the ground that they are the product of wishy-washy thinking by people who do not know much about the subject will not do. Eventually, the Committee's recommendations were accepted.

It is true that the Permanent Secretary, as one might expect, extended the soft answer. He said, in reply to Question 139, that eventually the Admiralty saw the light. I am not rubbing this in, but I mention it. My second reason for doing so is that there is a danger of the Admiralty making the same mistake again. It is very important to recognise that not only was the Sub-Committee then right, but it is very likely that it may be right in some of the matters which are still outstanding. Therefore, I shall go through some of the replies in the present Report. I do not want to go through all of them, because they are there for hon. Members to read.

The first, on which I comment, is the reply to Recommendation No. 3. We recommended that qualified men from outside the dockyard service or the naval service should be appointed to senior professional posts in the dockyards. The reply rejected that. It said:

"the Admiralty believe that managers of the requisite quality should be found within its ranks. If this incentive is denied, then the quality of the whole body would be likely to suffer in the long run."

That is a fundamental misunderstanding of our recommendation. We were told that reorganisation was being held up because of the shortage of people in senior supervisory posts. We were told that recruitment at the lower levels of young entrants in the professional grades was fairly satisfactory, but the difficulty was to increase the rate of reorganisation without taking more people. If there are reserves of people in the service there is no need for having them from outside, but similarly, there ought to be an increased tempo of reorganisation.

If, on the other hand, reorganisation is held up for lack of supervisory staff, it is no answer to say that this will hold up promotion, because there will be more places for people to go to and more prospect of promotion. I thought that a complete misunderstanding of our argument. It seemed to show that our Report had not been read, because anyone reading our Report could not have failed to get the point, which was put quite clearly.

The next point to which I draw attention is the question of period of service. To strengthen the management team, managers and deputy managers in the home dockyards should normally hold these appointments for periods of five, and preferably, seven years for a particular dockyard. My hon. Friend the Member for Edmonton will recognise those words. They are taken practically verbatim from his recommendation which was adopted, but in the ten years between his Report and our Report of 30 departmental managers only four have served for five years and more.

It is no use simply saying that the House and the Admiralty accepted the recommendation, for they have failed to carry it out. This is not a point in isolation. It is something which has been coming up again and again in Reports from the Estimates Committee. When we have some Department staffed partly by the Service and partly by civilians the great difficulty is how to get the Service people to stay long enough in the job to carry it out competently. There have been various reports in which the

[MR. MACCOLL.]
question of promotion has been mentioned. It was mentioned in two Estimates Committee Reports. Mention was made of staff at Admiralty headquarters. It was also mentioned by the Zuckerman Report on research and also in the Report on the War Office.

If I may interpose "a commercial", I draw the attention of the House to the Report on the Ordnance Survey which came out last week, in which there is precisely the same matter arising in a different field. This is the thread running through the administration whenever the problem arises of the need for longer tours of duty. The dockyards are a highly complicated and technical engineering operation. They are not a sort of frill to the seagoing part of the Navy. As a result of the growth of the technicalities of naval operations they become more and more complicated and difficult as they spread into the difficult fields of radar, nuclear energy, and so on. We cannot play about with these things. For this sort of work we must have the best people we can train. They must have intensive training and devote a substantial part of their lives to it. This is not a point which can be safely ignored, but it is one on which so far the Admiralty seem to have failed in solving the problem.

Another point which arose was about the chain of command. This was not a recommendation, but it was a point which caused us a certain amount of concern and we asked the Admiralty to look at it. As we get more and more complicated administration we get a more complicated administrative hierarchy. I am not an expert on these matters, but I wonder whether this is right. We start with the Third Sea Lord and go down to the Fourth Sea Lord, then to the Director, Dockyards and Maintenance, then to the Director of Dockyards, then to the Admiral Superintendent, then to the General Manager and finally to the Departmental Manager. That seems to be an unwieldy hierarchy. I hope that we shall be told something about the latest thinking on that.

I wish to say a word about the Admiral Superintendent, because this is another point on which I read the remarks of my hon. Friend the Member for Edmonton with a great deal of interest. This is what he said on 16th March, 1953:

"I am expressing a personal opinion and I agree that the Committee . . . did not say that the Admiral Superintendent should be superseded by a general manager. I am not recommending that now. It is a matter of great difficulty, but there must be under him or with him, as the Committee recommended, a civilian general manager trained in and remaining in the service. As long as naval officers are appointed to some of these positions it will be very difficult for there to be long-term service in these posts."—[OFFICIAL REPORT, 16th March, 1953; Vol. 521, c. 1926.]

My hon. Friend did not get his Sub-Committee to go with him. I was in exactly the same position; I did not get my Sub-Committee to go with me. That is perfectly natural. It is part of the discipline of producing a Report from a number of people who have considered something that one does not get one's own way and there is no reason why one should. I only mention this now to show that, with an interval of ten years between, the experience of my hon. Friend and myself has been the same.

We said that it would raise a difficult situation. A general manager must be extremely high-powered; he cannot do a job like this unless he is. He must be at the very top of his profession. Is it always possible to get him to work easily with an admiral superintendent who has precisely the same parish? In this narrow range, are they going to tread on each other's toes? I do not know, but this is a matter which should be looked at.

Mr. David Webster (Weston-super-Mare): As, at the same time, the recommendations, which the hon. Member very much led, were to break down the strictly professional barriers and come to the functional, is it not non-logical at the top level to go back to professionalism and split the two levels?

Mr. MacColl: I am merely saying that we should examine the problem of the relationship of the two. The fundamental point of my difficulty is this. There is no doubt that there has been a very happy and long tradition in the naval dockyards of civilians and Admiralty people working happily together. We all accept that and I suppose it is a romantic position.

Mr. F. A. Burden (Gillingham): This is very important. Reorganisation on

these lines has taken place at Chatham and there has been an opportunity of studying it in operation. While, as always in life, one may get clashes of personalities between different managers and different admiral superintendents, it is a fact that so far at Chatham the scheme has worked remarkably well and there is a very happy relationship.

Mr. MacColl: We saw Chatham and the people concerned, and I confirm what the hon. Member has said. My only footnote in qualification is that when one is starting a new experiment one picks, first, one's outstanding people. One says, "Here is a tricky job. Therefore, we must get the sort of people who will rise to the challenge." They do rise to the challenge. They understand that it is a big experiment and they want to make it a success, and there is a tremendous will to make it work. But if one spreads the system to cover all dockyards —which is what I want to see—then it is arguable whether one will always be able to do this.

Before I was interrupted I was about to make the comment that if the technical efficiency of the dockyard is maintained and developed with highly trained professional people, there may be a difficulty. There will be the man who started as an apprentice in the dockyard at the age of 16, who has worked his way right through and is saturated with dockyard loyalty and is, therefore, used to the atmosphere of the dockyard; and if we are to make the dockyards technically efficient we may have to bring in civilians who will not accept that kind of position. That is what worries me, although as I have said, it worries me more than it worries the Committee.

The next recommendation is that more use should be made of the Administrative Staff College at Henley. That was taken from the recommendation of my hon. Friend's Committee. It may seem rather a small thing to include in a recommendation, but the point is that because of their size the dockyards tend to be rather inbred. They do not have very much outside contact. There are very few similar organisations doing work of the same sort, and they are, therefore, inclined to think of themselves as quite separate. No amount of in-service training can substitute for the kind of stimulation obtained through meeting outside people, possibly in quite different walks of life, who are looking at the same kind of problem.

I think that the contribution which the Administrative Staff College makes is that it brings together people from outside industry and from public services, from private industry and nationalised industries, to look communally at a problem, to look at each other's problems and to learn from each other. This is precisely the kind of training and preparation for senior positions which ought to be available to the dockyard people.

We found that although my hon. Friend's Committee made this recommendation, nobody had gone to the Staff College. The reply given to the recommendation was that

> "The Dockyard Division will continue to nominate officers whenever possible for acceptance as students at the Administrative Staff College at Henley, but the places for Civil Servants are limited and final selection is in the hands of the College authorities."

My information is that the Administrative Staff College had had no applications from the Admiralty and had turned no one down but that after the publication of this Report it had received an application for a place, although this had not yet been taken up because it is in the future.

I want to make it clear to the Admiralty that it is just as important for key men in this kind of industrial work to have the very best administrative training available as it is in the Administrative Civil Service for those who will take higher positions in the main Department. They should not just get what is left after the Administrative Department have picked all the places. This is a matter on which I hope we shall be told what is happening and why more has not been done.

The Civil Lord of the Admiralty (Mr. John Hay): I promise the hon. Member that I will not persist in interrupting him as he goes through the recommendations, because I hope to say something about them later, but I think that I should put the position in this matter in perspective. The hon. Member mentioned the reply which we gave to Recommendation No. 7, but he did not point out that a number of senior and other officers from the dockyards had been on a large number of other courses at institutions other than the Administrative Staff College.

Mr. W. A. Wilkins (Bristol, South): From which document are these quotations being made?

Mr. E. G. Willis (Edinburgh, East): From the Observations of the Admiralty.

Mr. MacColl: Our impression on the whole was that the emphasis had been on in-service training and taking people on visits to see operations going on in other comparable industries. That is of little use. What is wanted is a group of keen ambitious men meeting informally round a table and sharing each other's ideas, arguing until the middle of the night and in this way stimulating each other. We do not want to stage a conducted tour around I.C.I. laboratories or something like that. I do not want to press the claims of Henley too far; my hon. Friend the Member for Edmonton and I have no shares in Henley. I am making the point simply because it was a recommendation of my hon. Friend's Committee and apparently nothing has been done about it for ten years.

Mr. Webster: I draw attention to Question 168, in which the hon. Member for Widnes said:

> "You were discussing whether they had been to Ashridge or not. It might be helpful to know what Ashridge is."

Mr. Smithers said:

> "It is a management training college. We have been to Ashridge, but only to take our own managers there for our own conferences . . ."

I do not consider that that is mixing with other people.

Mr. MacColl: I do not want to delay the House, but I wish to discuss one other recommendation and that is the general problem of methods study and efficiency. We recommended that a

> "working party should be set up to make a survey . . . of the use of the more expensive machinery in the Dockyards"

and to see whether it should be disposed of or written off when it became obsolete. This working party would consider these highly technical problems and, in particular, would look at the recommendations of the Patton Report. The Admiralty turned that down because it said that it thought that these objects could be

> "achieved by normal administrative processes without the necessity of setting up a special working party."

That sounds a little too much like some of the other things we have had mentioned before, and it means that nothing very much has happened. I do not say that we are wedded to the idea of a working party, but I should like to know what has been going on in that respect and what steps are being taken to intensify the study of these problems.

This is a Motion to take note of the Report and not a Motion inviting a decision on any matter. We believe that in our Report we made a constructive contribution to the examination of these problems and we offer to the House the evidence upon which our recommendations were placed; they were not just wild generalisations but were based on evidence. I finish with the remark which I made earlier which is that on a solution of these problems and the development in the dockyards of the highest level of efficiency depends the future of the dockyards in competition with other organisations which are likely to work in this field.

The dockyards have to be modern and have to be fully equipped and managed with the utmost efficiency. There is no room in the modern atomic age for anything less or for anything which is merely traditional and pleasantly old-fashioned. That may be a pleasant facade, but behind it there must be 100 per cent. efficiency.

4.20 p.m.

Mr. David Webster (Weston-super-Mare): First, I pay tribute to the hon. Member for Widnes (Mr. MacColl) for the way in which he conducted the Sub-Committee stage of this inquiry. I found it most instructive, and enjoyed "sitting at his feet"—if that is the correct expression to describe someone sitting on his right hand side.

I welcome my hon. Friend the Civil Lord to this Department. When we were investigating the Admiralty dockyards in the afternoons under the chairmanship of the hon. Gentleman, I seemed to be spending most of my mornings with the Civil Lord when he was Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Transport and playing a very large part in conducting the highly controversial and complex Transport Bill through the House. So I am glad to meet them both this afternoon.

The point of departure relates to the hon. Member for Edmonton (Mr. Albu), with whom I seem to have been spending rather a time on the other side of the world recently, in Australia. One of his recommendations was that there should be a senior personnel officer responsible to the admiral superintendent in every dockyard. That recommendation, after eighteen months, was dropped like a very hot potato by the Admiralty.

The second recommendation was that a general manager should be appointed to every dockyard, and, after an equal length of time, that was also fairly abruptly rejected by the Admiralty. We were sorry about that, though we appreciated the logic of the argument that a general manager is not a viable appointment so long as one has the departments of each dockyard divided on a professional rather than a functional basis.

It was interesting that it took two events, the Report of the Nihill Committee and the visit of a working party to the United States Navy to see how it was arranging its dockyard affairs, before it was announced that the change to general manager structure and to a functional rather than a professional structure would take place and would start in 1958. I think that the original date of completion of such a structure was advertised for 1965. Like many other dates of completion, this has now been postponed, to 1968, and I do not think it would be exceedingly cynical of me if I were to suspect that it would not be completed by that time. I have very strong reasons for suspecting that.

I was rather regretful that the Admiralty, having first turned down these recommendations, should then be, I thought, somewhat reluctant to meet the Estimates Committee again. I feel most strongly that it would be valuable if the Estimates Committee met it again on this subject in the not too far distant future, because we were able to make certain recommendations based upon the original recommendations which our predecessors made and which were turned down. As we see the developing picture, we have certain comments to make.

We also have, not only in the context of that change, considerable recommendations to make, because it is almost impossible in a non-commercial undertaking of such vastness to make an adequate yardstick of efficiency. This is also in the Ordnance Survey Report that we are now working on. In the Admiralty dockyards, where one does not get the consideration of the market place, it is practically impossible to obtain this. We get the well-informed guesses of people who have studied this matter most thoroughly, but it is exceedingly difficult to come to an efficient yardstick of productivity and progress. For that reason I entirely support the first recommendation, that we should have a quinquennial review. I very much hope that the review will be as near quinquennial as possible. It is most important that these things should be looked at very closely with an outside eye.

There is also, coming to the lack of commercial stimulus or probe, however one wishes to describe it, the matter of the purchasing of new machinery, and the costing and the O. & M. study which is necessary before this is done. I appreciate that devoted people from the Treasury do this, but I was a little unhappy regarding the vulgar commercialism which seems to be lacking in the Admiralty organisation. I think that that also applied to the redundant equipment, of which there is a considerable amount. It is not only equipment and machinery, but work buildings and office buildings which are not particularly efficient, though they were probably very effective at the time of Nelson. A new block is being provided at Rosyth. We welcome that. We think that it will make a great deal of improvement.

We had also to consider the disposal by the Navy of very considerable acreages —in fact, square miles—of dockyard land which has become either redundant or no longer necessary to our Commonwealth commitment. Some of it, as in South Africa, has been disposed of to the Government concerned. My particular concern was the disposal of the Sheerness docks. In Question Number 3 I showed my unhappiness about this, and asked what valuation was made of the property before it was disposed of. As I understand the answer, it was that no great valuation was made and there was no great call for it, and that it was simply a matter of getting the highest bidder. But the highest bidder turned out to be a

[MR. WEBSTER.]
property development company. I am not satisfied that the taxpayer's money was adequately protected before it was sold by ascertaining the value of the dock in the hands of a commercial developer.

This is something which is not simply a matter which would concern the Admiralty and its dockyards. Quite an acreage will, I suspect, become redundant in the future, and I would hope that adequate valuation will be made. Many of these areas are in the hearts of great cities. What takes place before they are disposed of? I would cite the situation within the railways. The right to develop such property has now been obtained for the Railways Board and Railway Sites Limited. I am very much an admirer of private enterprise, but I am very insistent that when the State disposes of vast properties an adequate valuation should be made so that nobody makes a killing at the expense of the taxpayer.

Another matter over which I have been a little uncertain about whether there is the necessary commercial stimulus within the Admiralty concerns apprentices. In paragraph 25 of our Report it is stated that, in 1955, 1,000 apprentices were taken on on a five-year training course at a cost to the taxpayer of £1·7 million. It is also stated that in an average year half or more than half the apprentices leave for dockyard service. If half of the 1,000 left within two years of completing their apprenticeship, that would be a loss to the State of £850,000, with no immediate return. I do not grudge this if this is an overt decision about the education of apprentices taken as such. I do grudge it if it is a decision arrived at in an absent-minded manner, although it is to be something from which industry in general will benefit at the expense of the taxpayer.

I would say that it is essential that the advertising and the catchment area for this type of training should not just be in the ports themselves and that we should have a national form of advertising with a national form of entry, and that we should be more selective in respect of the type of person undertaking this most excellent form of training. I would not necessarily insert a qualifying clause that they should stay in the Admiralty service, but if this is to be an overt decision to train our young men in skills valuable to industry nationally, let us do it on a more selective and more widely-spread basis. I am certain that the Civil Lord will say that many private industrial firms do exactly the same thing, but I am certain that they do it as an overt decision either from a sense of duty or else because they feel that it pays the industry and the company concerned.

I come back to the point made by the hon. Member for Widnes about the training at Henley. I am certain that the Civil Lord will do everything he can as the hon. Member for Henley to encourage recruiting there and also at Ashridge. I was a little dissatisfied with the answer of the Admiralty about sending these people to the courses when it was stated in the evidence, in reply to the Question which I quoted, that they simply went as an exclusive group taken there by the Admiralty for a weekend or a fortnight to meet only Admiralty personnel. I feel that if this had been done on a wider basis a great deal of benefit could have been gained both by Admiralty senior management and by the senior management of private industry.

I also suspect that the recommendations of the hon. Gentleman the Member for Edmonton and his Sub-Committee would not have met the same abrupt response from the Admiralty had there been closer liaison between those bodies. After all, the turn from a professional to a functional basis is almost, in effect, the break down of a demarcation dispute, and to put it on to a functional basis is a sounder thing and something about which many people in private industry are very concerned.

Another thing that concerns me very much in the development of this functional basis was that I think that they would have seen at Ashridge and Henley that this change to functionalism would have required greater recruiting into the senior management ranks. I am also surprised that the experience at Chatham was not shown up more rapidly than it was, that the next major dockyard should be modernised and functionalised, which is Rosyth, because at Rosyth it was definitely said that changing to a functional basis was held up because of a lack of senior management concerned. I think that that was

a pity and that it could have been avoided had there been greater connection.

With regard to recruiting senior management, I am concerned that there is the wastage of senior management on the naval side. An Admiralty superintendent retires, I understand, at the age of 55, and as we go lower down the ranks the retirement age becomes considerably earlier. I think that is a loss to the Service and that the talks and discussions between the Admiralty and the Treasury regarding the development of an Admiralty engineering service have not been nearly urgent enough. A great deal more should be done to merge the two so that the Admiralty engineering service in general should benefit.

As to Admiralty superintendents, let me say straight away that by sentiment and my feeling for the use of the Service I would be most reluctant indeed to take them out of the Admiralty dockyards. We have the recommendation both of the hon. Member for Edmonton and of ourselves that we should break down pure professionalism, but by doing that at the same time we recommend, which we have not done, that to take the Admiralty superintendent out of the dockyard then we are going back to pure professionalism. I think that it is very important that the two should come together on their functional basis and that it is essential that the user should be represented at the very highest level.

Many of these admirals carry out other functions as flag officers of their various areas. It is important to show the flag. It is very easy to say that this is simply Noel Coward and flag waving, but I think that if the dockyard workers, going to and from work, see the admiral's flag going around that dockyard they know that it will be used if necessary in combat. I think that that is very essential.

There is a broader matter. We have to take into account the needs of the Royal Navy. If we were to reduce the number of admirals drastically and were to take the admiral superintendent's—admirals do not have a field marshal's baton—walking stick—I do not know why he has one, because these gentlemen have good sea-going legs—out of the ditty bag, I think that we shall reduce the standard of entry into the Royal Navy and I personally would regret that most deeply, because I think that it would be to the detriment of the Service at the saving of a very few pounds.

I wish that the hon. Gentleman and ourselves had got in before Lord Rochdale in having an urgent recommendation. My recommendation and his was that the engineering service should be proceeded with urgently and I should like to hear from my hon. Friend the Civil Lord what progress he can tell us today has been made, because I think that this is essential.

I do not think that I would be too specific about the five to seven years' term. It is a fine judgment. I think that it is the thing to aim for without being too rigid on this point. To say that it is done by outside shipbuilding firms is not necessarily to say that it is of the highest recommendation. My criticism of many of them is that they stay in their position far too long. I would recommend that the 40-50 group should be those brought into senior management. I think that that would be most valuable.

I, with the hon. Gentleman and the Sub-Committee, visited the four great dockyards in this country. Throughout this visit I was impressed by the loyalty and steadfastness and devotion of duty of all concerned. It is important and good that this should be so, because they are not the highest paid in the land. When we consider that the ability of the Navy to fight its battles and control the seas depends very largely upon that spirit one can be thankful that that spirit is shown.

4.36 p.m.

Mr. James Boyden (Bishop Auckland): I think that the Sub-Committee is to be congratulated on the very thorough method in which it followed up the work from 1951. I want to concentrate on one aspect of the Report, paragraph 27, Recommendation No. 8, in relation to the training and wastage of ex-apprentices to which the hon. Member for Weston-super-Mare (Mr. Webster) referred.

There can be no doubt that the Admiralty has been extremely dilatory over this problem. It would appear that the Civil Lord indicates assent. The problem has been there a very long time. On the Report made by the Estimates Committee on 25th July and the Admiralty's reply on 30th January it has

[MR. BOYDEN.]

got only to the stage when methods of conducting the inquiry are under discussion between the Treasury and the Admiralty, and I hope that the Civil Lord will be able to say that it has got beyond the methods of the actual inquiry and is well on its way to proferring some solution.

There is a remarkable contrast between the way in which the Admiralty handed over its works service at an annual value of £22 million to the Ministry of Public Building and Works, doing it in a matter of weeks, and the long time that it has taken over this difficult problem, but one no more difficult than the problem of the works services. Wastage is extremely serious. It is rather sloppy thinking merely to say that it does industry good.

Unless the costs and methods of training are identified it is difficult to see how reforms can be suggested. The figures given in the Estimates Committee's Report of the 1951-55 crop of apprentices, over 3,000 left the dockyard service by the end of 1961 which is very serious especially when put against the fact that only 8 per cent. of the apprentices in training actually leave while under training, and the cost given in the Report of £1,700 per apprentice is, in broad terms, a loss incurred by the Admiralty of about £1 million a year, which is very serious indeed, not that I want particularly to press the costs aspect.

The fundamental problem is to devise a training and education scheme which will work in with the national system and get the best results all round. I have a feeling that for far too long the departments of the Admiralty concerned with this have been havering as to who is the right person to deal with it. There has been too much buck-passing. I refer the hon. Member for Weston-super-Mare to the Questions No. 750 and 751, on page 122. The first question was:

> "What steps do you take to inform the Admiralty about the causes of this situation?"

This was about the wastage of apprentices and who is responsible. The second question included this:

> ". . . we have discussed this with the Admiralty and we have rather got the feeling that they regarded this as essentially a problem for local treatment, but when we come locally we find they say it is a problem that cannot be settled except by the Admiralty."

It is rather like the old rhyme:

> "Great Chatham, with his sabre drawn
> Stood waiting for Sir Richard Strachan.
> Sir Richard, longing to be at 'em,
> Stood waiting for the Earl of Chatham."

The problem is a national one and the proposed inquiry recommended by the Estimates Committee is too narrow. There are so many moves for improving training and education today that this is a particularly ripe time for wider discussions on Admiralty apprentices. I hope that the Civil Lord will say that he is entering into such discussions with the people concerned. Local education authorities in the dockyard towns and the Ministry of Education itself are very much concerned with this, as, also, is the Ministry of Labour. Cmnd. Paper 1892 makes suggestions about the widening and intensifying of training, and, quite obviously, the Admiralty must come into this. It will be interesting to hear what is proposed in relation to that. The Ministry of Transport also has very considerable connections with shipbuilding and repairing, and it also should be brought in, as should the shipbuilding industry, the employers and the unions.

The only way in which this problem can be satisfactorily solved is by consultations between all these parties and probably a decision taken as to which is the right way and the right specialisation to deal with it. Without having gone into it adequately myself, it seems to me that there is probably a case for the Royal dockyards giving up their technical schools and dealing with this through the local education authorities. I am well aware of the compliments paid to the Admiralty's apprentice training, and I thoroughly endorse them. But I think that to get the position clear, so that the Admiralty contribution and the contributions of other partners are made quite clear, it may well be necessary for the Admiralty to give up its own technical colleges and put the staff and facilities into the national pool.

I cannot see that there would be a security problem in this, apart from in a few specialised subjects like electronics. Indeed, there is no security problem, according to the Report, and certainly there is a tendency for the Service Departments to be civilianised. The works services performed by the Admiralty has

now been civilianised, as I have said, and there is a recommendation in this Report for more civilianisation generally.

Therefore, I cannot see why there should be any problem about apprentice-training. Indeed, the excellence of the Admiralty system could have a good effect on technical education locally, and what the local education authorities have to contribute would have a good effect on the Admiralty. This aspect is emphasised throughout the Report in other connections, including management training.

Thus, in the training of apprentices, there are mutual contributions to be made which would make for a much better final result and which could certainly be more economic, although that is not the point. The point is that, with the scarce resources we have for education and for our dockyards, we must ensure that the maximum contribution is made. This is not so much a matter of expenditure, but of getting the maximum effort and results from the organisation we use.

4.45 p.m.

Mr. F. A. Burden (Gillingham): I think that most hon. Members who have been here since the beginning of the debate will agree that it is evident, as usual on these occasions, that, when the matter is non-controversial the quality of debate is extremely high. I listened with very great interest to the speech of the hon. Member for Widnes (Mr. MacColl) and I was pleased that he reminded us of the part taken by the hon. Member for Edmonton (Mr. Albu) in the original considerations regarding the reorganisation of the Royal dockyards.

There is no doubt that the Royal dockyards are a more efficient and economic way of providing for the refitting and re-equipment of vessels for the Royal Navy than could have been obtained through private yards. The reason is, of course, that the men are trained to deal only with Her Majesty's ships. The apprenticeship training, which is an essential part of the Royal dockyards, is one of the most admirable in the country, and there are no demarcation disputes such as so often hold up production in private yards. I cannot remember when there was, if ever, a strike in a Royal dockyard.

All this helps to ensure that the time factor can be relied upon. The times for refitting and repairs estimated by the Royal dockyards are usually adhered to or are fairly closely kept and this, of course, is tremendously important in servicing vessels for the Royal Navy. But, of course, there is also a very deep tradition in the dockyard towns, and I think that my hon. Friends who also have the honour of sitting for dockyard towns would agree that the men and women working there really feel that they are part of the Navy. That is a tradition that we must do our utmost to keep.

The hon. Member for Widnes made a comment that I want to take up. He said that expenditure on the Royal dockyards was about £60 million a year and that they employed some 40,000 people. In Chatham, for instance, there are about 12,000 dockyard workers and it is by far the biggest employer of labour locally. It is the artery from which the economic blood pumps into the towns of Rochester, Chatham and Gillingham, and it is vital to their well-being that its activities be maintained at a very high standard.

Today, of course, new techniques in building are causing considerable strain on the Royal dockyards, as they are everywhere. They are a challenge, too, and I think that the enormous complexity of modern construction, and particularly the guts that go into the hull, are such that they demand of the artisans and skilled men working in the dockyards standards of efficiency that have never before been demanded.

It is certainly my view that, if the Royal dockyards are efficient doing refits for the Navy, they have a right to expect, and it is essential that they be given, new construction. My own view is that men asked to carry out the highly complex refitting of vessels of the Royal Navy today can best learn their jobs through new construction.

The hon. Member for Edmonton has, no doubt, been watching very carefully and with great interest the reorganisation scheme that has been going on in Chatham Dockyard. I believe, from what I am told, that it is a considerable success. If that is so, then I think that we would all join him in asking that the reorganisation of the other yards should be carried out as quickly as possible.

It is a system of the detailed planning of work right down to the man on the

[MR. BURDEN.]

job. In industry generally this must come about if we are to maintain effective production, and today it is no less necessary to ensure effective production in the Royal dockyards than it is in private industry. The process of reorganisation at Chatham has been almost completed, but it now needs time to settle down and shake out the rough spots. The full results will be seen in three or four years' time, when the present practices have been streamlined and the inevitable teething troubles overcome.

I believe that I intervened when the question of apprentices was raised. The Royal dockyards ought to be proud of their apprenticeship scheme. Evidence of that is the manner in which private industry does its utmost to coerce apprentices when they have finished their dockyard training. In future it will be necessary to take every possible step to ensure that apprentices stay in Admiralty service.

Hon. Members have referred to the difficulty of recruiting, from among men trained in the dockyard, the high quality of management that is always needed, but I believe that if the considerable expertise that is brought about through the apprenticeship scheme is carried on, and the men who stay in the dockyard after completing their apprenticeships are given encouragement and the opportunity to learn the other arts of management and expertise, there will be no difficulty in recruiting all the top management from the dockyards.

It is inevitable that after the completion of their dockyard training some of these young men will wish to go out into private industry. I see nothing wrong in that. Notwithstanding the desire of many of them to broaden their knowledge, and perhaps travel abroad, we can be sure that they will retain an affection for the dockyards which will, after they have gone overseas or into other jobs for a short time, encourage them to return and settle down in the dockyards. The fact that they have been outside for a period may, in many instances, be instrumental in equipping them for top management.

Mention has been made of the relation between the admiral superintendent and the general manager. So far, the only yard in which practical experience of this exists is at the Royal Naval Dockyard, Chatham. All the evidence goes to show that there the system is working extremely well. Sometimes there may be the clash of personalities that one gets in other walks of life—in whatever firm or factory one may be.

Perhaps it is unfortunate that the admiral who carries out the duty of admiral superintendent in a dockyard is appointed for so short a period. Consideration ought to be given to the possibility of making his term of service a little longer. I appreciate the difficulties involved. There is the problem of retaining officers in top jobs for too long, and so denying opportunities to the up-and-coming. Nevertheless, the possibility ought to be considered.

I have pressed my hon. Friend on many occasions—and I shall press him again this afternoon—on the question of the wages paid in the Royal dockyards compared with those paid in private industry. My hon. Friend has admitted the matter is now under consideration. It is not good enough to expect to get really highly skilled technical men working in the dockyards and being happy to remain there if they are not paid wages which are comparable with those that they would receive outside the Royal dockyards. The loyalty of the dockyard workers, and their emotional approach to service in the dockyards—and that is what it is, in the dockyard towns—should not encourage the Admiralty to be a bad employer in respect of the wages.

The question of the chain of command has been discussed. It works up to a point. The breakdown occurs among the workers on the job. The admiral superintendent and the general manager find great difficulty in projecting themselves as they should to the men on the bench. I have suggested previously that the best way to do this would be for each dockyard to have its own dockyard paper. I know that I shall be told that this would be extremely costly, and that that is the reason why it cannot be done. Nevertheless, I ask my hon. Friend to consider the possibilities of the multigraph. This machine costs about £1,000, but I use it with great success. I do not wish to advertise it, but it is a very good machine. It would enable dockyards to produce the sort of document that could

be very useful as a dockyard paper, at an extremely reasonable price.

There would be inestimable value in the fact that the admiral superintendent and the general manager would be able to get right down to the men working on the bench. I am sure that my hon. Friends would agree that, above all, it could be used to scotch many of the rumours that go about, and cause such disquiet, to the effect that the naval dockyards are to be closed down. There would be nothing better for stopping these rumours than for the men to have their own opportunity of expressing their views in their own paper, and also for management and the Admiralty to contributing in the same way. I hope that my hon Friend will consider this question and see whether something can be done.

During the evidence brought before the Estimates Committee the question of departmental managers was raised. It is evident that much of the machinery and equipment in the modern vessel of war is so highly technical that men require a great deal of experience and knowledge if they are to do their jobs thoroughly and well. This is impossible unless each department has managers of high quality. Many knowledgeable men in the yards consider that to gain sufficient experience before attaining managerial responsibility a man must have had at least five years in a particular department.

Whatever may have happened in the past, it would seem sensible to me that there should be some sort of yardstick, in view of the demanding nature of modern equipment. Again, I return to the point which I made, that the best recruits may be obtained by ensuring that the apprenticeship scheme in the yards has a proper follow-through, so that, ultimately those concerned may have every opportunity to take the highest possible posts open to them in the naval dockyards.

I am concerned about the refusal, so far, by the Admiralty to allow new construction. I think it essential that all naval dockyards should have new construction for the reasons which I have expressed before. The announcement of new construction is reassuring to people in the dockyard towns and gives them confidence about their future and that of the dockyard. I do not believe it to be in the best interests of the Navy, and certainly not of the naval dockyards or the towns where they are situated, if dockyards are to be turned completely into repair and refitting yards.

5.2 p.m.

Mr. Austen Albu (Edmonton): I am now eleven years older than when as a rather new Member and coming almost straight from a managerial post in industry I presumed to help to compile a Report which made pretty radical suggestions about the management of the Royal Dockyards. Perhaps I am still young enough to be able to blush at the complimentary remarks made by my hon. Friend the Member for Widnes (Mr. MacColl), for which I thank him. I should like to congratulate him and the Committee on the work done. I know how difficult and how time-consuming is this job, because there is an enormous amount of material which has to be read and a mass of evidence which has to be absorbed. I should like to congratulate the Committee and my hon. Friend on the Report which has been made and on the speeches which have been made by hon. Members who were members of the Committee.

This House, and certainly the country, simply does not recognise the amount of work done by Members of Parliament who serve on Select Committees—the Estimates Committee, the Committee of Public Accounts, the Select Committee which deals with nationalised industries and the *ad hoc* Committees which are set up from time to time for various purposes. An enormous amount of work is done by hon. Members who take this sort of thing seriously.

I was rather shocked to learn from the hon. Member for Weston-super-Mare (Mr. Webster) that apparently the Admiralty tried to resist the inquiries of the Committee on this occasion. After all, it is eleven years since a Committee inquired into the Royal Dockyards. From time to time Questions have been asked and there have been debates and rumours have got out. But if the Navy may be described as the "silent service", the Admiralty is absolutely "dumb". My experience at the time of the inquiry eleven years ago was that some of the permanent officials

[MR. ALBU.]
were stone walling so hard that it was difficult to get past them.

That is a very silly attitude to adopt towards Parliament which votes the money. The Admiralty must not consider that Members of Parliament have no experience. They have experience, sometimes industrial and sometimes from other spheres, which may be of value to the Admiralty. As Members of Parliament we are, of course, a body of amateurs and do not presume to advise in great detail. But, after all, the Admiralty continues to claim that the management of the dockyard is better undertaken by amateurs than professionals, and so the Admiralty should appreciate that in this matter Members of Parliament may prove of some use.

It happens that on the question of the structure and management of the Royal Dockyards, we were not even original in 1950-51. There had been the Hilton Report, which the Committee of 1950-51 did not see until towards the end of its deliberations, when it discovered that the majority of the recommendations of the Hilton Committee were almost identical with its own. In addition to the Report of our Committee, there was in 1956 the Report of the Marshall Committee, which is referred to in the Report of the Estimates Committee. There was also my hon. Friends Committee and in the meantime, in 1958, the reorganisation had commenced.

It would be churlish on my part not to congratulate the Admiralty on this late conversion. But the evidence in the Report seems to me to continue to reveal examples of that amateur tradition in which, in our public administration as well as in too much of our industry, we continue to take pride. There was the case of the admiral superintendent who boasted to the Committee that he had never employed anyone except his gardener. By "employed" of course he meant employed or managed in civil life. I do not believe this to be a recommendation for the position of the top official administering a vast industrial undertaking.

Reference was made by the hon. Member for Weston-super-Mare to the view that a general manager should not be a professional person. But that is completely to misunderstand the argument. No one suggests that the general manager, as the head of the undertaking, should operate as a general manager in any specialised capacity, either as an engineer, a salesman, an accountant or as anything else.

Mr. Webster: I do not recall having made that statement.

Mr. Albu: I made a note of the hon. Gentleman's remarks. In defending the position of admiral superintendent, I think the hon. Member said that someone was required with a general view and that we did not want someone who was a professional or departmental manager.

Mr. Webster: I am grateful to the hon. Gentleman for the opportunity to clear up this point by saying that I do not think it a good thing to take the user interest out of the dockyards and that it is possible for them to co-operate.

Mr. Albu: That is the second point, which I will come to in a moment. I shall be able to see in the OFFICIAL REPORT what was said by the hon. Gentleman. But I am glad that he agrees with me.

One cannot reach the position of general manager except with experience of some professional position, and that applies in industry. A person must have had some background of education and training before he can reach that position. There would be nothing wrong with an admiral superintendent acting as a general manager if he had time to learn the job. But the position is that the admiral superintendent is not given sufficient time ever to become a general manager. I do not see how we can expect to get a qualified man from any professional background—naval, engineering or any other kind—to manage a vast undertaking when he is responsible to a chairman who is not occupying that office for more than two or three years.

Mr. Burden: Surely that is what happens in industry. There one finds that a chairman has no other function than to be a chairman, but because he occupies that position his value is greater than if he were a professional man in a technical position.

Mr. Albu: I am coming to the question of the number of chairmen under whom the general manager sits. The point is that an admiral superintendent is not the

only chairman to whom the general manager is responsible. He has a whole hierarchy of chairmen who sit on top of him.

On the question about the user, most people in industry believe, and certainly economists believe, that nothing is more disastrous for a company than for it to get itself in such a situation of vertical integration that its user and consumer interests are inextricably mixed. This leads to inefficiency. I think it a good idea that somebody like the admiral superintendent should be in the dockyard to represent the consumer interest, but ought he not to be managing the dockyard on top of the general manager. It will work all right as long as the admiral superintendents keep their fingers out—I was about to use a naval expression—and let the general manager get on with it, while they merely represent the user.

I was utterly depressed, and other hon. Members have been, at the difficulties made by the Treasury in setting up a career engineering service in the Admiralty. This seems typical of the failure of the Admiralty, and many other branches of the Civil Service, to understand the level of professional engineering—by engineering I include the construction side—required, although I noticed in answer to some Questions on the point that it seems to be recognised in the Admiralty that, in future, the level required will be that of a university graduate and not less. I admit that the private shipbuilding industry is a very bad example in this field, and the dockyards are no worse, and, as regards training, a good deal better than private shipyards. Therefore, I think that the hon. Gentleman opposite was slightly missing the point here when he talked about the possibility of a boy coming in as an apprentice and rising to the top.

I should be the last to prevent that happening, but we have to face the realities of our modern educational systems. This has not been faced in a number of industries—for instance not in British Railways. I believe it may now be beginning to be faced in the Admiralty. This is the problem created by the 1944 Eductaion Act and of the growth of university education and the growth of education in colleges of advanced technology and so forth. We shall not in future find many boys on the shop floor who will be capable of going on to become professional engineers. In so far as one or two of the right quality still enter craft apprenticeships they must be given the opportunity to go either to a college of advanced technology or to a university. Unless they are given that opportunity they will not be able to undertake the professional duties required in a highly professional industrial undertaking.

Mr. Burden: This was the point that I was trying to make, but I had stated that I intended to limit myself to ten minutes.

Mr. Albu: I am glad that the hon. Gentleman agrees with me in this.

Until we can create a real career structure that is going to attract the best university graduates or the best young men from the colleges of advanced technology and which will give them an opportunity to rise to the top of the profession and become general managers, we shall not get a high-class management structure in the dockyards. It cannot be done on the cheap. We simply have to have a professional engineering salary structure here which will attract these people.

So long as we have the approach that it does not matter because we can always bring in an admiral to manage the dockyard for a year or two, and, therefore, it is of no consequence if we do not get engineers who can become general managers, so long we shall never face the problem, and it has to be faced.

I have never felt quite so anxious about the apprentice wastage question as some hon. Members. That is a problem for the management of the dockyard, which like some private firms has made a magnificent contribution towards the number of skilled craftsmen available in the country. My hon. Friend the Member for Bishop Auckland (Mr. Boyden) suggested that this training should be amalgamated with the general local apprenticeship system and technical school system. I do not know about that, but I hope that the contribution of the Admiralty will continue to be made to industry in general as in the past and that industry will be forced to pay for this by the Minister of Labour through the machinery of his new apprenticeship councils and so forth as

[MR. ALBU.]
set out in his White Paper. That is the proper way in which to make industry pay for what it does not do itself.

Finally, when I was interrupted on the question of the admiral-superintendent acting as the manager of a company, I was about to say that this hierarchy must make it extraordinarily difficult to get the reasonably prompt decisions. We are talking about these general managers as real top level chaps administering vast undertakings. Undoubtedly they must have very great freedom to do so. We all know about the difficulties in the dockyards. They are not manufacturing anything; they are undertaking repair under Service conditions and for Service purposes, and have to maintain in being a capacity for emergencies which manufacturing concerns would not have to maintain.

This wretched business which we insist on of an annual Vote makes complete nonsense of bonus schemes, overtime and the maintenance of plant and machinery. All these things are very difficult and only make the job of the general manager all the harder. Why should he have to go for decisions through so many layers—first to a professional man and then through two levels of amateurs? That is what the admirals who sit on the Board of Admiralty are as far as the general manager is concerned. They know nothing really about industrial management although they may have done a year or two in the dockyards. As I say, the general manager has to go through a professional chief and then through two levels of amateurs before reaching the Board. I do not think this is the way to get the dockyards treated seriously by the Board of Admiralty. I may be wrong and it would appear that the Civil Lord thinks I am, but he has not been long on the Board of Admiralty.

Mr. Hay: I have been there long enough to know how seriously the Admiralty takes the dockyards.

Mr. Albu: The Board of Admiralty is a very funny animal, and is never funnier than in the way it absorbs Ministers. In the last debate I believe I said that the trouble with the Admiralty was that anyone appointed to it as First Lord or as Civil or Financial Secretary is so swallowed up in the tradition and hospitality of the service that he loses the capacity for independent thought and action. I hope that that is not so with the hon. Gentleman, and in any case we look forward very much to hearing him in the debate today.

5.19 p.m.

Miss Joan Vickers (Plymouth, Devonport): I do not propose to follow the hon. Member for Edmonton (Mr. Albu) in all the details of what he has said, but I think it only fair to quote the Ninth Report from the Estimates Committee with regard to the evidence given at Chatham. I quote from page 126, paragraph 794. The admiral superintendent was expressly asked:

> "So you would not agree with the sentiment expressed by an Admiral Superintendent who stated, 'It would be difficult to see what an Admiral Superintendent's job would be under the new arrangements'?—I find it very easy to see what his job would be. I, furthermore, am convinced this is a very much better arrangement. I am quite sure I could not run this dockyard as Admiral Superintendent alone without a General Manager, nor could the General Manager run this dockyard alone as General Manager without an Admiral Superintendent. I am quite convinced that the arrangement we have come to here is very sound. It produces the right balance."

I will not read the rest of it. This admiral superintendent is someone who has been in action and working on the job and we must take his evidence until, at any rate, we find that there is anything proved against it. I suggest that most of the admiral superintendents should be engineering admirals. They would then have experience on the engineering side and on the administrative side at Manadon. We have already had experience of some of them in Devonport. I think they are excellent.

I congratulate the hon. Member for Widnes (Mr. MacColl) on the very able and conscientious way in which he presented the Report. I have read it. It must have entailed a great deal of work. As I am not a member of the Estimates Committee, I should like to pay a tribute to the members of the Committee who undertook this work. We owe thanks to the Admiralty for its replies, which have been made quickly this time, and they are from my point of view very acceptable.

I hope that the Admiralty replies to Recommendations (1), (2), (6), (8), (9), (10) and (11) are not merely wishful

thinking and pious hopes. I say this in view of the very long time we had to wait before the Admiralty carried out the previous recommendations. It has proved so helpful this time that perhaps I am a little suspicious that we may be fobbed off with these better answers. No definite dates or periods of time are given in any of these answers. When my hon. Friend the Civil Lord replies, I hope that the Admiralty will be tied down to some specific timing for the action which is proposed to be taken under these recommendations. I should particularly like to see action taken quickly under Recommendation (10), dealing with lands, and Recommendation (11), dealing with machinery.

I want particularly to support the Committee's Recommendations (2), (7), (8), (10), (11), (12) and (13). I am not anxious to support the Committee on Recommendation (5), because it is trying to set the age group too low. We are becoming far too age conscious. Many people think that only very young people are adequate for certain jobs. I suggest that the Admiralty's reply is more satisfactory than the Committee's recommendation.

I would hope for greater flexibility on Recommendation (1). To tie ourselves down to having a quinquennial review would be unfortunate. It might be necessary to have one more often. I hope that it will not take place less frequently. I think that it should take place more frequently. It is suggested that there will be a review of Chatham in less than the five years, which will be very advantageous.

I realise that it has taken a very long time to put into effect the suggestions of the hon. Member for Edmonton and his Committee. Now that the Committee is to start on Rosyth and Portsmouth in 1964, why is it not possible to include Devonport? We have had the experience in Chatham. I understand that is is successful. Why not do it in the other dockyards straight away and bring them up to the same standard?

A lay person like myself finds it very difficult to get a complete picture. There are so many reports mentioned, such as the Marshall Report, the Dockyard Capacity Report and the Patton Report, none of which are we able to see. These reports may contain things which prove that it is not possible to reorganise all the dockyards at the same time.

As I understand from this Report, it is the consensus of opinion that the production at Chatham has risen by 2½ per cent. It seems that it must be working well. It is therefore essential to get the other dockyards on an equally good production basis. Some of the five departments mentioned—planning, production, personnel, yard service and finance—must already be in being. I suggest that the reorganisation of all the dockyards on a functional basis could be hurried up.

Is staffing the only reason? The Report says that the total increase in non-productive staff arising from the reorganisation will be about 1,500. Is it necessary to have all these extra staff? How many extra staff will there have to be at Chatham? This is one of the points I have not been able to discover. Cannot some of the experienced staff at Chatham be spared to go to the other dockyards and start work there on a functional basis? The Report says, with regard to the shortage of staff, that the problem of the delay in planning and reorganisation is

"not entirely one of inadequate salaries",

but there are

"not enough officers with certain skills to go round".

The phrase "not entirely one of inadequate salaries" gives one an idea that the salaries are not good enough to attract people from outside. The Report goes on to say that at Rosyth the headquarters have been extremely embarrassed by the inability to provide sufficient supervisory grades and professional officers. It is very important that they should have them, particularly in view of the extra work arising from Polaris.

At a time when the Admiralty made up its mind that it was to have the dockyards on a functional basis, it seems a pity that it did not train more people in its own yards in its own methods. I hope that today's discussion and the Report result in a better career structure in the dockyards. This is what is lacking. There is far too little scope for initiative within the dockyards, which is a great pity.

[MISS VICKERS.]

Several hon. Members have mentioned apprentices. The success in the training of apprentices is shown by the fact that there are many former apprentices in very high administrative posts outside dockyards. In many departments of the Civil Service, in the Post Office, there is an amazing number of ex-dockyard apprentices. If they can leave the dockyards and obtain important jobs outside, why is it not possible to train them to take more responsible posts within the dockyards? People come down to Plymouth —I meet them—and tell me that they are now in very good jobs but were once dockyard apprentices. We lose far too many such people.

It is obvious why we lose so many of them. One witness says in an answer on page 223 that they should remain craftsmen the rest of their lives. It is a very depressing idea that one recruits apprentices so that they can remain craftsmen for the rest of their lives. This is why so few grammar school boys are going to the apprentice technical colleges now. Most of the recruits have to come in on aptitude tests, which is a pity. People are becoming dockyard apprentices who are likely to remain craftsmen for the rest of their lives because people are not coming in through the higher examination as they used to. In the olden days dockyard technical colleges in dockyard towns were the places where people could get the best technical education. It is a great pity that there is this very large wastage from the yards, but understandable.

Another reason is that after five years training the mechanic's wage is only £10 4s. 2d. Policemen at the dockyard gates, and even girl tracers, get that money without all that training. This is a very inadequate amount on which to start.

There is, too, the problem of the low level of pay of unskilled men. This was mentioned by my hon. Friend the Member for Gillingham (Mr. Burden). The previous Civil Lord wrote to me on 8th March saying that he was negotiating with the trade unions on a claim for a general wage increase. It is unfortunate to say that the average wage for all workers is about £15, with some getting £18 and £20, because such an average wage does not count with those who are getting under £15. There are over 131 trades and grades within the dockyard, so there is a terrific differentiation between those who take home £15 and those who take home about £8.

I absolutely agree that overtime as mentioned in the report should not be an integral part of a man's income. That is a great difficulty in dockyards, and it can work out extremely expensive, because—and I do not say that this is happening—some people might tend to work rather more slowly so that they are able to augment their incomes by doing overtime. As I say, I am not suggesting that this is being done—only that it could lead to bad practices. I hope that this important matter will be borne in mind.

Recommendation No. 11 deals with methods of financing the purchase of machinery for the dockyards. It is stated that the period two or three years ahead is being considered. This is useless when, as the hon. Member for Edmonton said, we must have the annual Navy Votes. It is impossible to get the necessary machinery. It is stated on page 191, in evidence:

> "For instance, if you want a machine this year, they say, 'We cannot get it in this year.' We are only allowed £10,000 for replacement of machinery. The £10,000 is gone by May. We start in April and by May that has gone. So you have got to wait until next year."

I am sure that no private industry could possibly work on that basis. If the machinery required is essential for the working of the yard, it should be obtained even if one must take the money that may come in future Estimates. It is essential to estimate for machinery on at least a three-year basis—I personally would prefer a ten-year basis—and then the Admiralty can adequately go into the question of machinery and decide what it needs for a number of years. Only by doing it this way will we have modern, up-to-date machinery.

I was also interested to note from the Report that there is a study engineer of obsolete machinery. This chap must be kept working overtime because of the amount of obsolete machinery that exists in most yards. An example of this is the case of work being held up through the lack of proper machinery. This example concerns the South Yard at

Devonport. It was suggested that there should be a prefabricated shop that is for making frigate parts. The discussions for doing this have been going on for a year or two, and I gather that originally the project was to have cost about £500,000. I understand that that sum has been reduced somewhat because the scheme is to be modified.

Throughout last winter the frigate parts had to be prefabricated in the open; and hon. Members will remember the very bad weather conditions last winter. The men had to work in the snow and a good deal of illness resulted. This meant the men working in extremely difficult conditions. The sort of construction that has been under consideration for one or two years shows how work can be handicapped by lack of essential equipment. We ought to have up-to-date working conditions for our dockyard men.

The question of contracts is mentioned in the Report. I understand that the Director of Contracts calls for tenders and that because of high overheads of the naval dockyards—because a certain number of people must always be employed there as a sort of fire service—it is inevitable that a private firm is given the contract. The Admiralty then pays the contractor and the waiting time of the people in the dockyard, and because of this—the expenses of the contract and the cost involved for the people waiting in the dockyard—the whole job is made more expensive than if it were done in the dockyard.

An example of this concerns riggers. These people are needed for dealing with big ships, such as aircraft carriers. They have to be on hand. However, when they are not employed on this sort of task, could they not handle the wire and rope side of the dockyard, making minesweeping gear, and so on. Instead of putting the contract out to British Ropes Ltd., surely these men when they are not moving big ships—and they cannot be doing that all the time—could be employed on this sort of work and so save the Admiralty a lot of money.

I support the remarks of my hon. Friend the Member for Gillingham about the publication of a newspaper for the dissemination of information in dockyards. This has been done with great success elsewhere, and I see no reason why it should not be done in the dockyards. It could be done on a similar basis to the newspaper published by the Coal Board. I understand that that publication makes a profit and gives full information to the individuals concerned who, by reading all about it, know exactly what is happening. When 40,000 men are employed in one organisation it is difficult to get the information to all of them. Since this scheme has worked so successfully in the Coal Board, I support the comments of my hon. Friend about encouraging it to be spread elsewhere.

The importance of Recommendation No. 7, regarding training, has been emphasised by several hon. Members. It is interesting to note that only 1,200 people have been sent on courses in seven years. That represents about 170 a year, although there are six training colleges to which they could go. This would not appear to be a very generous number. If we want to get better administrators in the dockyards—and I entirely agree with the idea of the hon. Member for Widnes about these people mixing and discussing matters among themselves—it would be far better to make better use of the various courses that are set out in the Report. If the colleges are full up, could not Greenwich be used for some administrative courses? I understand that there is under-occupation at Greenwich now. It is important, especially in view of what has been said about Rosyth, that people should be trained for this administrative work and that they should go through the dockyards to enhance their career structures. Every opportunity should be taken quickly to solve this problem.

I wish to pay tribute to the fine body of men who work in our dockyards. Members of the Committee who visited them were able to see the extremely difficult conditions under which they work. They will be pleased to know that despite these difficulties and the bad weather of last winter H.M.S. "Eagle" in Devonport should be completed by 23rd December. Those who went to Devonport Dockyard will realise the tremendous good work these men are doing.

I understand that of those employed in the dockyards over 3 per cent. are disabled. This shows how the dockyards

[MISS VICKERS.]
are doing a great job of helping many ex-Service disabled people to lead active lives. It is a great advantage to those with a Service background to be able to get jobs in dockyards when they might find it extremely difficult to get jobs elsewhere.

I understand that the Director of Dockyards is to visit Continental dockyards. Will we see his report? At present we have nothing on which to base the standards of our dockyards and, despite all the reports mentioned in the Ninth Report, we cannot read them. It would be a great advantage if we could. Will he also study questions concerning trade unions? I believe, for example, that in the Netherlands there are only three main trade unions in which all the others are incorporated. That is why the Netherlands are able to get on with their shipbuilding and repairing so well. In Britain 131 trades and grades are represented by our unions, and this is not helpful to management nor production.

I hope that my hon. Friend will tell us whether the work on providing housing at Rosyth will be carried on by the Ministry of Public Building and Works when it takes over, and whether there is any intention of houses being erected for civilians near the other dockyards. People sent from the existing dockyards to Singapore or Gibraltar—not so many now go to Malta—find the housing situation quite impossible. The Admiralty has been building large largely for the Navy, and nothing has been done for the civilians, who are in equally difficult circumstances.

I thank the hon. Member for Widnes and the members of his Committee for an interesting Report, and I hope that the many Recommendations, except Recommendation (5) will be accepted.

5.40 p.m.

Mr. W. A. Wilkins (Bristol, South): The Estimates Committee and the Admiralty should be gratified by the response that has been given today to this Report and to the Admiralty's observations on it. The hon. Lady the Member for Plymouth, Devonport (Miss Vickers) is always most charitable—indeed, gracious—in her appreciation of her colleagues' work, and we all appreciate what she has said about our rather difficult task.

I travel from Bristol to London by train, and on it there are very often members of the Admiralty staff. On one occasion, I heard two of them expressing their views about the Estimates Sub-Committee E. I thoughly enjoyed it. It is not the first time that I have heard people in trains expressing their opinions about their Members of Parliament. There must, of course be no question of disciplinary action—I just enjoyed it immensely.

The work of the Estimates Committee on almost any investigation is a very hard chore. It has to be undertaken in the interests of good Government, but it makes great demands on time and mental concentration. The same is true of those who are interrogated by the Committee, and I should like to express our thanks for the courteous way in which the Committee was treated by all members of the Admiralty staff who were called before it, or who had the perhaps, unpleasant duty of conducting us round naval dockyards, and the like. They were extremely frank, and tried to give us the advantage of their knowledge, not only of what had transpired in the past but what was likely to happen in the future.

One matter should be cleared up at once, less there should be any misunderstanding. It has been stated today that when Sub-Committee E decided to investigate the dockyards, the Admiralty rather wanted to put us off. I do not think that was the case. The Admiralty may have thought, may still think, that the moment was inappropriate as certain processes of re-organisation had begun. My impression was that the Department thought that it would have been wiser to have allowed the first pilot scheme at Chatham to be carried into effect so that we could see the first results of the Recommendations of the 1950-51 Committee. If those at the Admiralty thought that would put us off they are not very good psychologists, because it always impels people to ask whether there is anything behind the suggestion. I cannot think that there was anything behind it, and the various members of the staff were most helpful to us.

Some of the things in the Report may appear to be critical but they are not necessarily so, and should not in the main be regarded as adverse. My hon.

Friend the Member for Widnes (Mr. MacColl) has asked me to draw attention to something to which he forgot to refer when presenting the Report. Paragraph 49 of our conclusions states:

"The reorganisation proposals are consistent with the recommendations of the Select Committee on Estimates of 1950-51. Your Committee are impressed with the care with which the reorganisation is being carried out and in particular with the attention being given to preparing the ground and keeping employees in touch with what is happening."

That fairly reflects our impression on going round the dockyards.

I am inclined to agree with the suggestion that it may be difficult for hon. Members to appreciate just exactly what is involved in this massive organisation. I saw that organisation at first hand, because I served in the Royal Navy in the First World War—I have pushed a few carts around Portsmouth Dockyard in rather unpleasant circumstances. Wherever one has vast organisations one always finds weaknesses. By and large, I would not be unduly critical of the general conduct of the dockyards or of the labour force in them.

There is, of course, always the odd chap who goes aboard a ship and suddenly disappears. Nobody sees him again that day, but he may be working hard. I have been in the most unpleasant parts of a huge battleship, where working conditions can be rather shocking. People talk about a dockyard "matey" boarding a ship and disappearing, but he is very likely working in one of the most difficult, out-of-the-way places, probably right at the bottom of the ship, carrying out a repair in most unfavourable circumstances. I am not so critical in these matters as some may be.

There are two points I want to mention specifically: we have not in any way been definite in our recommenation about the positions of admiral superintendent and general manager. We merely say:

"The system of control by an Admiral Superintendent and a General Manager should be kept under constant review as the reorganisation develops."

I see no reason why I should not say now that this was probably because there were divergent views in the subcommittee. I never felt that my own objections to other views expressed were sufficiently strong to justify making a minority recommendation on this point, but I am inclined still to favour as the supreme head of the dockyards an admiral superintendent. I believe that this has advantages, and I speak from knowledge and from my own service and of my recollection of the respect given to the flag in the dockyards.

Although the majority of the employees are civilians, it is vital that there should be some sort of disciplinary control in a place of that kind. Therefore, unless arguments to the contrary are so powerful that they could change my opinion, I would still prefer to see an admiral superintendent in overall command. I agree with my hon. Friend the Member for Edmonton (Mr. Albu) who pointed out that he need not necessarily be a professional man. Nevertheless, I would make a qualification, in agreement with the hon. Lady the Member for Devonport, that he should be someone who has gone through the Service as an engineer. If he has gone through the Royal Navy from the time when he was a midshipman or a sub-lieutenant until he has become an admiral or rear-admiral (engineering) his experience is vast.

Anyone who knows the internals of a mighty battleship knows that there is a great deal to be understood and applied in the mechanical operation of modern ships. This is all the more true today with the trend towards automatic or electronic control. Therefore there is a twofold reason for keeping the admiral superintendent as overall head of the dockyard. I have suggested that he should be an engineer. We all know that there are other plums available to the seaman admiral and that from time to time such appointments are made.

Almost all who have taken part in the debate have touched upon the apprenticeship recommendations which we made. I heard some of my hon. Friends support their colleagues when they referred to the value of the apprenticeship training in dockyard establishments and spoke of its value to the nation as a whole even if the apprentices eventually leave the dockyard. I have some reservations about this. I am not so heartily in support of the extension, if not the continuation at the present level, of the intake of dockyard apprentices. There is no shadow of doubt that this is probably one of the finest training establishments in the

[MR. WILKINS.]
country. I doubt whether there is any parallel to it in ordinary business life. It is a first-class training, educational, mechanical and theoretical, and it seems to me appalling that we should spend £1,700,000 a year on giving these boys this training and then almost certainly lose at least half of them.

It may be argued that they go into productive industry and that their skills are used to produce goods which we sell abroad. We can go round the full circle of the advantages gained by private industry but this means that private industry is not paying its share. It is utilising these skills for its own purposes, which are not necessarily concerned with the national interest. This is an advantage which accrues to private industry in the main out of taxpayers' money.

I know that there is a difficulty here and I agree on this point with the hon. Member for Weston-super-Mare (Mr. Webster). I believe that I asked the Permanent Secretary whether it would not be possible to require at the end of apprenticeship some limited continuance of service in Admiralty dockyards and that it was suggested that that was not possible.

Mr. Willis: Would my hon. Friend accept that in the printing industry?

Mr. Wilkins: I am only posing the question. In the printing industry the apprentice coming out of his time would have the attraction of having the same rate of wages in any shop. The general practice used to be in the printing industry to encourage apprentices to leave to gain experience. This would be all very well in this case if it could be thought that the boys would come back to the Admiralty dockyards, but I doubt whether that would happen once they had left the service. I pose the question without being able to offer a profitable suggestion, but this is a great deal of money to spend when eventually the value of the training given is lost to the dockyard and to the nation.

I am sure that the Chairman of the Committee, my hon. Friend the Member for Widnes, and all the members of the Committee will be very happy at the reception given to its Report. I say this before my hon. Friend the Member for Edinburgh, East sets about us in a moment or so. Generally speaking, the Report has been well received. I hope that the reorganisation scheme, which appears to be proving successful, will be extended further, if that should prove possible.

A further point arises on the recommendation concerning demarcation. We are now witnessing even in Admiralty dockyards something which no doubt will develop throughout industry. We are seeing the need more and more for the creation of industrial unions in the place of a number of segregated unions. In the printing industry there are at the moment thirteen different unions but the industry is trying to bring about amalgamations. I believe that the only solution for demarcation problems will be found eventually in an industrial union. The tendency today is towards this. The Admiralty is to be congratulated on the small number of demarcation problems which have arisen in its dockyards, certainly compared with private establishments. I hope that this trend will continue. I hope that reorganisation will be speeded up and that benefits will accrue to the Admiralty dockyards and to all who are engaged in this work.

6.0 p.m.

Brigadier Terence Clarke (Portsmouth, West): As a representative of our premier naval dockyard, I am grateful for the opportunity of making a few remarks in the short time that is left in this debate. I should have liked to have spoken for three-quarters of an hour; perhaps that is why I have been called so late in the debate, in case I might have spoken for so long.

I was very pleased to hear the hon. Member for Bristol, South (Mr. Wilkins) say that he thought that admiral superintendents should be retained in our dockyards. During the fourteen years that I have represented Portsmouth, West there have been many admiral superintendents in the dockyard, and they have all been good. The one we have at the moment is the best that we have ever had. That is because he is an engineer; he is engineer trained. In the future all admiral superintendents should be engineers basically, rather than officers requiring the next step up in promotion. Our present

admiral superintendent is very active and efficient, and it is a pity that his time comes to an end this year.

I am going to jump from one subject to another because I have promised to resume my seat soon to allow the Minister and the Opposition Front Bench speaker to wind up. It has been suggested that expensive machinery should only be installed in the dockyards if it can be used continually and economically. There are many pieces of machinery in our dockyards which cannot be used all the time. On one occasion I saw a propellor shaft being built on a most expensive piece of machinery. Such machinery cannot be used unless one requires to build a propellor shaft, and the machinery required to do this is bound to be expensive. It is essential to have a machine like that, even if it is lying idle for a year, because during the succeeding two years it is kept very busy. Anyone walking casually around a dockyard will see pieces of machinery which are not working. I must say that in recent years the dockyards have been filled with excellent modern machinery which is welcomed by all employed in the dockyards.

Recently the Civil Lord has been accused of saying that there will be redundancy and that the dockyards will close down. That is not at all true. I should like to give some figures to show the numbers employed in these dockyards and how they have varied. In 1949-50 15,400 people were employed in Portsmouth Dockyard. In 1950-51 the number went up to 16,500. The Korean War was in progress then, and there was a lot of repair work. In 1952 the number went up to 16,884, and in 1954 it reached its peak for that period of 17,472. There was a slight drop after that of 1,000, and in 1958 it went up to 17,480, which is the highest it has ever been. Today the figure is well over 16,000 and is much higher than it was when the Labour Government were in office.

We on this side of the House have been called warmongers in the past, and now we are accused of cutting down armaments and putting the dockyards out of work. I am in favour of keeping the dockyards fully employed, but I hope the time is coming when we shall get some sort of disarmament programme. In anticipation of that situation I hope that our dockyard towns will be allowed to attract other industries so that we have more than one egg in that basket. In Portsmouth we have attracted quite a lot of industry in the past ten or twelve years, but nothing like as much as I should like. The Admiralty is always accused of preventing other industry coming to dockyard towns. I do not believe this to be true. I believe it is the Board of Trade which is responsible, and I do not think this attitude is encouraged by the Admiralty.

My hon. Friend the Member for Gillingham (Mr. Burden) spoke of the desirability of encouraging new construction in the dockyards. I am in favour of this. We in Portsmouth are lucky in that a new frigate is having its keel laid. We have built many frigates before. I agre with my hon. Friend that it is extremely dull work just patching and repairing ships, such as has been the major lot of our dockyards. To be allowed to construct something new, to break a bottle of champagne on its bow and to push out a new vessel which will do a good job in looking after our Commonwealth more than repays our efforts to get new construction for the dockyards.

I should like to say a word or two about wages. It has been suggested that employees in the dockyards do not all do a full day's work. I reckon they do a wonderful day's work, in view of the amount of pay that some of them get. Many of them take home less than £9 a week which is not encouraging to anyone. If the trade unions were only stronger they would see that these men got a better wage. Many of us have been pressing for this for a long time, and I hope the Civil Lord will be able to tell the House when we next debate the Estimates Committee Report that he has been able to increase these dockyard wages to a decent living standard.

I have overspent my time by a minute, but I should like to add my protest that a representative of the premier naval dockyard has not been allowed more than five or six minutes in which to state his views.

6.7 p.m.

Mr. E. G. Willis (Edinburgh, East): We are indebted to the Estimates Committee for having produced this Report for our

[MR. WILLIS.]
discussion and also to my hon. Friend the Member for Widnes (Mr. McColl) for the charming manner in which he opened the debate.

The debate has been interesting, and I have certainly enjoyed it, although I have felt that we have tended to lose sight of the fact that the efficiency of the dockyards is meaningless unless it is related to the purpose for which we want that efficiency. The dockyards exist to meet the needs of the Royal Navy, which is a fighting Service. This fact appears to have been overlooked at times. I hope, during the course of my remarks, to explain why I feel it has been overlooked, but I thought that I would mention it at the beginning because I do not think that any speech has referred to it except possibly the speech of the hon. Member for Weston-super-Mare (Mr. Webster).

The main concern of the House this afternoon has been with the change that is at present taking place from the old arrangement of semi-autonomous departments to an organisation built up on a functional basis. So far as I can see, there is no argument about that, for it now appears to be the generally accepted view. There has been criticism of the fact that the Admiralty has taken so long to start it, and is taking rather a long time to get the job done. Also, the Treasury appears to have been dilatory.

My hon. Friend the Member for Widnes had some rather humorous remarks to make about the Admiralty, but I noticed that he said that he did not know much about the dockyards before this survey. Had he known much about the dockyards and the Admiralty, he would not have been surprised at all. This is the way the Admiralty does things and it is certainly a most inconvenient way for the House of Commons. As for stonewalling, which was mentioned by my hon. Friend the Member for Edmonton (Mr. Albu), the Admiralty had a Permanent Secretary who was notorious for this, both before the Public Accounts Committee and the Estimates Committee. I do not say that in any criticism of him, because I think he was at that time serving the Admiralty very well, but he certainly made it difficult for Members of the House.

Major Sir Frank Markham (Buckingham): In fairness, will the hon. Gentleman agree that this stonewalling becomes sheer obstructionism on the part of a civil servant and may well militate against the best interests of the nation?

Mr. Willis: No, I should not say that. I think that he was acting in what he considered to be the best interests of the Admiralty. He was obstructive in the sense that it was rather difficult at times to get from him the information which we required. I put it like that, not as a very great criticism. He certainly rendered very valuable service to the Admiralty over a very long time. I believe that most people associated with the Navy would express that view of the value of his services to the Navy.

The argument today has been about the various points arising from the putting into effect of the present policy of changing from semi-autonomous departments to an organisation on a functional basis. My first question is to ask what progress has been made. We know that Chatham is completed. Rosyth is partially completed. When is Rosyth likely to be finished? We are told that the job at Portsmouth is likely to be started next year. How long will it take? When is it intended to deal with Devonport? Is it expected to complete the job by 1968, 1970 or when? Is this another of the things that the Tory Party are looking to the 'seventies for? Is it one of the bright vistas we can look to in the 'seventies? We ought to have some information about it.

To what extent is the Admiralty getting the staff necessary for the job? According to the Report, 1,500 men were required to complete the job. I do not know whether the number still remains the same. Possibly, with the prospective reduction in the numbers employed in the dockyards, 1,500 may not now be required. I should like to know. Incidentally, this point illustrates the rather dilatory way, in some respects, in which the Admiralty has tackled the job. It was known in 1958 that these people would be required, and we are now in 1963. So far as one can gather, progress at Rosyth, never mind the other two large dockyards, is still held up because of shortages. What are the Government doing about this?

Linked with that is the question of increasing the number of managerial or professional appointments. One of the

recommendations discussed today is that managerial appointments, where they are made from the Service, should be for five or seven years. Some hon. Members have laid great emphasis upon this. In its reply to the Committee, the Admiralty said that it has accepted this recommendation in principle, but limited to four years; in other words, a person will hold the job for four years only.

I am rather on the side of the Admiralty in this. It is a difficult question to answer. There is great discontent in the Service if people do not get their two or three years' spell at home, and, while I admit the need for as long appointments as possible, I think that we must balance the needs of the dockyards with the needs of the Navy.

This is why I said at the outset that I thought the needs of the Navy tended to be overlooked. I thought this, too, when I read the Report of the Estimates Committee because, in paragraph 16, it said:

> "Your Committee appreciate the importance of giving naval officers the best possible career consistent with efficiency and economy, but they consider that to put the careers of individual naval officers before the efficiency of the Dockyards is wrong."

That may be so, but it is equally wrong to put the efficiency of the dockyards before the efficiency of the Fleet. Let us make no mistake about it. A senior officer, or any officer, who has had wide experience of a great number of things is usually the most efficient officer. It seems to me, therefore, that we should balance these two factors. It is not just a matter of saying that the dockyards must have men who can stay there for five, six or seven years. It is also a matter of asking how long we think that they ought to stay in order to meet the needs of the Service.

I find it difficult, therefore, to agree altogether with my hon. Friends who have suggested emphatically that the appointments should be for five or seven years. I know the arguments about it. They have been made in the Zuckerman Committee about research and development in the Service Departments and in other spheres, too, and there is no doubt that the old two-year period is too short; a man spends the first year settling in and the second year thinking about where he is going next. I welcome the Admiralty's decision to make it four years, with the possibility that it might be longer if that is found to fit in with the requirements of the Service.

I have difficulty also in accepting entirely what my hon. Friend the Member for Widnes said about Recommendation No. 3, the recruiting of outside men to senior professional posts. There are strong arguments for this, but I think that there are very strong arguments for avenues of promotion within the Service itself. We are tending to expand in this section, which, perhaps, makes it attractive to bring men in from outside, but I suggest that we should not overlook the fact that the men in the dockyards and the Service are themselves entitled to promotion.

I have spoken very often from this Box about the need for engineers on the Board of Admiralty, because I thought that we should not get the best engineers, electrical officers or whatever it might be unless there was the possibility of their reaching the top. This is necessary to build up the efficiency of the Navy. Indeed, everything we are talking about exists to serve the efficiency of the Navy.

The same argument applies to the admiral superintendent. I think that he might not be necessary, although, on balance, in the new structure, I may well be wrong. But, apart from the balance we must strike with regard to what work he will do and the Service duties he will perform, there is a case for seeing that we give opportunity in the Service for proper prospects of promotion. These things are extremely important.

We have discussed one aspect of the reorganisation of the dockyards about which the former Civil Lord had something to say during the Estimates debate. I refer to the formation of an Admiralty Engineering Service. How far has this organisation got? To what extent is it in existence? On 11th March, the Civil Lord told us that

> "We have at present no civilian mechanical engineers to match the civilian electrical engineers."—[OFFICIAL REPORT, 11th March, 1963; Vol. 673, c. 976.]

I do not know what that means. Does it mean that there is none at the moment, or have some been recruited?

The second recommendation concerning the organisation of an Admiralty engineering service was that there should be an

[MR. WILLIS.]
increase in the number of electrical engineers—not top electrical engineers but men with slightly lower qualifications. The Civil Lord said nothing about this during the Navy Estimates debate. I should like to know what has been done about this Admiralty engineering service. This is one of the important parts of the Report and one of the important needs of the dockyards if past Reports are accepted. I have read the speech of the Civil Lord several times to try to find out exactly what it means. Up to now I have not been very successful. I should, therefore, be grateful to the present Civil Lord if he would say something about this.

There has been a great deal of discussion about the waste of apprentices and the fact that about 1,000 apprentices are taken in each year about 500 of which leave after they have finished their time. I am not greatly concerned about that. I am glad that they have been trained, because if there is one thing that we need in this country it is all the trained manpower that we can get. It is, however, wrong that this should appear on the Navy Vote. The cost of training 500 apprentices each year who are not required for naval purposes and who go into private industry should not be a charge against the Navy Estimates. The Government should find some method to take them out of the Navy Estimates.

I was interested in the speech of my hon. Friend the Member for Bishop Auckland (Mr. Boyden), who said that this matter should be looked at and that there should be discussions between the Ministry of Labour on the one hand, and the Ministry of Education and the Department of Education in Scotland, on the other, as to how this could be fitted in with the Government's proposals for the training of manpower for industry. Let us make no bones about it: here are excellent first-class facilities for training men and I think that we should use them. They could be changed in certain ways if necessary. If this country is to make the progress that we want it to make, every trained man is a very valuable asset and we cannot afford to neglect any opportunites for tarining these men. May I say, in passing, that I should like to see the facilities of the Royal Naval College at Greenwich used just as fully.

The important point is not so much that 500 men are trained in the dockyards and then leave to go into civilian industry but what is to happen in future. This is a charge which should not be borne by the Navy Estimates. This is a case of the Navy doing a very good job for industry, and it seems to me that there are certain potentialities here in whatever schemes the Government may have for the future training of men for industry.

The chain of command should be considered. At present we have two Sea Lords at the top of the chain of command. We then come down to the Third and Fourth Sea Lords. Under them is the Director-General of Dockyards and Maintenance. Under him is the Director of Dockyards. Under him is the Deputy Director. Then we come down to the Admiral Superintendent. Is there any necessity for this? Surely at least one of these posts could be eliminated. I should have thought that the one to be eliminated should be either the Third or Fourth Sea Lord. The opportunity should be taken to eliminate one of these posts in connection with the review into bringing the Defence Departments closer together and unifying them, which, according to the Press, will involve the abolition of the Board of Admiralty. If the structure at the top of the Admiralty is to be changed, there is a good opportunity to do that.

I find it quite unintelligible that the Third Sea Lord should be the controller and the Fourth Sea Lord the deputy controller. What is the need for this? Surely the Director-General of Dockyards and Maintenance could be responsible to one Sea Lord? A very favourable opportunity is provided for the Admiralty to abolish one of them without causing any difficulty. I shall watch to see whether this is done when we learn and discuss the proposals regarding defence.

In the main, the Admiralty has accepted the other recommendations. There is no doubt that, by and large, they appear to be recommendations which will improve the efficiency of the dockyards and therefore they should prove of value.

We are indebted to the Estimates Committee for the work which it has put into its Report. It is not easy to follow

the ramifications of any Admiralty structure, as the Civil Lord is probably learning. Certainly that applies to the dockyards. On behalf of my hon. Friends, I express our appreciation of the work done by the men in the dockyards. They do a very good job of work and, as has been said in the debate, they are not overpaid.

Mr. Burden: Hear, hear.

Mr. Willis: They tend to be underpaid, which is a great pity. They do a first-class job and I think that every hon. Member is grateful to them for that.

6.27 p.m.

The Civil Lord of the Admiralty (Mr. John Hay): In opening what has proved to be a most interesting debate, the hon. Member for Widnes (Mr. MacColl), who was in the Chair of the Sub-Committee of the Estimates Committee which conducted the investigation into the Royal dockyards, reminded us of some of the advantages which flow from examination by Committees of this House of the activities of Government Departments. One advantage mentioned by the hon. Gentleman which particularly struck me was that they conveyed to hon. Members information and instruction as to how Government Departments work and what they do. I must admit that I have been enormously indebted to the Committee for the admirable Report which it produced and the information which it gave because, as a complete tyro in these matters, I felt the need for immediate instruction on some of the complicated matters involved in Royal dockyard arrangements. I therefore benefited very much from reading the Committee's Report.

May I at the outset clear away a slight misunderstanding which seems to have affected the minds of some hon. Members, although I think that the hon. Member for Bristol, South (Mr. Wilkins) has largely cleared it away. It is an exaggeration to say, as I think one hon. Member said and as other hon. Members have inferred, that the Admiralty thought that this was a wrong thing to do, that we resisted in some way a further investigation by the Estimates Committee. As the hon. Member for Bristol, South said, the truth is that we felt quite honestly that, as we were in the middle of a massive reorganisation of dockyard structure, it might be better if the Committee were prepared to defer its further examination for a year or, perhaps, two years until that reorganisation had got further under way. There was certainly no intention, I am advised, of trying to fob off the Committee or to get it to do something else. Cynics may well say that Government Departments never think that it is an appropriate moment for their activities to be investigated. That may or may not be true. Nevertheless, I feel that in this instance the Admiralty had a better excuse than usual.

Having said that, I pass to the reorganisation, about which a number of questions have been asked. I am happy to tell the House that we are now making very good progress with the reorganisation of the dockyards on the functional basis which was recommended by the Select Committee. I hope that the hon. Member for Edmonton (Mr. Albu) and the hon. Member for Widnes will forgive me if I do not follow them in the historical reminiscences and the background to all this. I am comparatively new in the Department and all I can say is that I hope we shall go on meeting with approval in their eyes from now on. As I think the House knows, the change has been brought into full force at Chatham. We have appointed a general manager at Rosyth and we have appointed a general manager-designate for Portsmouth.

The hon. Member for Edinburgh, East (Mr. Willis) asked how we were progressing with the reorganisation. At Rosyth, we expect soon to appoint the managers for the production and planning departments and we expect that the whole process of reorganisation there will be completed in about two to three years. At Portsmouth, we hope that the first stage of reorganisation will be completed by 1966 and we will commence the reorganisation at Devonport in 1965. As the Committee reminded the House, we expect that the whole process will be ended by 1968.

Mr. Burden: My hon. Friend agrees that it is important to have management reorganisation, but will he not also agree that it is necessary that the most modern equipment should be installed in the dockyards if the reorganisation is to be carried to its logical and proper conclusion?

Mr. Hay: I hope to say something about machinery and subjects of that kind. At the moment, I am dealing simply with the technical problem of the reorganisation of the management.

Mr. Willis: How are the Government getting on concerning the 1,500 men that they will require?

Mr. Hay: We imagine that that is the right number which we shall need and I think that we shall get them. As a newcomer, it seemed to me that this type of reorganisation was the right one to adopt.

One of the most significant comments in the Report is that made by the Committee in paragraph 49 where it stated, with the appropriate qualifications:

"Nevertheless, as far as Your Committee can weigh the available evidence, they are satisfied that a right decision was taken to proceed with reorganisation."

It is interesting to note that evidence was given by people outside which endorsed the desirability of this new type of organisation. I need draw attention only to the answers given by Mr. James Patton, a very well-known person in the shipbuilding and ship-repairing world and who was Chairman of the Patton Committee which produced a valuable Report on these matters. He agreed that when the reorganisation was originally proposed in 1958, opinion inside the private ship-repairing industry would probably have been by no means unanimous that it was the right form of organisation to adopt. However, I think that we are doing the right thing now.

A rather more difficult point is the extent to which it is possible to relate the benefits of reorganisation to productivity. This was touched upon by the Select Committee and I am a little surprised that we have not had more comment on the point this afternoon. It may, however, be interesting to the House if I say a word about it.

I must admit that at this early stage it is virtually impossible to point to particular benefits in the form of lower costs or reduced staffs, a quicker turn-round of ships or similar criteria, although I hope that in due course it will be possible to do so. There are, however, some definite advantages which the reorganisation has brought. To start with, it has given us a much more effective management on modern industrial lines in a form which enables new management techniques and production processes to be more easily absorbed and applied over the yards as a whole.

We are able to make more effective use of our labour force by better planning of our work, by ensuring that drawings, materials, tools and the services of the various tradesmen can be provided when they are required and by identifying and forecasting periods of idle time. This better degree of planning and estimating must lead to more realistic assessments of costs of repairs and reviews in terms of both men and money, and completion dates can be kept. In turn, this will enable us to form better judgments on the value of or the priorities of projected work, to improve the availability of ships and to restrict the cost, because any extension of time allocated for a refit inevitably leads to great expense.

As to the first recommendation of the Select Committee, which suggested that we should review the non-industrial establishment every five years at each dockyard, the Admiralty accepted the idea, although, in fact, we shall be able to do rather better than the Committee proposed. As we said in our reply, we consider that some measure of flexibility in the timing of these reviews is best and we shall conduct the first joint review at Chatham within a considerably shorter time than five years.

As I have said, the reorganisation at Chatham began in 1958 and we are now arranging for a review of the staff and of the organisation of the general manager's planning, production, personnel and yards services departments, to start with, towards the end of this year. We expect it to take us about 12 months, but we should get information on which we can see whether the organisation and staffing of what has been the pilot scheme for the whole reorganisation process is right and can be taken as a guide to reorganisation in the other yards.

I turn now to the Admiralty engineering service, which was the subject of Recommendation No. 2. The hon. Member for Edinburgh, East asked how we were getting on with this and my hon. Friend the Member for Weston-super-Mare (Mr. Webster) and the hon. Member for Edmonton also referred to

it. It is an important step that we are taking and there can be no blame for the delay, which was imposed upon us, before we were able to get the green light to go ahead. There is no doubt, as I think the Committee realised from the evidence given to it, that the creation of a service of this kind was liable to have repercussions in other fields of the Government service and those had to be carefully looked at before we could be given authority to go ahead. Nevertheless, it is true to say that the views taken by the Committee weighed powerfully in Whitehall and I am delighted that we are now able to proceed with this service.

We have had to have a number of meetings with the staff associations to satisfy them of the rightness of the scheme and we obtained their agreement last April. The head of the new service and his deputy have both been appointed and we have widely advertised vacancies in the new service. So far, we have had hundreds of replies and the first interview boards will be held this month. We are considering suitable retired and retiring naval officers who have professional qualifications for appointments in the service. This was another point in the mind of the Committee. I hope to keep the House informed of further developments and progress with the setting up of this service as time goes on.

I now turn to Recommendation No. 3 and the question of appointments to the dockyards, particularly in the senior grades, from outside. Despite the persuasive arguments of the hon. Member for Widnes, I feel that there is little I can add to the full reply which the Admiralty gave to this recommendation. It is clear that what the Committee was aiming at was an assurance that we would not try to run the dockyards only with our own people who had spent their lives in our service, but that we should be prepared to appoint people when they have had service in similar capacities in private employment and who might bring a breath of fresh air into our work. As our replies show, I think, we have by no means neglected the recruitment of outside engineers including retired naval officers.

The need to build up the Admiralty engineering service will make this desirable, but I do not think we ought to make a fetish of it and I would remind the House that there are substantial disadvantages in direct recruitment to senior managerial posts, disadvantages not least to the morale of people who have spent their lives slowly working up the ladder of promotion inside their Service. To take one example, the Royal Corps of Naval Constructors, which is well known to the House, has few outlets outside Admiralty service and we rightly insist on very high academic capacity in the people we recruit to that Corps and the appointment of managers from outside must have some effect on recruitment.

What we have to achieve here is a proper balance. The House may, incidentally, be interested to know that the general manager (designate) at Portsmouth, whom I mentioned just now, is a retired Naval officer, Captain Sparham. He has been appointed in a civilian capacity. I hope that these observations will weigh with the Committee.

Mr. MacColl: Our argument is based on the statement that the progress of reorganisation would be slackened because of the shortage of supervising staff in the more senior posts. That is why we proposed this. If it is not true, then the other point about bringing in people from outside is not nearly so important, but the origin of this recommendation was the statement, which we were given by the Admiralty, that there was a shortage of people.

Mr. Hay: I fully understood that, but I would ask the hon. Gentleman to bear in mind the other factors which I have just tried to mention. Of course, that is in our minds, but, as I said just now, one has to strike some sort of balance in these things and I think the balance that we have struck is about right.

Now let me say a word about the question of security of tenure for these officers. Again, it was mentioned by the Committee. I was interested to see that the hon. Member for Edinburgh, East did not altogether approve. I do not think it was surprising for those who are dilettante in these matters that the Committee had some affection for this idea of comparatively long security of tenure, and that managers and deputy managers in the home dockyards ought to be appointed for at least five years in an individual dockyard. There was a similar reference

[MR. HAY.]
in the Report of the Committee on Admiralty Headquarters. As it happens, the reorganisation in the period 1958-61 led to an abnormally high turnover of managers, so it was not altogether surprising that the Committee picked the point up. Appendix I to the Report sets out the position, but I can now tell the House that in fact the situation is a little better.

As our replies showed, there are certain difficulties which we envisage in adopting the proposal of the Committee as a general rule. So far as deputy managers are concerned, where they are civilians they are appointed at superintending level and it is obviously desirable that, if they are to gain wide experience, they should be changed with reasonable frequency. I am afraid that we cannot commit ourselves to retaining them as long as five years in a single post when, with the turnover of managers, the chances of further promotion for any officer are smaller and he is generally near the end of his career, anyhow. So I think it is both more important and more convenient to have a lengthy stay in his position wherever possible but not to go beyond that.

There is another point, that some managers are serving Naval officers who have reached the rank of captain. In due course, many of them will come forward for promotion to rear-admiral. To allow them thereafter to remain in post as rear-admirals so that they could complete their five years could lead to a rather odd chain of command in a reorganised dockyard, because there might be a rear-admiral superintendent supervising a civilian general manager who in turn supervises another rear-admiral as manager. I mention this to show the career problems here if we blindly accepted the Committee's proposals, but we are planning to try to ensure that Naval captains in engineering departments should have up to four years in post. We are at one certainly with the Committee in desiring reasonable tenure of service and that is what we are really aiming at, and not to have chopping and changing. I hope the House will allow us to implement this in our own way.

Mr. Albu: I think the hon. Gentleman used a rather prejudiced word in talking about security of tenure.

Mr. Hay: No.

Mr. Albu: One can impart prejudice to one's words. It was not the view of the Committee. What the Committee was concerned with was that the members of a management team should be long enough together to create a common loyalty and a common attitude towards their job.

Mr. Hay: I apologise to the hon. Gentleman and to the House if I used the expression "security of tenure." Being a lawyer, I am afraid that such a phrase comes naturally to my lips. I can only say, to use another lawyer's expression, that if I said it, it was said without prejudice.

To turn to the recommendation about admiral superintendents. A large number of hon. Members have commented on this. I feel that there is, perhaps, some misunderstanding about the functions which an admiral superintendent performs. I think that some hon. Members may, perhaps, have felt that an admiral superintendent would generally become a fifth wheel to the coach, but I will emphasise that the admiral superintendent has a responsibility which goes very far beyond the dockyard itself and certainly very far beyond the refit or even construction of the ships and the service which they give to the fleet. He is responsible for co-ordinating activities of numerous depots in the area, which may cover stores, armament supply and victualling. None of these things comes directly within the purview of the general manager. The admiral superintendent is also responsible for movements of ships within the dockyard area. The admiral superintendent is concerned with the welfare of dockyard personnel and in many cases, as the Committee reminded us, some admiral superintendents even have appointments as flag officers.

If anyone wants to investigate the duties of an admiral superintendent at greater length I can only refer him, as my hon. Friend the Member for Plymouth, Devonport (Miss Vickers) did, to the answers to questions 789-98. There a very full explanation is given of what the job is.

Also it is interesting to examine what was said in paragraph 3 of the memorandum of the evidence submitted by the Admiralty to the Select Committee, but I honestly think that the post of admiral

superintendent in any dockyard ought not to be abolished just because the dockyard itself has been reorganised. One has to be clear that, apart from his rank, his duties are not the same as those of a general manager I may say in parenthesis that the general manager himself has a very heavy task to perform. If one were to accept the idea which lies in the Committee's suggestion, one would place upon the shoulders of the general manager, who may in many cases be a civilian, some of those purely maritime duties which are performed at present by an admiral superintendent I can tell the House that we are quite willing to view the relationship of admiral superintendent and general manager at each of the dockyards when we carry out the five-year reviews of reorganisation to which reference was made in our reply to the first recommendation from the Committee.

So far as the other problem relating to the chain of command is concerned—and, again, many hon. Members have spoken about this—I am, of course, still somewhat of a novice here, but I have learned enough in the last few weeks to know that the Fourth Sea Lord has many other functions as well as being Vice-Controller. He is, of course, concerned not just with dockyards but with the whole question of the supplies of the Navy and its transport, and I do not think in practice to have the chain of command which has been described and criticised in this debate is inefficient or ineffective.

Here again, the Admiralty is willing to consider the evidence and the facts, and if it were necessary or desirable to make changes, I have no doubt they would be made. But at the moment it seems to us that the chain of command does not blur responsibility and does not prevent decisions being taken, and also that it does not take too long for decisions to be passed down the chain ; but if it were so, we should be willing to look at the matter again.

As time is running short, perhaps I may be forgiven for not going over all the other points. I should just like to say a word about external training, particularly the recommendations which the Committee made about the use of training institutions outside the Naval service to which our dockyard people might be sent. There is not much that I can add to the reply which the Admiralty gave to the recommendation. There are a number of external training institutions, although the Committee singled out only two of them for special mention. We make use of a number of these institutions for different purposes. We have a training section in the dockyard department headquarters, and one of the members of the section has the specific duty of keeping abreast of management training developments and of passing on information and advice to his colleagues and others.

The Committee, incidentally, also suggested that there ought to be wider visiting of other countries to compare the practices of individual dockyards. We do this. To give a couple of examples, the deputy director of the dockyards division and the general manager (designate) of Portsmouth visited Washington and the United States Navy shipyards last May, and the assistant director of management techniques, together with other officers, visited shipyards in Scandinavia, West Germany, Holland and France last winter.

The hon. Member for Edmonton asked about the training of professional engineers from the dockyards. I understand that a regular quota of ex-dockyard apprentices is trained in engineering at the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, at which they take a university of London honours degree course or a professional certificate in naval architecture. Some others go off to other universities and return later to Admiralty service as professionally trained engineers. Therefore, I do not think we have anything particularly to reproach ourselves with on that score.

Wastage of apprentices is a matter which causes us, as it caused the Committee, some anxiety. It is a very difficult and perplexing problem for us. We accepted the recommendation of the Committee that we should inquire into it for the purpose of getting whatever facts are available. The House may like to know that we are following two lines of investigation. First, dockyards are giving us quarterly reports about the ex-apprentices who leave within two years of completing their apprenticeship. The first of these reports is in my hands now.

[MR. HAY.]

The second line—a somewhat novel one, in the Admiralty service at any rate—is to have investigations made by the National Institute of Industrial Psychology. A psychologist will interview apprentices in all four dockyards to try to find out what are the underlying motives for their leaving the service—whether it is simply a question of pay or a question of advancement; in short, what is the motivating factor? I hope that we shall get some useful information about this in a few months' time.

Whatever the reason may be, I must point out the difficulty we are up against in trying to ensure that apprentices who have gone through their apprentice training with us remain in Admiralty service. At present about 43 per cent. are leaving us—a figure which is a little better than, but not much, the figure given by the Committee. It is quite out of the question in a modern industrialised society such as ours to try somehow to keep a legal tie on them. The old bond system, as the Secretary to the Admiralty said in reply to the hon. Member for Bristol, South, is no longer possible to operate. Nevertheless, we will find out, first of all, what the facts are, and then see whether there is some way in which we can deal with the matter.

I apologise to the hon. Member for Widnes, who, I think, wishes to claim the right of reply to the debate, for having gone on a little longer than I intended. Although I must disappoint a number of hon. Members by not covering more of the points they raised, nevertheless I think the House as a whole will agree that this has been an extremely useful debate and fully worthy of the debates that we have had on other Estimate Committee Reports. I look forward to giving the Estimates Committee any further information I can if there are points hon. Members have in mind which have not been touched on. I thank the Committee and its Chairman for the work which they have done.

6.55 p.m.

Mr. MacColl: I do not think that the Civil Lord need feel embarrassed about having taken a little more time than he intended, because I am sure that the House wanted much more to listen to him explaining what is happening than to me explaining what ought to happen.

The hon. Gentleman was kind enough to express appreciation of the work of the Sub-Committee and the main Estimates Committee. I would point out that this is, of course, a team operation in which the members of the Committee all play their part. The clerk, who has to steer us through the difficulties of drafting, has a very onerous responsibility. The final result represents a great deal of hard and fairly consistent slogging over the period of the investigation.

While thanks are being expressed, I should like to say, in that context, in view of what was said earlier in the debate, that we had nothing but the greatest possible courtesy and helpfulness from the Permanent Secretary to the Department. Once the inquiry began, we could not have had more complete and full help, and we all benefited very much from it.

I am glad that something is happening about the Admiralty engineering service. It ought to have happened some time ago. There has been delay. I think that the Treasury and the Admiralty ought to have been able to get together and reach some results more quickly.

There were two points on which there was substantial disagreement with the recommendations of the Committee. One was the question of appointing younger men to managerial positions. The hon. Lady the Member for Plymouth, Devonport (Miss Vickers) rather chivalrously stuck up for the older men. By convention, a lady need never be more than 30, but, I, having last week passed my fifty-fifth birthday, was gratified to be told by the Admiralty that not all men are beginning to show diminished energy and vigour when they have passed their fiftieth birthday.

The point is that if we are to have rapidly developing new techniques—and I think that we shall do so in the world of naval repair and construction—we must have rapid technical adaptation to the problems; and I should have thought that that meant getting young men into positions of responsibility when they are in the full enthusiasm of their career. When talking about managers, the Civil Lord spoke of men getting to the end of their careers. Once one begins to feel that one is getting towards the end of

one's career, whether in politics or business, one begins to feel not really full-out for the future and rather inclined to coast along.

I think that there is a big issue of principle behind the questions of the tour of duty and the position of the admirals superintendent. We must make sure that the efficiency of this great industry is not subordinated to the needs of the Service. Both Front Bench speakers have said that the needs of the Service should not be ignored. I am afraid that if the needs of the industry are not kept in the forefront, the dockyards will be by-passed in the future ; that, with the development of the amazing complexities of new work in ships, the dockyards will find themselves by-passed because they are regarded as being out of date in their ideas and organisation, and they will be lost. That is the great danger to which I referred earlier.

Question put and agreed to.

Resolved,

That this House takes note of the Ninth Report from the Estimates Committee in the last Session of Parliament and of the Fifth Special Report from the Estimates Committee relating to Her Majesty's Dockyards.

TEXTILE INDUSTRY

7.1 p.m.

Mr. Charles Fletcher-Cooke (Darwen): I beg to move,

That this House recognises the disadvantages under which the United Kingdom textile industry at present labours, as compared with conditions enjoyed by textile industries in other countries of the world, and urges Her Majesty's Government to take all steps within its power to remove those disadvantages as soon as possible.

The very moderate Motion which I am moving refers to the United Kingdom textile industry and although I believe that all those who live by the loom, the frame and the spindle, should stick together, whatever the raw materials they use, I shall confine myself to the Lancashire end of this trade.

The cotton industry of Lancashire is not asking for public money ; it is merely asking that the public money already invested in the industry shall not be wasted. We have had many debates, certainly in the twelve years that I have been in this House, on this subject. I should like, at the outset, to try to counter the atmosphere that sometimes hangs over it, namely, that these debates of protest, which they almost always are, are merely the galvanic dying kicks of an industry which is on its last legs. It is rather as though the manufacturers of incandescent gas mantles, or of hansom cabs, or of something for which the demand has passed, are making their protests before they are carried to the grave. But textiles are not like that, although other industry sometimes find it useful to pretend they are. There is an enormous growth and ebullience in world trade in textiles. There is an enormous and growing demand for them, yet the world cradle of the industry here somehow gets less and less of this ever-increasing trade.

There is tremendous esteem still for our skill in this country. People come from all over the world to such places as the Shirley Institute to learn how we do it, yet in spite of our skill and our application we continue to find our trade both at home and abroad dwindling year by year.

My first point is to try to nail the theory that somehow there is some innate superiority in the metal-using industries, or something like that, and that they therefore must be protected at our expense. The reason that they are doing so well is that they are protected at our expense. They have confidence because their protection is so much better. Of course, if we protect one industry and not another the industry that is not protected has to bear the burden of the industries that are. They have to pay more for their vehicles because the vehicles are protected. I could elaborate that sort of position. Therefore, I should like to start off with the thesis, which, I hope, will not be denied, that there is a great future, and there can be an increasingly great future, for the United Kingdom textile industry if it is given a fair chance.

Sometimes we are asked, " Why do you grumble? The adaptability of the people of Lancashire is so great that they can turn their skills to other trades. Therefore, what is the worry?" Why it should be thrown in their faces in this way I am never quite sure. Anyhow, it involves an immense waste of skill when a population which has special skill is turned over rapidly to something for which it has no special qualifications.

[MR. FLETCHER-COOKE.]

What are the disadvantages of which I speak in my Motion? They are simply stated, but they have been long endured and they are getting worse. The only figure which I need quote about it—the figure speaks for itself—is that at present about 35 per cent. of our home market is taken up by imports, and the figure is growing, whereas our exports are increasingly blocked by other countries, notably recently by Commonwealth countries. No other country in the world takes anything like the percentage of imports from abroad that we take. Western Germany takes about 7 per cent., the United States of America about 5 per cent., Belgium and Holland, 2½ per cent., France 1 per cent., and no amount of example by us, no amount of adjuration makes any difference to this sort of figure.

One thing which I should like to know is: how are the growth provisions in the long-term G.A.T.T. agreement actually working out—the provisions by which the countries that I have quoted have agreed to take an increasing number of imports—and what sort of force is being put behind the acceptance of that obligation by those other countries? So far as protection is provided by the long-term G.A.T.T. agreement, those countries are very ready to evoke it, and have done so. The United States of America has constantly evoked the disruption clauses and has constantly taken refuge in the categorisation of quota clauses which the long-term G.A.T.T. agreement allows, but we do not. We are still the soft underbelly of the world in this matter. We are getting softer, and I think that it is time we hardened up.

I believe that the time is ripe for new measures now. We have always previously been told—I will refer to the new measures in due course—to wait for some event or other, and it has been reasonable to make that request. We were told to await the outcome of the Common Market negotiations. That was a perfectly reasonable request because I believe that if we had succeeded in those negotiations we should, in the end, have achieved most of what we now have to achieve, but it will take three times as much pain to do it as it would have had the Common Market negotiations succeeded. Then we were told to wait for the recent G.A.T.T. meeting, and the recent meeting of our Commonwealth Trade Ministers, and we were also told to wait to see the pattern of the reorganisation scheme. That, unfortunately, is now clear and rather gloomy. I shall have some words to say about that presently.

I should start by saying that as a result of this experience in recent years the United Kingdom cotton industry in all its parts is united as I have never known it in twelve years. For the first time I think that it can be said that every section of the industry is in agreement with what must be done. The different sections are not only agreed but I think that there is agreement between management and men. It is an industry totally united and free of strikes, yet it gets scant attention in our opinion.

The reorganisation scheme upon which such hopes were placed is coming to a crisis next week, the last date for the ordering of the new equipment. I think that originally about £115 million worth of applications were put in. To the best of my information—although it is difficult to find out what the true figure is—it will be well under 50 per cent. of that when the last date for ordering comes along. It is not surprising that there has been this great shortfall because already a growing amount of the machinery that was originally ordered, either under the scheme or immediately before it, is on the market, secondhand. It is said that there are more second-hand automatic looms on the market at present than there are looms in Lancashire. This cannot have been the intention of the scheme.

Here, I put in a small plea for the finishing and dyeing end of the trade. It has had less time in which to make up its mind than, I think, any of the other sections of the industry, and it wants an extension of time not merely for paying for its new machinery, but for deciding whether to order it or not. That seems to me a reasonable although difficult request. The fact is that it has had less time than the spinners or weavers.

What can be done? Perhaps I may divide the suggestions into two. First, there are the immediate proposals. These are detailed and may sound small,

but, in the aggregate, I believe that they would give some confidence to the industry. I do not think that they come under any severe strictures either on the grounds that we should be breaking our word—which, of course, we must not do—or that they would provoke retaliation. They are things which other countries have done, and which are accepted and which have, as far as I know, not provoked any retaliation upon those countries.

The first, and perhaps the most important, concerns anti-dumping. I am not in favour of export devices, although I know that some of my hon. Friends are. But I am very much in favour of a much quicker, more efficient and more ruthless smelling out and exposing of export devices by other people. I believe that this should become the direct, active responsibility of the Board of Trade.

Somehow or other, the Board of Trade for some reason seems to constitute itself as an advocate of the foreigner—or so people in the industry often think. I certainly believe that it should be the responsibility of the Department to smell out such things as differential price agreements, and other devices which are well known, on behalf of the industry for which it is the trustee. It should not constitute itself, no doubt with the best intentions, as the critic of the industry when the industry tries, with the limited resources at its disposal, to find out these things which are, of course, very often concealed.

At present, there are great delays in the machinery. This is not a complaint which is confined to the cotton industry, but to many others as well. But it hits the cotton industry in particular because ot its delicate state. At present, for example, I believe that it is necessary to show the deleterious effect of a single shipment, and that, of course, is an almost impossible thing to prove because the effect of continually dumped shipments is cumulative. It cannot be said that any particular shipment is the one which has disrupted the industry.

A great deal of time is taken up in trying to discover what I think could be discovered fairly quickly. For instance, there is the well-known story that in India domestic prices are about 30 per cent. above the prices at which that country sells to this country. Another example is the story—I do not know whether it is true—that Canada now buys her quota of Hong Kong cotton, sells it on the domestic market at her own domestic price, and then sells her own cloth to this country at what one might call the Hong Kong price. I am telescoping a rather complicated series of transactions, but that is the effect.

Mr. Leslie Hale (Oldham, West): The hon. and learned Gentleman is telescoping the time factor as well. All these facts were before the Government ten years ago. I have submitted samples of cloth which have been sent to Africa, exported at prices which were below the prices we were paying for our cotton for spinning. The hon. and learned Member says that this has taken a long time to find out, but it was known then. We have pressed the Government for ten years to do something. All that happened was that the hon. and learned Gentleman joined the Government and rather shut himself up for that period.

Sir Arthur Vere Harvey (Macclesfield): Examples have been given to successive Governments for about seventeen years. Will my hon. and learned Friend the Member for Darwen (Mr. Fletcher-Cooke) press the President of the Board of Trade to pay more sympathetic consideration to individual complaints from the industry and use them collectively?

Mr. Fletcher-Cooke: Perhaps I may make a modest reply to these criticisms.

These examples could not have been given ten years ago, but no doubt there were others. I do not think that the Indian or Canadian examples I have mentioned were known earlier, because I understand that this situation has not been going on for more than two years in Canada. There may be other examples and no doubt the hon. Member for Oldham, West (Mr. Hale), who knows a great deal about this, will give them if he is called to speak.

I have no doubt that Canada would be the first to take severe action if we started dumping there—and I would not blame her. She has a strong system of current domestic value certificates, by which each consignment into Canada has to bear a statement of current domestic value, and she insists, quite rightly, on the right to inspect markets

[MR. FLETCHER-COOKE.]
and conditions in the exporting country to see whether it is a fair certificate or not. She simply will not allow a consignment in unless the certificate is in order.

We have nothing like that at all, and it is known that we have not. I think that it would be much better if nobody had anything like it. But I do not think that exhortations, even in the powerful manner which the Minister of State used to Canadians the other day, really will make very much difference.

The second factor is the slackness—perhaps I should call it weakness—of our anti-dumping legislation, which allows the manipulation of raw material prices. I think that this is fairly well known and I will not expand my speech by going into detail on it, but it is clear that in many cases raw material prices are manipulated to form dumping operations. Thus, anti-dumping really is the first thing that we must see to.

If we are to go in for a system of tariffs and quotas—as, indeed, we have done—we must not let that system get the worst of all worlds by not enforcing it—and not enforcing it in a reasonable way. Secondly—and this is technical, although a great many Members will have been given a great deal of ammunition on it recently—there is the categorisation of quotas.

If there is a case for protecting our industry by quotas at all, then there must be a case for making the quotas effective. If the point of quotas is that the industry shall not be destroyed by sudden and unexpected waves of imports, then the same must be said for any particular section of that industry.

It is, I think, well known that at present there is a practice in many of the countries which send textile goods to us of concentrating first on one part of the industry here, hoping to knock it out, and then on another part, and so on, until every section has been destroyed. Indeed, there is said to be in Hong Kong an organisation with the principal object of steering within the quota allowed more sophisticated made-up articles for consignment to this country.

They go first from shirts to, perhaps, overalls, and then from overalls to raincoat poplins, or whatever it may be. One after another a target is selected, which it is hoped to knock out. There must be an end to this. All the other importing countries insist on categorisation, and, except for the difficulties of administration—which, I agree, would be great—I cannot understand why we should not adopt the same practice.

The third thing that we should do immediately is to stop the carry-over of quotas. I know that this practice, of allowing people who do not fill their quota one year to carry it over into some months of the next, was agreed by the industry at one time. But when the industry negotiated these agreements it was negotiating with no ammunition, and often against a deadline of time. It had to do its best, and it did extremely well, without anything behind it in the way of a sanction. Therefore, it is not now fair to throw that fact in its face and to say, "After all, you agreed to this." The industry was negotiating from extreme weakness.

The effect of carry-over is that, by clever means of allocating quotas, in the first few months of any year all the new orders are set against the unfilled quota of the previous year. The result is that any increase in the trade goes not to the home industry, but abroad. In Pakistan, for instance, in the first quarter of this year, imports of cotton piece goods into this country, including made-up goods, were far in excess of the ceiling. Indeed, I am not sure that they were not in excess of the carry-over of last year. Obviously, they could not have got where they were but for the carry-over.

Again, Formosa has already exceeded its ceiling in the first quarter of this year by means of carry-over from last year's quota. This is a very great hole which must be stopped up.

Mr. J. A. Leavey (Heywood and Royton): My hon. and learned Friend said that the last two interventions in his speech were welcome. Perhaps this will also prove to be. Is he aware that new quotas are being continually offered. Recently, Malaya was given a quota of 5 million sq. yds., although I believe that she has only one cotton mill, with about 200 or 300 looms, which would seem out of keeping with that quota.

Mr. Fletcher-Cooke: I am sure that my hon. Friend is right, as he always is

about matters connected with the cotton industry. I shall return to the point of new quotas for new countries.

The fourth thing that must be done immediately concerns the question of Commonwealth content. Only 25 per cent. of value needs to be added to goods for them to be able to come into this country as Commonwealth goods, or as goods from Eire. We are told that goods of Asiatic origin are flooding into Eire, having 25 per cent. added to the value, in the form of finishing, and then coming here. This makes nonsense of the quotas which have been so laboriously negotiated.

The quotas themselves are often in the form of inter-industry agreements. They are not nearly tight enough in their administration. I do not blame the industry altogether, because, as I said, it had to negotiate from extreme weakness, but the situation seems to be extraordinarily vague. There is now a dispute with India about whether the Indians should be allowed to concentrate on the finer end of the trade—made-up goods, and so on. It is said that in the agreement negotiated the two sides " agreed to consult in respect of an undue distortion of the well-defined pattern of trade."

That is a very loose phrase. I do not altogether blame the Indians for saying that it obligates them to exactly nothing. An agreement to consult, or an agreement to agree, imposes no obvious obligation whatever, as any lawyer knows. I have no doubt that when businessmen make these agreements they think that they are binding people in certain directions. If these inter-industry agreements, which I deprecate, are to continue in future they need to be much more closely drafted, and drafted with a great deal more foresight as to the future.

It is true to point out that the looseness of these agreements can work both ways. I therefore adjure the authorities to take full advantage of any ambiguities in our favour. There is usually no arbitration clause in these agreements, and we therefore have the whip hand, in the sense that we can simply refuse to allow the goods in in case of dispute, pending a decision. I would not regard that as conflicting with one obligation that we must observe, namely, not to break our word.

So much for the short-term proposals, which would be of immense value. As for the long-term proposals, my right hon. Friend has said that a ring fence now exists around Lancashire. At least, I believe that he said that. A ring implies a continuous circle, but as far as I can see the protection is no more than a few widely dispersed and rather low hurdles, with a great many gaps between them. The reason is that each country is treated piecemeal, as my hon. Friend pointed out in referring to Malaya. Every time one source is stopped up there is an immediate flood from sources which have no ring fence near them. They establish within twelve months a large market, and then seem to have the right to a quota although they have no traditional trade with this country in cotton goods. From where they get the right I do not know.

Yugoslavia, with no traditional textile trade with this country, has been given a quota of 5 million sq. yds. Where will it be next? Will it be Israel, or West Africa? Where shall we find the flood coming from next? We must have a global policy in this matter. We must not operate a country-by-country policy. I am not saying that every country should be treated the same, because we have obligations, both in Europe and to the Commonwealth, which rightly prevent us treating each country the same. But every country must be dealt with. There is room for a Commonwealth agreement, provided that it is fully reciprocal, and there is certainly room for E.F.T.A. arrangements.

To all those people in the cotton industry who come to see me I say that they must put up with imports from Portugal and other European countries, provided that they are fair and that there is no dumping, or any other dodges. That is one reason why I am so anxious that we should police the dumping provisions more effectively. There is nothing in the E.F.T.A. arrangements or anywhere else that prevents us from relying on the long-term G.A.T.T. agreement, by which severe disruption can be treated as exceptional.

The fundamental difficulty of any new policy arises from the tradition of Commonwealth free entry. I do not believe that the Commonwealth depends on free entry; I believe that it depends on reciprocal arrangements which are fair to

[MR. FLETCHER-COOKE.]

both sides. For example, since 1959 Canada has been a net exporter of textiles to the United Kingdom. There is no duty on them here. But we have to pay 12½ per cent. to 25 per cent. duty on our textiles going to Canada, and with the stringent anti-dumping provisions I have mentioned. Where is the reciprocity about that? That seems to me something as between, I will not say underdeveloped countries—it is more like overdeveloped countries—which is quite wrong. There are historical reasons for it, but I think that the matter must be renegotiated.

We are always told, whenever we point out that with members of the Commonwealth free entry has been reached, that historical reasons exist for it. I notice opposite the hon. Member for Rotherham (Mr. O'Malley), who is interested in the musical instrument industry. I was very interested in the reply which he received recently to a Question to, I think, the Minister of State, Board of Trade, when he was told that there was a tax on musical instruments coming from Commonwealth countries. Why is it that musicial instruments, the English musical instrument industry—undoubtedly it is an admirable industry—should have this protection, while to suggest that the textile industry should have it—I think that raiment is more important than sound —would be a most deplorable breach of some fundamental ideology and we cannot contemplate it.

It applies nearer home than that. We are told that for historical reasons there can be protection for man-made fibres, but none for natural fibres. Who is to be master, man or history? "Historical reasons" is a strange philosophy, for everything that happens is historical. The only question is whether one wishes to change it or keep it. One cannot say that because it is historical it is necessarily there for all time. There is no underlying philosophy in Commonwealth policy at the moment and I think that there must be one.

The Australian tariff against us is now enormous, and our preference there dwindles every day because it is expressed in pence and not *ad valorem*. I think that I am right in saying that. Certainly, some preferences are expressed in terms of pounds, shillings and pence and not *ad valorem*. My hon. Friend may say that I am wrong about it and if so I take his word for it. Since the Common Market negotiations it is not possible to return to the old sacred view of Commonwealth free entry. We should have to do something about it then. Although it would be far harder to do so, we must do something now. I do not wish to equate the Commonwealth countries with foreign countries. But the balance of disadvantage against this country from Commonwealth free imports is too much to be borne.

I wish to ask—I am sure that we shall be told—what is the policy of the Labour Party in this connection. Some years ago there was a suggestion by the now Leader of the Opposition of an import board—"The Wilson plan". We should like to know whether that is still the policy of the Labour Party. It seems to me that it suffers from two great disadvantages. It is a cleft stick. If it is to give protection, why cannot the protection be given straight? If it is not to give protection, what is the point of a new bureaucratic machine? When that riddle is answered perhaps we can consider what is the policy of the party opposite.

I am delighted to see that my right hon. Friend the President of the Board of Trade is in the Chamber. It is very good of him to attend, as I know that he has had to cancel a most important engagement to be here. After his visit to Lancashire on 14th June my right hon. Friend will be in no doubt about the feeling in the industry and particularly among the members of the Cotton Board. Sometimes hard things have been said about the Cotton Board. But there is no doubt that under a succession of Presidents and Directors-General Lord Rochdale, Mr. Roston, and perhaps I might add Sir Cuthbert Clegg, the Board is fighting for the cotton industry as well as and quite as fully and strongly as any body could. The Board is by no means composed of Government "stooges" as one sometimes hears them unfairly called.

The cyclical upturn of trade which I think we all hope for has not materialised, although it is due. Why is that? I think that the reason is partly outside our control because it is due partly to the weather. It is also due to the fact that such advantages as there are still

on our present system undoubtedly go not to our own people, but abroad. Meanwhile, this great industry is being of no advantage to the Government. I would have thought that since so much public money is invested in the industry, and since it has reserves of taxable capacity in which the Treasury should be very interested, the Government would do more to protect what in both sense is one of their investments because this year the Treasury will have to pay out on losses in the industry rather than collect taxes as it might have hoped to do.

These are new circumstances. The time has now come when it is impossible to say that we should wait for this or that—wait for the Common Market, or the G.A.T.T., or the Commonwealth Trade Ministers. In these new circumstances it is time to do not merely the things which I have suggested should be done immediately, but to take a look at the industry in its global setting and to dictate what will be its future and what it can expect, because only that can make it flourish as it should.

7.37 p.m.

Mr. F. Blackburn (Stalybridge and Hyde): I wish to congratulate the hon. and learned Member for Darwen (Mr. Fletcher-Cooke) first upon his luck in the ballot and secondly upon his choice of subject. I am in general agreement with what he said. He will not have very much longer to wait to learn the details of the Labour Party programme. I think that most hon. Members who represent constituencies concerned with the textile industry would be in general agreement with what the hon. and learned Gentleman has said. I wish I could feel as convinced that, were there a vote, they would all be found in the same Lobby.

It is about 12 months since we had the last debate on the cotton industry and I think it very important that we should again be considering the industry. What has happened in those 12 months? As everyone knows, there have been further closures. Unfortunately some have occurred in my constituency. When these mills are closed we get no help from the Board of Trade for the provisions of new industries for our areas. The President of the Board of Trade excuses himself on the ground that the level of unemployment is not as high there as in some other parts of the country; but the right hon. Gentleman knows as well as anyone that the present figures for unemployment do not reflect the true position because so many women in the textile industry were not insured in their own right. They have been lost to the industry, and we know that there has been a great depopulation of some of our areas. Surely it is not in the interests of the country that our areas should be depopulated and our people go to other parts of the country which are already over-crowded.

During the last debate the position was described as a crisis of confidence. Is there any greater confidence in the industry today? I am afraid that the answer to that question is definitely "No". There is no other cotton industry in the world which has to face such difficulties as ours, nor is there any other large British industry which has to face competition on the same scale as that faced by the cotton industry. Other Governments are prepared to help their textile industries much more effectively than our Government are.

Our Government have been pumping money into the industry, on the one hand, and undermining the industry, on the other, by allowing still larger and larger imports. At present, as the hon. Member for Darwen said, the level of imports is about 35 per cent. of home consumption. When we compare that with the figures for other countries we see what a great burden our industry carries. In 1959 it was 23 per cent. of home consumption. That was the figure for imports which we pressed upon the President of the Board of Trade in last year's debate and which he rejected.

On the question of pumping money into the industry, I want to make one quotation from an article by Andrew Alexander which appeared in the *Yorkshire Post* on 24th May. He said this about the Government's reorganisation scheme:

> "In brief, the whole aid scheme would have been fine for an industry which was assured of a good future, but very short of capital reserves. But, in fact, the position in Lancashire was exactly the reverse of this—though the industry could scarcely be blamed for thinking at the time that the Government meant to look after its investment of public money in the cotton trade."

[MR. BLACKBURN.]

We all agree that it is vastly important that a country such as ours should help the underdeveloped countries. That is a concept with which we all agree. We are all anxious to play our part. I should now like to pose a question which I put in last year's debate: who decided that the best way to help underdeveloped countries was by killing our own industry? The more development takes place here the more we are in a position to help underdeveloped countries.

I am very eager to develop Commonwealth trade, but surely that trade must follow a sensible pattern. To ruin our own industry does not seem to me to fall within that description. Would it not have been more sensible for the main outlet for cheap Asian textiles to be to the poorer countries with a lower standard of living? That is not happening. They are sent to England. The attitude is—"We can get there without any difficulty. There is a free market there." The Board of Trade should be looking after us a little better than it is.

As a corollary of our receiving such large quantities of duty-free imports, have we not the right to expect fair trading practices from those who enter our market? The hon. and learned Member for Darwen mentioned certain of these matters. India places a duty on exports of raw cotton, gives an incentive for exports of cotton goods, and places a duty on imports. Pakistan has a duty on raw cotton exports. The hon. Gentleman mentioned the question of Ireland providing a back-door entry for still more cheap textiles. Providing that 25 per cent. of value is added to them, as they are made up in the Republic they can enter Britain on Commonwealth preference terms.

The hon. Gentleman also mentioned Canada. Can the Government confirm or deny the position with regard to Canada? I understand that Canada produces certain cloth at 1s. 10d. a yard, and, as such, it would not normally be competitive with the British product. Hong Kong is producing the same cloth at 1s. 5¾d. a yard. A Canadian company therefore imports Hong Kong cloth which it sells to its own customers at 1s. 10d. a yard but sends its own cloth to Britain to sell at just over 1s. 5¾d. a yard. That is the information we have. It is very important that the President of the Board of Trade should either confirm or deny it.

If we cannot make better agreements with India, Pakistan and Hong Kong because of the Ottawa Agreements, what will be the position with all the new emerging self-governing countries of the Commonwealth? Surely they will have exactly the same rights to come into our market. That would be the final nail in the coffin. It is no good the President of the Board of Trade saying that he has put a ring round Lancashire or round the cotton industry. Whatever ring he has put there is invisible. Mention has already been made of two new entrants into the British market—Malaya and Yugoslavia.

The Government were willing to throw over the Commonwealth in order to crawl into the Common Market, but they are not willing—this seems strange to me—to take effective action to save our own industry.

Mr. Hale: May I add that the Government have told us for 10 years that the Congo Basin Treaties are of such constitutional importance that we cannot possibly vary import terms in Africa? Since then they have been offering to give away the coastal strip in Kenya to redistribute boundaries, and to reallocate the territory of the Sultan of Zanzibar, and the new Government of Kenya are now talking about a Common Market of East Africa, including the Congo. Yet we have been told that constitutional treaties prevent imports from Japan, Hong Kong, and so on, into the whole of East Africa being subjected to any regulation.

Mr. Blackburn: My hon. Friend has just confirmed the point I was making. As I said earlier, no other cotton industry has to face such difficulties as ours. I wonder why there are no wholesale closures in the Common Market countries. The answer is that the total level of Asian imports and cheap textiles is only 2 per cent. of home consumption. It is true that under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade E.E.C. undertakes to increase its share of cheap imports from Asia, but this will raise the figure only to about 4 per cent. of home consumption.

As the hon. Gentleman said, the United States imports about 5 per cent.

of its home consumption, yet she has already taken over 70 effective actions under the G.A.T.T. long-term arrangement against 17 different countries, whilst this country appears to be reluctant to take any action at all.

I should like to say something about re-equipment machinery, but since I have written to the President of the Board of Trade about a specific case I think that it would be wiser to await his reply. I do not want to detain the House long, because I know that many Members wish to speak. I want to mention briefly a few things which I think the Government ought to do. Knowing this Government, I know that it is no use suggesting to them they ought to have any control over merchanting. Yet we must remember that the people who are importing these cheap textiles into this country are our own people.

Leaving that aside, I suggest to the President of the Board of Trade, first, that a Commonwealth Conference specifically on the problem of textiles should immediately be called. Secondly, new agreements should be negotiated at Government level. It should not be left to the industry to try to come to some arrangement with industries in other countries. Thirdly, they should fix six-monthly quotas with no carry-over of unexpired balances of quotas or ceilings. Fourthly, they should negotiate agreements on the basis of classification of imports, or what the industry calls categorisation.

Fifthly, effect should be given to the President's words that countries with no traditional trade in cotton and textiles should not count on being able to build up a new market in Britain. The right hon. Gentleman will agree that effect has certainly not been given to his words on this subject. Sixthly, they should adopt more effective methods of dealing with dumping by using the American and Canadian systems, which require the exporter to indicate on his invoice not only the ceiling price but also the current domestic value of the goods, and make any necessary adjustments, as they do. Seventhly, let the Government be as active in defence of our industry as other Governments are in defence of theirs—and that includes readiness to take effective action under the G.A.T.T. long-term arrangements.

As I said earlier, the last debate we had on this subject revealed a general lack of confidence. Unless we can see the Government effectively doing something, that lack of confidence will remain. Unless the Government take action the cotton industry is bound to continue to suffer.

7.51 p.m.

Mr. John C. Bidgood (Bury and Radcliffe): Not very much new can be said in a debate of this kind. Hon. Members who are interested in Lancashire's problems have from time to time reiterated the various points that have been made this evening. I do not think it possible for my right hon. Friend to query the terms of the Motion, for no fair-minded person can quarrel with the way in which it is worded.

There is no doubt that the Lancashire cotton industry has taken a terrific hiding during the last ten years. We know that the taxpayer has poured vast sums of money into the industry—yet we are still going through that same difficult period that we have been going through for a decade, namely, a crisis of confidence that seems to have got worse instead of better. Although the industry has been streamlined, company results now coming out are showing very little improvement. From what one can see, there is little hope that conditions will be better next year.

One of the basic reasons for the difficulties confronting the industry is the question of cheap Asian imports. The first thing the Government must do is to settle without delay the future level of quotas from India, Pakistan and Hong Kong and not leave it, as has been suggested, to the industry to negotiate its own agreements. A clear decision devolves on the Government to take the initiative in this matter and I am sure that the industry would agree that any revision of the quotas must be in a downward direction.

We have heard this afternoon—and I support this—that the next quotas must be categorised. This is one of the principal complaints that the industry is now making. We have also heard that there must be no carry-over of quotas in any future arrangements. I feel it only fair to say that if, as has happened over the last two years, importers of

[MR. BIDGOOD.]
cheap Asian goods have found it necessary to carry over their quotas, trade must have been very bad indeed in this country, if only because the Asian producers were not able to sell their full quotas here.

One-third of the consumption of cotton textiles in this country is imported. I am sure from what I have heard that the industry is united in the view that the Government must do something to come to its rescue. I do not believe that it should be left to the industry to provide my right hon. Friend with examples of dumping. There must be within his Department facilities to enable him to come to a conclusion on the evidence available as to whether or not goods are being dumped here at give-away prices.

We are told that the domestic price of cotton textiles in India is 30 per cent. above the price at which they are sold in the United Kingdom. While hon. Members and those engaged in the industry may or may not have conclusive evidence to bring before my right hon. Friend, I am fairly certain that in his Department there must be conclusive proof as to whether or not dumping of this sort is taking place.

The cotton industry has altered its character very much in the last few years. Whereas it used to be a labour intensive industry it is now a capital intensive one. There are some efficient firms in which the capital expenditure per employee is as much as £8,000, which is higher than that in the motor trade. On the other hand, looking at the other side of the coin, productivity and prices in the cotton industry are not as good as they should be. We need not seek far for the reasons. They are, first, because the industry is horizontal instead of vertical and, secondly, because of the difficulty—shall we say antipathy?—of going over to the three-shift system which operates in the Asian countries and also among our European competitors.

The position is not helped by the attitude of the trade unions, which are asking for large premiums on shift-working and on working new machinery. Whereas it is possible to try to draw up a balance sheet as to which side of industry may or may not be wrong, the fact remains that the industry itself, both employers and employees, is united in thinking that the Government must do something, and very quickly. The industry is certain, as must be every reasonable hon. Member, that Commonwealth countries should not be allowed to push up tariffs against British textiles with impunity.

There is much the Government and industry can do in this connection but, as I said, the first thing that the Government must do is to restore the confidence of the Lancashire textile industry in itself. One of the criticisms against the Government is that their attitude to Lancashire textiles is not crystal clear. What is crystal clear is the attitude of Lancashire towards the Government. All the Motion seeks to do is to give the industry an opportunity to operate under the same advantages as the cotton industries of other countries, and the United States and Canada have been quoted as examples. I could quote countless other examples.

It is a great credit to this House of Commons that on this absorbing subject so many hon. Members, regardless of party affiliations, have sensitive and sensible views about what should be done. We have a clear conscience over the Lancashire textile industry—and by "clear conscience" I do not mean the conscience of the Government but the conscience of individual hon. Members, who feel that something must be done, and without delay, to try to retrieve the injustices under which this industry is labouring. I have the greatest pleasure in supporting the Motion.

8.0 p.m.

Mr. Ernest Thornton (Farnworth) : We are all grateful to the hon. and learned Member for Darwen (Mr. Fletcher-Cooke) for tabling this Motion, and for the cogent way in which he has highlighted the unfair treatment meted out to the cotton textile industry. He will, I know, forgive me if I say that none of his arguments, or mine, will be new to the President of the Board of Trade. The right hon. Gentleman has consistently and repeatedly rejected suggestions put to him by the trade, and by this side of the House in particular, for fairer treatment of this important industry.

The Government's policy towards this once very great industry has clearly

failed, and I doubt whether one person on either the employers' or the workers' side has a good word to say for it. During the last 10 years, the Opposition have on many occasions challenged the Government on the failure of their textile industry policy. The Government's main effort was made just prior to the 1959 General Election, when they rushed through the Cotton Industry Act, 1959. We then pointed out that unless the volume of imports was realistically and reasonably tackled, confidence would not be restored and adequate re-equipment would not take place.

The warning contained in the Report of the Estimates Committee last year has been proved correct. It said:

"... failing a speedy and satisfactory solution to the related problems of imports, marketing and the fuller use of plant and machinery, much of the expenditure incurred"—

under the Cotton Industry Act, 1959—

"will have been to no purpose."

On 28th June, 1962, the Opposition tabled a Motion taking note of the Select Committee's Report and calling on the Government

"... to take positive steps without delay to promote the stability and prosperity of this important industry."

What was the Governments reply? It was to table an Amendment inviting the House to welcome:

"... the assurances on import policy contained in the Government statement of 6th June as providing the basis upon which the cotton textile industry can work for future efficiency, stability and well being within a prosperous national economy."—[OFFICIAL REPORT, 28th June, 1962; Vol. 661, c. 1367-1377.]

Mr. Dan Jones (Burnley): Since when, the industry has gone from bad to worse.

Mr. Thornton: The Government have certainly not provided the "prosperous national economy". In fact, in the meantime, the economy has nearly gone bust, and a few months ago we had the highest level of unemployment for many years. It is equally clear that the Government's statement on import policy has failed, and failed badly, to provide the basis referred to.

I agree at once that the industry is not free from fault. To take one of the three related points mentioned by the Estimates Committee—marketing—the industry has moved all too slowly towards integrating the production processes with the marketing arrangements. It is true that there has been some perceptible movement in recent weeks but, in the main, it has been the merging of firms that already have their own marketing sections. The spinning processes, dominated by the Lancashire Cotton Corporation, the Fine Spinners and Doublers Association and Combined English Mills, remains predominantly horizontal in structure. A break through here should be organised.

I do not suggest that vertical integration is the answer to all the problems—it is not. The probability is that, from the point of view of production costs, the difference is only marginal, but it is a necessary contribution if this problem of orderly marketing and the ironing out of booms and slumps is to be solved. In recent years, of course, it has been all slumps and no booms.

With regard to the other two related problems referred to by the Estimates Committee—imports and the fuller use of plant and machinery—the fault clearly lies outside the industry's control. In the last year or two, the relationship of imports to domestic production has meant that many efficient producing firms operating a two- and three-shift system have had to knock off one shift because of shortage of orders—and a few have gone out of business altogether. I particularly call the attention of the hon. Member for Bury and Radcliffe (Mr. Bidgood) to this point.

We really have cause to worry, cause to say that something is seriously wrong with the industry's opportunities. When our most efficient firms, operating on a three-shift system—and our efficient firms are as good as any in the world—cannot keep their plant running because the markets are not there for the long runs necessary for this highly-productive machinery, there is something seriously wrong with the conditions under which the industry has to operate.

As the Estimates Committee pointed out, there was a crisis of confidence in the industry, and since the issue of the Estimates Committee's Report the Government have done nothing at all to restore that confidence. That lack of confidence is high-lighted by the almost certain failure of the re-equipment phase of the Cotton Industry, Act, 1959. If

[MR. THORNTON.]
that Act does not succeed in getting substantial re-equipment it has failed completely, and a lot of public money has gone down the drain.

Much has been said about the damaging effect of the large volume of cheap-price imports. The United Kingdom was once the world's largest exporter of cotton textile goods—it is now easily the world's largest importer of those goods. The United States of America, with three and a half times our population and probably seven or eight times our purchasing power, imports, quantitatively, only about two-thirds of the cotton textiles that the United Kingdom imports.

The difference is not due to efficiency, but mainly due to restriction of entry. As has been pointed out by the hon. and learned Member for Darwen and other hon. Members, the United Kingdom proportion of imports to domestic requirements has varied in recent years from 25 per cent. to 40 per cent., whereas in the United States the figure is 5 per cent. or 6 per cent. No other industrial country —with, perhaps, the exception of Sweden, with its 7½ million population—approaches anything like the United Kingdom proportion.

Our present system of uncontrolled imports under ceilings for individual countries, Commonwealth and others, is clearly unsatisfactory. I agree with the hon. and learned Member for Darwen. There is price disruption, inability to book long runs, which are so essential with highly productive, new and expensive plant, and there is absence of adequate categorisation. All these three problems are interlinked. We on this side of the House, and doubtless hon. Members opposite, met representatives of the industry this afternoon. The picture that emerged was certainly one of chaos in the industry, in marketing, in the back-door entries, and the rest. There is a clear need for adequate machinery for planning, categorising and timing these large imports.

We have to accept substantial imports, for a variety of reasons, not least the needs of developing countries such as India and Pakistan. I freely admit this, but why cannot we control imports more effectively so that they do the minimum of damage instead of very nearly the maximum damage as is now the case? The United States does it and Switzerland does it by different means. Other countries do it as well. If all other countries take steps to prevent disruption, when they have only a low percentage of imports, how much more important is it that we should take these steps with our relatively much higher percentage of imports?

Within the framework of an outward-looking trade policy which a great trading nation like ours should pursue, there is much that the Government can and should do. All the countries represented at the recent G.A.T.T. long-term cotton textile arrangements, importing and exporting nations alike, recognised and wrote into the document recognition that the United Kingdom was saturated with cotton textile imports.

The present ceilings on imports are too high but they have been accepted up to 1965, notwithstanding protests from this side of the House in June of last year against the last increase that was made. An assurance should be given to the industry that limitation will continue after 1965. The limitation should be global, as suggested by the hon. and learned Member for Darwen. If new exporters gain markets here and some of the existing exporters increase their share, others must lose out, at least until such time as other advanced countries come near to matching our United Kingdom performance. Special regard, however, should be given to India and Pakistan. They have tremendous problems, including a serious balance of payments problem. But this does not apply to Hong Kong.

Hong Kong is not a poor Colony. It has no balance of payments problem. I agree that it has other problems. The hardship among the population of Hong Kong could be ameliorated by having a reasonable taxation system. Why should the extremely wealthy people in Hong Kong—European, British and Chinese—get away with such a low level of direct taxation?

A great deal has been said already about the issues of categories, trade distortion, and quota periods. I would only add on the last named subject that Hong Kong did not have a carry-over last year.

It had a carry-over in the preceding year of 10 million sq. yards. I understand that this year India has a carry-over of 37 million sq. yards. Pakistan has a carry-over of 6 million sq, yards and Formosa one of 1 million sq. yards. I understand that India's 37 million sq. yards carry-over has already been delivered in this country. It would appear, therefore, that in 1963 we shall have from India 232 million sq. yards compared with 195 million sq. yards. Is it surprising that in those circumstances the industry in Lancashire remains depressed and that the upturn has not come about? Is it surprising that prices remain disruptively low and that confidence is at a record law ebb?

Another point to which reference has already been made and which ought to be emphasised is the need to redefine Commonwealth goods. Enough has been said on this subject. I do not want to go into further details, but there is a point to which I should like to draw the attention of the President of the Board of Trade. The right hon. Gentleman should have a further look at the provision for an automatic increase in allowable imports when the average order book in the Lancashire industry reaches 15 weeks. An order book of 15 weeks is not unreasonably long. In saying this I do not deny the fairness of making some provision of this kind, because excessively long order books are not good in the long run.

The Government have clearly failed the industry. The suspicion has long existed in Lancashire that the industry was expendable. That suspicion is now a near certainty. Why does every other advanced industrialised country consider its cotton textile industry an important part of the economy? Why have this Government done so much to create conditions for the industry which make it increasingly impossible for it to survive? We warned the Government when the " scrapping " phase of the Cotton Industry Act, 1959, seemed so successful that unless they created confidence on this import issue the re-equipment phase would fail and much public money would have been wasted. This is happening, if it has not already happened.

The hon. and learned Member for Darwen asked what the Labour Party would do. I think that from the way he put the question he already accepts that it will be a Labour Government that will have to resolve these problems. When the Labour Party comes into power, which cannot be long delayed now, a real attempt will be made to establish conditions of fairness and to restore confidence to the Lancashire industry.

A Labour Government will reopen negotiations at G.A.T.T. and seek to secure an early and substantial liberalisation in the 1962 Agreement. The broad principle of that Agreement, of a 5 per cent. per annum increase in imports seems generous in itself. It is in fact a high rate of increase but, of course, it starts from a ridiculously low rate. It will be 10 years before a real contribution is made to the problem of the needs of the developing countries for cotton textiles, assuming that the scheme is implemented and works successfully. These developing countries cannot afford to wait 10 years. It would be far better for all concerned to have an immediate substantial uplift in imports by the developed countries followed by a 2 per cent. per year rate of increase instead of the 5 per cent. on the very low base.

A Labour Government will establish machinery to bring order out of the present chaos, to regulate the imports of cotton goods into the United Kingdom. The present high level to which we are committed to the end of 1965 will be handled in such a way as to minimise price disruption and iron out the ups and downs of supply and demand which have been a bugbear to the industry for years. Further integration will be encouraged by financial grants for modernisation in those firms which undertake approved integration schemes.

A Labour Government will demonstrate that with order and planning it is possible to maintain a viable cotton textile industry without damaging the economies of the developing Commonwealth countries. Orderly adjustments have been achieved with agriculture and coal. It can be done with cotton if there is the will to do it.

This statement of policy, which will be made in full by my right hon. Friend the Deputy-Leader of the Opposition in Manchester on 19th July, will, I feel

[MR. THORNTON.]

sure, go a long way to restore the confidence which at present the Government have so lamentably failed to create.

8.22 p.m.

Sir John Barlow (Middleton and Prestwich): Many Members wish to speak on this important subject tonight, and, for that reason, I shall try to curtail my remarks. So many Members obviously wish to say very much the same thing, and therefore, one should shorten one's speech.

I am very glad to follow the hon. Member for Farnworth (Mr. Thornton). We in the industry have a great respect for his knowledge of the cotton industry and, while I do not always agree with him, I always take what he says about the cotton industry with very great seriousness.

Mr. D. Jones: I wish the President of the Board of Trade did.

Sir J. Barlow: So do I. The cotton industry, the oldest great industry in this country, has been the best organised and the most economic in its day and has provided relatively more exports than any other industry in this country at any other time. People nowadays so often fail to remember the size of the industry about 50 years ago, when it was producing something like 8,000 million yards of cloth a year of which it was exporting nearly four-fifths. The present production of the cotton industry is, I imagine, in the region of 1,200 million yards of cloth a year, which is approximately one-seventh of what it was 50 years ago.

At that time, when the cotton trade was at its zenith, as I said previously, I think it was probably the best-organised exporting industry that we or the world have ever seen. I was very familiar with it in the early 1920s when it was still very large. I remember that the merchants used to get their telegrams from all over the world in their offices as soon as they opened in the morning, and as soon as those telegrams were decoded the representatives from the mills in the different Lancashire towns would be coming in and seeing what we wished to buy. We then had some discussion with them as regards price and delivery and, of course, the type of cloth.

After lunch we went on 'change; they came back with their prices and we tried to see whether we could do business with them. If we managed to secure the cloth, the acceptance was wired back that afternoon. If not, an alternative offer was sent back. All that business was done on a very slight profit indeed—some of it commission and some of it profit. But I think that has been the quickest and most efficient type of overseas business that the world has ever seen on a large scale.

The diminution of the industry has, of course, been steady, with spurts and occasional uprisings, in the last 40 or 50 years. Every new emergent country wishes to establish a cotton industry. It seems to offer them prestige, and very often they cannot run their mills efficiently without our technical help and without quotas and tariffs as well.

The reduction in the number of spindles in the last 10 years has been very substantial, largely helped by the redundancy scheme. In 1951 there were about 22 million spindles and last year I believe they were reduced to about one-third of that number. In the same way, in 1951, there were approximately 360,000 looms and those have now been reduced to about 130,000. When the redundancy scheme was imposed in 1959 it was done on the basis of a certain amount of cloth which was expected to come into this country at that time. It will be remembered that the Commonwealth cloth at that time was something like 360 million yards and foreign cloth 170 million yards. In 1961 320 million yards came from the Commonwealth and 420 million yards from foreign countries. In 1962 the figure was somewhat less because of bad trade in this country.

The scheme was based on the expected import figure of 1959, and the Government have done all too little to maintain the import figure at that level. They have let it gently rise and they have been all too slow in plugging the holes in the bucket. It is no use pouring redundancy scheme money or water into a bucket if there are holes in it, when the number and size of the holes are increasing and one does nothing to plug those holes. That is what has happened in this country. It is comparable to building a dam and finishing 80 per cent. of it while failing to do anything about the remaining 20 per cent. It brings down the whole scheme in failure and ruins the industry at the same time.

Quite a lot has been said about categories this evening. They are very important indeed. The Board of Trade has done all too little about these. Time and time again it has encouraged the industry to do what it can for itself, but that is not good enough in the present circumstances. The industry cannot handle that part of the negotiations nearly as well as the Board of Trade. The industry has insufficient facilities to do it. That is part of the job of the Board of Trade.

In the case of Hong Kong we see determined efforts to stop different parts of the industry. One year, Hong Kong manufacturers may send a large amount of children's clothing perhaps, putting several clothing factories in this country out of business. Then they will switch to something else, raising their price on the children's clothing and making a very big profit out of it. One by one, just as Hitler ruined and destroyed the small nations of the world, the Hong Kong industry destroys one type of manufacturer after another in this country. The Board of Trade has the facilities for stopping it, yet it is doing little or nothing about it.

I take a rather similar case, the export of handkerchiefs from India. In 1961, none were sent to this country. In 1962, 60,000 dozen were sent. In January this year, in one month alone, there were 26,000 dozen sent. The indications are that the Indians are concentrating on handkerchiefs just as Hong Kong concentrated on other things. One by one, the manufacturers in this country, quite apart from the spinners, the weavers and finishers, can be ruined in course of time.

As has been said, the United States has very full control over categories. We do not necessarily wish that amount of detailed control, but we wish for something reasonable to keep our manufacturers in normal business.

I have heard of two small rather silly cases which are, perhaps, an indication of hundreds of others. I am informed that on what are known as gents' denim trews up to 29-inch waist there is no tax imposed in this country. When the inside leg measurement is over 29 in., then a tax is imposed. But the Board of Trade insist on the turn-up being sewn up properly in this country, whereas on similar imported garments, I understand, the turn-up may be left loose so that it may be turned down, lengthening the trews by the 2 or 3 in. of the turn-up. Someone is getting away with something there. I am told that the Board of Trade has been informed about it, but it seems all too slow to do anything.

Likewise, I am informed that on all made-up clothing such as men's shirts there has to be a marking, " Made in the Commonwealth " or something of that kind, in a fairly easily seen place. I am told that, recently, garments have come in with the mark almost hidden in the collar band so that it is very difficult to see it. Again, I understand that the Board of Trade has information about it but seems very slow to anything.

There is a great deal of trouble in finding out what cloth coming into this country is subsidised. The Cotton Board and other organisations have done much work on this subject but it is not nearly so easy for them as it is for the Board of Trade to find out about subsidies. I understand that Portuguese cotton yarn and cloth is considerably subsidised, but it has only been after a very long time that the industry has been able to obtain the information. I am told that the subsidy on carded yarn amounts to about 5·3d. per lb., on combed yarn 6·4d. per lb., and about 5¾d. per lb. on the weight of yarn in cotton fabric. This sounds rather complicated, but I have no doubt that the experts at the Board of Trade know all about it.

Hon. Members have spoken this evening about cheap foreign cloth going to Eire, being manufactured, and then coming to this country with the necessary 25 per cent. uplift by which it obtains Commonwealth status. This is just not good enough. It is nothing but a wangle, and the Board of Trade should do something about it. We believe that 50 per cent. is reasonable uplift for this type of business.

Reference has been made—it is so important that I shall refer to it again briefly—to our heavy imports compared with those of other countries. We import about 35 per cent. of our consumption; in other words, for every two yards we make and use here we import one. In the United States, the percentage is about 5½. In France it is 1 per cent., in West Germany it is 7 per cent., and so on. We are the only country with a great textile industry which tolerates anything

[SIR J. BARLOW.]
of the sort. When our delegates go to conferences in Geneva, in France or in other places, delegates from other countries ridicule our people and ask what on earth our Government are doing not to preserve the wonderful industry which is traditionally so great here.

We have great skills, traditional skills. We have the towns. We have modern equipment. But we must have help from the Board of Trade to stop up the holes in the bucket and not allow cheap and often subsidised cloth to come here, especially from foreign countries.

The Board of Trade seems to sleep so much of the time. A country may be sending nothing to us one year, a little bit the next year, and thereafter increasing. Naturally, we grumble, but the Board of Trade says, " It is only a little bit. It does not matter ", and it waits for about five years until it does matter, and then it settles for more than the greatest import from that particular country has ever been. This does not happen once. It is happening time and time again from all over the world. I tell the President of the Board of Trade that it is not good enough.

The President of the Board of Trade, his Ministers and his officials are charming people individually. They are very helpful. They work very hard. But collectively they are a very different " cup of tea ". We want them to do things collectively, not just talk nicely as individuals. The other day, the President of the Board of Trade came to Manchester and he said sweet nothings. This is not good enough. We in Lancashire have had our troubles in the past. We have got our troubles now. I urge the President of the Board of Trade to take them seriously. Otherwise, we shall.

8.38 p.m.

Mr. Dan Jones (Burnley): It is always a pleasure to follow the hon. Member for Middleton and Prestwich (Sir J. Barlow) because his criticism, at any rate, is always followed by action.

Although I have a lot of support and enthusiasm for the Motion, I am not entirely certain that I can congratulate the hon. and learned Member for Darwen (Mr. Fletcher-Cooke). I say that because I have here a copy of the last debate on this very important subject, and it is noticeable that on that occasion he did not support us in the Lobby. For that reason, I was rather disappointed that he should have attacked this side of the House which, as far as my memory serves me, has been consistently loyal to and anxious to help this industry, as it very richly deserves. I go out of my way to say that that criticism does not apply to the hon. Member for Middleton and Prestwich, and I accord to him my homage for what it is worth.

Coming to the industry itself, I think that these observations spring readily to mind, although very little can be said by anyone which has not been said already. I am very prepared to admit that there are people like my hon. Friend the Member for Farnworth (Mr. Thornton) who have been reared in the industry and who know its history chapter and verse. I must admit that I bring to this debate the feeling of injustice to an industry rather than an immaculate knowledge of it. Nevertheless—and I say this with some pride—I represent a constituency which, through the years, has made a quite remarkable contribution to this industry, and it could do so again. It has undoubtedly made a remarkable contribution to the economic well-being of our nation.

It is important to recall 1959 and not only the fact that millions of pounds of public money were poured into that industry, but that people in the industry did something which was quite remarkable. Indeed, with my knowledge of the industries of this country, I question very much whether any other industry would have acted similarly. At the behest of the Government, the industry went in for a period of rationalisation. It got rid of unwanted factory space, unwanted and out-of-date machinery, and unwanted men and women. I could not see the engineering industry in this country co-operating on such a basis. What this industry did was quite remarkable—and who can dispute it? This co-operation was given because of the specific promise of the Government that if what was suggested was done the whole industry could look forward to a period of greater prosperity than ever. The Government sent one of their Ministers, who is now in another place, to Lancashire to speak in precisely those terms.

I look at the subsequent developments with a sense of very real dismay. It is not a question of the Government not knowing what they are doing, so repeated have they been warned. I have never ascribed to the Government a lack of ability or the inability to see the economic problems just as clearly as we can. I must say almost with bitterness that it is nearly impossible not to come to the conclusion that the Government have written off this industry.

The people in my constituency looked forward to a new industrial era. Within a few months this new industrial child was suffocated by the Government and by the extent of importations. I shall not dwell on that matter except to say that I was particularly attracted by the reference of my hon. Friend the Member for Farnworth to Hong Kong, which will be the main burden of my very brief contribution. He said that Hong Kong might not be in the same position as Commonwealth countries in terms of tradition. I wonder whether my hon. Friend the Member for Farnworth knew how near to the mark he was. He certainly was correct when speaking about the financial well-being of that country.

I have with me a Barclays Bank statement which, under the heading "Present situation", states:

"Business buoyant"

and

"No difficulty with payments for exports to Hong Kong."

In the middle of a fine analysis, the statement uses these words:

"Textile manufacture, which accounts for about 50 per cent. by value of all exports, is the largest industry. Exports of garments increased last year by 18 million (33 per cent.), which more than offset a fall in exports of other textiles of £5 million."

I wonder whether those figures, carefully prepared by the bank, have, in turn, any effect upon our own country.

These figures will interest the House. In February, 1962, imports from Hong Kong of textile yarns, fabrics, made-up articles and related products were £899,567 and in February, 1963, one year later, the figure was £1,459,990. If my arithmetic is correct, that means that there was an increase in imports to this country from Hong Kong of precisely £560,423, which, judged by any standard, is a substantial increase upon a figure that already was very high.

The point I am making is that these exports do not represent trade with a typically Commonwealth country. I offer these figures as ample substantiation for that viewpoint. I refer the House to HANSARD of 22nd May, 1962, when the former Secretary of State for the Colonies, now Chancellor of the Exchequer, was replying to Question No. 38. I quote:

"Restrictions are necessary because there is a limit to the number of immigrants from mainland China that Hong Kong can now absorb, while there is virtually no limit to the number of Chinese who may seek entry. More than 1 million Chinese have entered Hong Kong in the past twelve years, and with a total population of 3·2 million, Hong Kong is very overcrowded. Nevertheless, about 60,000 still enter the Colony, legally or illegally, every year."—[OFFICIAL REPORT, 22nd May, 1962; Vol. 660, c. 226.]

It is almost impossible to escape the conclusion that those figures, relating to the amount of imports into this country from Hong Kong, and to the number of people who find employment there from China, give us the right to say that the Lancashire cotton textile industry is actively subsiding the refugee problem from Soviet China. It is difficult, if not impossible, not to arrive at that conclusion. I suggest that these facts are similarly well known to Her Majesty's Government. If they are not, they ought to be.

There is a consequence. I, at least, am not prepared to accept the suggestion that this is traditional trade between Commonwealth countries. I reject that upon the evidence which I have put forward. Those three sources of information—Barclays Bank, the Statistical Division of the House of Commons and the Chancellor of the Exchequer himself—are sources of information which are incontestable and add up to a conclusion from which one cannot possibly escape. I repeat it. The Lancashire cotton textile industry is subsiding the refugee problem of Soviet China and Hong Kong.

There is a good deal more I should have liked to have said, but I know that other hon. Members are very anxious to speak, so, instead of making half a dozen more points I should like to make, I will make two and sit down.

First, I hope the situation with regard to Portugal will be very carefully watched. I am given very reliably to

[MR. JONES.]
understand that the industry itself believes that unless that happens Portugal could become the Hong Kong of Europe, because the exports of that country are very readily developing, and the costs of production in that country are comparable with those in Hong Kong, and consequentially offer a most unfair competition to the Lancashire textile industry. I would, therefore, repeat that I would hope that that situation will be very closely watched.

Secondly, and more importantly, I am very pleased indeed with the Motion which has been brought forward by the hon. and learned Gentleman the Member for Darwen—and full marks to him for so bringing it forward—and I hope that before the debate ends an equal amount of pleasure will be given us by the President of the Board of Trade in his response to the debate.

8.51 p.m.

Captain L. P. S. Orr (Down, South): I hesitate to distract the House from the Lancashire cotton industry for a moment, but I do so with the justification that the Motion as drawn refers to the

"disadvantages under which the United Kingdom textile industry at present labours".

So far as the textile industry in Northern Ireland is concerned, we fully share the anxieties of the Lancashire cotton industry about the high level of imports. We are entirely at one with Lancashire in this.

This is the first time I have sat through a cotton industry debate, and I have been impressed by the arguments, brought forward both by my hon. and learned Friend the Member for Darwen (Mr. Fletcher-Cooke), in moving the Motion, and by the hon. Gentleman the Member for Stalybridge and Hyde (Mr. Blackburn), about the need for a better co-ordination of Commonwealth trading in textiles. I was impressed by the suggestion—I think it came from the hon. Gentleman the Member for Stalybridge and Hyde—that there should be a Commonwealth conference confined to textiles alone. I think there is clearly a need for the redefinition of Commonwealth products. The fact that so much in the way of imports comes by what my hon. and learned Friend called the Eire wangle through the back door is something which clearly the Commonwealth countries as a whole ought to consider.

Let me turn to the textile industry in Northern Ireland for just a minute or two. It is not, I think, realised in this House, because we hear so much about our shipbuilding industry and our aircraft industry, that the second largest employer of labour in Northern Ireland is the textile industry. Textiles as a whole account for 12½ per cent. of the working population, that is, 10,000 people more or less directly or indirectly employed. A very substantial portion of that textile industry is the handkerchief trade, and it is particularly to the disadvantages which that trade suffers that I want to refer. My hon. Friend the Member for Middleton and Prestwich (Sir J. Barlow) also referred to them.

Not only is it a substantial employer of labour; it is a very substantial exporter on behalf of this country. The value of exports of the handkerchiefs trade in 1959 was £507,000, in 1960 £553,000, in 1961 £507,000 and in 1962 £519,000. The whole of the export of made-up linen handkerchiefs from the United Kingdom comes from Northern Ireland, but what is not often realised is that nearly 85 per cent. of the export of cotton handkerchiefs comes from Northern Ireland. The majority of cotton handkerchiefs, even those which come from Lancashire, are hemstitched and made up in Northern Ireland and exported from Northern Ireland.

Until recently, we have been the third largest exporter of handkerchiefs in the world but because of the introduction of specialised machinery in other countries which can now be operated by means of relatively unskilled labour and because of the development of the other textile industries that we have been hearing about, we have now lost that position, and the handkerchief trade is in some difficulty. We have got to rely principally upon our quality in order to compete both in the home market and—it is important here to bear in mind what one of my hon. Friends said about the export of handkerchiefs from India—in the export trade.

It is extraordinary that in these circumstances there should be 10 per cent. Purchase Tax upon handkerchiefs. This

comes about because, with the withdrawal of the special surcharge on 10th April, 1962, the rate of Purchase Tax on Group 2 articles—accessories and minor articles of apparel—went up from 5½ per cent. to 10 per cent. This is, in fact, a direct tax on grey cloth, and its effect is to put a 1d. or 3d. on a finished handkerchief, depending on its quality. This has an extraordinarily damaging effect upon our handkerchief trade.

Mr. Douglas Jay (Battersea, North): Surely what the hon. and gallant Gentleman is saying about handkerchiefs is also true of almost all other textiles?

Captain Orr: Yes, I fully accept that, but I am talking in particular about handkerchiefs. During the proceedings on the Finance Bill, some of my hon. Friends and I tabled an Amendment to deal with the problem, but, unfortunately, the Ways and Means Resolution meant that we were not in order when we tried to move a new Clause.

Mr. Sydney Silverman (Nelson and Colne): But the hon. and gallant Gentleman will recall that there was an occasion when it was in order and when an Amendment was moved, from the Government side of the House—but, I think, the hon. Member for Manchester, Withington (Sir R. Cary)—to reduce or abolish the Purchase Tax on textile goods. It was most persuasively argued on both sides, and particularly on the Government side. As I pointed out on that occasion, hon. Gentlemen opposite could have had their way if they had only gone into the Division Lobby in support of their Amendment, but none of them would do so.

Captain Orr: The hon. Gentleman is talking about Purchase Tax on the whole range of textile goods. I was talking about a new Clause which I tabled to the Finance Bill to deal with linen handkerchiefs under 21 ins.——

Mr. Silverman: Surely the greater includes the lesser.

Captain Orr: Of course. If the greater is absolutely impossible, however, sometimes it is not a bad idea to go for the lesser. We had decided that the lesser was possible, and we thought it was reasonable to ask the Government to exempt handkerchiefs under 21 ins. We did that because the Chancellor could not tell us, "But this includes headscarves and all kinds of things." What we tried to do was to move handkerchiefs into the category of toilet accessories. One of the unfortunate things facing the handkerchief trade is that paper handkerchiefs are free of Purchase Tax. It was this that concentrated our attention on this aspect. In the United States the paper handkerchief has now outstripped the textile handkerchief. Far more paper handkerchiefs are sold there now than textile handkerchiefs, and the textile handkerchief makers in Northern Ireland are very much afraid that this will be the pattern in this country in future.

Consequently we say that, in order to be fair as between paper handkerchiefs and textile handerchiefs, the time has come when at least this limited change in the Purchase Tax ought to be made to help us. I hope that my right hon. Friend the President of the Board of Trade will say that he will recommend to the Chancellor that in his next round of Purchase Tax changes he will remove Purchase Tax from handerchiefs, bearing in mind the background of very considerable unemployment in Northern Ireland and the importance of this industry to us. We should take it very ill indeed if, in the next round of Purchase Tax changes, the Chancellor did not make this very simple concession to us. With that, I shall now allow the House to return to the subject of Lancashire.

9.2 p.m.

Mr. Anthony Greenwood (Rossendale): I am sure that the hon. Member for Down, South (Captain Orr) will understand that, I a Yorkshireman, representing a Lancashire constituency, am loath to follow him in the very interesting points that he has made about the effect of the Government's policy on Northern Ireland. I do so because I want to be brief. I think that it is most important that as many hon. Members as possible should be enabled to take part in the debate so that we can impress upon the Government what is almost the sense of desperation that pervades Lancashire at the present time.

I confess that my own self-imposed aim of brevity is made easier by the fact that, like other hon. Members who

[MR. GREENWOOD.]

have spoken, I find it difficult to say anything new on an occasion of this kind. Over the last seventeen years, year after year, there has been debate after debate on the cotton industry. The unions have pleaded, the employers have begged, the local authorities have argued, and the Cotton Board has wheedled in the most statesmanlike possible way. Yet throughout that period, particularly during the last twelve years, we have been met with indifference or invincible ignorance on the part of the President of the Board of Trade.

The President of the Board of Trade visited Lancashire very recently, and I should like to tell the House what the *Textile Mercury*, the principal periodical in the industry, had to say about that visit: speaking of the Minister, it said:

> "Eighteen months ago—just ten days before Christmas, 1961—he came to Manchester and failed to put anything at all, except comforting and meaningless words into Lancashire's stocking. Last week, at the start of the series of Wakes holidays, he came again, and if Lancashire was hoping for a few coppers for its holiday fund the county was again disappointed. As before, Mr. Erroll came, said the same old things, and went away. He might just as well have spent the weekend helping the Prime Minister cope with the domestic difficulties of the Government."

The *Textile Mercury* also said that the last time the President of the Board of Trade went to Manchester he said that he had gone there to listen and learn and that he had proved quite adequately that he had done neither. The net result of all the efforts that have been made by the industry and by hon. Members on both sides of the House over a very long period, manpower in the industry has continued to fall, imports into the country have continued to rise, and the confidence of the industry has been eroded.

I would like to say what this means in terms of a constituency. Excluding the town of Ramsbottom, the number of workers in this industry in my constituency fell between 1951 and 1961 from 7,923 to 6,300, a drop of one-fifth. The last annual report of the Lancashire and Mersey Industrial Development Association gave the unemployment figures for 11th March—and I strongly support my hon. Friend the Member for Stalybridge and Hyde (Mr. Blackburn) in what he said about the unrepresentative and inaccurate character of the unemployment statistics in areas like our own. The Association's figures showed that in Bacup alone there was an unemployment rate of 7·5 per cent. There were only two towns in the region, Up Holland, with 8·1 per cent. and Hoylake, with 7·6 per cent., which had a higher level.

The position in Bacup is accentuated by the fact that the slipper industry there is affected by similar conditions. The hon. and learned Member for Darwen (Mr. Fletcher-Cooke) and my hon. Friend the Member for Blackburn (Mrs. Castle), who also have the slipper industry in their constituencies, will I am sure, agree.

The other day I got what I thought was one of the saddest letters I have had from my constituency. It came from a young and brilliant textile manager. I imagine that he is about 36 years of age. He wrote:

> "In my 20 years in the trade I do not remember such an atmosphere of widespread alarm and despondency. As an Associate of the textile Institute I would point out that an analysis of the admission lists shows that only about 5 per cent. of new members are connected directly with spinning and manufacturing. The supply of technical staff for future managerial posts is just about non-existent."

That letter epitomises the tragedy of the industry. This is National Productivity Year, yet the new managerial and technical class in the industry is having its heart broken and being discouraged from continuing in the industry.

The hon. and learned Member for Darwen asked what Labour's plan was. It is not for me to say what it is in detail tonight, but I want to state, from my point of view, five things which are absolutely necessary. First, we need firm ceilings for total imports. I know that we are limited up to 1965, but I believe, as other hon. Gentlemen have suggested, that we should start now deciding what future figures are to be. It may well be that the 1959 ceilings were themselves too high, but I think that to start on the basis of the 1959 ceilings is to start on the wrong foot. It is for the Government to decide what size it wants the cotton industry to be and then create the conditions to help it achieve and maintain that size.

Secondly, I agree with what other hon. Members have said about the need for categorisation. It is a horrible word, but

that is, I think, an essential requirement for the textile industry at present. The United States has over 60 categories, and I believe that a stipulation that exports to the United Kingdom should be limited according to well-defined categories should be introduced into quota restrictions against some countries and into bilateral agreements with others.

The third requirement, I believe, is, as the hon. and learned Gentleman has pointed out, to stop the carry-over of quotas. Here I would say that I wish that his Motion had not been in such general terms, but had included specific proposals for helping the industry out of its difficulty. That would have produced an interesting situation, in which hon. Members opposite whose seats in Lancashire are in great danger would have had an opportunity to save them by voting with us on the practical proposals which have emerged from both sides of the House today.

The fourth necessity, I am certain, is for the kind of cotton import commission which my right hon. Friend the Leader of the Opposition suggested in the Wilson plan five years ago—a commission which will regulate the flow of cotton imports and determine import prices. That is the only form of machinery which will stop the merchants who are at present sabotaging the Lancashire textile industry from continuing to destroy it for their own miserable private profits.

Lastly, I suggest that we must tighten up the anti-dumping machinery. I am sure that hon. Members who have stressed this point are absolutely right. It is ridiculous that it should be possible for Indian textile goods to come to this country at a price which is 20 per cent., 30 per cent. or more below the domestic prices that operate in India. It is ridiculous that yarn should come from Ireland and sell here at a price substantially less than that which it commands at home.

It is absurd that the industry should have to prove that dumping exists, that it is disrupting the industry and that it will be to the national interest to stop the dumping, before it is possible to get the President of the Board of Trade to act. The responsibility for acting must be accepted fairly and squarely by the right hon. Gentleman. I want him to tell us tonight what he objects to in the Canadian system ; it seems to work well in Canada. It protects the Canadian cotton industry. I hope that it will be possible for him to hold out a small crumb of hope that at last he is seized of the desperateness of the situation and is prepared to do something to help the people of Lancashire.

9.12 p.m.

Mr. Geoffrey Hirst (Shipley) : Time marches on. I have had to decimate the speech that I had prepared. I hope that my example will be followed ; otherwise I shall feel that my sacrifice has been in vain.

This is an important subject, and I am grateful to my hon. and learned Friend the Member for Darwen (Mr. Fletcher-Cooke) not only for his interesting speech but for leaving the Motion wide enough to allow other industries connected with textiles to be mentioned. I follow industry very widely, and I support the tenor of the speeches that have been made so far. I am only too conscious of the problems and difficulties facing the cotton industry. I am also aware of the fact that some people in the wool textile industry, considering the attitude adopted by the Government in respect of cotton, feel that some of the same dangers may arise in connection with their own industry.

On the other hand, for a number of reasons the wool textile industry does not have quite the same difficulties of competition in the home market that the cotton industry has to face. There are climatic reasons, and the expense and difficulty of working with wool products as opposed to cotton. Nevertheless, the wool textile industry is not very pleased with Her Majesty's Government. It is not as pleased as it used to be. The wool textile industry has a great export market worth £150 million a year. It is doing a fine job, but recently it has not always had the same attitude in respect of consolidation that it used to have.

This situation arises broadly from the Japanese attitude. The wool textile industry still stands by the fears expressed at considerable length on this subject in the debate in December, 1962. The protection provided to this industry in its own country is considerable. For instance, in the case of Italian cloth at 32s. a yard there is a particular form of duty, which is 20 per cent. *ad valorem*, plus 175 yen per square metre. This

[MR. HIRST.]
means that the protection is double what it is in our country in respect of the same cloth. With cheaper material, at 14s. a yard, the protection is three times what it is here.

The Japanese market is almost exclusively controlled by large trading concerns, and a very nice arrangement it is. Most of the traders buy the raw material and then distribute it to mills of their own choice. Then, by a form of discipline, they put up the prices. All this leads to the greatest example of dual prices in the world. It still exists, and it will remain. It is nothing less than dumping. I support the views which have been expressed tonight that Her Majesty's Government are far too soft-bellied in this business. There is no reason why our basic industries and our sound export industries should be sacrificed, whatever the incentive may be to develop new ones.

Although I have had to scrap most of my speech, I wish to conclude by quoting an extract from the speech which was made by my right hon. Friend the Chancellor of the Exchequer to the Association of British Chambers of Commerce. I should not have taken a lot of notice of it, but for the context in which it was made. My right hon. Friend said :

> "It is fundamental for the British economy not to dwell too much on the lost trades of the past, but to concentrate more and more on the new trades of the future."

That is all right so far as it goes—if it were not Government policy time after time to say that everything must be thrown on the side of the new industry and that it does not matter how much an old one is damaged. That is not good enough for the textile industry and it ought not to be good enough for Her Majesty's Government to retain as a policy.

9.16 p.m.

Mr. H. Rhodes (Ashton-under-Lyne) : Hon. Members must, of necessity, condense much of what they would like to say. If we on this side of the House were able to say all that we believed about the Government, it would take a long time.

I must excuse myself for being a little hoarse this evening. Yesterday, I was singing heartily at our annual "church sing" in a church in the Pennines which overlooks Lancashire on the one side and Yorkshire on the other. I must confess to a few secular thoughts as we raised our voices in the hymn :

> "Let every creature rise and sing."

I thought of the multitude of people from both sides of the Pennines who have raised their voices about the parlous state of the textile industries and near-anarchy which persists.

The hon. and learned Member for Darwen (Mr. Fletcher-Cooke) asked a rhetorical question: what was the policy of the Labour Party? He should know by now that if it took as long to obtain an answer from the Labour Party as it has taken hon. Members on this side to get an answer from the Tory Party, or to find a policy at all, it would be a minimum period of twelve years. But he will find that it will not be long.

The hon. Member for Middleton and Prestwich (Sir J. Barlow) said that the Government were required to block up holes in the bucket. We do not want the Government to block up any holes in any bucket. We want them to "kick the bucket"—and to get out. The policies which they have pursued, *laissez-faire* as they have been, with a tiny mixture of planning, have led us into such a mess that now no one, either in Lancashire or Yorkshire, has any confidence in the Government.

The Government have relied on competition and consumer's choice and the elimination of the inefficient by the ready and old-established method of the bankruptcy court, never worrying about the side effects of that kind of approach. But, in recent months, they have accepted in part the principle, which has been enunciated from this side of the House for many years, that a planned economy is necessary. That must be the case, or they would never have dreamed of setting up the N.E.D.C.

When there is a violent change because of the contraction of an old industry or old industries, it is essential that there should be better and newer thinking than the President of the Board of Trade and his colleagues have shown up to now. I could quote at length what industry thinks about the performance of the Government, but I will content myself with making one quotation which will cap anything which has been said by

Tory Membrs about their own Government. This is from an important person in the wool trade:

"Last week at the annual meeting of the A.B.C.C. the President made one of those London Schools of Economic speeches saying that Britain must get behind the glamour industries and forget old-fashioned ones. Mr. Reginald Maudling was there, nodding approval and grinning like a Cheshire cat. Our own exports, which regularly yield £150-£160 million in wool, waste, tops, yarns and piecegoods, will not be maintained if H.M.G. continue in this way."

I agree.

The President of the Board of Trade has much to answer for. He was at the Board of Trade during the implementation of the policy of reorganisation and re-equipment of the industry under the 1959 Act. He has seen the response. He must be aware of the responsibility that he has to Lancashire and the whole country for the money spent under that Act. He has an account to render to the House as to why it has not been successful. On the one hand, there is assistance by the Board of Trade. On the other, the Board of Trade takes the benefit away.

Since the programme for re-equipment and reorganisation was devised, things have happened in Lancashire which, as usual, make the working folk bear the brunt of any change. I will give one example. During the last two years a large Lancashire firm with a reputation throughout the world for branded goods was broken up. A large financial organisation got hold of one-third of the shares, and on the 25 per cent. rule no major reorganisation could take place in the firm.

Therefore, the grip on the firm became stronger, with the result that a huge profit was made by that financial house. It did not do anything for the industry, but it threw hundreds of people on the scrap heap and broke up good mills in consequence. This is the sort of thing which has gone on concurrently with the Government proposals which have been supposed to help the cotton industry. The Government have undermined it themselves, and have allowed others to undermine it, too.

Now is the testing time. The country is watching to find out what is the Government's policy on redundant labour. The redundancy caused by the contraction of an industry like this will be nothing to the redundancy which will be caused by automation in the future. I believe that the Government have neither the policy nor the will to do anything about it.

Of the wider question involved, the problem of automation and the economic and social changes which are bound up with it will loom long in the future. If this problem is superimposed on the existing unsolved problems which only common sense and planning can solve, our difficulties will increase to the point when no Government will be able to do anything about them. The answer to our economic problems lies in planning a holding operation for changing times to take account of older industries to allow for an orderly advance in world trade.

The immediate answer to this problem is to change the Government. Tory gimmicks are exhausted. I urge the party opposite to go to the country and discover what Yorkshire and Lancashire think about them.

9.26 p.m.

Mr. Maurice Macmillan (Halifax): I will confine my speech to expressing general agreement with the views expressed by my hon. and learned Friend the Member for Darwen (Mr. Fletcher-Cooke). I find it difficult to add anything constructive to his admirable speech.

I should like to develop what he said about selective protection, particularly with reference to the wool textile industry. I urge the Government to act now to prevent similar situations developing in this industry in the near future. Many practical steps have been suggested today which apply equally to the wool textile industry. Two of these have been, first, the speed of the machinery and the slowness with which the Board of Trade is taking up evidence of dumping and similar matters; and, secondly, the need to review the whole question of Commonwealth re-entry, not only for textiles but in the context of their own actions in regard to British exports. I urge my right hon. Friend to look at the whole matter of developing industries in the light of the decision—with which almost every hon. Member who has spoken agrees—that a liberal trade policy is essential.

[MR. MACMILLAN.]

I think that most hon. Members would agree that, of necessity, the development of the backward countries—and I wish that we could have as general agreement on this as on other matters—should not be carried only on the backs of those industries which those countries find most easy to use, the textile trade in particular. Now that the problem is a little harder than it would have been if the Common Market negotiations had been successful, this in itself puts not a smaller but a bigger duty on the Board of Trade.

I hope that hon. Members who represent Lancashire will recognise that neither they nor anyone else should wish that the problems of the cotton textile industry should be solved at the expense of the wool textile industry.

9.29 p.m.

Mr. Arthur Holt (Bolton, West): Because of the lack of time I will telescope my remarks into a few sentences.

The Government are to be congratulated on their desire to carry out a liberal import policy. They are not to be condemned for doing so. There comes a time, however, when one may decide to cry " Enough ". The Government are to be condemned for allowing the burden of their liberal trade policy to fall unfairly and almost entirely on the cotton industry.

Up to a year ago it was possible to find people in the industry who still had confidence in its future. Since the failure of the Common Market negotiations there has been a noticeable change. I should find it quite impossible to take anyone into a mill in Bolton now where I would find any confidence at all in the future. As a result, some of the most extraordinary and hair-raising cures that I have ever heard have been suggested for the industry's troubles. " An I.C.I. for the cotton industry "—I cannot imagine what that would do for the ultimate consumer, and it would certainly be a very bad thing for the industry itself.

We must therefore do what the Government have never been prepared to do which is, within some limit, to decide that a certain portion of the home market shall be retained for the Lancashire industry. There can be many reasons for doing that. There can be many reasons for saying that the industry should be left to wither away, but there are stronger arguments for saying that it is in the interests of the country, and of the consumers, to keep in being a small textile industry, as it is now.

I hope that we shall soon get into the European Common Market, but it is not in our interests that when we go into it we should not have a small but efficient cotton industry to play its part in that market which, for a long time, is bound to be a highly protected market for textiles. If that is to be done, we must fairly face up to the issue of how the Government can create a feeling of confidence within the industry.

I do not like the Labour Party's plan for an import board—that is far too bureaucratic, and quite unnecessary—but I believe that the Government should set up a committee to consider the basis on which this feeling can be created. [*Laughter.*] That committee should start with the objective of seeing that between 60 per cent. and 75 per cent. of the home trade is retained for the Lancashire industry. It should examine imports ; those that Lancashire obviously cannot compete with should be allowed to continue, but those that are marginal represent the kind of business that should be retained for the industry.

I regret that I have had to telescope my remarks—obviously to the slight confusion of hon. Members—but I urge the Government to take that kind of action now because, without a return of confidence within the industry, the present deplorable state of affairs will continue.

9.33 p.m.

The President of the Board of Trade (Mr. F. J. Erroll): We are all very grateful to the hon. Member for Bolton, West (Mr. Holt) for providing us with our only laugh in a rather sombre evening. We realise that, as he had to telescope his remarks, what he said may not be a full and considered exposition of Liberal policy, but it was interesting to see the obviously clear intention that one should have free trade everywhere except in one's own constituency.

I very much appreciate the action of my hon. and learned Friend the Member for Darwen (Mr. Fletcher-Cooke) in selecting this subject for debate coming, as it

does, almost exactly a year after we last debated cotton policy. I had hoped that there would be an opportunity for such a debate before the House rose for the Summer Recess, so I particularly appreciate his action. The debate gives me an opportunity of saying how much the Government have been doing in the 12 months since our last debate, and in the 13 months since I made a statement to the House outlining the Government's policy in regard to imports of cotton textiles. I shall, therefore, go back to the situation as it was a year ago, and explain what has been done since then.

In my statement and subsequent speech in the Supply Day debate I sought to give Lancashire certain assurances about our policy, with a view to enabling the industry to know where it stood in relation to imports up to the end of 1965. These assurances have been fully carried out. If some hon. Members on both sides of the House have been somewhat critical about me during this debate I put it down to the fact that perhaps I have failed to explain sufficiently loudly and clearly during the year how much has beeen done. I hope to rectify that omission this evening.

My hon. and learned Friend the Member for Darwen referred to my phrase about the ring fence a year ago. It is certainly quite a good ring fence. It was a phrase designed to illustrate what we were doing and I think that it has held up well. The hon. Member for Farnworth (Mr. Thornton), in a speech which we heard with great attention, with its combination of moderation and of feeling about an important subject on which he is a great expert, referred to uncontrolled imports. I assure the hon. Member that they are not uncontrolled. I will go into that in detail in a few moments.

The hon. Member for Rossendale (Mr. Greenwood) spoke eloquently in the debate a year ago. I know that his constituency has been more hard hit than those of other hon. Members who have a constituency interest in the textile industry. He referred today to the need for firm ceilings for total imports. I mention these three points from the speeches because they serve to illustrate exactly what has been done during the last 12 months.

In my statement and in the debate last year I explained that India and Hong Kong had agreed to continue the voluntary limitation up to the end of 1965 at the ceiling levels for piece goods and made-up goods which had been established in 1961. There was no question of increasing these ceilings. Indeed, an entirely new limitation was introduced in the form of a restriction on exports of cotton yarn for the three years at the 1961 level.

These arrangements are now fully operative although complete agreement was not reached with Pakistan. Pakistan, unfortunately, was not able to agree to restrain her exports of cotton yarn on the same basis as the other countries and therefore I decided to impose an import control—and this was the first time that this had been done in respect of a Commonwealth country—in December, 1962. I have recently been in touch with the Pakistan Minister for Commerce over the question of Pakistan's exports of cotton piece goods and made-ups, since his Government had also been unable to accept the three-year agreement. I am glad to tell hon. Members that the Pakistan Minister for Commerce has now assured me that the export licensing of Pakistan piece goods and made-ups to this country this year will be kept within the quota. I am glad to have had his co-operation because it has avoided the necessity for quota restrictions which certainly I would have imposed had the need arisen.

I also made it clear that imports from other low-cost sources which were subject to control—Japan, China, Formosa, and East European countries—would remain limited at the low quota levels which had been established. This has been done. Indeed, the restrictions have been intensified. The quota on imports from Formosa has been reduced from 12·5 million sq. yds. to 2·5 million sq. yds. per year. My hon. and learned Friend the Member for Darwen suggested that the quota had been exceeded. I should explain the exact position to show how these innocent mis-statements can arise.

What happened was that from last year, when the quota was 12·5 million sq. yards, there was a carry-over of 800,000 sq. yards. Total imports this year have been 3·5 million sq. yards, compared with a quota of 2·5 million sq. yards. The 800,000 sq. yards of excess is the legitimate carry-over. The

[MR. ERROLL.]
balance of 200,000 sq. yards arises from a very technical point of recording delays, that is to say goods imported last year which were only recorded in the January figures. Therefore, we have effectively cut back Formosa to the figure which we stated we would establish. As regards Japan, under the commercial treaty which was signed last November and which has been ratified in May of this year, a nil quota for yarn has been fixed and imports of cotton fabrics and garments remain subject to restriction.

Spain is a country which is frequently mentioned. The agreement between the industries limiting imports from Spain has been extended until the end of 1965. Last year I made it plain that imports from Western Europe and the United States of America would continue, subject to any change arising out of the Common Market negotiations, to receive tariff protection but that there was no justification for quota restrictions when dealing with our major trading partners whose standards of living are approximately the same as our own.

The industry has always told me that it was ready and willing to compete with countries of this kind, and therefore I do not think it is right for the hon. Member for Farnworth and my hon. and learned Friend the Member for Darwen to press so strongly for what they call global control. I think I am right in my recollection of what my hon. and learned Friend said——

Mr. Fletcher-Cooke: I think not. I went out of my way to say that I always told my friends in the cotton industry that they have got to take Portugal, that it is no good saying they must have protection from Portugal or a quota other than the normal E.F.T.A. standard, provided that there is no dodging or dumping. I have said that they have got to take Portugal as a Western European nation in the E.F.T.A. system.

Mr. Erroll: I am sorry if I did not correctly understand that part of my hon. and learned Friend's speech. Certainly reference was made to global control. The industry did not ask for global control which would include within the control the countries of Western Europe and the United States of America.

Many hon. Members have referred to countries with no traditional trade in cotton textiles. I said last year that they could not count on being able to build up a new market in Britain. I went on to reinforce that by saying that we would be able to keep the situation under much closer review than hitherto by introducing a new system of open individual licensing so that we would see exactly what was going on, and that we would also invoke the long-term Geneva arrangement wherever necessary and appropriate.

In addition to these steps, I have personally initiated negotiations with Malaya, Yugoslavia and the Irish Republic and have reached agreement with these countries for the limitation of their exports of the cotton goods which were causing or threatening disruption.

The case of Malaya is interesting, because one hon. Member said that Malaya was given a quota. This is quite the wrong way to look at it. Previously there was no restriction at all on Malaya's right to send cotton goods to this country; so that, in fact, we were imposing quite a severe restriction on Malaya's right to send goods to this country. It was very satisfactory that we were able to reach a voluntary agreement with her because thereby we did not imperil our export trade to Malaya.

Mr. Greenwood: What about a quota for Lancashire?

Mr. Erroll: I do not want to depart from the order of my speech but I must deal with that interjection. When the arrangements with Commonwealth countries come in for so much criticism we must remember that there are many preferential tariffs for the export of British textiles to Commonwealth countries; these were very much enjoyed by Lancashire, and regarded as very important, before the war but after the Ottawa agreements were negotiated. They are in the main, though not entirely, still in force if only Lancashire will do a bit more exporting. I very much wish that she would. [AN HON. MEMBER: "Of what?"] Of textiles. There is a 15 per cent. preferential tariff on certain cotton goods going from this country to Canada as compared with corresponding

goods from Western Europe. It is a very valuable benefit which ought to be used. I wish there had been a little more said about Lancashire's ability to export cotton textiles to the markets which are still available and which are being used by other highly-developed countries.

The Yugoslavians have, in fact, behaved very well in this matter. I shall explain to the House a little of my problems in this connection. I went to Yugoslavia in September last year primarily to see whether we could win for Britain an extremely important steel contract worth about £25 million. This was a great prize to be secured for British industry, if it could be pulled off, but it did not deter me from taking up strongly with the Yugoslavian authorities the need for them to restrain their exports of textiles to this country, although they themselves were wondering how they could earn enough sterling to pay for the steel works and other equipment which they were buying from Britain.

I put this matter to them as strongly as I could even at the risk of losing the steelworks order. Fortunately, all came out well, because not only did we get the steelworks order, but we got from them an understanding that they would restrict their exports of grey cloth to us to 5·5 million square yards per annum for the three years 1963-65. Previously, of course, the level had been considerably higher. In 1962, it was about 7·2 million square yards and it was higher still in 1961. Thus, we have actually achieved a cut-back by voluntary agreement with Yugoslavia, at the risk, though fortunately not materialised, of losing a very important export order.

I hope that the House will appreciate that we sell a lot of the products of the British textile industry to Eire as well as importing therefrom. It is a trade in both directions. It varies between one element of the industry and another, but it is a very important part of our trade.

Discussions have been held with other Governments on a warning basis where the level of imports is too small to justify or to require restrictive action. I know that particular difficulty arises as a result of imports from Portugal. I was very grateful for the intervention of my hon. and learned Friend the Member for Darwen on this particular matter. I appreciate that there is a problem here although I cannot quite agree with the somewhat exaggerated language of my hon. Friend the Member for Middleton and Prestwich (Sir J. Barlow). I have heard it said in Lancashire that Portugal could become the Hong Kong of Western Europe, but I do not think that this is likely to happen.

This is a difficult situation because of our undertakings under the Convention setting up the European Free Trade Association. Nevertheless, I took the matter up with the Minister of Commerce, Dr. Oliveira, in Lisbon this year, and, although there was the very great prize of the three-year acceleration towards zero tariffs on industrial goods to achieve in Lisbon in May, this did not deter me from pressing the matter with him, even at the risk which, fortunately, did not materialise, that the Portuguese would dig their heels in and not agree to the acceleration. I mention these things not —I hope that the House will appreciate this—in any boasting manner but to show that I have really placed the interests of the textile industry in the forefront of any negotiations with which I have been concerned, and I do not think that I have altogether failed.

As, I hope, the House will appreciate from the examples I have given, we must realise that the protection of Lancashire's industry cannot be the only consideration determining the policy of the Government. We are asked by hon. Members on both sides to increase trade within the Commonwealth, and we want to do so. On a serious occasion like this, I do not wish to make cracks, but the hon. Member for Rossendale is always for the free importation of Commonwealth workers into this country though he does not seem to believe that their products should come here.

Mr. Greenwood: That is not quite worthy of the right hon. Gentleman. One of the things characterising Lancashire's attitude throughout these extremely difficult years has been that we are fully prepared to play our part in accepting the products of the under-developed countries. We only wish that America and various countries of Western Europe were equally ready.

Mr. Erroll: I am coming now to the subject of imports by other countries. They have not done as well as us. I quite accept that. America has been restrictive, but I hope that the House will remember that America's unemployment problem is far worse than ours. With over 5 million unemployed, the United States is naturally very sensitive to any contraction of a labour-intensive industry such as the cotton textile industry. I am not here to defend America's policy—it can do that for itself—but the fact that the Administration have invoked the Geneva arrangement to such a wide extent is a matter for serious study and I have some doubt whether their action is in keeping not only with the spirit but also with the letter of the long-term arrangement.

I have been asked what I propose to do. We cannot compel other countries to relax their restrictions, but we can keep up the pressure on them. However, I am sure that it is not right to go about impressing them with the need to import more and to set an example of subjecting the under-developed countries of the Commonwealth to further restrictions in the British market. I am not suggesting that we need accept any more, but to cut back from our existing levels would have the effect throughout the world of encouraging other countries at present restrictively minded to become even more restrictive.

Mr. Jay: If the right hon. Gentleman thinks that the United States is in breach of an international agreement, presumably there is some way of making a protest, otherwise why do we keep to these agreements at all?

Mr. Erroll: It is not an agreement but a voluntary arrangement entered into by those who signed it at Geneva. I am keeping a very close watch on the position to see whether anything further should be done. But it might be more appropriate for those countries whose exports are being frustrated to take the initiative rather than we ourselves who are not directly affected.

May I move on because I want to try to deal with the many important points which have been raised this evening. I wish particularly to refer to categorisation, to use the jargon which has grown up. My hon. Friend the Member for Middleton and Prestwich said that when I saw the Lancashire industry on 14th June in Manchester I said nothing. I should like to say in my own defence that a year ago I said that I hoped to maintain a series of regular meetings with the industry at which we could talk things over. The Cotton Board and myself had a very useful meeting some months ago at which we were able to talk things over in private. However, when I got to Manchester, I found that that was not what they wanted at all. It was quite a different affair. I was presented with a list of detailed points which I did my best to answer. I was then told that I had said nothing because I had not conceded any important point of principle and because on certain points it was quite clear that I could not give an immediate answer.

I am sorry that the industry has seen fit to resort to what I call an arm's length approach to me once again and I hope that the next meeting can be conducted on a more informal and more mutually fruitful basis.

Sir J. Barlow: Must we suppose then that every time my right hon. Friend comes to Manchester he will say very little and that no appreciable advance will be made towards doing something for the industry?

Mr. Erroll: The question is whether one ought to go to Manchester, because it is drummed up into a full-dress occasion, with the Textile Action Group on the wings and the Press and everything there, which is not the best way to have fruitful discussions. I feel it only right that I should make that point in my own defence.

Mr. Charles Mapp (Oldham, East) *rose*——

Mr. Erroll: Hon. Members can choose between making speeches during my half hour or listening to what I have to say, but they cannot have both in the last four minutes.

On categorisation, the fundamental point is that the Commonwealth countries naturally attach importance to their ability to make the full use of their quota on goods for which there is a market. An unduly rigid system would reduce their earnings by limiting their opportunities to sell their textiles when market conditions change. But there is another side

of the picture, and that is that if one had excessive categorisation it would lead to great administrative difficulties.

The industry in this country claims however, that categorisation would help the exporting country. Therefore, if that is so, clearly the best way is for the British industry to negotiate and to talk matters over with the exporting countries —[*Interruption.*]—which is what I have suggested. But I have also said that I will be very happy to help in this important matter and will be glad to do so when the industry knows exactly what it feels is negotiable as a result of talks in this matter.

I remind the House that the present arrangements are part of an agreement to which there are two parties, the other side as well as ourselves, and, therefore, changes can be brought about only by the agreement of both parties. It is important that we should remember the other parties to these various agreements.

Mr. D. Jones: I wonder whether the Minister——

Mr. Erroll: I am sorry, I cannot give way; I have several things to say. That is why we have encouraged the Cotton Board to enter into discussions with India and Hong Kong. The Board has sent the Indian industry a detailed account of the categories of grey cloth which it has in mind and has suggested limits on the export of finished cloth and made-up goods.

The carry over of quotas, to which my hon. Friend the Member for Bury and Radcliffe (Mr. Bidgood) and the hon. Member for Stalybridge and Hyde (Mr. Blackburn) referred, can be seriously exaggerated. There is, indeed, an advantage in having a carry-over facility, because in the event of an absolute cut-off we would only compel shipments to try to come in within the quota year. The original concept of the carry-over was to ensure that shipments came in regularly instead of being bunched up towards the end of the year. The carry-over does not really affect the trade from Hong Kong, because it fills its quota fairly well every year. It has hardly affected trade from Pakistan. It is a serious matter this year only in the case of India, and the Indian industry has agreed informally with the British industry to limit the carry-over this year to three months instead of six months. The way things are shaping, it looks as though there will not be any carry-forward from India into 1964.

Therefore, it is questionable whether the carry-over is a serious issue. Here again, however, I will be very glad to do what I can to help the industry. I would hope for fruitful and useful talks with the industry about this, in Manchester or in London—but I hope that they would be informal—at any time that the industry wishes.

There is not time for me to deal with the important question of imports through the Irish Republic, to which several hon. Members have referred. The matter was discussed in Manchester, but here again I should be prepared to have discussions with the industry if it wished. I discussed anti-dumping extensively with the industry in Manchester. I have offered to give all the help I can from my officials within the framework of the present legislation.

On re-equipment, we have a good story to tell. No less than £5¼ million has already been paid out for re-equipment grants. Approximately a further £2 million is in the pipeline and this takes no account of expenditure which does not attract grants. The grant is 25 per cent. of the total expenditure. This means that £21 million of re-equipment has already taken place and there is approximately another £2 million on the way. That makes up the total of about £28 million of re-equipment already, with another year to run, but we do not know the exact amount until claims for repayment are submitted. It is, therefore, a great mistake to say that re-equipment is not going well.

From what I have said, I hope that my hon. and learned Friend the Member for Darwen, who moved the Motion, will realise that I am determined to help the industry in every way possible and to remove the disadvantages as soon as possible within the framework of the present policy of limiting Commonwealth and other imports, as I have outlined, at their present level.

Question put and agreed to.

Resolved,

That this House recognises the disadvantages under which the United Kingdom textile industry at present labours, as compared with

conditions enjoyed by textile industries in other countries of the world, and urges Her Majesty's Government to take all steps within its power to remove those disadvantages as soon as possible.

BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS

Tuberculosis (Extension of Payments Period) Order 1963 [draft laid before the House 23rd April], *approved*.—[*Mr. Scott-Hopkins*.]

Tuberculosis (Extension of Payments Period) (Scotland) Order 1963 [draft laid before the House 9th April], *approved*.—[*Mr. Brooman-White*.]

FERTILISERS

Fertilisers (United Kingdom) (Amendment) Scheme 1963 [draft laid before the House 30th May], *approved*.—[*Mr. Scott-Hopkins*.]

BRITISH ARMY (PRIVATE DRINKWATER)

Motion made, and Question proposed, That this House do now adjourn.—[*Mr. M. Hamilton*.]

10.1 p.m.

Mr. Frank Allaun (Salford, East): On the morning in Whit week when I read in the newspaper of the resignation of Mr. Profumo I determined that I would approach the new War Minister as soon as he was appointed and ask him to re-open the whole of the Drinkwater case.

I had been bitterly disappointed by the harsh action of the previous Secretary of State for War. He wrote me on 16th January this year refusing to reduce the sentence on Private Drinkwater by a single day. In the letter he said that there would be a review of the case every six months, account would be taken of good behaviour by the prisoner, and a reduction of sentence could be recommended. He wrote me again on 21st February saying that the first of these reviews had been held and there was no change in the sentence.

Mr. Profumo had only to say one word and either Drinkwater would have been released immediately, or he would have had his sentence reduced. I am appealing to the new Secretary of State for War for a more merciful attitude, hoping that he will at least reduce the sentence at the August review, or, better still, release him forthwith.

The last letter I had from Walter Drinkwater was from Preston Gaol, where he is at the moment, having been transferred there from Wormwood Scrubs. It is dated 23rd May. He writes:

"The problem causing me a lot of anxiety is this review on 6th August. For various reasons it has just got to be a success. My record up to date is as good as it will ever be. I do know the one from Wormwood Scrubs is 100 per cent. This was proved by the fact that I was allowed to work on the prison officers' quarters outside the prison. As yet I have to prove to the authorities here just how far I am to be trusted. Needless to say I intend doing just that."

As we meet here, Private Drinkwater has been lying in gaol for 17 months, serving a three-year sentence for his part in a fracas in the N.A.A.F.I. which did not justify, in my opinion, more than 28 days' C.B., and I intend to show that that is the case.

What kind of a man is Walter Vincent Drinkwater? I have been to see him twice in Wormwood Scrubs and I must say I am deeply impressed with his character. Aged 22, he was orphaned during the last war and brought up in a Roman Catholic orphanage and by his aunt and uncle who have a business in Salford and who are devoted to him. Private Drinkwater was a good soldier, with a first-class record. He enlisted and served three years as a Regular with the Lancashire Regiment in Hong Kong. He went back into civilian life, and after eight months decided to return to the Army as a Regular, deliberately choosing his old regiment where he had been happy. In fact, it was a happy regiment. But by that time the regiment had been transferred to Hilden. There was a new commanding officer, and the atmosphere had completely changed. Despite this, Drinkwater was about to be made a corporal when the incident occurred.

I have read the letters from this strikingly handsome young man to his uncle and aunt and also to his fiancée, and from these letters, too, it is quite apparent that he is a man of fine character. This is confirmed in a letter from his platoon commander, Lieutenant T. C. W. Proffitt, writing to his uncle

and aunt on 30th March, 1962, after the court-martial had ended. Lieutenant Proffitt writes:

"Your nephew was extremely well behaved during the trial, and after the trial was over I talked to him. He is not depressed, and I am sure that when this unfortunate episode is over he will do extremely well in civilian life. He is an intelligent man, well mannered and a natural leader, and I am sure he will succeed. I also told him that if he ever wants references in order to get a job I will willingly give him them."

I saw the letters, too, from Drinkwater to his young lady after the sentence, telling her not to wait for him, but I am very happy to say that she has waited for him. She has stood by him. His uncle and aunt have a good home waiting for him on his release and until he is married, and, in addition, a good job.

The charges under which Private Drinkwater was sentenced are serious ones. One was sitting a sergeant, and the other was incitement to mutiny with violence. What really took place was a completely unpremeditated fracas between men and a sergeant, all of whom had been drinking, in which some purple language, worthy of the Establishment Club, was used. I admit that. It was, in fact, merely a four-letter brawl.

Brigadier H. McL. Morrison, his defence counsel at the court-martial, wrote to me to say:

"I was shocked to find this boy charged with inciting a mutiny. The charge was obviously absurd. But the sentence was so out of proportion to the offence that it completely staggered me. This was the worst case of man mismanagement I have known in 32 years' Army Service."

It appeared to him as nothing more than a drunken escapade.

That there was no premeditation is clear from the way in which the brawl started. Brigadier Morrison says:

"The facts out of which the charge of incitement to mutiny arose were these. On the afternoon of Sunday, 28th January, 1962, a group of men were sitting in the unit canteen drinking and celebrating the birthday of one of their number. The appellant, the Private Drinkwater, was a member of this party, and had, on many previous Sunday afternoons, used the canteen in this way and never been previously disturbed. They were behaving quite well. On this particular day the Orderly Sergeant, Sergeant Pollard, came in and ordered the party to leave. When asked why they had to leave, Sergeant Pollard said it was a battalion order. The evidence shows that no such order ever existed, and that Sergeant Pollard, to put it mildly, was aggressive. (It has come to my knowledge, since the trial, and I am in no doubt as to the accuracy of my information, that the Orderly Sergeant had himself been drinking.) The way in which these men were handled and the fact that they had been drinking undoubtedly affected them in such a way that they were likely to say and do things they would not say or do in normal circumstances."

It is clear from the evidence of Sergeant Pollard himself, who was a witness for the prosecution, that even after ordering them out of the canteen he still did not leave the men alone, but provoked them further. Pollard states:

"I spent about thirty minutes trying to persuade them to leave and the accused, together with four others, then went into the snooker room. I then ordered them to leave the snooker room. Then they went to the Supper room. I followed them in and told them they had to leave the premises."

This was confirmed by Drinkwater in a letter which he wrote to his uncle and aunt:

"My pals and myself were having a nice quiet party on Sunday afternoon, 28th January. Well, we were sat, minding our own business, when in walks the sergeant and tells us to get out of the bar. So we walked out of the bar into the N.A.A.F.I. canteen, which we are allowed to do. Anyway, sergeant 'Knowall' tried to make us get out of the N.A.A.F.I. and we were not having it. So he starts picking on one of the mates. Well, the two of them end up having a 'scrap'. Well, another pal separated them. O.K. that was fair enough. So the sergeant grabs hold of me. I told him to get his hands off me. He wouldn't so I pulled away".

While Private Drinkwater admits hitting Sergeant Pollard, he claims that he and others had been treated with violence, that the incident was provoked, and that the sergeant had been drinking. The sergeant kicked Drinkwater before he hit back.

I would remind the Under-Secretary that there have been, during the previous three months, no fewer than four courts-martial at Hilden Camp and six more men were awaiting court-martial at the end of March. The men were in an irritable mood because of the bad food, bad living conditions and bad treatment. He will recall that there was considerable attention drawn about this time to the conditions in B.A.O.R. The language Drinkwater used was strong, to put it mildly, if one studies the transcript, but I would refer to the Army Act Section 43, note 2,*d*, which reads:

"Mere abusive and violent language used by a drunken man, as the result of being taken

[MR. ALLAUN.]

into custody, should not be used as ground for framing a charge of using threatening or insubordinate language to a superior officer."

How much less should it have been used for framing the very serious charges in this case?

Coming nearer the present time, I am sure that the Minister will recall the affair at Pirbright, when 25 guardsmen walked out of camp. Let us contrast the sentences. Four of these guardsmen were sentenced to 14 days' detention, three to 10 days' detention and the other 17 received sentences of up to eight days' restriction of privileges. Yet Drinkwater is serving three years.

I put it to the House that this is a monstrous sentence for this kind of affair. This was not mutiny in the sense that mutiny is generally understood. If the Minister replies that the two cases, the Pirbright and the Drinkwater affair, are different, I agree that they are. The difference, however, lies in the fact that there was not the slightest element of premeditation about the Drinkwater case and, therefore, it should be treated less—not more—seriously. Nor was this a brawl involving German civilians or German soldiers which might have caused bad relations in that country.

Drinkwater's appeal against this absurdly high sentence has never been heard, although he made three attempts to have an appeal. Incidentally, I would like to point out that he did not receive the final refusal of his leave to appeal until he had served nine months of his sentence, and this, I suggest, is very similar to the more recent case of an officer, wrongly imprisoned, who served his sentence completely before his appeal was allowed. It will be remembered that on that occasion Mr. Profumo conceded that there should be a change in the procedure in these matters.

I conclude by saying that I fervently hope that tonight the Under-Secretary of State will give me good news, if not of an immediate decision then at least an indication that clemency will be shown at this review on 6th August.

10.16 p.m.

The Under-Secretary of State for War (Mr. James Ramsden): Before I answer the case put by the hon. Member for Salford, East (Mr. Frank Allaun), I had perhaps better say a general word about my position in the light of what I understand from the terms of his earlier Motion and also from what he has said tonight, he is asking me to do. I think that he really wishes me to say that I am in a position to be able to do something to recommend Drinkwater's early release. What I could do, if I were to agree with him and accept this argument, is to cause a review of the case to be undertaken by the Army Council and, in so doing, if I agreed with him, I could make a recommendation in favour of his release. However, I must say that I do not agree with the hon. Member's view of this case and do not intend to cause it to be reviewed, and I shall try to explain my reasons why. There is one further point I should make about the present position.

Drinkwater is now in prison, having served 15 months out of a total of three years. If he gets maximum remission—and for this purpose he is on the same footing as civilian prisoners—he can be discharged on 29th March, 1964, having done two years out of the three. In addition, besides his eligibility for normal remission in this way, his sentence is due for reconsideration by the reconsidering authority every six months.

The next reconsideration is in August. When that happens, any representations that have been made, or that may be made on his behalf, will be drawn to the attention of the reconsidering authority, including what the hon. Member has said tonight. I think that the hon. Member quoted from a letter that I certainly have not seen and, if he wishes, this can be drawn to the attention of the reconsidering authority as well.

I want to make it clear—it is only fair that I should say this—that what I say tonight in reply to the hon. Member is not to be taken as in any sense prejudging the outcome of the reconsideration. I know that the reconsidering authority will not so take what I have to say. The hon. Member has made quite a point about the opinion expressed by the depending officer that this conviction and punishment were wrong, and it is true that defence counsel expressed the opinion during the trial that there had been bad man management and subsequently repeated this view more fully in a letter to the hon. Member, which I have seen.

It should be emphasised that, in expressing this view, the officer was giving his private opinion, that of a brigadier who retired from the Army in 1946. Clearly, it deserves to be taken into account, and so it has been. But against it there must also be taken into account the opinions of the court which awarded this sentence, of the confirming officer, without whom it could not have been operative, of the Army Council which dismissed the appeal petition, and of the Courts-Martial Appeal Court.

Thus, on the other side there is a considerable weight of opinion—not only military opinion based on military experience at least equal to that of the defending brigadier but also that of a civilian judge. The hon. Member said that the appeal had never been heard. I fail to understand that, in view of the various stages of the consideration of this appeal which I have just mentioned.

Mr. Frank Allaun: The man's plea for his appeal to be heard was rejected three times. I cannot see the Minister's point.

Mr. Ramsden: I now follow the hon. Member. I thought that he had been saying that the appeal had not been considered. It was fully considered but, on consideration, it was rejected, as he said.

I have done my best to view this case dispassionately, and, I hope, sympathetically, and have tried to get clear in my own mind the real grounds for the uneasiness of the hon. Member and the accused's defence counsel about the sentence.

Mr. Charles A. Howell (Birmingham, Perry Barr): Is it the appeal that was turned down three times, or leave to appeal?

Mr. Ramsden: It was leave to appeal—but it was an application for leave to appeal, supported by a statement of the case and considered on the basis of a review of the case.

Mr. Howell: There has never been an appeal.

Mr. Ramsden: The hon. Member is splitting hairs over this. Leave to appeal has been refused.

As I was saying, I have tried to consider the case dispassionately, and to get clear in my own mind the grounds for the uneasiness of the hon. Member and the accused's counsel. I believe that what really worries them is that they feel that the wrong interpretation was put upon these events from the very beginning. In his letter the defence counsel said:

> "I have had the good fortune to serve with some tough units . . . and I feel sure that in any one of these what happened would have been treated as a drunken escapade and nothing more."

In an article that I have seen in the journal *Today* the hon. Member took much the same line, as he did tonight.

If we approach the case from this point of view—that is, that things got off on the wrong foot from the start—the crux of the matter must surely be the original decision that a charge of incitement to mutiny involving violence—which was the main charge—should be preferred against Drinkwater. The charge having ever been preferred at all, once that charge had been preferred and proved and the court had convicted the accused of it there was bound to be a pretty heavy sentence, because this is a very serious military crime, and the penalties provided for it are as extreme as any under the Act.

Therefore, what the hon. Member is really saying—and I am meeting him on this basis because we cannot have the trial here again tonight—is that when the decision to prefer this charge was taken it was wrongly taken, in the light of a mistaken view of the whole character of this incident. It may help if I give the background to this decision, which was one for the commanding officer.

When a commanding officer decides that a soldier should be brought to trial by court-martial he will normally obtain legal advice from the Army Legal Services on the summary of evidence, but although the Army Legal Services prepare the draft charge sheet it is open to the commanding officer, after discussion with the Army Legal Services, to recommend to the convening officer that the accused be brought to trial on charges less serious than those drafted by the Army Legal Services, provided that such a course does not appear contrary to the evidence.

[MR. RAMSDEN.]

When a commanding officer takes such a decision there are certain things that he will have to bear in mind. There is the state of discipline in his unit, and the question whether it is necessary to make an example. That is something that only he can judge. He will think of the character and the record of the accused himself. The borderline between serious indiscipline and mutiny as defined in the Army Act is a very narrow one, and it must have been the view of the commanding officer in this case that the accused had stepped over the dividing line and that an incident that started as a brawl had degenerated into a mutiny. This view was certainly confirmed by the court.

The hon. Member must not suppose that it is an easy thing for a commanding officer to send a man for court-martial on a charge like this. It is a thing which has serious implications, not only for the man but for the unit, and it would not have been done had not the commanding officer considered that it was his clear duty to do so. And, of course, his decision was upheld in the event by the outcome of the trial.

Regarding discipline, I would say to the hon. Member that unquestioning response to discipline, that is to orders given by superiors in rank, is probably the most important single factor in determining the effectiveness of the Army or indeed of any other of the fighting Services. I would also say to the hon. Member that it is very difficult for anyone to appreciate the significance of this who has not himself been with troops under fire or at any rate, under the stress of active service. That is true of most civilians, and it may even, in peace time, be true of some soldiers. But it is understood in the Services for the very good reason that failure to preserve discipline leads to the unnecessary loss of men's lives. It is a basic fact of Service life and the reason why, with the authority of Parliament, we have a special code of military law, and why those who are guilty of severe breaches of it must expect to be severely punished.

Regarding Drinkwater's character and his previous record, from the reading of these proceedings one may get a fairly good impression of the kind of soldier that he was. His platoon commander wrote to his family about him—the hon. Gentleman has quoted from the letter—principally, it seems to me, because the man had been trying to mend his ways under this officer, and, as he said after his trial, Drinkwater was sorry that he had let his platoon commander down. The fact remains that he had been court-martialled only a few months previously on two charges of striking a superior officer, so I think that it can hardly be argued that he was a particularly good soldier from the point of view of discipline.

The hon. Member said that Drinkwater was about to be made a corporal. It is true that his platoon commander said that he intended to recommend Drinkwater for promotion. But it did not lie with the platoon commander to promote Drinkwater. All that he could have done was recommend Drinkwater to his company commander as suitable for promotion.

The hon. Member rehearsed at some length the events which took place and which were the subject of evidence in this case. I do not intend myself to enlarge on them. But I must make one or two comments upon some of the omissions of the hon. Member. He stopped short in his account when the affair got as far as the canteen. He did not go on to say—this is evidence which was mainly in support of the charge of incitement to mutiny—what happened in the cookhouse, and what happened on the veranda, and the words that were spoken—they were shouted to a crowd of waiting soldiers by the accused—in recognition of which the charge of incitement to mutiny with violence was upheld.

The hon. Gentleman said that clearly the actions of the accused in this case were not premeditated. But I must point out to him that premeditation is not an essential ingredient in a charge of incitement to mutiny. It is as true under military law as I believe it to be under civilian law that a person must be presumed to intend the consequences of what he does. The fact was that words, clearly held by the court to constitute incitement, were uttered by the accused in the hearing of a crowd of soldiers. I should have thought that the consequence of that needed no emphasis upon its possible gravity.

The hon. Gentleman referred to the conduct of the orderly sergeant. This may or may not be in dispute. The fact is that the order issued by the orderly sergeant was a lawful order and as such should have been obeyed by the accused. The hon. Gentleman made a comparison, which I do not think is warrantable, between the situation here and the circumstances of the recent occurrence at Pirbright. In answer to Questions in the House I have said before that I think the circumstances are completely different and that the events at Pirbright were in quite a different category. There was no violence in question there, there was no question of resistance to arrest and though, as I say, there is a narrow borderline in these cases between serious indiscipline and mutiny, in the case at Pirbright I do not believe that was overstepped.

I have tried to answer the points raised by the hon. Member. I am sorry I cannot do as he asks, but I think that this was a bad case and, whatever the hon. Member may say of Drinkwater as a man, as a soldier he did very wrong.

The Question having been proposed after Ten o'clock and the debate having continued for half an hour, Mr. SPEAKER *adjourned the House without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Order.*

Adjourned at twenty-nine minutes to Eleven o'clock.

Monday, 1st July, 1963

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Medical Treatment

23. **Mr. A. Lewis** asked the Minister of Health whether he is aware that, although the National Health Insurance Acts provide for comprehensive medical treatment for everybody in need of treatment, in many instances National Health Service doctors are unable to prescribe treatment, that people have to go to clinics and other organisations for treatment, and that old age pensioners and those on National Assistance are unable to recover payments made for certificates, medicines and treatment; and whether he will seek to amend the Acts to deal with these anomalies.

Mr. Powell: No.

Central Accident Unit

Mr. Pavitt asked the Minister of Health whether he will create a central accident unit for research and training.

Mr. Powell: No.

HOSPITALS

Medical Staff

Mr. Pavitt asked the Minister of Health if the body reviewing hospital medical staffing, following the Platt Committee's Report, has the power to reverse decisions of Whitley Councils which have upgraded posts previously held by senior hospital medical officers to that of consultant.

Mr. Powell: No.

EMPLOYMENT

Commonwealth Immigrants (Vouchers)

42. **Mr. Chapman** asked the Minister of Labour how many applications for permits under the Commonwealth Immigrants Act have been received, and how many granted, up to the latest convenient date, by the High Commissioner in Kingston, Jamaica; and what special office and staff has been established there for this business.

Mr. Hare: The Jamaican Government have set up special machinery to handle applications for vouchers and the distribution of vouchers to applicants. The British High Commission in Kingston has certain functions but no special office or staff are required for this. Up to 28th June, 1963, 4,565 applications for vouchers for Jamaicans had been received by my Ministry, and 3,084 vouchers had ben issued.

43. **Mr. Chapman** asked the Minister of Labour what at present is the average interval between receipt and granting of applications for entry vouchers from Commonwealth citizens in the category, under the Commonwealth Immigrants Act, of those without special skills or independent means of support; and if he will give figures showing how this interval varies for differing Commonwealth territories.

Mr. Hare: Vouchers are at present being issued to persons without special skills or jobs to come to who applied six months ago. The interval between receipt of application and the issue of a voucher will, however, increase substantially in the future because of the large number of persons who have applied since the beginning of this year. Applications are dealt with on the basis of "first come, first served", irrespective of the Commonwealth territory from which they come, and the latter part of the question does not therefore arise.

London, South-Eastern Region and Scotland

46. **Mr. Millan** asked the Minister of Labour what was the ratio of wholly unemployed men of 21 years and over to the number of notified unfilled vacancies for men in the London and South-East region and Scottish region, respectively, at the latest available date.

Mr. Hare: I regret that ratios can only be calculated for men aged 18 years and over. In June these were 2 to 1 and 18 to 1, respectively.

47. **Mr. Ross** asked the Minister of Labour what was the ratio of wholly unemployed boys of under 18 years to the number of notified unfilled vacancies for boys in the London and south-east

region and in the Scottish region, respectively, at the latest available date.

Mr. Hare: At the June count, for every 100 wholly unemployed boys there were 371 notified vacancies in the London and South Eastern region and 32 in Scotland.

Apprentices, Scotland

48. **Mr. Malcolm MacPherson** asked the Minister of Labour what was the ratio of apprentices to time-served coppersmiths employed in Scottish industry at the latest convenient date.

49. **Mr. Steele** asked the Minister of Labour what was the ratio of apprentices to time-served sheet metal workers employed in Scottish industry at the latest convenient date.

50. **Mr. G. M. Thomson** asked the Minister of Labour what was the ratio of apprentices to time-served boilermakers employed in Scottish industry at the latest convenient date.

51. **Mr. Small** asked the Minister of Labour what was the ratio of apprentices to craftsmen in Scottish industry at the latest convenient date.

53. **Mr. Bence** asked the Minister of Labour what was the ratio of apprentices to time-served turners employed in Scottish industry at the latest convenient date.

54. **Mr. Dalyell** asked the Minister of Labour what was the ratio of apprentices to time-served fitters employed in Scottish industry at the latest convenient date.

Mr. Hare: Figures are not yet available from the 1961 census. Meanwhile a special inquiry is being made by my Department into the number of craftsmen and apprentices employed in manufacturing industry and the figures should be available towards the end of the year.

Technician Apprenticeships

52. **Mr. W. Hamilton** asked the Minister of Labour what was the estimated number of technician apprenticeships in force in Great Britain at the latest convenient date; and what proportion of these were in Scotland.

Mr. Hare: I regret the information is not available. Technician apprenticeships are not classified separately from craft and other apprenticeships. There is no generally accepted definition of a technician.

Unemployed Disabled Persons

55. **Mr. Willis** asked the Minister of Labour if he will undertake a survey of registered unemployed disabled men in Scotland in order to ascertain the full extent to which the present provisions of Remploy factories should be extended.

Mr. Hare: My local offices already make a monthly return of unemployed disabled people who are eligible for Remploy and other sheltered workshops.

58. **Mr. Millan** asked the Minister of Labour what steps he is taking to provide work for those who are registered disabled unemployed but who are not severely enough disabled to be eligible for employment with Remploy.

Mr. Hare: My disablement resettlement officers endeavour to find employment in ordinary industry for registered disabled persons who are not in need of sheltered employment. The Disabled Persons (Employment) Act, 1944, places an obligation on employers to employ a quota of such persons.

Redundant Workers, Glasgow

56. **Mr. Small** asked the Minister of Labour how many redundancies among workers in Glasgow have been reported to his Department over the year up to the latest convenient date.

Mr. Hare: In the 12 months ending mid-May, 1963, 176 redundancies were reported affecting 8,255 male and 1,453 female workers.

Redundant Workers, Scotland

57. **Mr. Willis** asked the Minister of Labour how many redundancies among Scottish workers have been reported to his Department over the year up to the latest convenient date.

Mr. Hare: In the 12 months ending mid-May, 1963, 473 redundancies were reported affecting 23,811 male and 5,456 female workers.

Government Training Centre, Cippenham

Mr. Brockway asked the Minister of Labour by what authority the manager of the Government training centre at Cippenham, Slough, has prohibited the distribution of football pool coupons at the trainees' hostel; and if he will make a statement.

Mr. Hare: Normal postal distribution of football pool coupons to trainees residing in the Cippenham hostel is permitted. What has been stopped is the organised collection of coupons and stake money by a trainee acting as a commission agent. Gambling and betting on Government premises are forbidden by long-established rules, of which every trainee has a copy.

West Cornwall

Mr. Hayman asked the Minister of Labour if he will state by trade, age and sex the number of workers in West Cornwall, including the Falmouth and Camborne constituency, registered as unemployed at the last count.

Mr. Hare: Following is the information required:

NUMBER OF PERSONS REGISTERED AS UNEMPLOYED AT THE CAMBORNE, FALMOUTH, HELSTON, NEWQUAY, PENZANCE, PERRANPORTH, REDRUTH, ST. AUSTELL, ST. IVES, ST. MARYS AND TRURO EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES AT 10TH JUNE, 1963

Industry	Men	Boys	Women	Girls	Total
Agriculture and Horticulture	118	9	25	2	154
Non-Electrical Engineering	44	—	8	—	52
Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing	1,047	1	1	—	1,049
Construction...	196	6	—	—	202
Transport and Communication	155	3	11	—	169
Distributive Trades	202	8	78	11	299
Insurance, Banking and Finance	42	—	3	—	45
Medical and Dental Services	18	1	20	2	41
Catering, Hotels, etc.	80	1	43	4	128
National Government Service	59	—	7	—	66
Local Government Service...	45	1	7	—	53
Other Industries and Services	418	14	174	36	642
TOTAL	2,424	44	377	55	2,900

UNITED NATIONS

Security Council

59. **Mr. Brockway** asked the Lord Privy Seal what action has been taken by the British delegate on the Security Council of the United Nations on the request made by the 32 African member States for a meeting of the Council to consider Portuguese policies in its African colonies and the *apartheid* policy of the Republic of South Africa in the light of the decisions of the conference of heads of African States at Addis Ababa to press for sanctions against these two countries.

Mr. Heath: None. The Council is empowered to meet at any time and will no doubt do so to consider these matters as soon as members think this appropriate.

Finance

62. **Mr. G. M. Thomson** asked the Lord Privy Seal what instructions he has now given to the United Kingdom representative in the United Nations regarding new ways by which the United Nations might overcome its present financial difficulties.

Mr. Heath: On 27th June the General Assembly adopted seven resolutions relating to the financing of United Nations peace-keeping operations. The United Kingdom Delegation were instructed to vote in favour of all seven.

Egyptian Forces, the Yemen (Nerve Gas)

66. **Mr. Biggs-Davison** asked the Lord Privy Seal what reports he has received from the United Nations about the use of nerve gas by Egyptian forces in the Yemen; and if he will make a statement.

Mr. Heath: None.

ABERDEEN TRAWLER "MILWOOD" (DETENTION)

60. **Mr. Hector Hughes** asked the Lord Privy Seal if he is aware that the owners of the Aberdeen trawler "Milwood" are being inconvenienced by the delay in hearing and deciding the relevant issues in dispute relating to the trawler's capture at sea and detention in Iceland, and are being deprived of her use as a money-making ship; what stage the investigation has reached; and if he will take urgent steps to secure her release and restoration to her owners in Aberdeen.

Mr. Heath: On 26th June the Icelandic Supreme Court upheld the court of inquiry's ruling under which the "Milwood" is being detained, and stated that the trawler might continue to be detained until the case against her skipper had been heard. The case has been called for 5th September.

The Icelandic Government have informed Her Majesty's Ambassador that the Supreme Court's ruling is permissive, not mandatory. The representatives of the trawler's owner are therefore trying to arrange for her release as soon as possible.

KATANGA

63. **Mr. Biggs-Davison** asked the Lord Privy Seal what official action was taken on behalf of Mr. James Hunter, a British subject, with regard to the search of his house and his interrogation by the Congolese Sûreté in Elisabethville; what other British subjects have been arrested, imprisoned, molested and interrogated in Katanga since the last United Nations offensive; and what explanations, apologies and reports have been received in these cases.

Mr. Heath: Mr. Hunter was released shortly after his detention for questioning and no official action was necessary. Full reports have been received of all cases in which British subjects have been interrogated. No British subjects have however been imprisoned or seriously molested. No apologies have been called for.

THE YEMEN (BRITISH SERVICE PERSONNEL)

65. **Mr. W. Yates** asked the Lord Privy Seal what steps he has taken to ask for the help of the Imam of the Yemen, and his Government, whom Her Majesty's Government recognise, for the release of the British troops in the hands of the frontier tribes; and if he will make a statement.

Mr. Heath: None.

70. **Mr. Wall** asked the Lord Privy Seal what representations have been made to the United Arab Republic Government about the British Service personnel now imprisoned in the Yemen.

Mr. Heath: Her Majesty's Ambassador in Cairo has asked the United Arab Republic Government to use their good offices with the Yemeni Republican authorities to secure the release of the men. The United Arab Republic authorities said that their representatives on the spot would work for the return of the prisoners to Aden.

71. **Mr. Sorensen** asked the Lord Privy Seal what further information he now has about the detention of British subjects captured in Yemen territory.

Mr. Heath: The United States Chargé d'Affaires has reported that the 16 men arrived in Taiz on 28th June where they are well housed and in good health. Negotiations for their release are continuing.

EAST GERMAN TRADE REPRESENTATIVES (VISAS AND TRAVEL DOCUMENTS)

68. **Mr. Swingler** asked the Lord Privy Seal why his Department refuses to issue visas and travel documents for the wives and families of East German trade representatives in the United Kingdom.

Mr. Heath: There is no such refusal.

MIXED-MANNED NUCLEAR FORCE

69. **Mr. Swingler** asked the Lord Privy Seal if, following the talks between the Prime Minister and President Kennedy, he will make a further statement on Her Majesty's Government's attitude to proposals for a mixed-manned nuclear force.

Mr. Heath: My right hon. Friend's discussions with the President of the United States were confidential. The House will have seen the communiqué and I cannot enlarge on it at this stage.

UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC (DESEQUESTRATED PROPERTY)

Mr. Hirst asked the Lord Privy Seal what progress has been made towards the distribution of the sum made available to relieve comparative hardship among British owners of desequestrated property in the United Arab Republic.

Mr. Heath: The Egyptian Grants Committee, whose constitution my hon.

Friend the then Under-Secretary announced in the House on 7th February has received a number of applications for these grants and has made a preliminary examination of them. It now appears, however, that a number of potential applicants may well have been unable, for various reasons, to complete their applications before the terminal date of 1st July. It has therefore been decided to extend the time limit for applications for grants out of the £2½ million fund up to September 1st, 1963. No application that is not received in completed and definitive form by that date will be considered by the Committee; and no further extension of the time limit is contemplated.

This time limit does not apply to applications for grants out of the £500,000 fund allocated for assistance towards the settlement of agents' charges.

MESSRS. TOPLIS AND HARDING (MIDDLE EAST) LIMITED

Mr. F. M. Bennett asked the Lord Privy Seal whether he will give further assistance to Toplis and Harding (Middle East) Limited towards the expenses incurred by them in helping to secure the rights of British subjects under the Anglo-Egyptian Financial Agreement of 1959.

Mr. Smithers: This matter is being studied urgently and I hope to be able to give a further reply in the near future.

MINISTRY OF AVIATION

U.S.S.R. (Minister's Visit)

74. **Sir C. Osborne** asked the Minister of Aviation what practical results were achieved on his recent visit to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics; and if he will make a statement.

Mr. Amery: I would refer my hon. Friend to the statement which I made last Tuesday.

Abbotsinch Airport

76. **Mr. Rankin** asked the Minister of Aviation if he will now make a statement on the terms of the agreement reached with Glasgow Corporation covering the construction, maintenance and operation of Abbotsinch Airport.

Mr. Amery: At its meeting on 27th June Glasgow Corporation agreed to take over and run the new airport at Abbotsinch on its completion.

I welcome the Corporation's decision which enables us to press ahead with the project. The first tenders will be invited shortly, and I hope that construction work can start this year. We aim to transfer Glasgow's air services from Renfrew to the new airport by the summer of 1966. Following are the terms of the agreement:

1. On completion of the airport (estimated to be early 1966), Glasgow Corporation will take over ownership and responsibility for operation (apart from technical services, which the Ministry of Aviation will continue to provide).

2. The Corporation will pay the Ministry £2·15m. out of estimated total cost of development of £4·3m., together with the cost of acquiring Abbotsinch (estimated at £0·25m.) and of equipment etc. transferred from Renfrew (estimated at £0·08m.) the total sum due to be paid over not more than 30 years, with interest fixed for the term at the rate currently appropriate to local government borrowing.

3. The Ministry will bear any costs of initial development in excess of £4·3m., except additional costs resulting from requirements stated by the Corporation.

4. Subject to the voting of the necessary monies by Parliament, the Ministry will, until the end of the tenth full financial year of the Corporation following the date of transfer, underwrite operating losses to the following extent:—

(*a*) If, due to a shortfall in traffic, landing fee revenue in any financial year falls short of the sum estimated by the Ministry at the time of the agreement for the transfer of Abbotsinch to the Corporation, *and* there is an overall deficit on the operation of the airport (after applying any accumulated surpluses in accordance with paragraph 5 below), then the Ministry will pay to the Corporation 75 per cent. of the amount by which the revenue falls short of the estimate, provided that in no case will the Ministry's payment exceed the total amount of the overall operating deficit;

(*b*) in addition, if in any financial year the overall operating deficit (after taking credit for any amount payable by the Ministry under (*a*), and after applying any accumulated surpluses in accordance with paragraph 5 below) exceeds £100,000, then the Ministry will pay to the Corporation 50 per cent. of the amount by which the deficit exceeds £100,000.

Any sums paid by the Ministry to the Corporation under this paragraph are to be regarded as loans free of interest, repayable to the Ministry in accordance with paragraph 6 below.

5. Any surplus on the operation of the airport shall be applied first to set up and maintain a reserve fund of £200,000 against future losses: in the event of an operating

deficit in any year this shall be charged in the first place against the reserve fund, and only if the balance in that fund is unsufficient to cover the whole deficit will any sum be payable by the Ministry under 4(*a*) or (*b*).

6. Once the reserve fund stands at £200,000, any further surplus arising in any year shall be apportioned between the Corporation and the Ministry by reference to the ratio between (i) the total of sums paid by the Ministry under paragraph 4 and not yet repaid to the Ministry, and (ii) the total of net deficits borne by the Corporation (that is deficits remaining after taking credit for any sums paid by the Ministry or charged against the reserve fund); provided that in the twelfth or subsequent financial years, before any sum shall be payable to the Ministry, any surplus after any necessary transfer to the reserve fund shall first be applied to repay to the Corporation any net deficits incurred after the tenth full financial year.

7. The arrangements in paragraphs 5 and 6 shall cease to be binding upon the Corporation when either ten full financial years from the date of transfer have elapsed, or all sums paid by the Ministry to the Corporation under paragraph 4 have been repaid, whichever event is the later.

London Airport (B.E.A. Freight Sheds)

77. **Mr. Lee** asked the Minister of Aviation what plans he has for providing new freight sheds for British European Airways at London Airport.

Mr. Marten: This month we are rehousing some of the occupants of B.E.A.'s temporary buildings and shall later be providing land for further expansion. In the longer term we have plans for a permanent freight terminal outside the central area. The report of a working party which has been studying the problem of air freight will be published this month. I will arrange for copies to be placed in the Library of the House.

AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FOOD

Eggs (Aberdeen Trades Council's Letter)

73. **Mr. Hector Hughes** asked the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food when he received the letter of Aberdeen Trades Council protesting against his withdrawal from the market of the eggs which were formerly sold as seconds, thereby depriving the public of this basic food; and what reply he has sent.

Mr. Scott-Hopkins: My right hon. Friend received this letter, which was addressed to the hon. and learned Member, on 20th June. He has now replied to the hon. and learned Member pointing out that the proposal referred to, which I understand has not yet been implemented, was not made by him but by the British Egg Marketing Board.

FOOTBALL PLAYERS (BRIBERY)

78. **Mr. Mason** asked the Attorney-General whether inquiries by the police into the bribing of football players by a syndicate have now been concluded; if a report is now in the hands of the Director of Public Prosecutions; and if he will make a statement.

The Attorney-General: Police inquiries are still in progress.

MINISTRY OF POWER

Pneumoconiosis (Tin Miners)

Mr. Hayman asked the Minister of Power if he will give the figures for each of the last ten years of tin miners in West Cornwall, including the Falmouth and Camborne constituency, in whom pneumoconiosis was diagnosed for the first time, and the percentage that these represented of the total number of men employed in Cornish tin mines.

Mr. Peyton: The figures are as follows:

—	Number of cases diagnosed for first time in West Cornwall	Percentage of the total number of men employed in Cornish tin mines
1953 ...	3	0·43
1954 ...	4	0·59
1955 ...	8	1·28
1956 ...	5	0·83
1957 ...	6	0·95
1958 ...	5	0·81
1959 ...	8	1·28
1960 ...	2	0·32
1961 ...	5	0·81
1962 ...	5	0·78

Methane Gas

79. **Mr. Awbery** asked the Minister of Power what estimate has now been made concerning the effect that the introduction of methane gas will have upon the coal industry of this country and on its manpower requirements.

Mr. Peyton: The net effect on the coal industry and mining employment should be relatively small: the alternative to methane would have been in large part oil.

Nuclear Power Stations

Mr. Lubbock asked the Minister of Power if he will list in the OFFICIAL REPORT the nuclear power stations which are planned, giving the type of reactor, estimated date of commissioning, capacity, and estimated capital cost per kilowatt in each case.

Mr. Wood: This information for nuclear power stations in England and Wales, planned by the Central Electricity Generating Board* is given in the table below. I have asked my right hon. Friend the Secretary of State for Scotland to write to my hon. Friend about the Scottish position.

Nuclear Power Station	Type of Reactor	Estimated date of commissioning of first set	Capacity Megawatts sent out	Estimated Capital cost per kilowatt sent out
				£
Hinkley Point "A" (Somerset).	Gas-cooled graphite moderated with magnox fuel elements and steel pressure vessels.	1963	500	143
Trawsfynydd (Merioneth).	Do.	1964	500	136
Dungeness (Kent)...	Do.	1964	550	111
Sizewell (Suffolk) ...	Do.	1965	580	106
Oldbury (Gloucestershire).	As above, but with concrete pressure vessels.	1966	560	112
Wylfa (Anglesey) ...	Do.	Consent has been given for a station with a total output of about 1,000 MW. The placing of contracts is still under consideration and until decisions are reached no details of the station can be given.		

* Berkeley (276 MW) and Bradwell (300 MW) were completed last year.

Consent has also been given for a second station at Hinkley Point but details of the station are not yet planned.

PAKISTAN

Press Statements (Letter)

80. **Mr. A. Lewis** asked the Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations if he will give details of the nature of the complaint made to him officially by the Government of Pakistan regarding information contained in a Sunday newspaper of happenings alleged to have taken place at Cliveden; and whether he will make a statement.

Mr. Sandys: In a letter to my Office the Pakistan High Commission put it on record that certain statements which have appeared in the Press are incorrect.

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

Defence Discussions (Nomenclature)

81. **Mr. Driberg** asked the Minister of Defence if, for the convenience of hon. Members and in order to prevent misunderstanding in Parliamentary debate and international negotiation, he will circulate in HANSARD a brief glossary defining the words multinational, multilateral, mixed-manned, multi-manned and other such terms used in the context of current discussions on defence, as they are interpreted by Her Majesty's Government.

Mr. Thorneycroft: Yes.

Following are the definitions:

Multinational

This term has been used to refer to the forces approved by the N.A.T.O. Ministerial Council at Ottawa and consisting of national elements contributed to N.A.T.O., i.e. the force envisaged in paragraph 6 of the Nassau Communiqué (the "inter-Allied Force"), to which we have contributed our V-bombers.

Multilateral

As envisaged at Nassau, this refers to the future N.A.T.O. nuclear force to include British submarines armed with Polaris missiles and at least an equal American contribution. In addition, the force might include units of mixed nationality and ownership to which members

of N.A.T.O. could contribute personnel and resources. The term "multilateral" is sometimes used to refer only to the mixed-manned element.

Mixed-manned Multi-manned	These terms apply to a force of which the component units would be manned by personnel of more than one nationality.

NYASALAND

European Residents

82. **Mr. Mason** asked the First Secretary of State if he is aware of the concern of many Europeans, who are resident in Nyasaland and who have Federal citizenship, regarding their future when Nyasaland finally secedes from the Federation; and, in view of the large number of farmers and property owners who are worried about compensation, what consideration he has given to referring this matter to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council for a ruling.

Mr. Brooke: As my right hon. Friend is in Africa, I have been asked to reply.

I appreciate the concern of many Europeans who are resident in Nyasaland. The question of citizenship is one of the matters currently under consideration.

As regards the second part of the Question, there is no plan for the payment of compensation and consideration has not been given to referring the matter to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.

HOME DEPARTMENT

Miss Marilyn Rice-Davies

83. **Mr. Lipton** asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department if he will now state in respect of what offence Miss Marilyn Rice-Davies was granted bail on 16th June last.

Mr. Brooke: The suspected larceny of a television set.

Commonwealth Citizens (Republic of Ireland)

Mr. Chapman asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department what restrictions now exist to prevent Commonwealth citizens entering the United Kingdom, without permits, via the Irish Republic.

Mr. Brooke: There is no immigration control on traffic between the Republic of Ireland and the United Kingdom, but the Government of the Republic control the entry of Commonwealth citizens from overseas into the Republic.

United Kingdom—Republic of Ireland (Migrants and Temporary Workers)

Mr. Chapman asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department what statistical information has now been collected about the flow of migrants and temporary workers to the United Kingdom from the Irish Republic through the special checks foreshadowed during discussion of the Commonwealth Immigrants Act; and whether he will summarise in the OFFICIAL REPORT the figures up to the latest convenient date, compared with estimates for previous years.

Mr. Brooke: Later in the year I hope to be able to publish information about movements in 1962-63, but no estimates for previous years are practicable.

NATIONAL FINANCE

Rent-Controlled Properties (Rating Assessments)

Sir G. Wills asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether he is aware that, in a number of cases where rents of properties are controlled under the Rent Restrictions Acts, these properties are assessed for rates by the valuation officer at a gross value in excess of the controlled rent; whether he is satisfied that this is not inequitable; and whether he will give instructions to valuation officers that, in assessing rent controlled property, the gross rateable value should be based on the rent which the owner can legally charge.

Mr. Barber: In 1922 the House of Lords upheld the previously held view of the law in England and Wales that in assessing the gross value of property for rating purposes, no account should be taken of any statutory restriction upon the rent obtainable. Were this not so, one of the consequences would be that an owner-occupier or a tenant of an uncontrolled house might find himself paying more rates than the tenant of an identical house next door who was paying a controlled rent. It is, of course, normally the case that where a landlord is in receipt of a controlled

rent and is liable for rates he can recover them in full from his tenant. Valuation officers must make their assessments on the basis laid down by the law.

ROYAL AIR FORCE

Commissions

Dr. A. Thompson asked the Secretary of State for Air what was the number of successful applicants for commissions in the period 1952-62; how many of these candidates were educated at independent public schools, direct grant schools, and state schools, respectively; and what percentage of the whole these numbers constitute, respectively.

Mr. H. Fraser: Excluding National Service officers, there were 17,932 successful applicants for commissions in the Royal Air Force during the years 1952-62 inclusive. I regret that I cannot give the information requested about the types of schools they attended. It could only be obtained by examining each officer's personal record which would be a lengthy and disproportionately expensive business. Information is however available about officer cadetships awarded during the period 1954-62 when out of a total of 1,214 cadetships, 492, or 40 per cent., went to boys from independent schools, 177, or 15 per cent. to boys from direct grant schools and 545, or 45 per cent., to boys from State schools.

WIRELESS AND TELEVISION

Pay-Television

Mr. Mason asked the Postmaster-General what consideration he gave to methods of testing public demand for pay-television other than that of selected viewers in selected areas; and whether, in the case of a positive reaction in favour in a test area, he intends automatically to grant a permanent licence.

Mr. Bevins: Since the service is unknown in this country I take the view that nothing short of an experiment in the field would have any real value.

The question of a permanent service must be considered in the light of the experiment as a whole.

Mr. Mason asked the Postmaster-General whether any code of conduct is to be imposed upon pay television licensees during their experimental period.

Mr. Bevins: Such conditions as I consider necessary will be imposed on pay-television operators by means of my licence.

Mr. Mason asked the Postmaster-General what is the expected rental from pay-television licensees for the use of Post Office equipment and wire distribution system.

Mr. Bevins: It is not my present intention that wire distribution networks should be established by the Post Office. In so far as pay-television licensees may require the use of Post Office telecommunication facilities the appropriate charges will be made.

Independent Television Authority (Chairman)

Mr. Robert Cooke asked the Postmaster-General if he is yet able to announce the appointment of a Chairman of the Independent Television Authority.

Mr. Bevins: In exercise of my powers under Section 1(3) of the Television Act, 1954, I have today appointed the right honourable the Lord Hill of Luton to the post of Chairman of the Independent Television Authority. His appointment will run initially until 29th July, 1964, when the Television Act, 1954, expires; and I intend to extend his appointment for a further period, making five years in all, when the Television Bill has received the Royal Assent. In view of the Chairman's greater responsibilities arising out of the Television Bill the remuneration will be increased to £5,000 a year.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Woods Avenue and Travellers Lane, Hatfield

Lord Balniel asked the Minister of Housing and Local Government and Minister for Welsh Affairs whether he has considered the representations made to him by residents in the Woods Avenue and Travellers Lane area of Hatfield about the proposal to bring traffic to Hatfield Town Centre from the Southern Link Road along Woods Avenue and Travellers Lane; and when he expects to reach a decision on their request for a local public inquiry.

Mr. Corfield: Yes. My right hon. Friend is sending an official to Hatfield to hear objections and to listen to suggestions for alternatives.

PUBLIC BUILDING AND WORKS

Service Departments

Mr. Boyden asked the Minister of Public Building and Works if he will list the amount of expenditure proposed in the 1963-64 Estimates for new building and construction, and for repairs and maintenance, respectively, for the Army, the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force, respectively; and what proportion will be spent abroad and in the United Kingdom in each case.

Mr. Rippon: The figures are given in Votes 4, 5 and 6 of the Civil Estimates, Class IX. They are:

New building and construction (including married quarters) for:—

	Admiralty	*War Office*	*Air Ministry*
	£	£	£
Home ...	9,710,000	25,238,000	20,563,000
Overseas ...	1,815,000	15,260,000	10,672,000
Total ...	11,525,000	40,498,000	31,235,000

Repairs and maintenance for:—

	Admiralty	*War Office*	*Air Ministry*
	£	£	£
Home ...	7,960,000	14,003,000	13,273,000
Overseas ...	1,922,000	10,541,000	5,169,000
Total ...	9,882,000	24,544,000	18,442,000

SCOTLAND

"From School to Further Education" (Working Party's Report)

Sir J. Gilmour asked the Secretary of State for Scotland when the report of the working party on the linkage of secondary and further education will be available.

Mr. Noble: There will be published tomorrow the report of the working party appointed by my predecessor in 1961 to consider means of improving the arrangements for co-ordination between secondary and further education. The working party's report "From School to Further Education" is the outcome of an exhaustive study not only of the relationship between secondary and further education but also of the kinds of course which should be available and the ways in which they can best be organised. The working party makes many important practical recommendations which I shall be considering further in the light of the comments of education authorities and other interested bodies, and I am commending the report to their attention.

RAILWAYS

Proposed Closures

Mr. Neave asked the Minister of Transport how he proposes to inform the interested parties and members of the public of the terms of his consent to a passenger closure proposal under Section 56(11) of the Transport Act, 1962, and of any conditions that he may attach to it.

Mr. Marples: The procedure to be followed will be that established last year under which the Railways Board or the London Board (as the case may be) publishes my consent (of which any conditions would be an essential part) in full in the local newspapers in which it published the statutory notice of closure under Section 56(7) of the Act. The board concerned also posts copies of the consent on all stations affected. The Area Transport Users Consultative Committee send copies to the principal objectors. I have arranged that hon. Members who have interested themselves in a particular proposal shall also be informed.

ROADS

Blackwall Tunnel and Dartford-Purfleet Tunnel (M.1 Links)

Mr. Sydney Irving asked the Minister of Transport what proposals he has for linking the Blackwall Tunnel and Dartford-Purfleet Tunnel with the M.1.

Mr. Marples: Traffic between the M.1 and the tunnels will be helped by a number of schemes which are in progress or planned for the improvement of A.13 and other existing roads during the next few years, and also by the construction of new roads, notably the D. Ring Road, the North Orbital Road, the Docks Relief Road and the London-Bishop's Stortford Motorway.

Stroud-Nailsworth Road, Inchbrook Corner (Double White Lines)

Mr. Kershaw asked the Minister of Transport whether he is aware that the double white line recently painted on the Inchbrook corner of the Stroud-Nailsworth road appears to make it legally impossible and practically dangerous for the inhabitants of Inchbrook to reach their houses from the Stroud road; and what steps he proposes to rectify this.

Mr. Marples: The Traffic Signs Regulations permit vehicles to cross the continuous prohibitory line in order to gain access to a side road or to premises flanking the road. It does not, of course, follow that it is always safe for them to do so.

In this case, it is in the interests of road safety that there should be no gaps in the double white lines on the Inchbrook corner.

BRITISH ARMY

Commissions

Dr. A. Thompson asked the Secretary of State for War what was the number of successful applicants for commissions in the period 1952-62; how many of these candidates were educated at independent public schools, direct grant schools, and state schools, respectively; and what percentage of the whole these numbers constitute, respectively.

Mr. Godber: I regret that records are not maintained in such a way as to enable all the information asked for to be provided. However, of the 4,728 officer cadets who have entered the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst in the past ten years, 3,122 or 66 per cent. came from independent public schools and direct grant schools, and 1,606 or 34 per cent. came from other schools.

From Secretariat

D1

To see CDs -
House of Lords 540 - 543
House of Commons 33 - 35
in Hansards.

Date 3 - 7 - 63

Please ~~File in~~ Returns
Secretariat on.
If filed please inform
Secretariat.

Vol. 251
No. 104

Monday
1 July 1963

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(HANSARD)

HOUSE OF LORDS
OFFICIAL REPORT

CONTENTS

LONDON
HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
PRICE 1*s.* 6*d.* NET

Peers wishing to be supplied with these Daily Reports should give notice to that effect to the Printed Paper Office.

The Bound Volumes will also be sent to those Peers who similarly intimate their desire to have them.

No proofs of the Daily Reports are sent. Any corrections which Peers desire to suggest in the Report of their speeches for the Bound Volume should be indicated in this Daily Report, and the copy of the Daily Report containing the corrections suggested must be received by the Editor of Debates, House of Lords, within fourteen days of the Debate.

PRICES AND SUBSCRIPTION RATES

DAILY PARTS

Single copies:

Lords, 1s. 6d. (by post 1s. 10d.); Commons, 1s. 6d. (by post 1s. 11d.).

Annual subscriptions:

Lords, £9 5s. 0d.; Commons, £13 10s. 0d.; Both Houses, £20 10s. 0d.

WEEKLY HANSARD

Single copies:

Lords, 3s. 0d. (by post 3s. 5d.); Commons, 4s. 6d. (by post 5s. 7d.).

Annual subscriptions:

Lords, £5 18s. 6d.; including Index, £7 0s. 0d.

Commons, £9 15s. 0d.; including Index, £11 7s. 6d.

Index—Single copies:

Lords, 9d. (by post 1s. 0d.); Commons, 1s. 0d. (by post 1s. 3d.).

Annual subscriptions: Lords, £1 12s. 0d.; Commons, £2 0s. 0d.

BOUND VOLUMES of Debates are issued periodically during the session. There is no fixed subscription rate, but prices will be quoted and standing orders entered on application.

THE INDEX to each Bound Volume of House of Commons Debates, which may be used in conjunction with the corresponding Daily Parts and Weekly Hansard, is published separately at 3s. (by post 3s. 3d.) and can be supplied to standing order.

All subscription rates are inclusive of postage.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

To be purchased from

York House, Kingsway, LONDON, W.C.2
423 Oxford Street, LONDON, W.1
13a Castle Street, EDINBURGH, 2
109 St. Mary Street, CARDIFF
39 King Street, MANCHESTER, 2
50 Fairfax Street, BRISTOL, 1
35 Smallbrook, Ringway, BIRMINGHAM, 5
80 Chichester Street, BELFAST

or from any Bookseller

PRINTED IN ENGLAND

HOUSE OF LORDS

Monday, 1st July, 1963

The House met at half past two of the clock, The CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES on the Woolsack.

Prayers—Read by the Lord Bishop of Southwell

DISAPPEARANCE OF MR. PHILBY

EARL ST. ALDWYN: My Lords, I should like to inform your Lordships that at a suitable moment after 3.30 p.m. my noble friend Lord Dundee will be making a statement on Mr. Philby.

LAND COMPENSATION (SCOTLAND) BILL [H.L.]

Read 2ª (according to Order), and referred to the Joint Committee on Consolidation Bills.

LONDON GOVERNMENT BILL

2.37 p.m.

Further considered on Report (according to Order).

Clause 30 [*Local education authorities*]:

THE EARL OF LONGFORD moved, in subsection (1), to omit paragraph (*a*) and all words in paragraph (*b*) down to "constituted", and to substitute:

"In relation to those areas of Greater London which comprise respectively the London Boroughs numbered 1-12, 13-17, 18 and 19, 20 to 24 and 25-32 in Part I of Schedule 1 to this Act as a reference to the Greater London Council acting by means of special committees thereof (to be known respectively as the Inner London Education Area Committee, The West Essex Education Area Committee, The North-West Kent Area Education Committee, The East Surrey Area Education Committee and The Middlesex Area Education Committee)."

The noble Earl said: My Lords, we now come to the educational clauses of the Bill, and let me agree with the noble Lord, Lord Newton, on one point, although I do not think I can agree with him on any others. Let me agree with what he said at an earlier stage: that an Amendment of this kind is one of the most important Amendments that we could be discussing. That thought is very much in line with the one conclusion of the Royal Commission that I can remember agreeing with in any way, and that was their view that education was the most important of all the local authority functions.

Of course, the trouble was really laid bare in the very honest speech of the noble Lord, Lord Newton, at the last stage, when he told us that the whole of local government in Greater London needs to be recast and an authority larger than any existing one is required for the purposes of traffic and planning. I do not know whether that lets the cat out of the bag. It certainly agrees with what has been often said: that this is a Bill intended, though misconceived even from that point of view, for the purposes of traffic and planning, and poor old education must be fitted in as best it may. I have not heard the noble Lord, or anybody else, suggest that the proposals we are discussing immediately here, or any of these educational proposals, are to be desired on educational grounds. No one would have said for educational reasons that changes of this sort were wise.

This reminds me rather of Procrustes. I am sorry the noble and learned Viscount, Lord Hailsham, who was at one time President of the Classical Association, is not here, because he could have corrected me if I am wrong. But, as I recall, Procrustes had a bed and when people came to him he used to adjust them to the bed. If they were too tall he chopped off their feet, or possibly their head in an extreme case, and if they were too short he stretched them out. If I may say so, that is the kind of antic with which the Government are concerned in this Bill. This Bill of theirs is a sort of bed of Procrustes, and education just has to be adapted to it very forcefully and very foolishly. I hope the noble Lord, Lord Newton, will not feel I am parodying him if I say that his idea is that these educational proposals will not do as much harm as we suppose. That is perhaps a fair paraphrase of his view. But, of course, it is beyond question that they will do some harm, and we consider that they will do a very great deal of harm.

[The Earl of Longford.]

I need only remind the House—and one must not repeat too much of what has been said at an earlier stage, but it is sometimes difficult to avoid doing so—that these proposals have no support in the findings of the Royal Commission or in any other authoritative quarter, and they are very much disliked by the teachers. One noble Lord picked me up because I said that the teachers were 100 per cent. against them. Perhaps I overstated the matter, and I think later there was general agreement that I should have done better to say that 99 per cent. were against. But, at any rate, this proposal was very much disliked by teachers.

Our Amendment here would establish 5 educational authorities in the whole review area, instead of 21 suggested in the Bill; that is, one inside the greater London area, and four outside, instead of one plus 20. The Government would set up 21 authorities altogether, instead of 8 authorities as at present. Perhaps I could just remind the House that the 4 authorities that we are proposing for the Outer London area would be organised on the same lines as the London Education Authority, which the Government themselves propose. That education authority is far from being an ideal body, but we regard it as the lesser evil. I am sorry that the noble Lord, Lord Fraser of Lonsdale, is not here, because on the last occasion he was the only noble Lord who had any disposition to assist the Government, in spite of their serried ranks and their overwhelming numbers in the Division Lobby. The only help they had was from the noble Lord, Lord Fraser of Lonsdale, and he asked me why, if I thought the London education authority was a muddle, we proposed to extend the muddle by setting up the same system in the outer area. As I explained then, the answer is that we do not think the London education authority is at all an ideal solution. It is a single-purpose authority, whereas we feel that education is very much better handled by a multi-purpose authority. But it is a second best, and we would therefore extend that arrangement, rather than the dreadful plan that the Government are putting before us.

The main principles on which opposition is based were set out before, and I must not run over them all again, though there was one aspect of the case which was placed before me by the County Councils Association—a very important aspect—to which the noble Lord did not reply last time (it was thrown at him, one might say, without preparation or advance notice), and which, perhaps, he might care to deal with this time. I explained last time that the County Councils Association—and we all know that they are not a body in love with Labour; they are non-Party, but certainly non-Labour—are strongly supporting the Amendment now before the House, and one of their main grounds for doing so is that strategic planning in an area like this is necessary in the case of most of the leading aspects of education. They consider, I am sure rightly, that you cannot carry out strategic planning over the area as a whole if you set up these 21 authorities. They mention fifteen aspects of strategic planning—that is to say, aspects of education which ought to be planned in an organised way. I will not develop the arguments; I will merely mention the headings of these aspects of education.

First of all, there is the assessment and allocation of children to grammar school courses; second, the arrangements at fee-paying schools for the admission and maintenance of children selected for grammar schools; third, the arrangements for boarding school education; fourth, the advisory services. I hope the noble Lord is following these headings even more carefully than he did last time, because he did not comment on them then, and this time he cannot say he has not had adequate notice. Fifth, teacher training and teacher courses generally; sixth, conditions of service for teachers; seventh, special education treatment; eighth, further education in technical colleges—very important indeed; ninth, awards to students; tenth, maintenance allowances; eleventh, youth employment services; twelfth, school health services; thirteenth, architects' and school building programmes; fourteenth, supplies and equipment; and, fifteenth, links between schools and further education. Those have been singled out by the County Councils Association, whose experience in this field I am sure the noble Lord will not wish to disparage. If these must be, as they say, and we

say, strategically planned, the fragmentation of the area into 21 authorities is utterly unsuitable.

There is also the special question, the vital question, of what is sometimes called "free trade". I think we all dislike that as a phrase, but there is the question of free movement of children between the various parts of this area or across the frontiers of the area from the outer world. I think we are all aware that it would be absolutely calamitous if every child had to stay in the area of its own authority. I am sure that on this the Government and the noble Lord the Minister would agree. The noble Lord will not doubt argue that that danger is being averted under the Government's plan. On the last occasion the Government tried to claim that they had already provided for this free movement. They said that there is a reference to it in the Bill, and that we need not be so worried about this as we appeared to be. But we pointed out two great loopholes in their arrangements.

The first is that there is no assurance that, in the future, there will be the schools for the children from outside the area to come to. It is one thing to make it statutory that no child can be turned away because it comes from outside the area; but if the school is not there, or if there are not enough places, you have the same result without actually interfering with the theory of free movement. Last time we laid great stress on the need for making sure, not just that any child coming from outside at any particular moment would not be turned away on that ground, but that there would be sufficient places to cater for all these children coming from outside in the future as in the past. Secondly, we pointed out that there was no provision in the Bill to meet the needs of those children who might wish to cross the boundaries of the Greater London area, either going into or coming out of the remaining parts of Kent, Surrey and Essex, or moving into or from Hertfordshire or Buckinghamshire.

My Lords, in response to Amendments pressed by my noble friends Lord Shepherd and Lord Crook, and others, the Government have tried to meet both points; and if my tone appears to the noble Lord to be uncompromising, and at times borders on the unfriendly, let me assure him that we are grateful for small mercies. We should say "Thank you" to him and his colleagues for certain Amendments which they have put down to meet the arguments of my noble friends. I assume that it would not be well to become involved in these Amendments at this moment, but I must call attention to the fact that, the position under Clause 30 will be slightly improved, as compared with what it would have been otherwise, by the Amendments which are to be moved by the noble Lord, Lord Newton, to Clause 31. The Government are there trying to do something to guard against these two dangers that I have mentioned, and I do not want the noble Lord to think that we are not grateful for that. But if our Amendment is carried those Amendments will not be necessary.

They are really Amendments to try to undo a little of the evil which will result from the Government's far-reaching plans. Indeed, the more one looks at it now, and the more one notices (and, in a sense welcomes) the despairing efforts of the Government to make a little sense out of their propositions, the more one realises how unnecessary the whole thing is. We are left with the great question of why it is necessary to bring about these extraordinary changes and, if they are to be brought about, why the Government cannot adopt our Amendment. But we are left, broadly, with the paradox that the Government, who are claiming to set out to strengthen local government, are cutting at its roots.

Under the existing arrangements the education authorities have worked quite efficiently and harmoniously together; the movement of pupils between the areas has presented no great difficulty under voluntary arrangements, and the main services have generally been strategically planned. We are faced now with a position in which it is thought necessary to ensure that these things are done by Statute and by Ministerial intervention, or by threat of that intervention. I repeat that if the Government reject our Amendment, and we are left with the Bill as it stands, these proposals of the noble Lord do somewhat diminish the evil; but they are desirable at all only because they are a small attempt to undo what in itself is quite unnecessary.

Let me give a few examples. Existing legislation does not prescribe that authorities must consult with one another. Yet

[The Earl of Longford.]
there has never been any complaint that they have not done so. Now it is to be made a statutory duty; we have to interfere with local authorities in order to make sense of the situation at all. To take that step in the name of decentralisation of local government is surely the policy of a madhouse. Again, the movement of school children across local authority boundaries has been going on all the time. Now we are going to make statutory provision to tell the authorities what they must do. The specialist and advisory services have been provided on a wide basis. Now the Minister of Education has to say he will encourage the new authorities to club together to preserve these benefits, and, apparently, if they do not club together they will be clubbed. One is bound to ask oneself, why is all this necessary?

Lastly, we have been talking about free movement of children as though it were a complete end in itself. Obviously, children must go to the right school and this should take priority; but, equally obviously, the more often a child can find the right school in his own area, the better it is. The child does not only receive education, he has to get to the school. He has to wear the clothes that are acceptable and take part in school activities, for which his parents may need financial assistance. They may need maintenance allowances if he is over school age, or may need remission of school charges. The school health services and youth employment services are valuable adjuncts to the education services. Of course, what we are now doing is to run the risk on increasing the cases in which one authority provides for the child and another is responsible for all the rest.

One may say that uniformity will be achieved. How will it be achieved? By agreement or by Ministerial pressure? Maybe in the end it will be achieved by Ministerial pressure, but it would all be so much simpler if the noble Lord and his colleagues would not set up all these unnecessary authorities. And when he has done it, how much will be left of the vaunted freedom and discretion of the new boroughs in regard to education? What is really being done is that we are setting up these 21 authorities. We—when I say "we" I mean the Ministry, through the Government—realise they cannot work if they are left to themselves and we are bringing outside pressures to bear. One can only wonder if this is seriously intended to be a move to increase the autonomy of the local bodies.

There are many points I could return to, such as the great difficulties felt by the religious authorities which were referred to last time; certainly the fact that they will have to negotiate and cope with so many bodies as compared with the past. This weighs in their minds against the proposals. I hope the noble Lord will realise that we do appreciate that he has tried to save a little from the wreck; to sweep up a little of the mess. I have no doubt that when these proposals and his Amendment to Clause 31 come forward, if this Amendment has been rejected, we can accept his Amendments in principle. But I should like him to believe that we regard the Government's failure to provide sound educational proposals as the greatest of all their failures. I am speaking for myself, but I think this view is widely held everywhere, even by those who believe there is something to be said for the Government's reforms but who will be critical, even contemptuous, of the educational proposals. We are trying in this Amendment to make the best of a bad job. It is no good my pretending I am very confident that the noble Lord will meet us here; but I should like him to realise that, if he does not, we feel he is making educational nonsense of Greater London.

Amendment moved—

Page 42, line 39, leave out from the beginning to ("constituted") in line 2 on page 43, and insert the said words.—(*The Earl of Longford.*)

2.57 p.m.

LORD SHEPHERD: My Lords, I wish to support my noble friend. Personally, I have not a great deal of experience in the educational world. Perhaps my only experience is that of a parent trying to find a place for his own children. I would say to the noble Lord, Lord Newton, that one of the things that struck me as I tried to find a proper place for my youngsters was the wide standards that exist. I am speaking purely of private schools. There are many that are very good, but equally there are very

many that are very bad indeed. I suppose that if one tries to judge proper standards of education, in the long run it depends upon the question of examinations: one could decide whether a school has succeeded by the number of children that pass examinations in the year.

In London we have this one education authority, the London County Council, and I do not think that even the worst enemies of the London County Council would deny that their standards of education, both for the bright and for the moderately able child, are the finest in the country. Perhaps one could say they are the finest in the world. That standard has been obtained because there are the proper organisation and the right attitude of the persons on the Council responsible for education. In the case of the Surrey County Council one could say that almost the same standards obtain. These standards are maintained not merely in trying to get children into a university, although that is the object of all schools, but the machinery exists to provide for these proper standards. I would ask the noble Lord, Lord Newton, whether he really believes that, having fragmented the education system in these 32 boroughs—although I agree it will not be 32 in the first instance, because of the inner education area—these new boroughs will be able to provide the same wide range of education that a progressive authority like the County Council can provide?

One will look, as one does, at the type of schools we have in the country. They try to cater for all types of children, for the bright and the not so bright, and for those who need different types of education from others. Private schools, in order to keep their numbers, have to attract children from all over the country. They are boarders, paid for by their parents or, in some cases, by local education authorities. Here we are dealing with children who, because of transport difficulties will be tied to the area of their borough.

Does the noble Lord believe that these boroughs will be able to provide the wide range of service which the L.C.C. have provided in the past? Whilst one recognises the qualities of such authorities as Manchester and Birmingham, do they, in fact, provide the same wide range of facilities to their children as is possible within the London area? I appreciate that this Amendment does not deal with the L.C.C., but it suggests that the Government should try to create a similar organisation where possible, with groupings of boroughs under a central guidance to see that proper standards are developed and maintained, and also that children who are less well-equipped should have the necessary opportunities. To give these opportunities requires considerable finance and skilled staffs, which are hard to find. I question whether the boroughs, if left on their own, will be able, within the resources available to them, even with the best will in the world, to provide the type of co-operative and co-ordinated system of education that the L.C.C. now provides. I beg to support my noble friend.

3.3 p.m.

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF HEALTH (LORD NEWTON): My Lords, we had a full debate on this Amendment on Committee and I then made a rather lengthy speech. I do not propose to inflict the same speech at anything like the same length on your Lordships again this afternoon. What this Amendment aims to do is to set up in outer London the arrangements the Government are proposing in the Bill for inner London. I listened carefully to both noble Lords, but I am bound to say they have not advanced what appears to me to be any compelling reasons for agreeing that, in the reorganisation of the government of Greater London we ought to provide in the same way for outer London as we are proposing to provide for inner London. In inner London, there has always been a single education authority, and the service has grown up as one unit, without any relation to the boundaries of the metropolitan boroughs. The boroughs themselves have never administered education at all. Moreover, in inner London the transport system is so closely linked that children can conveniently attend schools some distance from their homes; and many children do so. I do not think that anyone can dispute that these are weighty reasons for not breaking up the existing service and handing it over to the new Inner London Education Authority.

Those are the reasons which led the Government to adopt the expedient of

[Lord Newton.]
having a single-purpose authority for education in inner London, notwithstanding the disadvantage of its being a single purpose authority. Nevertheless, these arguments, which seem to us to be conclusive for inner London, do not apply to outer London. We believe that it would be a great mistake to divorce education from the other personal services. That is a disadvantage of the scheme for inner London, which, for the weighty reasons I have just given, we are prepared to accept. On this point of not divorcing education from personal services, I would pray in aid some observations which the noble Earl, Lord Longford, made in his speech, when we debated this Amendment in Committee. The noble Earl said [OFFICIAL REPORT, Vol. 250 (No. 87) col. 185]:

"... I think the proposal of a single-purpose authority, which is concerned with education alone, is neither ideal nor so good as what we have at the moment. I argued on Second Reading that the multi-purpose authority, one which, for example, combines responsibility for education and housing, is likely to be much more effective in the field of educational planning, and there are many other well-understood arguments for the multi-purpose, as opposed to the single-purpose, authority."

I find myself in complete agreement with those views of the noble Earl, and it seems to me that those words constitute the main objection to the Amendment which he has moved this afternoon.

The noble Earl, has referred to the Amendments which I have put down, and I am grateful to him for saying that, so far as they go, they are acceptable, or at any rate not unacceptable, to him. We are concerned, both in the Bill as it now stands and in the Amendments which I am going to move, to safeguard parents against any hardship that may be caused to them or their children by the change of boundaries. This is the purpose of Clause 31(7). Parents living in borough A will have exactly the same right of access to schools in borough B as parents living in borough B. Moreover, by one of my Amendments Clause 31(7) is to be widened to include children outside Greater London who wish to attend schools inside.

It is perfectly normal for local education authorities to take into account places on the other side of their boundaries when they plan their own provisions. I should have been content to have left it at that, but I have responded to the invitation which was made to me by the noble Lords, Lord Crook and Lord Shepherd, in Committee to see that all possible doubt is avoided by putting down this Amendment, which will require the new local education authorities to consult their neighbours before preparing their development plans, in order to ensure that when the authorities are drawing up their plans the needs of children in both areas are taken into account. The noble Earl, Lord Longford, referred to the view of the County Councils Association that his Amendment would make possible what he called strategic planning. I am not absolutely clear what is meant by "strategic planning" over a wide area. But, even assuming that it was possible and it had the advantages which the noble Earl thinks it has, I should still not have the opinion that those advantages would outweigh the disadvantages of the system which is proposed in the Amendment.

The noble Lord, Lord Shepherd, asked me whether I really believed that the London boroughs will provide as wide a range of education as the County Council are doing. The answer to the noble Lord is: "Yes, I do believe that." I would say to the noble Lord that, if he does not believe that, he is inferring that the county boroughs up and down the country who are education authorities are not at this moment providing a sufficiently adequate range of educational facilities, and that they would never be capable of doing so. If the noble Lord thinks that, then he ought to say so. But I do not think he does believe it. If he does not believe it, then I do not see why he should doubt the ability of the new London boroughs, many of which will be larger than the county boroughs and education authorities for the rest of the country, to be just as good. Those are the reasons why I must again invite your Lordships to reject the Amendment, as I did on the Committee stage.

3.12 p.m.

LORD LINDGREN: My Lords, I have rarely seen a Minister so ill at ease in refuting an Amendment such as has been put forward by my noble friend Lord Longford. Quite rightly, the noble Lord, Lord Newton, referred to the county Council as a single authority, without the boroughs having any responsibility for education, and gave that as the reason for

setting up the London authority to take care of education. Here we are dealing not with educational standards but with the administration, which, of course, has a considerable effect upon educational standards. Each of the authorities who are to come into the Greater London area under this Bill have also been constituent parts of a single education authority—Hertfordshire, Middlesex, Essex, Kent and the rest, all single authorities. Under the 1944 Act they have operated with divisional executives, and in some cases for larger authorities with excepted areas. They have, under that administration, had the responsibility of administration within an overall budget and policy agreed by the larger authority. All that we are asking in this Amendment is for the newly transferred areas to have a similar type of administration to that to which they have been used under the operation of the 1944 Act in the counties with which they have previously been associated.

The noble Lord, Lord Newton, refuted the reference by my noble friend Lord Shepherd to the ability to provide specialised facilities, technical and otherwise, and suggested that in that regard he was criticising the existing county boroughs, because many county boroughs are smaller than some of the units which will be established in the outer London fringe. It is obvious that the noble Lord, Lord Newton, has not had a good deal to do with educational administration, because in many county boroughs there are reciprocal arrangements for various types of specialised education in the county and the county borough within the area. I think of Luton and Bedfordshire, and even of Middlesex and Hertfordshire. The establishment of the administration suggested in this Amendment would prevent those out-county arrangements. They are not always satisfactory. There is always the difficulty and argument within the authority itself, unless it has no arrangements whatever and has the single arrangement with the other authority, as to whether or not the student or pupil can take advantage of the other facilities arranged.

This set-up, as I visualise it, means that we shall have a wide range of operation, overall planning, an overall budget and local arrangements through educational executives; and in some cases, if it is necessary, where there was previously a divisional executive it will operate in the same way. That means that an educational administration can be set up which will give facilities for a wide range of activity, affording the people in the area a similar type of administration to that to which they have been used, and bringing in or maintaining the interest of those people who have been associated with the divisional executives or the area authorities in the educational system.

3.16 p.m.

BARONESS WOOTTON OF ABINGER: My Lords, one of the most important elements in the educational process is the selection of the type of secondary school to which a primary school child is to go. A great deal has been said in the course of the debates on this Bill about free trade as between one education authority in the Greater London area and another; that a child will be able to go without question from a school in one education authority to a school in a neighbouring or other authority. What has never been made clear is how the selection is going to be made. If the selection is going to be made by the authority in whose area the child is attending a primary school, it may well be that the principle of selection will be quite different in two neighbouring boroughs. One borough, for example, may be imposing an 11-plus examination and another borough will be wishful to have a completely open and comprehensive form of secondary education. So far as I can see, the multiplication of these authorities is going to mean the multiplication of possibly totally different methods of selection. There are already different methods of selection in different parts of the country, but this will mean a multiplication of them in what is, after all, a homogeneous area and one which could be made more homogeneous if the whole business were under the review of the Greater London Council in the way proposed.

Perhaps at some stage we shall receive some information on this aspect, but until we have that information it looks as if this will be one of the most important elements of confusion in the operation of these new arrangements. It is one of the elements which will cause grave concern in homes up and down the country, because there is no part of the whole educational process in

[Baroness Wootton of Abinger.]
which the parents and children of all classes are more deeply concerned than in the question of what is going to happen to them when the 11-plus pass from the primary to the secondary school.

3.19 p.m.

LORD WALSTON: My Lords, there is a further point on this matter which has not yet been touched upon but which I think is not without importance. It is going to be difficult to weld the various authorities which will make up the Greater London authority into one unit so that they can work together. I am not talking only about education, but about the whole ambit of their activities. If in the case of education you are going to make what, in effect, will be first-class local authorities, first-class local borough councils, and second-class local authorities, some of which are, for one reason or another, entitled to run their own education independently, while others are considered unable to do so and have therefore, to be brought into a larger group of the Inner London Authority, it is going to make the whole process of integration, and amicable co-operation, very much more difficult.

There is the further problem of recruiting and keeping good teachers. Most teachers, I imagine, would prefer to work for a large authority: there are more prospects for advancement, more scope for specialisation and altogether better facilities. If, across the way, and as part of the same general authority, you there are to have a much smaller local authority which does not offer the same scope, as time goes on you will inevitably find that the majority of the better teachers will gravitate towards the larger Inner London Authority, making life much harder for those who are responsible for education in the various outer London boroughs. That is clearly a problem which applies to all sorts of authorities on the periphery of any large city, though they have certain advantages, in that they have their own locality and autonomy, their own country districts and certain things which may appeal to local patriotism to the best type of teacher.

None of those arguments will apply in this case, because they will all be part of the Greater London authority. But when it comes to education, and the recruitment and treatment of teachers, there will be the grave disadvantage for those on the periphery and the smaller authorities to the advantage of the centre. That, as time goes on, will mean that we shall find the better teachers congregating in the centre. More of the parents on the periphery will wish to send their children into the centre. We shall find (though it depends on the answer given to the pertinent question of my noble friend Lady Wootton of Abinger) a large number of parents who wish to send their children into the centre for that reason. The result will be a complete unbalance on the educational side between the centre of the Greater London Authority and the outer borough councils.

I do not advance these arguments as being of enormous weight compared with those which have been put forward by my noble friends on this side, but I think they are a substantial contribution to the balance which must make people look with a great deal of favour upon this Amendment—in the interests of the children who are to be educated; of the parents who are interested in their children's education; of the teachers, without whom the children cannot be educated, and, on the non-educational side, of the general working together in co-operation as between the different councils in central London and on the periphery.

LORD MORRISON OF LAMBETH: My Lords, this has been a useful discussion about a difficult and complex matter, as has been revealed in the course of the debate. The existing County of London is to have an Education Authority for itself and, as the noble Lord said, there never has been other than a county authority for education, even if we go back as far as the School Board for London. I think the Government have been wise to concede, especially to the teachers and the parents, the principle of one Education Authority for the County of London. The only danger is that they are threatening to review it in 1970, though as to that we shall have to see what happens.

It is important to understand the existing set-up in the extra-London counties (that is to say, the counties surrounding the County of London) which traditionally have been somewhat different from the London County Council. In the counties surrounding the London County

Council the county councils, up to the passage and implementation of this Bill, will have been considerable education authorities. I refer to those of Surrey, Kent, Essex, Hertfordshire, which the Bill does not touch a great deal, and so on. Those county councils were important and great education authorities and did some fine work, although their politics are not all the same—in fact, I think at the moment they are all Conservative. But they did considerable education work, particularly in the field of secondary and higher education. They were undoubtedly the predominant education authority in the counties, though it is only fair to add that there was a varying degree of delegation to the county districts and of responsibility by the excepted authorities—what is the phrase?

LORD LINDGREN: Excepted authorities and divisional executives.

LORD MORRISON OF LAMBETH: All this indicates how right I was to say that we are dealing with a complicated matter. Frankly, I wish the Education Act, 1944, had not been as cowardly as it was in facing the pressure of the county districts, who quite naturally want more powers. So I admit that in some counties we have primary education wholly in the hands of local county district authorities. But the county remains a big, important education authority.

Therefore, this Amendment, which my noble friend Lord Longford has moved very ably, and which has been supported by my colleagues on this side, does the best it can with an imperfect and difficult situation. That is all we claim for it. We think it is better than the provision in the Government Bill. What the Amendment apprehends is that if the county system of education is broken up, as is proposed in the Bill, then the free flow of opportunity into higher education, in particular by the children, will to that extent be impeded.

The Government say that there will be plenty of free trade (to use their own ugly term) between one borough education authority and another. Indeed, it will be mandatory on an outer London borough who are to be education authorities in that, if parents from another borough want their child to be educated in the first borough, they must do it. So far as it goes, that may be all right, but local authorities, like the rest of us, can be awkward now and again and they may not always like it. In all the circumstances, we, with the County Councils Association, thought it best—and it is a balance of advantage and disadvantage—to create in this rather more sparsely populated area of outer London education authorities which are in principle somewhat similar to the Inner London Education Authority, which would be composed of the Greater London councillors for the area concerned and nominees of the borough councils for the area concerned. The area might be two, three or four London boroughs who would constitute between themselves, with the Greater London Council, this education authority. It was the best that could be thought of in the circumstances to try to get the best of the old world and the best of the new.

The Government, however, having got their minds concentrated on uniformity of London boroughs, with uniform powers right through the area, will not have it. On balance, I think they are wrong. I do not know whether my noble friends would agree with me or not, but, for myself, assuming that this horrible Bill is going through, I think life would have been much simpler in education in the future if the Greater London Council had been constituted the education authority for the whole area. I do not know that I should have enthusiastically initiated it, because it is such a big area. On the other hand, as the London County Council have been such a distinct educational success—as I think is admitted by everybody: by noble Lords opposite, as well as on this side, and by Conservatives among the population—and have shown that it is possible for a large authority successfully to administer education, I should not put it past the coming Greater London Council to do the same.

There is a good deal of local representation in the London educational system. There are local managers and local governors; and people associated with the boroughs are often used. So the local authorities, and people from them could have been associated with the Greater London Council. So I believe that, having gone as far as they have done, the best course for the Government would have been to make the

[Lord Morrison of Lambeth.]

Greater London Council the education authority for all purposes. However, as I say, not all my noble friends would agree with me on that point. But, faced with the difficult circumstances that we are, and imperfect as the Amendment is, we nevertheless think that it would improve the Bill as compared with the rather confused situation which the Government are producing in education by this measure.

3.32 p.m.

On Question, Whether the said Amendment (No. 117) shall be agreed to?

Their Lordships divided: Contents, 26; Not-Contents, 55.

CONTENTS

Addison, V.
Alexander of Hillsborough, E.
Attlee, E.
Burden, L. [*Teller.*]
Champion, L.
Chorley, L.
Crook, L.
Harvey of Tasburgh, L.
Henderson, L.
Iddesleigh, E.
Latham, L.
Lawson, L.
Lindgren, L.
Listowel, E.
Longford, E.
Lucan, E. [*Teller.*]
Morrison of Lambeth, L.
Robertson of Oakridge, L.
Rusholme, L.
Samuel, V.
Shepherd, L.
Stonham, L.
Summerskill, B.
Walston, L.
Wise, L.
Wootton of Abinger, B.

NOT-CONTENTS

Ailwyn, L.
Airedale, L.
Albemarle, E.
Ampthill, L.
Balfour of Inchrye, L.
Chesham, L.
Clwyd, L.
Conesford, L.
Craigton, L.
Cromartie, E.
Denham, L.
Derwent, L.
Devonshire, D.
Dudley, L.
Effingham, E.
Ferrers, E.
Forster of Harraby, L.
Fortescue, E.
Geddes, L.
Glentanar, L.
Goschen, V. [*Teller.*]
Grenfell, L.
Hailsham, V. (*L. President.*)
Hamilton of Dalzell, L.
Hanworth, V.
Hastings, L.
Howard of Glossop, L.
Howe, E.
Jellicoe, E.
Jessel, L.
Lothian, M.
Mabane, L.
MacAndrew, L.
McCorquodale of Newton, L.
Malmesbury, E.
Margesson, V.
Mills, V.
Milverton, L.
Monk Breton, L.
Monsell, V.
Moyne, L.
Newton, L.
Ormonde, M.
Rea, L.
Russell of Liverpool, L.
St. Aldwyn, E. [*Teller.*]
St. Just, L.
St. Oswald, L.
Salisbury, M.
Sinha, L.
Soulbury, V.
Spens, L.
Strathclyde, L.
Stuart of Findhorn, V.
Twining, L.

Resolved in the negative, and Amendment disagreed to accordingly.

3.40 p.m.

BARONESS WOOTTON OF ABINGER moved to leave out subsections (6) and (7). The noble Baroness said: My Lords, the Government have now had plenty of time to think about the anomalous nature of the two subsections which this Amendment seeks to delete from the Bill. They are indeed anomalous. Apart from the parallel clauses dealing with the youth employment service, there is nothing analogous to them in the whole of this Bill. The Bill seeks to make immense changes in all aspects of London government, and at no point except in relation to education and the youth employment service does the Bill propose to insist that in a comparatively short time there should be an obligatory review of the effect of these changes. Still less is there any provision that there should be an obligatory review with predetermined and very narrow terms of reference.

That is what these subsections require: that there should be a review which is to be completed six years after the Inner London Education Authority comes into being. If it is to be so completed it will have to start pretty soon; it will probably take at least 18 months to two years to make a really comprehensive review. And that means that the new authority will be under the shadow of inspection and possible reorganisation from the day it starts its work. And do not let us forget it will be an authority on which, by definition, there will be a lot of persons who have had no previous experience as members of an education authority. Their experience will have been in the

borough councils in London who have not previously had any part in the educational system.

This review is binding on any Government that may happen to be in power in the period between now and the time when it is to be completed, early 1970. I am sure it is to be presumed that the authors of this Bill do not anticipate that this obligation will fall upon a Conservative Government, because I notice that when the Conservative Party discuss their policy for the future they are apt to do so in terms of Britain in the 'seventies. Clearly they have already decided that the remaining part of the 'sixties will be, from their point of view, a total loss.

It means, therefore, that the review will be in all probability undertaken by a Government who have had no part in setting up this rather curious form of educational administration, and who may be quite unsympathetic to the purposes behind it and will certainly be unsympathetic to the notion that the only direction in which the educational authorities should be modified should be in the direction of break up. Because I must remind your Lordships again that the terms of reference of this review are already narrowly circumscribed. There is no power in it to suggest, as the noble Lord, Lord Morrison of Lambeth, did just now, that education might become a function of the Greater London Council. The only purpose of the review is to see whether all or some of the functions of the Inner London Education Authority should be given to the boroughs; that is to say, to discuss fragmentation and not to discuss further integration. So we may have the farcical situation of a Government whose leanings are very definitely either towards the *status quo* or towards wider integration being compelled to set up a review which is concerned solely with fragmentation.

This means, of course, that because the review has to begin quite soon we shall have, right from the beginning, yet another period of uncertainty which is going to affect the teachers. I do not want to repeat the arguments about this that I gave in the Committee stage, and in any case it is obvious that it is going to affect the position of the teachers if they are uncertain whether the authority they serve will be in existence in six years' time. It is going to affect long-term planning. Schools, like Rome, are not built in a day. Sites have to be found and preparations made far ahead, and cannot be made by an authority which lives all the time under a sword of Damocles.

It is going to affect the children. I referred just now to the 11-plus examination. The London County Council is, we understand, bringing the 11-plus examination to an end, and, if I may say so, a very good thing, too. No decision will be more warmly welcomed in the homes of the children, both by the parents and the children themselves. The London Education Authority is at the moment working towards a fully comprehensive system of secondary education in which all the children go to the same secondary school to follow courses suited to their particular bents and abilities. Suppose, as a result of this review, it is decided to give some or all of the functions of education to the boroughs. Then some boroughs might like a comprehensive system of education and other boroughs might wish to have an 11-plus examination and selection of the children to go to a secondary modern, secondary grammar, or secondary technical school at the age of 11. In that case it means that the children in London, who now know that as they come up to 11 this nightmare is removed, will have to live with the possibility that the nightmare is going to be revived, that they may, after all, be subject to the kind of selection which has operated in many parts of the country and still does, and which has resulted in immense tension in the homes, both among the parents and the children.

So we are going to have uncertainty. The attitude of the Government about uncertainty seems to be very odd. In all other contexts except education the Government use the argument, "We must not have uncertainty." Indeed I think it would be fair to say the pages of *Hansard* are spattered with observations, particularly by the noble Earl, Lord Jellicoe, about the noxious character of uncertainty in local government. In the Committee stage I quoted one of his observations and I will this time quote another. There are plenty to choose from. In the Committee stage, in the discussion on an Amendment which proposed to give power to the Minister to

[Baroness Wootton of Abinger.]
transfer functions from the boroughs to the Greater London Council, the noble Earl, Lord Jellicoe, strongly resisted the introduction of any such power on the grounds of uncertainty. He said [OFFICIAL REPORT, Vol. 249 (No. 82), col. 1046]:

"I would attach one condition here; that is, that there should be certainty from now on throughout this whole field. Any further uncertainty as to what the future of these arrangements may be . . . would inevitably perpetuate the uncertainty among the staff which we all wish to avoid or do what we can to mitigate."

Clearly the noble Earl, Lord Jellicoe, is on our side.

I do not know what arguments the Government may have left to resist this Amendment. I cannot think they are going to use the arguments which they used before. They were rather like the arguments that are generally used in a breach of promise case: "I didn't promise to marry her, and if I did I didn't mean it"—because they argue from two wholly inconsistent premises. The first is that the review is absolutely necessary; it is of great importance because this is a new type of education authority—which indeed it is. The second line of argument is that, although the review is so tremendously important, nobody need be concerned about it and it would not create this dangerous uncertainty because nothing will happen as a result of it, except possibly a few quite trivial changes. The Government cannot have it both ways. Either they intend to insist upon this ridiculous thing which it will not be for them to carry out, because they anticipate real change, or there is no need to make it an obligatory review if it is merely intended as a façade or to bring about quite trivial changes.

The real truth of the matter is that these clauses have got into the Bill only because of what one might call a rather disreputable political bargain. The Government were persuaded eventually that it would be disastrous to break up the inner London education system and, contrary to the recommendation of the Royal Commission, they conceded that there should be this special and rather peculiar form of Inner London Education Authority. But, having conceded it, they were determined to have some price for it, and the price which they demanded for it is this really ridiculous proposal that there must be a review, relating to only this part of the Bill's proposals, except for the youth employment service. In foisting this obligatory review upon an unknown Government in the future, and at the same time restricting the review, the one possible development which, if this Bill becomes law, I think we may see come in time—that the education authority will be the Greater London Council—is precluded. They have restricted the scope of the review so that it can be for fragmentation only. I beg to move.

Amendment moved—

Page 44, line 25, leave out subsections (6) and (7).—(*Baroness Wootton of Abinger.*)

THE DISAPPEARANCE OF MR. PHILBY

3.52 p.m.

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS (THE EARL OF DUNDEE): My Lords, with your Lordships' permission, it might be convenient if I were to repeat a statement on the case of Mr. Harold Philby which was made a few minutes ago in another place by my right honourable friend the Lord Privy Seal.

My right honourable friend said on March 20 that shortly after the disappearance of Mr. H. A. R. Philby from the Lebanon Mrs. Philby received messages purporting to come from him from Cairo. At the request of his wife and of a British newspaper which he was representing, Her Majesty's Government made inquiries concerning his whereabouts from the Governments in both Cairo and Beirut, without success. I can now tell your Lordships that more recently Mrs. Philby has received messages purporting to come from Mr. Philby from behind the Iron Curtain. On the other hand, the Soviet newspaper *Izvestiya* reported on June 3 that Mr. Philby was with the Imam of the Yemen. There is no confirmation of this story.

Although there is as yet no certainty concerning Mr. Philby's whereabouts, there has been a development which may throw light on the question. On November 7, 1955, my right honourable friend the Prime Minister, at that time Foreign Secretary, said in another place

that it had become known that Mr. Philby had had Communist associations and that he was asked to resign from the Foreign Service in July, 1951, which he did. My right honourable Friend also said that his case had been the subject of close investigation and that no evidence had been found up to that time to show that he was responsible for warning Burgess and Maclean or that he had betrayed the interests of this country.

My right honourable friend added that inquiries were continuing. In fact the Security Services have never closed their file on this case and now have further information. They are now aware, partly as a result of an admission by Mr. Philby himself, that he worked for the Russians before 1946, and that in 1951 he in fact warned Maclean, through Burgess, that the Security Services were about to take action against him. This information coupled with the latest messages received by Mrs. Philby suggests that when he left Beirut he may have gone to one of the countries of the Soviet *bloc*.

Since Mr. Philby resigned from the Foreign Service in 1951 he has not had access of any kind to any official information. For the last seven years he has been living outside British legal jurisdiction.

3.57 p.m.

LORD MORRISON OF LAMBETH: My Lords, we are much obliged to the noble Earl the Minister of State for repeating in this House the statement which was made by the Lord Privy Seal in another place. I think that on both sides of the House we have received with a fair degree of sadness the news that another incident should have arisen, though in this case, fortunately, it is not a new incident of current espionage. How much harm this man may have done when he was in the Foreign Service we do not yet know.

I think it is a good thing that at last it has been found with reasonable certainty who was the third man, the one who tipped off Burgess and Maclean. At any rate, that mystery is cleared up. It is comforting to know that he has been discovered. He is now living abroad and outside British jurisdiction. But if he should come within British jurisdiction, I presume that he would be liable to be prosecuted under the Official Secrets Act. I hope that what was done in the other case will not be repeated in this one. Why it was done I do not know. I do not see why these people, who are guilty of treachery to the State, should be able freely to draw money from this country in order to keep themselves going when they go abroad and take refuge in the hands of another Power. I just do not understand it.

There is one other thing I should like to say arising out of this incident and one other recent bit of controversy that has arisen about another person—namely, that newspapers, especially those which are largely edited by long-haired journalists, might exercise reasonable care as to whom they employ. I should have thought it was not greatly desirable that a person who was caused to resign from the Foreign Service because he was unreliable, and has since found himself behind the Iron Curtain because he wanted to go there, should, in connection with employment, be given by newspapers—I will not say preference, although sometimes I think that is what it is. But that is for the newspapers to decide. Thank goodness, we have a free Press, and we have an interesting Press. I should not like to interfere with them at all. I only, with the greatest respect, throw out the hint that a little discrimination in regard to whom they employ, especially on sensitive jobs, would be to the best.

We are obliged to the noble Earl for the statement that he has made. It has its lessons, and I hope that everybody concerned will learn the lessons that are to be learnt from it. It would appear that he resigned from the Foreign Service—that is a comfort to me—at a time when I was Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. I did not get any comfort out of Burgess and Maclean. If I had known previously about those two lads I should have sent them out—" fired " them. But this at least is a little comfort, and we are obliged for the statement.

3.59 p.m.

LORD REA : My Lords, I think the whole House will agree that the noble Lord, Lord Morrison of Lambeth, has really covered the ground in answer to the statement, for which we are grateful to the noble Earl. I must dissociate

[Lord Rea.]
myself from the noble Lord, Lord Morrison of Lambeth, in his thinking that no journalist is to be trusted if his employing editor is long-haired. There is something to be said for his point of view. In this particular regard, the matter is twelve years old. It might have happened in the lifetime of almost any Government, except a Liberal Government, which we have not had for the last fifty years. Therefore, I do not think we can attach any blame to any Party. It is sad that this has come about now, but I will say to the noble Earl, if I may, that the public do appreciate being told as much of these affairs as is consonant with security. We are grateful to him for letting us know how this matter is proceeding.

THE EARL OF DUNDEE : My Lords, I am greatly obliged to the noble Lord opposite for his remarks, and to the noble Lord, Lord Rea, and I should like to assure him that I entirely exculpate the Liberal party from any part in this.

LONDON GOVERNMENT BILL

4.0 p.m.

Report stage resumed.

LORD NEWTON : My Lords, I greatly enjoyed the speech of the noble Baroness, as I am bound to say I always do when she addresses your Lordships. I was particularly impressed by the ingenuity with which she made some quite sizeable bricks with very little straw, but I still really do not understand the deep hostility on the part of noble Lords opposite to this proposal in the Bill. I would also say to the noble Baroness that she should not draw any deductions from the presence of subsections (6) and (7) in this clause about my private opinion as to the probable colour of the next Administration.

The noble Baroness said that provision for this review would create uncertainty, and she talked about the noxious character of uncertainty and said that some of my noble friends had used this argument in resisting Amendments to other parts of the Bill. That is perfectly true ; they have, and so have I, and I am greatly surprised that the noble Baroness did not quote an extract from speeches I have made. The point is that all unnecessary uncertainty is to be avoided if possible, but unhappily one cannot always avoid it. Therefore, one should create as little uncertainty as one possibly can.

The noble Baroness said that she doubted whether I should have any new arguments to advance in favour of these two subsections in the Bill. I do not honestly think I have. There is little more to say about this on either side. It is a very simple matter. The reason for the provision in the Bill for a review is that the Inner London Education Authority, when it is set up, will be without parallel in the education service. For that reason the Government consider that it is only prudent to provide for an opportunity to review its working.

LORD MORRISON OF LAMBETH: My Lords, may I interrupt the noble Lord? In his earlier speech on the previous Amendment he stoutly defended maintaining the existing London Education area as it is under the London County Council, and gave no hint that it was temporary at all. He firmly blessed it. All the way through his speech I waited for him to make a reservation, which I thought he would be bound to have, but he had no reservation. He said it was the right thing to do, and that there had always been one education authority. Now he is beginning to wobble and wants the right to play about with it in 1970.

LORD NEWTON: My Lords, with great respect, I do not think that is the right construction to put upon the last speech I made, and when the noble Lord reads it to-morrow I believe he will agree. I was careful not to say that the setting up of the I.L.E.A. as proposed in the Bill would always be the right answer. I will not repeat what I said in my speech, but if the noble Lord will read it to-morrow he will see that his was not the correct construction to put upon what I said.

The purpose of the review, when it is held, will be to give the Government an opportunity to consider whether the boroughs who will be responsible for all the other personal services in inner London can be more closely associated with the education service. That is the reason for this provision in the Bill. Of course, it has been made clear time and again in the other place and by me

in your Lordships' House that the Minister of Education will not be under any obligation to make changes as a result of the review; and he has said he will not do so unless he is satisfied that to do so will be in the interest of the education service.

The noble Baroness said that the sort of argument which I have advanced is one of the arguments which the Government are using to justify the provision of a review, but that is not so at all. The only reason why I have said this, and said it before, and why it has been said in another place, is that the Government have done their best to try to discourage noble Lords opposite and the Party opposite from believing that there is some fearful, sinister plot behind this provision. That is the object of saying so often that the Minister will not be under any obligation to make any changes. That is really all I have to say. I have done my best, as I did my best in Committee, to persuade your Lordships, particularly the noble Lord, Lord Morrison of Lambeth, that it is not a deeply laid plot to dismantle the education service of inner London. If he is not prepared to believe me, I am very sorry. If I have not convinced him by now that it is not a deeply laid plot, I do not believe I ever shall.

EARL ALEXANDER OF HILLSBOROUGH: My Lords, I do not want to say much on this subject. The noble Lord is doing his best for his side, but he cannot be convincing in the light of the facts. The support for the views expressed by my noble friends on this side of the House from time to time from local education authorities shows clearly that the Government are not doing what the education authorities want; and it shows clearly that they have no mandate at all for the measure. When one comes to consider, in the present circumstances of the Government, their action in laying this down, what does one find? First, one finds that we must go into conference at Chequers to discover what we shall have to do in the 1970's; and, secondly, one finds that we shall have to look to see whether the plot in this Bill to dismantle London to such an extent that the power of the worker in London will be broken politically has succeeded; and we can have another go at it in 1970 and see whether it can be put right. That is my conviction, and I think that it is borne out by all the debates which have taken place.

The noble Lord, Lord Newton, knows perfectly well that the Government have not an ounce of authority from the electorate to do this. There has been no reference to the country, and both municipal elections in the past two years and by-elections have voted against the Government in this issue. The Government want another review in 1970 to see whether their purpose in introducing the Bill to break the power of Labour in London has succeeded and, if it has not succeeded enough, what further Amendments can be introduced to make it possible for Toryism to be *über alles* instead of its being in the present position. I despise the Government's attitude on this matter.

LORD LINDGREN: My Lords, the noble Lord, Lord Newton, has not given any reason for the doubts that exist in the Government's mind as to the necessity for a review. Whatever may be said by myself and my colleagues about the intentions behind the London Government Bill, it is a fact that this part, in regard to London's education, is perhaps the easiest to work administratively. All that happens is that the administration which has previously been within the London County Council is now to work on its own on behalf of education. The difficulty is that it will not have the advantage of joint use of the Architect's Department and the other services within the County Council. That operates at the moment; and there has not been any suggestion from any part of the House that that operation has not been highly successful. The education department will, in fact, continue in the same sphere very largely over the same area, with very largely the same policy, carried on by the same sets of officials, teachers, and the rest. Therefore, it seems to me extremely hard to understand why, having conceded that because of its efficiency it should be maintained and not broken up, the Government consider that an extra five years of operation is likely to alter the position which the educational system within the London County Council area

[Lord Lindgren.]
is in at the moment. This is a strong point which the noble Lord, Lord Newton, did not deal with.

My noble friend Lady Wootton of Abinger referred to the possibility of a reorganisation of education, on the lines suggested by the noble Lord, Lord Morrison of Lambeth, with perhaps one education autority over the whole of the Greater London area. That is not possible within this Bill. It seems to me that this is a one-way traffic. It is a review of existing arrangements within that area, and I have heard no arguments put forward to justify the doubts the Government have and which they advance as the reasons for subsections (6) and (7).

4.12 p.m.

LORD SHEPHERD: My Lords, as I understand it, the noble Lord, Lord Newton, in his reply to my noble friend, makes the case for the review, not on the question of whether the new education authority which the Government are setting up is satisfactory and doing the job, but on whether the boroughs themselves have been so constructed as to be able to take over the job. The Government have said right through that they are creating these boroughs so that they will be capable of taking over all the services. The outer boroughs will become the education authorities. The Government originally wished the inner boroughs to be the education authorities, but they saw the great difficulty, the great problem, that would be involved in making those boroughs the education authorities at this stage.

Instead of adopting what I think would have been the most obvious method, having accepted that a central authority was necessary for inner London, and instead of passing over responsibility to the Greater London Council, which in many cases is taking over the powers and authority of the London County Council, the Government have set up this very peculiar organisation. I have not heard anybody, in this House or outside, who has any interest in education who can find a good word for this type of authority. But this authority has been set up and the Government are responsible for it. I should have thought that the Government would see that this authority had at least a reasonable time in which to perform its task and to prove to the people of London and to the Government that it was capable of carrying on and providing the right sort of service.

The point of my noble friend Lady Wootton of Abinger which most struck me was in regard to the future. How can you really expect an authority which is being set up for five years to take a forward look, not only at the question of recruitment of staff, which is a very important factor, but also at the proper provision of schools and, particularly, at the type of education that the area needs? The noble Lord, Lord Newton, knows well enough that the type of education and the approach to education vary from year to year. There are new thoughts, there are new ideas. The forward-looking education authority, like the London County Council and some of the bigger boroughs, is always changing its approach to education. Can you really believe that an authority which has only five years of life is going to look to the future? Indeed, what future have they to look forward to? I anticipate that, if this Amendment is not accepted, we shall have a sort of *status quo*, a stalemate, in central London. Perhaps, my Lords, that is what the Government wish to prove.

I think, and I am supported here by the statements made by various education authorities which have some connection with, and some interest in, this Bill, that the Government's proposals are not to the advantage of the children of London and, particularly in this case, of central London. You will have the uncertainty of the teachers, you will have the uncertainty of the parents, and I believe you will have a period of stagnation for school development, school building and the like. I do not believe that this is what this House would wish to see in this Bill, and I hope that there will be noble Lords on the other side of the House who will have an interest in the children and will support this Amendment.

4.20 p.m.

On Question, Whether the said Amendment (No. 118) shall be agreed to?

Their Lordships divided : Contents 27 ; Not-Contents 61.

CONTENTS

Addison, V.
Alexander of Hillsborough, E.
Archibald, L.
Attlee, E.
Burden, L. [*Teller.*]
Champion, L.
Chorley, L.
Crook, L.
Iddesleigh, E.
Latham, L.
Lawson, L.
Lindgren, L.
Listowel, E.
Longford, E.
Lucan, E. [*Teller.*]
Morrison of Lambeth, L.
Rathcreedan, L.
Rusholme, L.
Samuel, V.
Shepherd, L.
Sinha, L.
Stonham, L.
Summerskill, B.
Walston, L.
Williams, L.
Wise, L.
Wootton of Abinger, B.

NOT-CONTENTS

Ailwyn, L.
Albemarle, E.
Ampthill, L.
Cawley, L.
Chesham, L.
Clwyd, L.
Colgrain, L.
Colville of Culross, V.
Colyton, L.
Conesford, L.
Craigton, L.
Cromartie, E.
Denham, L.
Devonshire, D.
Dudley, L.
Ebbisham, L.
Ferrers, E.
Forster of Harraby, L.
Fortescue, E.
Glentanar, L.
Goschen, V. [*Teller.*]
Grantchester, L.
Grenfell, L.
Hailsham, V. (*L. President.*)
Hamilton of Dalzell, L.
Hanworth, V.
Hastings, L.
Howard of Glossop, L.
Howe, E.
Jellicoe, E.
Jessel, L.
Long, V.
Lothian, M.
Mabane, L.
MacAndrew, L.
McCorquodale of Newton, L.
Malmesbury, E.
Margesson, V.
Mersey, V.
Meston, L.
Mills, V.
Milverton, L.
Monk Bretton, L.
Monsell, V.
Moyne, L.
Newton, L.
Ormonde, M.
St. Aldwyn, E. [*Teller.*]
St. Just, L.
St. Oswald, L.
Salisbury, M.
Salter, L.
Sandys, L.
Soulbury, V.
Spens, L.
Strathclyde, L.
Stuart of Findhorn, V.
Swinton, E.
Teynham, L.
Twining, L.
Waleran, L.

Resolved in the negative, and Amendment disagreed to accordingly.

4.26 p.m.

BARONESS WOOTTON OF ABINGER moved, in subsection (6), to leave out the first "shall" and insert "may". The noble Baroness said : My Lords, there are moments when I feel rather sorry for the noble Lord, Lord Newton. He receives no support from his own side, and, on his own admission, he has no new arguments. All he has been able to do in relation to this proposed review is to make soothing noises to suggest that it is not part of a deep-laid plot. I myself have never suggested that this review is part of a deep-laid plot. I tried to suggest to the noble Lord that it is very silly, and that it is particularly silly in an obligatory form. I tried to suggest some practical difficulties that might arise if this review is foisted upon a Government who do not want it. We were given no answer about those practical difficulties. We know only that the noble Lord does not like uncertainty, but that when he has the opportunity to accept an Amendment which would remove uncertainty he does not take it.

The Amendment which I am to move will, I think, commend itself very much more to him—and I hope that on this occasion my sympathy for the noble Lord will not need to be engaged again. I shall not argue the case at length. This Amendment is quite simple : it proposes to make the review of education, to which the noble Lord attaches so much importance, permissive and not mandatory, so that the Government of the day may consider whether, in all the circumstances, it is worth while spending time and money in conducting such a review. If they think that it is worth while, then opportunity will be open ; if they think that the review would be farcical and a waste of time and money, then they would be under no obligation to conduct it.

It is perfectly clear that the noble Lord, Lord Newton, will welcome this Amendment. I tried to take down the words that he used in his speech on the preceding Amendment. What he said was that the purpose of the clauses was to give the Government the opportunity to consider whether the educational services could be more closely associated with the other personal services.

LORD NEWTON: I think that what I actually said was: "to decide whether the boroughs could be more closely associated with the educational services."

BARONESS WOOTTON OF ABINGER: To give the Government the opportunity to decide whether the boroughs could be more closely associated with the educational services—I accept the correction. I took the words down rather hastily. Now that is exactly what the present Amendment does. It gives the Government of the day the opportunity to consider whether the boroughs should be more closely associated with the education services; because the present Amendment says that a review with that object—and no other—may be conducted by the Minister provided that it is completed before 1970. Personally, I still regret that the terms are restrictive: that the review will not also include the important question of whether, perhaps, the Greater London Council should not be more closely associated with the education services. But that point is now disposed of. All that is before your Lordships at the moment is an Amendment to the effect that the Government shall have the opportunity, without further legislation, to conduct such a review if, at the time, it seems appropriate. I beg to move.

Amendment moved—

Page 44, line 25, leave out ("shall") and insert ("may").—(*Baroness Wootton of Abinger.*)

LORD NEWTON: My Lords, I have tried to explain this afternoon, as I tried to explain in Committee, why the Government think that the provision for this review should be written into this Bill. We are quite certain that there ought to be a review and, that being so, we believe that provision for it should be mandatory and not, as the noble Baroness wants, permissive. By our making it mandatory, everybody concerned will know that there is going to be a review and they will know where they are. If we make it permissive, what shall we be doing? We shall be creating uncertainty where uncertainty does not exist as the Bill is drafted. I would call it noxious uncertainty, because it would be unnecessary uncertainty; and I am sure, in view of the noble Baroness's views on uncertainty, that she will agree with me about this. I regret that I cannot accept the Amendment.

BARONESS WOOTTON OF ABINGER: The noble Lord will surely appreciate that we shall be making it uncertain whether there will be uncertainty.

THE EARL OF LONGFORD: My Lords, I hope the noble Lord will not feel that he has met the points raised. He is usually so careful to meet the actual arguments presented. Surely this time he has not answered the points at all. He says that there would be uncertainty as to whether there was to be a review; but it might equally be said that there is uncertainty about all sorts of reviews. A review might be started in all sorts of branches. People are not upset at that thought. This review is hanging over people's heads; and we cannot help that. Does he think that somebody will be more worried if to-morrow it is announced that it is not quite certain there will be a review?

There is another point. Suppose a Government who are not of the noble Lord's persuasion come into office. Does he want that Government to continue a review that they think is a waste of time? Does he say they must? I know that Mr. Macmillan has said that he intends to be Prime Minister in 1970—or words to that effect; at any rate, he has made it plain that he intends to be there for many years to come. But suppose the gods decided otherwise. Does the noble Lord solemnly say that the other Government must go on with a review which they consider unnecessary. Is he determined that this should happen, even if everyone is convinced that it is a waste of time and money? Perhaps he can answer that point. I know that he cannot speak again.

LORD MOYNE: My Lords, may I say——

THE EARL OF LONGFORD: With the greatest respect, the noble Lord must not be shielded by the noble Lord, Lord Moyne.

LORD NEWTON: I am not allowed to speak again but I will reply to the question: I will do it as an interruption to the noble Earl. The answer is quite simple. If it is written into the Bill that there shall be a review, then a review there will have to be, whatever the Government in power, unless an Amendment is made in another Act.

THE EARL OF LONGFORD: Even if at the time it seems to everybody, including some of the noble Lord's friends, that it is a waste of money? I think the noble Lord has answered the question and given an answer which he will feel, on reflection, makes a laughing stock of the Government. But I think that the noble Lord, Lord Moyne, wants to assist the Minister and I had better give way.

LORD MOYNE: I was merely going to make an elementary point. It is open to the Government, surely, to hold a review at any time. To put it in that they "may" do so is entirely unnecessary.

LORD WALSTON: My Lords, this really is a fantastic situation. I do not want to labour the point, because it has been so clearly put by so many noble Lords and by my noble friend Lady Wootton of Abinger. But I was not quite sure of the nature of Lord Moyne's interjection.

THE EARL OF LONGFORD: He intended merely to be helpful.

LORD WALSTON: I am quite sure that he meant to be helpful, but I am not quite sure to whom. If he is saying "Why bother to put in the Bill that there will or may be a review", because the Government or the Greater London authority are always free to have an inquiry. I am entirely on his side. It would be far better to leave it out entirely.

LORD MOYNE: I should like it to be in mandatory form, in order that everybody shall know the plan. In the optional form there is no point.

LORD WALSTON: At least the noble Lord has explained the position. I think he is now trying to be helpful to the noble Lord, Lord Newton, in this respect; and to support the fact that there should be a mandatory review. But which is the more sensible course hardly seems to be arguable in this case. No doubt it is reasonable, if the Government are sufficiently unsure of the good sense of their present proposals in education—if they think that in five years time they may turn out to be wrong—for them to say "Let us look at this again and have a review." I should have been very much happier if they had put forward such proposals as gave them, as well as ourselves, confidence that they were likely to be right. Had they done that, this uncertainty would not have existed, and those responsible for the plans for education of millions of young people would have been able to go forward, in full confidence that the plans had been well laid and well thought out, and were unlikely to be changed for a good many years to come.

The Government have, quite frankly, stated that that is not so; that their plans will probably turn out to be wrong; and they think the chances are that they will have to be altered within a certain number of years. Perhaps it will be five years before they will have to start looking at them; or perhaps only four years—because if you are to have a review by 1970 you must start at least a year or eighteen months beforehand. They have admitted, therefore, that they have no confidence in their own plan; so by all means let them put in the fact that there can be a review if it is desired. But for them to go on record as saying, "We are so certain that our own plans are wrong that we, and our successors, must have a review, come what may, because we know there will be need for change," seems to me to be going out of their way to spread alarm, despondency and uncertainty among the people whose need is for certainty. Any doubts they may have about this would have been amply covered by the Amendment of my noble friend. And if by remote chance, it turns out that they have, by luck, stumbled on a plan for education in this area which has, in fact, worked reasonably well, they and their successors will not be forced to go to this expensive and laborious and extremely unsettling act of having a review of the whole thing.

As the Bill stands there will be no possibility whatsoever, when 1968 or 1969 comes of the then Government and the then Greater London Council saying: "We are satisfied with the way education is going. Now we can go ahead and plan in certainty for the future." What people will be forced by this clause to say is: "Although we are reasonably satisfied we must set in motion this cumbersome review, which must be laid before Parliament." So until 1970, there is bound to be eighteen months or two years of uncertainty—and all that for no positive safeguards—they are in no stronger posi-

[Lord Walston.]
tion than by accepting this Amendment—but simply because they have written it down, and from what they have written down they will not budge. It seems an unfortunate way of conducting legislation in this country.

BARONESS WOOTTON OF ABINGER: My Lords, I do not propose to attempt to answer the noble Lord, Lord Newton, for two reasons. The first is that he does not produce any arguments, and the second is that he merely makes a statement that the Government think the review ought to be mandatory and that is why it is in the Bill. He relies entirely upon authority. And in reply to my noble friend Lord Longford he says simply that, if there is a mandatory review, then it will have to happen—which is certainly not in dispute.

However, I should like to say a word to the noble Lord, Lord Moyne. The purpose of having a permissive review written into the Bill is this. Unless it is written into the Bill, the subsequent steps which subsection (6) makes possible as a result of the review could not be taken without further legislation. If it is written into the Bill, and if at the same time the Government decide that such a review should be held, should any changes be recommended on the lines specified in this clause then those changes could be carried out without further legislation. If the clause is deleted altogether while it is still true that the Government can review anything at any time, it would be necessary to have legislation in order to transfer any or all of the functions, if it were decided to do so, from the I.L.E.A. to the boroughs. I think that that is the purpose of the permissive view.

I regret very much that the Government have no arguments. It would have been intriguing and surprising if they had. But the bankruptcy still seems to prevail, and indeed to be even more noticeable than before. They are determined to foist on a possibly willing, possibly unwilling, Government a review which has to come within a relatively short period. They do not seem to have contemplated even the possibility that the Government themselves might have changed their mind. This is something that has happened occasionally in the past—not always a change for the better, but we live in hope.

Should this Government still be in existence in the later 'sixties, perhaps they will have had some searing experiences between now and then to cause them to change their mind, and they may be very sorry to find themselves landed with the necessity to conduct a restricted review, which has been written into an earlier Statute before their conversion. They might very much wish that this clause provided, if for a review at all, then for a comprehensive one, which would make it possible to reorganise the whole system and perhaps give education to the Greater London Council or perhaps to reconstitute the G.L.C. But I suppose inhibitions of that sort are a little utopian. The Government are not likely to change their mind as much as that. But they may have changed their mind between now and the time of this review and may live, if they live at all, to be very sorry that they imposed these shackles upon themselves.

4.44 p.m.

On Question, Whether the said Amendment (No. 118A) shall be agreed to?

Their Lordships divided: Contents, 26; Not-Contents, 54.

CONTENTS

Addison, V.
Airedale, L.
Alexander of Hillsborough, E.
Amulree, L.
Attlee, E.
Burden, L. [*Teller.*]
Champion, L.
Crook, L.
Henderson, L.
Latham, L.
Lawson, L.
Listowel, E.
Longford, E.
Lucan, E. [*Teller.*]
Morrison of Lambeth, L.
Ogmore, L.
Rusholme, L.
Shackleton, L.
Shepherd, L.
Sinha, L.
Stonham, L.
Summerskill, B.
Walston, L.
Williams, L.
Wise, L.
Wootton of Abinger, B.

NOT-CONTENTS

Ailsa, M.
Airlie, E.
Ampthill, L.
Carrington, L.
Chesham, L.
Clwyd, L.
Colgrain, L.
Colville of Culross, V.
Colyton, L.

Conesford, L.
Craighton, L.
Cromartie, E.
Denham, L. [*Teller.*]
Derwent, L.
Devonshire, D.
Dudley, L.
Ebbisham, L.
Ferrers, E.
Forster of Harraby, L.
Fortescue, E.
Glentanar, L.
Grenfell, L.
Hailsham, V. (*L. President.*)
Hamilton of Dalzell, L.
Hanworth, V.
Hastings, L.
Hayter, L.
Howard of Glossop, L.
Howe, E.
Jellicoe, E.
Jessel, L.
Long, V.
Lothian, M.
Mabane, L.
MacAndrew, L.
Malmesbury, E.
Mancroft, L.
Margesson, V.
Mersey, V.
Mills, V.
Milverton, L.
Moyne, L.
Newton, L.
Ormonde, M.
St. Aldwyn, E. [*Teller.*]
St. Just, L.
St. Oswald, L.
Salter, L.
Sandys, L.
Soulbury, V.
Strathclyde, L.
Stuart of Findhorn, V.
Swinton, E.
Waleran, L.

Resolved in the negative, and Amendment disagreed To accordingly.

LORD HASTINGS: My Lords, this is a consequential Amendment on changes made during the Committee stage to Clause 84 dealing with transferring compensation of officers. This Amendment deletes the reference to the transfer of officers from Clause 30, as officers affected by any changes in the educational arrangements in inner London will be protected under the general provisions applying to all officers in Clauses 83 and 84. I beg to move.

Amendment moved—

Page 44, line 47, leave out ("officers and liabilities") and insert ("liabilities (but, without prejudice to sectons 83(1) and 84 of this Act, excluding provisions with respect to the transfer of officers)").—(*Lord Hastings.*)

On Question, Amendment agreed to.

Clause 31 [*Primary, secondary and further education in Greater London*]:

4.54 p.m.

LORD NEWTON: My Lords, this Amendment is to fulfil an undertaking I gave in Committee to the noble Lords, Lord Crook and Lord Shepherd. It makes it a statutory requirement for each of the new outer London boroughs to consult its neighbours when drawing up a development plan required by Clause 31(2) with a view to ensuring that the revised development plans have regard to the use made of their schools by children outside and *vice versa.* There is no need for any corresponding provision with regard to the schemes of further education, because the point is already covered by Section 42(4) of the Education Act, 1944. I beg to move.

Amendment moved—

Page 46, line 11, at end insert—

("(2A) Before preparing a revised development plan for their borough under subsection (2) of this section, the council of each outer London borough shall consult with any other local education authority whose area is contiguous with that borough with a view to ensuring that the revised plan has regard both to the use made of schools outside that borough by children resident therein and to the use of schools within that borough by children resident outside it.").—(*Lord Newton.*)

LORD CROOK: My Lords, I should liike to thank the noble Lord for putting down this Amendment and the four following Amendments. In Committee we asked that we should have consideration of the two drafts that we particularly prepared with a view to making certain that if we did not get the major things dealt with in the firt Division to-day we should, at least, get something left over from the wreck. I am delighted that the noble Lord has been able to give us at least this small amount, and I should like to thank him. We support the Amendment.

On Question, Amendment agreed to.

LORD NEWTON: My Lords, this Amendment and the next two Amendments on the Marshalled List are also in pursuance of an undertaking I gave in Committee to the noble Lords, Lord Crook and Lord Shepherd. The effect of the Amendment is to extend the scope of Clause 31(7) to movement into Greater London from the areas of adjoining local education authorities outside. People living in those areas are to have the same right of access to schools in Greater London as people living inside Greater London. It gives me great satisfaction to move this particular Amendment. I was glad when I saw the Amendment on the Marshalled List in the name of the noble Lord, Lord Crook, because it

[Lord Newton.]
had already occurred to me when I began to study this Bill that something on these lines was desirable. I was, therefore, as I say, glad to see the Amendment down. Another reason why it gives me satisfaction is because this is an extension of the area of freedom of choice for parents to choose the schools to which their children should be able to go. I have not done any research on this subject, but I suspect that it may be the first extension of freedom of choice in this respect since the 1944 Act was passed. I beg to move.

Amendment moved—

Page 48, line 1, leave out ("in") and insert ("if that area is within, or is contiguous with any part of,").—(*Lord Newton.*)

LORD CROOK: My Lords, may I thank the noble Lord again, and say that I did not make a long speech in Committee because the noble Lord had been good enough to indicate in advance that he had seen the merit of the words of which I had given notice only that morning. We are glad to see that the Government have been able to provide this wandering over the borders and the choice to which he referred.

THE EARL OF LONGFORD: My Lords, I should like to join in that expression of gratitude. It has been my duty, and I am afraid will be again, to be critical of the Government's measure and, indeed, of the noble Lord's arguments; but when he has taken such a personal initiative as he has, I think he deserves thanks from everybody, and particularly from myself.

LORD NEWTON: I am much obliged.

On Question, Amendment agreed to.

LORD NEWTON: My Lords, this is consequential on the last Amendment. I beg to move.

Amendment moved—

Page 48, line 4, leave out from ("London") to end of line 5 and insert (", or in some other local education authority's area which is contiguous with any part of Greater London, but belongs to the area of a local education authority other than the providing authority").—(*Lord Newton.*)

On Question, Amendment agreed to.

LORD NEWTON: My Lords, this, also, is a consequential Amendment. Perhaps I ought to explain briefly to the House what this Amendment and the last one do. They alter that part of Clause 31(7) which deals with the recoupment to the education authority of the cost of further education provided for students outside its area so that it will fit in with the widening of the scope of Clause 31(7) by my first Amendment. I beg to move.

Amendment moved—

Page 48, line 11, leave out from first ("the") to end of line and insert ("authority to whose area the pupil belongs) shall apply notwithstanding that the last-mentioned").—(*Lord Newton.*)

On Question, Amendment agreed to.

Clause 32 [*Co-ordination of school and other health services in inner London*]:

4.59 p.m.

BARONESS SUMMERSKILL moved, in subsection (1)(*a*), after "respectively;" to insert:

"provided that nothing in this paragraph shall be construed as requiring any part of the premises of a school or other educational institution maintained by the Inner London Education Authority to be made available to the local health authority".

The noble Baroness said: My Lords, I beg to move the Amendment standing in my name. I have on other occasions, as this Bill has progressed through the House, sought to focus the attention of your Lordships on certain principles involved in the transfer of these functions. Now I propose to move a series of Amendments, six in all, and I will try to do that as briefly as possible, in order that we can pinpoint—and surely not only noble Lords on this side of the House are interested in this, but noble Lords opposite as well—certain difficulties which must arise unless the position is clarified more fully. I would ask the noble Lord, Lord Newton, whether he would give me some answer to the detailed questions. He will recall that on other occasions when I have spoken on this Bill I have put a series of questions. When he has come to wind up—I am saying this more in sorrow than in anger, because I realise that the full weight of this Bill has fallen on the noble Lord's shoulders—he has failed to answer certain specific questions which I have put to him on matters which are of tremendous importance to Londoners. I always feel that a local authority's primary purpose is to serve the people, and the human functions with which a

local authority are concerned surely call for an answer before this new form of administration is set up.

My first Amendment is concerned with Clause 32. This clause is framed to provide for the economical use of premises and equipment. From the wording of the clause it would appear that a London borough, as the health authority, could claim to use the medical room in a school for the local health service, distinct from the school health service. At first sight this seems a reasonable and a minor matter, but I would remind your Lordships that the medical room is an integral part of the school. It is not used only for school inspection, but for first-aid and all kinds of occasions. Even when a small boy or girl feels faint or sick, the child waits there for an ambulance or a doctor to arrive. If it is used for the local health service, then the general public must be admitted.

Perhaps noble Lords opposite are not as familiar with these services as some of us on these Benches. Suppose there were an epidemic and the Government decided that there should be widespread immunisation. That would mean that hundreds of people would have to be immunised. Suppose these local health authorities decided to use part of the premises of the educational service. Surely that would not be wise. It is certainly not wise to expose children to contact with a large number of people, and it is certainly not wise to use the rooms which they must use for this purpose. It is not practical, for all kinds of other reasons, to have these people wandering about the school premises. Of course, it is unlikely that the borough council would be unreasonable—I fully recognise that—but let us have the wording of the clause made clear. That is all I am asking for. As it stands, it could be argued that all premises used for the health service by either authority must be used for both. Let me emphasise that this Amendment would not preclude the use by the health authority, in agreement, of course, with the education authority, of a school or other premises if not required for educational purposes. I am asking the noble Lord to make this quite clear. I beg to move.

Amendment moved—

Page 48, line 40, after ("respectively;") insert the said proviso.—(*Baroness Summerskill.*)

LORD NEWTON: My Lords, the effect of this Amendment would be to enable the Inner London Education Authority to withhold from the health authority the use of any school clinics if they were part of the premises of a school or educational institution—that is to say, on the same site. The purpose of Clause 32 is to provide for the joint use of premises, whichever authority owns them. I make that quite clear. I understand that there may be valid objections to the joint use of premises in particular cases. The noble Baroness mentioned a policy of carrying out widespread immunisation. I am not saying that that would necessarily be an instance in which there would be a valid objection, but it might well be. In cases like this where there are valid objections, these points can be considered when the two authorities come to draw up a scheme under Clause 32. But in our view it would be wrong to give one authority, the Inner London Education Authority, a general dispensation in advance, regardless of the circumstances of each case. I would add that these schemes have to be submitted to the Ministers of Health and Education for consideration and approval, and objections to the use of premises in certain instances would, of course, be questions which they would consider before giving their approval to any scheme. I hope, therefore, that the noble Baroness will feel that it would not be right to put her Amendment into the Bill.

5.5 p.m.

LORD MORRISON OF LAMBETH: My Lords, if I may say so, I think the noble Lord has missed the point of my noble friend's speech and Amendment. The case under the Bill as drafted is that it provides, in Clause 32(1)(*a*), that the London boroughs and the Inner London Education Authority must

"submit to the Minister of Education and the Minister of Health for their approval a scheme with respect to—

(*a*) the joint use of professional staff, premises and equipment for the purposes of the health services falling to be provided by the local education authority and the local health authority respectively . . ."

That postulates that there must be the joint use of premises, among other things. This is *prima facie* giving the boroughs an enforceable right to use the schools for joint health purposes with the Inner London Education Authority. I admit that it is subject to the approval of two

[Lord Morrison of Lambeth.]

Ministers. However, the principle is in the clause that it is contemplated that such joint use shall take place.

My noble friend referred in the course of her speech to the possibility of a sudden epidemic which might require immunisation. It may be that adults would be involved as well as children, and it would bring outside folk into the school, floating about. The noble Lord assumed that all this can be foreseen. It may be that the school would be approved by the Minister for the use of the health authority and the education authority. There is no provision for modification in case of emergency, so far as I have noticed. Therefore, although approval may have been given, unforeseen circumstances and crises may come along which may make it inappropriate. Is it not far better to say that the local authority cannot force the local education authority to use part of its premises? The schools are not the only places to which the health authority can go. There are many minor halls, not necessarily in municipal ownership, which are used for maternity, child welfare and other purposes.

My noble friend says that it should be subject to agreement between the two authorities. Surely that is reasonable. When that is done, the education authority can more easily provide for some elasticity in the case of emergencies. Moreover, there will be some schools where some sort of joint arrangement would be suitable, and some where it would not. Unfortunately, this is part of the Government's bias against the central authority and for the boroughs, whereas they should be fair and impartial, as we are, and keep their eye on the public interest all the time. Therefore, I think my noble friend has made her case, and I hope that the Minister may be able to indicate that the Government will think about it between now and Third Reading, when, fortunately, in this House, Amendments can be moved.

BARONESS SUMMERSKILL: My Lords, the more I think about it, the more strongly I feel about it, and I think the noble Lord has perhaps made a snap decision, let us say, that he will not accept it. He indicates "No", very firmly. I know the noble Lord's face very well now, and I see that he is not going to give way. Therefore, I must ask my noble friends to divide.

5.11 p.m.

On Question, Whether the said Amendment (No. 124) shall be agreed to?

Their Lordships divided: Contents, 24; Not-Contents, 54.

CONTENTS

Addison, V.
Alexander of Hillsborough, E.
Attlee, E.
Burden, L. [*Teller.*]
Champion, L.
Crook, L.
Henderson, L.
Latham, L.
Lawson, L.
Lindgren, L.
Listowel, E.
Longford, E.
Lucan, E. [*Teller.*]
Morrison of Lambeth, L.
Ogmore, L.
Rusholme, L.
Shackleton, L.
Shepherd, L.
Sinha, L.
Stonham, L.
Summerskill, B.
Walston, L.
Williams, L.
Wootton of Abinger, B.

NOT-CONTENTS

Ailwyn, L.
Albemarle, E.
Ampthill, L.
Carrington, L.
Chelmer, L.
Chesham, L.
Cholmondeley, M.
Colgrain, L.
Colville of Culross, V.
Colyton, L.
Conesford, L.
Craigton, L.
Denham, L.
Derwent, L.
Devonshire, D.
Eccles, L.
Ferrers, E.
Forster of Harraby, L.
Fortescue, E.
Glentanar, L.
Goschen, V. [*Teller.*]
Grenfell, L.
Hailsham, V. (*L. President.*)
Hamilton of Dalzell, L.
Hanworth, V.
Hastings, L.
Hayter, L.
Howard of Glossop, L.
Howe, E.
Jellicoe, E.
Jessel, L.
Long, V.
Lothian, M.
MacAndrew, L.
Malmesbury, E.
Mancroft, L.
Margesson, V.
Mersey, V.
Mills, V.
Milverton, L.
Monk Bretton, L.
Monsell, V.
Newton, L.
Ormonde, M.
St. Aldwyn, E. [*Teller.*]
St. Just, L.
St. Oswald, L.
Salisbury, M.
Salter, L.
Sandys, L.
Strathclyde, L.
Stuart of Findhorn, V.
Swinton, E.
Waleran, L.

Resolved in the negative and Amendment disagreed to accordingly.

5.20 p.m.

BARONESS SUMMERSKILL moved, in subsection (1)(*b*), after "experience", to insert "conditions of service". The noble Baroness said: My Lords, this is a technical Amendment. Perhaps those who belong to the profession of medicine realise that the Bill has been badly drafted. I would remind the noble Lord that doctors are very well organised; not that I come here to speak for the organisation of the doctors—far be it from me to do such a thing! I never have done such a thing and I would not do it now. But I would point out to the noble Lord that if he does not accept this Amendment he will be in for a lot of trouble later on, and, as he knows, the Ministry of Health generally succumb when the medical profession bring collective pressure.

As the Bill stands, it is provided that with the intention of co-ordinating the school and other health services in inner London the Inner London Education Authority will employ a professional staff in the twelve London boroughs and the City of London. We have discussed this subject on previous occasions and I think that is accepted. Of course, it is not enough to have consultation between the boroughs and the Inner London Education Authority; it is necessary for all those professional people to know in detail the terms on which they will be employed, and especially the senior ones; I emphasise that because unhappily the juniors are not so well organised as the seniors and therefore not so capable of bringing pressure to bear in the right places.

I would remind the noble Lord that officers serving two authorities will be subject to two sets of standing orders. Here again, are the two authorities going to produce precisely the same standing order for this purpose? It is not clear whether it is intended that the appointment of officers serving two authorities will be jointly made by the two authorities. It is necessary to make all this clear, and that consultation on the scheme is not limited to matters referred to in Clause 32. We do not want the Minister of Health or the Minister of Education saying later on that consultation on other matters is excluded by the subsection. If the Bill is left in this form they may point to the subsection and say these matters are not included. I asked previously whether there was to be an arbitrary division between medical staff of special schools and boarding schools. I do not press the noble Lord for an answer at the moment, but I should like an answer. I do press him on the other matter, however, because in that field he will find that unless he accepts now the two Ministries will be compelled to accept later on. I beg to move.

Amendment moved—

Page 48, line 41, after ("experience") insert ("conditions of service").—(*Baroness Summerskill.*)

LORD NEWTON: My Lords, I think this Amendment is a useful improvement to the Bill, and I am happy to advise your Lordships to accept it. I do not need to be told, either by the noble Baroness or by anybody else, that doctors are well organised, but I should not like her to think that I am advising the House to accept this Amendment because I am frightened of the wrath she forecast would descent upon my head if I did not.

BARONESS SUMMERSKILL: My Lords, I was so overcome that the noble Lord had accepted something that it took me a little time to come to my senses and rise up. Whereas on the last occasion I said how firm and determined the noble Lord's mouth was, I can assure him that the nice smile becomes him much more that the expression he assumes when he refuses an Amendment.

On Question, Amendment agreed to.

5.26 p.m.

BARONESS SUMMERSKILL moved to add to subsection (3):

"provided that no scheme made under paragraph (*b*) of this subsection shall vary or revoke a scheme under subsection (1) or paragraph (*a*) of this subsection, except with the agreement either of the said Authority or the said Council".

The noble Baroness said: My Lords, subsections (3) and (5) make provision for the revocation and variation of schemes. Of course it is necessary that there should be a provision of this kind in the Bill. The original schemes are to be submitted either jointly by the Inner London Education Authority and the borough council concerned or, in default, by the Ministers of Education and Health jointly. There should, therefore, be provision for schemes made in either of those

[Baroness Summerskill.]

two ways to be varied or revoked. But surely—and the noble Lord will contradict me if I am wrong—as the subsection stands the two Ministers could vary or revoke schemes submitted jointly by the Authority and the borough council with which those bodies were quite content.

The purpose of the Amendment is to ensure that such action will not be taken against the wishes of the Authority and the borough council. Are we to deprive those two authorities of their powers? Surely two local authorities of this magnitude should be respected by the Ministers, and the Ministers should not be allowed to come in and revoke these schemes if the authorities agree to them. I would remind the noble Lord that if he accepted this Amendment, as I hope he will, it would still enable the Ministers to act if either the Authority or the council were dissatisfied with the scheme. Therefore I should have thought full protection has been established. I beg to move.

Amendment moved—

Page 49, line 14, at end insert the said proviso.—(*Baroness Summerskill.*)

LORD NEWTON: My Lords, the effect of this Amendment would be to prevent the Ministers of Health and Education from varying or revoking a scheme made under Clause 32 and substituting a new scheme without the agreement of the Inner London Education Authority or the council concerned. The clause as it is drafted at present requires the Ministers to consult the Inner London Education Authority and the council concerned, but does not require them to secure their agreement. The Ministers are empowered by subsection (2) of Clause 32 to make the schemes themselves initially, if necessary. Therefore I suggest to your Lordships that it is only consistent to enable them to vary or revoke the schemes if they discover defects or if the schemes become out of date. Your Lordships may rest completely assured that Ministers would make every effort to carry both authorities with them in any alteration they proposed. But I hope the noble Baroness will, on reflection, agree that it would be inadvisable to leave Ministers powerless to act however necessary the alteration might be, merely because the authorities do not agree. I hope, therefore, the noble Baroness may feel that it is not necessary for her to press the Amendment.

LORD SHEPHERD: My Lords, am I to understand from the noble Lord—he can say briefly whether he agrees with me or not—that the two Ministers are in fact taking what are called reserve powers? I take it the noble Lord, Lord Newton, contemplates the Ministers acting only in the last extreme, when the two authorities have failed. May I therefore suggest to him that he considers Clause 9? Here is a case where the Minister of Transport is taking concurrent powers. I am glad to see the noble Lord, Lord Chesham, is here, because no doubt he can give advice to the noble Lord, Lord Newton. In the case of the Minister of Transport, it was made clear that the powers he was taking were to be reserve powers. I wonder whether the noble Lord, Lord Newton, could consider between now and the next stage a certain drafting Amendment by which he could make it more clear that the powers that the two Ministers are taking to revoke or vary are clearly reserve powers and would be used only in the last resort. I should have thought that would be an attractive proposition to your Lordships' House.

I think it has now been agreed that we should try as far as possible to reduce Ministerial, central interference with local authorities when they are in fact doing their job properly. That does not necessarily mean that the Minister would agree always with the way in which a local authority carried out its task, the way it approached it or the way in fact it administered it. But if you believe in local authority, and if you believe that the essence and the life of local authorities is their ability and knowledge that they must act on their own, that they should be as free from Ministerial interference as possible—I believe that is the view of noble Lords opposite—then I think it is quite wrong for us to let words go through in regard to which it is quite clear that the two Ministers can as they may wish, vary or revoke right against the wishes of the local authorities.

If the noble Lord, Lord Newton, really believes that these powers are in fact reserve powers and would be used only where there has been a complete failure of, or breakdown by, the local authority, I would suggest that he consults with his noble friend Lord Chesham, who has had to defend such a case and on this particular point has acceded to the wishes

of the House, and has made it quite clear that the powers of the Minister of Transport are reserve and will be used only in the last possible resort. I would suggest to the noble Lord, Lord Newton, that the Bill ought to be redrafted to meet this particular point so far as these two Ministers are concerned.

On Question, Amendment negatived.

LORD NEWTON : My Lords, Amendment No. 126A and the following Amendment go together. They improve the wording of the last part of subsection (4) of the clause, which is at present narrower—in referring only to the "appointment" of staff—than subsection (1)(*a*), which refers to "joint use" of staff. The Amendments introduce the term "employed" into subsection (4), in addition to "appointed", and thus makes the wording accord more appropriately with that of subsection (1). I beg to move.

Amendment moved—

Page 49, line 22, leave out ("appointment of").—(*Lord Newton.*)

On Question, Amendment agreed to.

LORD NEWTON : My Lords, I beg to move Amendment No. 126B.

Amendment moved—

Page 49, line 23, leave out ("made") and insert ("appointed or employed").—(*Lord Newton.*)

On Question, Amendment agreed to.

5.34 p.m.

BARONESS SUMMERSKILL moved to add to subsection (4):

"and the professional staff so appointed shall subject to the provisions of section 121 of the Local Government Act 1933 hold office during the joint pleasure of the said Authority and the council concerned".

The noble Baroness said: My Lords, in moving this Amendment I will confess that I am not going to press the noble Lord to give me a promise in this matter. The Amendment is more of a probing nature, and therefore I would ask him to give it his consideration.

As the clause is drafted, care is taken to see that professional staff are appointed in accordance with whatever scheme has been approved jointly by the Minister of Health and the Minister of Education. The noble Lord will recollect that an earlier Amendment sought to see that there would be consultation about conditions of service, and it is to be presumed that this consultation would be on the basis that the professional staff appointed were the joint employees of the Inner London Education Authority and the council concerned. If the Government envisage that some staff will be in the employ of the Education Authority and others in the service of the local health authority, and that arrangements will be made for all of them to work partly for one authority and partly for the other, surely it should be made clear. It does not seem to me to be clear as the Bill is drafted. It seems that this clause has been drafted without sufficient thought being given to its practical application, and I think the noble Lord would agree that perhaps at this stage of the Bill, when we have been defeated time after time on questions of principle, we should now all apply our minds to the practical application of it. That is what we are trying to do here in a most constructive way, because in my opinion insufficient thought has been given to this aspect in drafting this clause. I beg to move.

Amendment moved—

Page 49, line 24, at end insert the said words.—(*Baroness Summerskill.*)

LORD NEWTON: My Lords, the noble Baroness said that this is mainly a probing Amendment. I am obliged to her for introducing this matter. Since it is rather complicated I hope that I may be forgiven if I give a rather longer answer than I might otherwise have done. Naturally, the Government agree that whenever an officer is working both in the school health service and in the borough health service it is essential that he should give satisfaction to both the Inner London Education Authority and the borough concerned; and that if he loses the confidence of either, the two authorities should consult and agree what is to be done. In the case of all junior staff this process will be greatly simplified if the senior professional officer advising each authority as medical officer of health of the borough and principal school medical officer of the I.L.E.A. for the area of that borough is one and the same person.

Consultation and agreement on the employment of any officer working for both authorities will be expected, whatever sort of contract or contracts the

[Lord Newton.]
officer holds, and whatever the arrangements are for the joint use of his services between the two authorities. But the words used in the Amendment, that the officers shall hold office during " the joint pleasure " of the two authorities, would be appropriate only if the officer concerned had a single contract with the I.L.E.A. and a London borough acting as joint employers. Its effect would then be that the joint employers would have to act jointly if they wished to terminate the appointment—subject to any period of notice agreed in accordance with Section 121 of the Local Government Act, 1933. But a joint contract in any event would be likely to provide for such joint termination, and so, even in this context, I would suggest that this Amendment is unnecessary.

But in fact it is not expected that the joint use of staff will necessarily take the form of a joint appointment under the single contract. It is probable that in most cases it will be more convenient for the officer to hold separate contracts of appointment with his two employing authorities. This is a common arrangement now when a medical officer of a county council is appointed also as medical officer of health of an existing borough or district council. It is likely to be appropriate under the new arrangements in London for both senior and junior medical officers.

For example, a junior medical officer on the staff of a borough may be selected to act also as a junior school medical officer on the staff of the Inner London Education Authority. In his career with the borough he may well serve at other times in other posts in which he will not be concerned at all with the school health service, and it is only during the period in which he is so concerned that he will be employed also by the Inner London Education Authority. It would therefore be convenient that during that period he should have a separate contract with the Inner London Education Authority, to give an agreed portion of his time to school health work, which would be terminated when he moved later in his career to a different post under the borough health service only. His appointment then on the staff of the borough would continue without interruption. If, during the period when he is working both for the I.L.E.A. and the borough, the I.L.E.A. become dissatisfied with his service for any reason, it may be necessary to move him from his school health work and replace him by another of the borough's medical staff who is more acceptable to the I.L.E.A. ; but it does not necessarily follow that he is unsuitable for some other post in the borough's wide range of health services. Therefore, the borough may wish his contract with them to remain in force.

In some other cases it may be convenient for an officer of a borough to hold a contract with the borough only, arrangements being made for him to give an agreed part of his time to the service of the I.L.E.A., with reimbursement of part of his salary by the I.L.E.A. Here again, his service in the dual capacity should continue only so long as he gives satisfaction to both authorities, but termination of these arrangements should not necessarily lead to complete termination of his appointment with the borough. These arrangements are thought likely to be suitable for some nursing and professional officers as well as doctors.

There are special considerations which apply to the top posts of medical officer of health of any new London borough and principal school medical officer of the I.L.E.A. for the area of that borough, and of chief dental officer and principal school dental officer. If the two medical posts and the two dental posts were each held by one person in each borough area, and either of these officers lost the confidence of either if his two employers, a serious situation would arise and it would be necessary for the two authorities to consult and agree as to whether his employment should continue. In these cases there would be no possibility of movement to a different post under one authority only, and the officer would either have to stay in both posts or leave both.

But even for these posts, the terms of the noble Baroness's Amendment are not entirely appropriate. The medical officer of health of each borough will be subject to the special provisions of Section 110 of the Local Government Act, 1933 (which is applied to London boroughs by paragraph 16 of Schedule 4 of the Bill) under which his appointment can be terminated by the borough

council only with the consent of my right honourable friend the Minister of Health or directly by my right honourable friend. This will apply whether he holds separate contracts of employment with the borough and the I.L.E.A., or a single contract with the two jointly. The Amendment makes no reference to Section 110—I am not complaining about that, but am just pointing out that it does not do so—and because it does not do so it is not appropriate to the appointment of a medical officer of health.

My Lords, I apologise for this long and complicated explanation. What it amounts to is that, in our view, the Amendment is in some aspects too restrictive in its effect and in others is not appropriate. Perhaps the noble Baroness would care to read to-morrow what I have said, as it is rather complicated. I hope she will then see that what I have said is not unreasonable and that, for the moment at any rate, she will be prepared to let the Amendment go.

LORD MORRISON OF LAMBETH: My Lords, my noble friend Baroness Summerskill will no doubt have to reflect on what the noble Lord has said, because she must decide—and I have no doubt she will decide wisely—whether or not to press this Amendment. She cannot very well wait until to-morrow morning to read *Hansard*.

What worries me is this. The more I think about this arrangement in regard to school medical services, the more clumsy, complicated and risky it appears to me to be. The probability is that the medical officer of health of the borough will be the school medical officer of the education authority for that borough. I understand that to be accepted. The tendency is going to be that in the case of the education authority's not being satisfied with the work of the borough medical officer, and the borough council, on the other hand, being satisfied with his services (and, on the whole, local authorities have a tendency to be satisfied with their chief officer's services, perhaps sometimes a little too much), the borough council will be likely to resist the suggestion of the Inner London Education Authority that the medical officer of the borough, who is also the school medical officer of the education authority, should be gently moved out of his job. First of all the Minister has to give consent, but, apart from that, first of all they have to get the agreement of the borough. The borough will have an instinct to stand by their own medical officer of health. Therefore I think that these joint appointments are a clumsy arrangement altogether.

LORD NEWTON: My Lords, may I clear up one point? The Minister of Health has power of his own initiative to terminate the appointment, without the agreement of the borough.

LORD MORRISON OF LAMBETH: Yes, I appreciate that. I thought I had covered that in what I said. It is true that the Minister of Health has power to remove the medical officer. It is also true that if the borough want to remove him the Minister has to consent. I do not complain about that, because that was to protect the medical officer against slum landlords who might have been members of the borough council. But this business of joint appointments for a job is all wrong; and the principal school medical officer should have been, as we urged, an officer of the education authority, and so should the chief dental officer. However, we have heard the debate; it is a point that is arguable; but I feel that in principle we are right. It is for my noble friend who moved the Amendment to decide whether or not it is worth pressing.

BARONESS SUMMERSKILL: My Lords, the noble Lord has taken a great deal of trouble in examining this question, and I will read it to-morrow morning. Therefore I propose to give the noble Lord the benefit of the doubt on this occasion. I beg leave to withdraw the Amendment.

Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

5.49 p.m.

LORD NEWTON: My Lords, this Amendment fulfils the purpose of Amendment No. 128 which has been put down by the noble Baroness and other noble Lords. It defines "professional staff" for the purpose of Clause 32. I am going to suggest to your Lordships that my Amendment is a slight improvement on that put down by the noble Baroness. It seemed to me preferable to put down my Amendment rather than say that I would accept

[Lord Newton.]
the noble Baroness's Amendment in principle and then come back at a later stage with my own version. Professional staff are defined as medical officers, dental officers, nurses and health visitors, and the possibility is left open of adding other specialist staff later on. I am not able to say what other specialist staff might be jointly used by the school health service and the rest of the health services; this is, after all, a detail which must be left for consideration at a later stage.

Amendment No. 128, the noble Baroness's Amendment, makes no provision for resolving possible differences of view between the Inner London Education Authority and the council concerned as to what specialist staff should be brought under the scheme. My Amendment enables the two Ministers concerned to resolve this difference in the same way as other problems which may arise in working out joint arrangements under Clause 32. That is why I suggest to your Lordships that my Amendment is preferable to that of the noble Baroness. But, in general, it does the same thing, and I hope that it will be acceptable to your Lordships. I beg to move.

Amendment moved—

Page 49, line 29, at end insert—

("(5A) In this section the expression 'professional staff' in relation to any scheme thereunder means medical officers, dental officers, nurses, health visitors and such other specialist staff as may be specified in that scheme"). —(*Lord Newton.*)

BARONESS SUMMERSKILL: My Lords, I must admit that this is a most curious situation, and I feel that, having accepted one of my Amendments, the noble Lord was advised, in case he appeared subsequently to be vulnerable, to anticipate my next Amendment. I thank him for defining this. I think he will agree with me that this is a very curious situation in a Bill of this size. In my Parliamentary career I have helped to debate very large measures, and generally at the end in some Schedule there is a definition. I was very surprised to find that in this big Bill there was this quite serious omission of a definition of a most important category of workers. The noble Lord has recognised that that is an omission, and has anticipated my Amendment and introduced one of his own which he feels meets all the points.

I was not quite clear about what he said finally. Do the Government agree that the Inner London Education Authority must have the power to settle its own school health service establishment, its being understood, of course, that the establishment will be made up of officers working part-time in each of the authorities? It is a very curious position, as the noble Lord will realise. There are thirteen authorities concerned. Is he leaving it to the Inner London Education Authority to settle the establishment? The position is quite unprecedented: never before has such a situation arisen. As the noble Lord has anticipated my Amendment, I will not press him to give me an answer, but perhaps he could write to me on that point.

LORD SHEPHERD: My Lords, I would just ask whether the noble Lord, Lord Newton, could respond in this way. There is a difference between the Amendment moved by the noble Lord, Lord Newton, and Amendment No. 128, because Amendment No. 127A specifies "such other specialist staff as may be specified in that scheme".
From that, of course, one could say that the position adopted by the Government will not be quite as flexible as that in Amendment No. 128, because the scheme would have been approved and it would seem to preclude the inclusion of a particular type of specialist who might be required but was not provided for in the scheme.

May I take it that, if that is the case and inclusion cannot take place because of the limitation of the scheme, the Minister will use his power to amend the scheme in such a way that a specialist who does not appear in the original scheme can later be included if either of the authorities wish that that shall be done? I do not know whether the noble Lord quite appreciates the limitation that is imposed by the Government. I do not think they really intend that there should be this limitation. Could the noble Lord say that the Minister of Health could vary the scheme in such a way that a new specialist who was not included in the scheme could be included later?

LORD NEWTON: My Lords, may I say that I think the noble Lord is right in his suggestion as to what could be done in the circumstances which he mentioned. I think that is the answer, but if I am wrong I will let him know.

LORD SHEPHERD: Would the noble Lord just look into it and consider it?

On Question, Amendment agreed to.

BARONESS SUMMERSKILL moved, after subsection (6), to insert:

"(7) Nothing in the foregoing provisions of this section or any scheme approved thereunder shall derogate from the power of the Inner London Education Authority to appoint—

(*a*) a principal school medical officer in general charge of the school health service and responsible to the Authority for the efficient conduct of the service in the interests of the health and welfare of pupils; and

(*b*) a principal school dental officer in charge of the school dental service and responsible to the principal school medical officer for its efficient operation."

The noble Baroness said: My Lords, I think the noble Lord will agree that he has in effect accepted two of the five Amendments which I have already moved, which I think has proved to him that the Government can be fallible. They have in these technical matters made two mistakes, and the Amendment I am going to move now proves again that they have overlooked the most important aspect of the work of this particular social service, the health service of London.

The Bill proposes to break up the school health service as at present constituted in inner London into thirteen independent boroughs, and I ask noble Lords to forgive my having had to repeat this time after time on other stages of the Bill. The specialist school health service staff of the Inner London Education Authority will therefore find themselves responsible to thirteen different school medical officers with different ideas and different standards. This will mean that the committees of the Inner London Education Authority will have to be advised by those thirteen different medical officers. Doctors are individualists and they approach matters of health, of public health and of administration in different ways, and they are never afraid of expressing their views. Each of them believes that he is right, and in this case the service will be subject to the advice, views and criticism of thirteen different medical men and women.

I want to emphasise this point. The committees may receive conflicting views, and nobody in the world of medical science, and in this particular field of administration, can say that one of those thirteen medical officers is right or wrong. Of course there will be nobody to resolve these problems. There will not be a speaker among those thirteen. They are peers in their own field, and there will not be one of them who will be able to accept the opinions of some and to reject the opinions of others.

These difficulties will arise particularly with regard to the special schools, both day and boarding. In my opinion, it is necessary to have one co-ordinating school medical officer. I do not believe that you have to have special knowledge of this matter to realise that there should be one person who will say, "This is how these institutions should be administered". I would remind noble Lords that these special schools will, of course, be serving very large areas. For the sake of tidy administration, there should be one person who can say, "This is the right way to administer these schools". I have raised this matter before, and I raised it on Committee stage. I asked the noble Lord many questions then, and he did not answer one of them. I now want to know precisely how the Government feel after having had some time to think about it. The question I want to ask is: how will the Inner London Education Authority receive advice on policy and give instructions to its school medical personnel without appointing a chief medical officer?

I do hope now that the noble Lord will come to the House and say once more that he agrees with me. I am sure he will not regret it. He will avoid confusion; he will avoid all kinds of difficulties. I do not quite repeat what I said on the first Amendment, which he accepted, but when these doctors find that they are unable to do their work properly, and when they find that their views are rejected in a rather arbitrary manner by people they feel know no better than themselves and whose position is precisely the same as their own, then they will feel, I think, that they should make representations in the right quarter, and the right quarter generally is the

[Baroness Summerskill.]
Ministry. I do ask the noble Lord to think about this again, and to accept the Amendment. I beg to move.

Amendment moved—

Page 49, line 35, at end insert the said subsection.—(*Baroness Summerskill.*)

6.2 p.m.

LORD SHEPHERD: My Lords, I think that this Amendment strikes at the very heart of the principle of local government. I believe the Minister will agree that this Amendment is in fact permissive. It lays upon the education authority the onus and responsibility of whether a principal school medical officer should be appointed—and the position is the same in the case of a dental officer. The Government have set up special local authority to deal with education. Is it right that the Government should take the view at this stage that this authority, with all its responsibilities, should not be able to decide how they will in fact administer those responsibilities? I cannot believe there is any educational authority in the country that could possibly operate without having a chief medical officer. I will appeal to noble Lords opposite: if they were serving on an authority—no matter what its responsibility—would they not wish to have the power to appoint such officers as they felt were necessary to advise them and to carry out any instructions that that particular authority had decided.

The Government say that this education authority shall not have the power to appoint a chief medical officer. They have got to operate, without any choice, through thirteen different medical officers. Can any of us in this House, while saying that we support local authority and the responsibility, the decision, of local authority, also say that in this Bill we should preclude from them the power to appoint such officers as they may from time to time think fit to appoint? That is in fact what the Government will be doing by refusing to accept this Amendment, as they did on Committee stage. This Amendment is permissive. It permits the educational authority which this Government are setting up to decide how they shall first of all administer the school health service, and whether they should be able to appoint such an official as they may think fit at that time to give them advice in this matter.

As I said earlier, I think that this Amendment strikes at the very heart of good local government responsibility. I feel that the Government should be pressed to accept this important Amendment. I cannot believe that, in principle, there is anything to divide us on it, other than of course the Government's obstinacy at this present stage in meeting this important point. My Lords, the question rests: should a local authority have the right to choose its officers?

LORD NEWTON: My Lords, this is exactly the same Amendment as the noble Baroness moved in Committee. She has complained, for the second time this afternoon, that when we were debating this Amendment in Committee I did not reply to any of her questions. I have no recollection of not having replied to her questions, but, if I did not, I suppose the reason was that I thought that possibly the questions I ignored did not have a strict bearing on the Amendment which the noble Baroness was moving. I am trying to think why it happened that I failed to give any satisfaction to the noble Baroness.

I made a rather long speech about this in Committee, and explained why we are opposed to this Amendment as a matter of principle. I do not want to repeat myself, but I pointed out in my speech during the Committee stage that Clause 32 as drafted does not prevent the appointment by the I.L.E.A. of medical or dental officers of its own, not shared by the boroughs, at any professional level, provided that this is agreed after consultation between all the interested parties, including the I.L.E.A. itself, the boroughs and the responsible Ministers. I cannot see what objection the noble Baroness and her noble friends take to agreement to this provision. Her Amendment would allow the Inner London Education Authority to take a unilateral decision on this, irrespective of the views of the other parties.

The object of Clause 32 is to integrate the school medical service, which will be the responsibility of the I.L.E.A., in inner London, with the personal health service, which will be the responsibility of the boroughs. This is in accordance with general practice throughout the country. The health and education

authorities, which are the same councils but which operate through different committees, share their professional staff, and the positions of medical officers of health and school officers are held by the same person. It was suggested in Committee, I believe by the noble Earl, Lord Longford, that this arrangement in inner London would place an undue burden on the shoulders of medical officers of health, or words to that effect. I said I would look into that aspect. I have, and what I have learnt is that, elsewhere in the country, this dual rôle, if you like, has not been found to be an undue burden on the shoulders of medical officers of health. In any event, the authorities concerned will have to provide adequate supporting staff for the principal officers.

If the Inner London Education Authority had a principal school medical officer with general oversight over the borough medical officers of health—which is what the noble Baroness wants—in the discharge of their responsibility for the school health service within their boroughs, that would mean that the borough medical officer of health would not have full responsibility for the school health service in his own area. He would be subject to the instructions of the principal school medical officer. Of course he would be. That is the object of the Amendment. But the latter officer, the principal school medical officer, would cover only the school health service and would have no responsibility for the other health services with which it must be closely integrated.

Surely nobody can dispute that these services should be integrated. That he should be in a position to supervise the borough medical officers of health who would have this wider view of all health services, would, in our view, be most undesirable, because, apart from this inherent disadvantage in the Amendment put forward by the noble Baroness, the post of principal school medical officer would not be likely to attract people of the right quality, in view of the restricted activity, because he would be largely an administrator. The noble Baroness did not agree about that; she thought it would be a post which would attract men and women of high quality. All I can say, with respect, is that I must disagree. The advice given to me is that such a post would not be likely to attract a really keen doctor.

On the question of how the Inner London Education Authority is to receive advice about the running of the school medical services I would recall that in Committee I suggested ways in which the Inner London Education Authority could get advice on general policy: it is set out, in black and white, in *Hansard*. The point is that details of this kind, of how they are to get the advice they want, could surely be worked out by those concerned and interested when they come to draw up the schemes required by Clause 32. There is nothing in the Bill which pre-judges the nature of this, and no decision can be reached on this until those concerned have formed their views and expressed them. So, at the risk of again being called obstinate by the noble Baroness, I must adhere to the line which I took in the Committee stage.

LORD MORRISON OF LAMBETH: My Lords, I am not sure that it would be altogether fair to accuse the noble Lord of obstinacy. I said last week about one noble Lord, I think it was the Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, that I had great sympathy with him. The noble Lord has his brief: he is ordered what to say, and he has said it, despite the fact that it is a hopeless case. He has said it to the best of his ability. I have some sympathy with Parliamentary Secretaries in this House whose Ministers are in another place, because they are—not gagged, but at any rate, ordered what to say, either by the Minister or, quite likely, by the higher civil servants in the Department. We have been getting on very well with the noble Lord this afternoon. In fact my noble friend Lady Summerskill almost got quite friendly with him because—very wisely—he accepted two Amendments, but now even her patience is getting exhausted, like that of another gentleman some years ago.

LORD NEWTON: Not a happy parallel.

LORD MORRISON OF LAMBETH: I agree that it was not with a happy result.

LORD NEWTON: I said, "Not a happy parallel".

LORD MORRISON OF LAMBETH: No, but it was not happy for him, in the end, so I should not advise the noble Lord to run that analogy too far. The Government have certain arguments on this matter, none of which succeeds, and the whole trouble arises from the fact that they want to split up as many London services as they can, so that London local government lacks stability, lacks vigour and is weak. I think they go to bed at night looking for machine guns trained on them from County Hall over the river, they are so anxious to break it up. The noble Lord brings up the argument of the county borough, where the school medical service and the local health service are supervised by the same medical officer of health. Of course they are. That is a silly argument to bring up. It is one council, the county borough council, and it is supreme over the committees of the council involved in these services. Here, the Government have deliberately separated the school medical service from the other health services, and the argument is that it is essential because there must be coherence between the two services. I can only say, looking at the London health service over many years, that this thing has worked.

Would the noble Lord, or somebody else (since he has perhaps exhausted his right to speak—though we should be glad to grant him permission to speak again, if he can meet this point) tell us how the London County Council medical and dental service has suffered because it was not run by the metropolitan borough councils but was separate from them? He does not say—in fact he would not like to say—that the London County Council school medical service was bad. Even the Department which briefed him would not say that. It was good; and it worked. Moreover, until the National Health Service Act, 1948, was passed maternity and child welfare, for example, were under the metropolitan boroughs; and so were a number of other health services. Nevertheless, the school medical service worked very well indeed, and there was good feeling between the boroughs.

Of all the ways to create bad feeling between local authorities this is the way to do it. There is to be no principal school medical officer. "But", says the noble Lord, "they can appoint a school medical officer of their own"—though presumably not the principal one. They can appoint a dental officer; but again not a principal one. But the noble Lord says they can get advice from these officers—from the thirteen borough medical officers of health. It is an unlucky number anyway—but thirteen, my Lords! They also say that they can solve the problem of there being no principal officer by having a rotating chairman, every quarter or every year, who can speak for the boroughs. One borough medical officer cannot speak for the other twelve. Anybody experienced in local government will know that chief officers of local authorities often disagree. It is quite natural that they should—and sometimes they are pretty tenacious. But as to the school medical services the poor Inner London Education Authority is to be advised, according to the Government, by thirteen borough medical officers.

The Government have no sense of public administration. It is an example of the utter incompetence of the Government in the organisation of local government; and it arises from their separation of local authorities in order to destroy local government in London, so far as they can. Are these thirteen all going to be sitting around the committee table? If so, there will possibly be more medical officers than members. Then the Government say that they can have a chairman; and I suppose that the school medical officer and the dental officer will be there, and they, if necessary, can have a nice argument between themselves.

No, my Lords; the better way would have been to have a principal school medical officer and a principal school dental officer, and if they behave themselves, as they do, they can live at peace with the borough medical officers of health. But it will be much more difficult for thirteen borough medical officers of health to live at peace with the Inner London Education Authority. I realise that the noble Lord cannot help it—he is "landed" with this baby. What sort of a baby it is he will find out in due course. I believe that there will be breakdowns in these services merely because the Government are obdurate and have a

passion to split up London. I think they are quite unstable mentally in resisting the Amendment which my noble friend has moved.

THE EARL OF LONGFORD: I should like to support very strongly the arguments which have been put forward by my noble friend Lady Summerskill, and by my noble friend Lord Morrison of Lambeth, for a principal school medical officer and a principal school dental officer. The noble Lord, Lord Newton, is terrified—or the Government are terrified—of putting in this Amendment, because they feel that it would conflict with their intentions of different arrangements by which a principal school medical officer and a principal school dental officer are going to be appointed; and they intend to veto that in practice. Perhaps I can put a question to the noble Lord, the Minister. Supposing this Amendment does not go through—and we shall be voting on it in a moment—will it still be in the power of a future Government to authorise these appointments or will that be outside their power? It is a vital question.

LORD NEWTON: The answer is, as I made clear in my speech, that provided all those concerned—the borough education authority, the Inner London Education Authority and the two Ministers—agree, these appointments can be made.

BARONESS SUMMERSKILL: My Lords, may I say the last word to the noble Lord? He has produced the same argument as on Committee. It is based on two assumptions. First, he says that our idea will not work; and, secondly, that nobody would apply for the posts. He has no evidence of this: the position is quite unprecedented. For this reason I cannot accept the Minister's argument and would ask my noble friends to divide.

6.22 p.m.

On Question, Whether the said Amendment (No. 129) shall be agreed to?

Their Lordships divided: Contents, 23; Not-Contents, 54.

CONTENTS

Alexander of Hillsborough, E.
Amulree, L.
Attlee, E.
Burden, L. [*Teller.*]
Champion, L.
Crook, L.
Henderson, L.
Latham, L.
Lawson, L.
Lindgren, L.
Listowel, E.
Longford, E.
Lucan, E. [*Teller.*]
Milner of Leeds, L.
Morrison of Lambeth, L.
Rathcreedan, L.
Shackleton, L.
Shepherd, L.
Stonham, L.
Strang, L.
Summerskill, B.
Williams, L.
Wootton of Abinger, B.

NOT-CONTENTS

Ailwyn, L.
Albemarle, E.
Aldington, L.
Ampthill, L.
Carrington, L.
Cawley, L.
Chelmer, L.
Chesham, L.
Cholmondeley, M.
Colgrain, L.
Colville of Culross, V.
Craigton, L.
Denham, L.
Derwent, L.
Devonshire, D.
Dilhorne, L. (*L. Chancellor.*)
Eccles, L.
Ferrers, E.
Forster of Harraby, L.
Fortescue, E.
Glentanar, L.
Goschen, V. [*Teller.*]
Grenfell, L.
Hailsham, V. (*L. President.*)
Hanworth, V.
Hastings, L.
Hawke, L.
Howard of Glossop, L.
Howe, E.
Iddesleigh, E.
Jellicoe, E.
Jessel, L.
Long, V.
Lothian, M.
MacAndrew, L.
Malmesbury, E.
Mancroft, L.
Margesson, V.
Mersey, V.
Mills, V.
Milverton, L.
Monk Bretton, L.
Monsell, V.
Newton, L.
Ormonde, M.
Perth, E.
St. Aldwyn, E. [*Teller.*]
St. Oswald, L.
Sandys, L.
Spens, L.
Strathclyde, L.
Stuart of Findhorn, V.
Waldegrave, E.
Waleran, L.

Resolved in the negative, and Amendment disagreed to accordingly.

Clause 34 [*Youth employment service*]:

THE EARL OF LONGFORD: My Lords, I should like the advice of the noble Lord, Lord Newton, as to what is convenient. I could make a long speech in favour of our next Amendment, to omit subsection (4), but it may be that he could reduce the length of my speech by arguing the case against the Amendment. It might save a certain amount of time. Would he care to state his attitude to the Amendment?

LORD NEWTON: My Lords, I do not mind when I speak. I should speak only once. If the noble Earl wishes me to state my views now, I am perfectly willing to do so. If there is to be a review of the educational arrangements in inner London, it is sensible and logical that there should also be a review of the arrangements for the youth employment service to be provided by the I.L.E.A., because a large part of its work will be with boys and girls leaving school, and it will be affected by the proposals for changing the functions of the I.L.E.A. Therefore, the two reviews stand and fall together and since your Lordships have decided that the first one should stand, I am bound to suggest that the only sensible thing to do is to provide that the second review of the youth employment service should also stand.

THE EARL OF LONGFORD: My Lords, the noble Lord is entitled to use the expression that your Lordships' House is in favour of the review of the first kind. That is the view of the majority of the House and, therefore, I suppose I must accept the noble Lord's phraseology, although some of us regard it as utterly asinine.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR (LORD DILHORNE): My Lords, did the noble Earl move this Amendment? I am not quite sure. I did not put the Question.

THE EARL OF LONGFORD: My Lords, I beg to move. I am extremely sorry if I failed to make my meaning sufficiently plain. I would like to inform the noble Lord that there is a good deal in what he said. Both of these reviews, equally foolish in our opinion, hang together. As he said, the majority favoured the one and the minority disliked it, and the majority may approve this second review and the minority may be against it. So, following his line of argument, I agree that those who dislike these reviews should vote against them, and that is what I suggest the House should do.

Amendment moved—

Page 51, line 22, leave out subsection (4). —(*The Earl of Longford.*)

6.34 p.m.

On Question, Whether the said Amendment (No. 130) shall be agreed to?

Their Lordships divided: Contents, 20; Not-Contents, 51.

CONTENTS

Alexander of Hillsborough, E.
Attlee, E.
Burden, L. [*Teller.*]
Champion, L.
Crook, L.
Henderson, L.
Latham, L.
Lawson, L.
Lindgren, L.
Listowel, E.
Longford, E.
Lucan, E. [*Teller.*]
Milner of Leeds, L.
Morrison of Lambeth, L.
Shackleton, L.
Shepherd, L.
Stonham, L.
Summerskill, B.
Williams, L.
Wootton of Abinger, B.

NOT-CONTENTS

Ailwyn, L.
Albemarle, E.
Aldington, L.
Ampthill, L.
Chelmer, L.
Chesham, L.
Cholmondeley, M.
Colgrain, L.
Colville of Culross, V.
Craigton, L.
Denham, L.
Derwent, L.
Devonshire, D.
Dilhorne, L. (*L. Chancellor.*)
Eccles, L.
Ferrers, E.
Forster of Harraby, L.
Fortescue, E.
Glentanar, L.
Goschen, V. [*Teller.*]
Grenfell, L.
Hailsham, V. (*L. President.*)
Hanworth, V.
Hastings, L.
Hawke, L.
Howard of Glossop, L.
Jellicoe, E.
Jessel, L.
Kinnoull, E.
Long, V.
Lothian, M.
MacAndrew, L.
Malmesbury, E.
Margesson, V.
Mersey, V.
Mills, V.
Milverton, L.
Monk Bretton, L.
Monsell, V.
Newton, L.
Ormonde, M.
Perth, E.
St. Aldwyn, E. [*Teller.*]
St. Oswald, L.
Sandys, L.
Spens, L.
Strang, L.
Strathclyde, L.
Stuart of Findhorn, V.
Waldegrave, E.
Waleran, L.

Resolved in the negative, and Amendment disagreed to accordingly.

Clause 35 [*Sewers and sewage disposal works*]:

LORD HASTINGS: My Lords, Clause 35 requires the Greater London Council to make a survey of all sewers and sewage disposal works serving their sewerage area, and if they consider that any such sewer is, or should become, a main sewer, or that any sewage disposal works is necessary for their duties under the Bill, to take steps to vest the sewer or works in themselves. On reflecting on this matter further, we felt that it was not necessary or appropriate, in view of what I have just said, for London borough or district councils to have a power to request the Greater London Council to vest in themselves a borough or district council sewer, with a right of appeal to the Minister if the Greater London Council refuse. The provision might conceivably even have undesirable effects, since it would make it possible for a borough council to upset the Greater London Council's programme for vesting main sewers and disposal works by requiring them to take over a sewer before they were ready to do so. This Amendment, by removing the little figure (2), has the effect of relieving the London borough and district councils of that power. I beg to move.

Amendment moved—

Page 53, line 21, leave out ("(2)").—(*Lord Hastings.*)

LORD CROOK: My Lords, we on this side of the House are satisfied.

On Question, Amendment agred to.

Clause 36 [*Expenditure on sewerage*]:

LORD HASTINGS: My Lords, the purpose of this Amendment is to make it clear that the provisions of Clause 36 do not prevent the borough or district council from using the powers in Clause 66 so as to charge a single unified rate for sewerage over the whole of their area. I beg to move.

Amendment moved—

Page 54, line 24, at end insert—

("(4) The foregoing provisions of this section shall have effect subject to section 66 of this Act.").—(*Lord Hastings.*)

LORD CROOK: My Lords, again we are quite happy about this Amendment.

On Question, Amendment agreed to.

Clause 39 [*Supplementary provisions relating to sewerage*]:

LORD HASTINGS: My Lords, this Amendment and the next one go together. Without them the Minister could be called upon to settle disputes between any two sewerage authorities anywhere in the country. The purpose of the Amendments is to limit the scope of the provision to the Greater London Council. That is what the Amendments do. I beg to move.

Amendment moved—

Page 57, line 20, after ("sewer") insert ("primarily serving the sewerage area of the Greater London Council").—(*Lord Hastings.*)

LORD CROOK: My Lords, we are satisfied that this clarifies the meaning of subsection (5).

On Question, Amendment agreed to.

LORD HASTINGS: My Lords, I beg to move.

Amendment moved—

Page 57, line 21, leave out from ("whether") to ("area") in line 22 and insert ("or not a sewer or sewage disposal works primarily serves a part of that area or a part of Greater London not forming part of that").—(*Lord Hastings.*)

On Question, Amendment agreed to.

Clause 40 [*General application of Public Health Acts*]:

LORD HASTINGS: My Lords, this is a drafting Amendment. I beg to move.

Amendment moved—

Page 57, line 38, at end insert ("sanitary").—(*Lord Hastings.*)

On Question, Amendment agreed to.

Clause 44 [*Cemeteries and crematoria*]:

LORD HASTINGS: My Lords, this Amendment is a precursor of Amendment No. 133C. The purpose of the Amendment is to maintain the present position in Greater London. A parish may have its burial ground in another parish. If such a burial ground is compulsorily closed the section quoted in Amendment 133C enables a chapel belonging to that burial ground to be handed over to nominees of the church authorities in the parish where it is situated. I beg to move.

Amendment moved—

Page 62, line 17, after ("and") insert ("(*a*)").—(*Lord Hastings.*)

On Question, Amendment agreed to.

LORD HASTINGS: My Lords, this is a clarifying Amendment. It ensures that an Order in Council can be made to discontinue burials in a cemetary in Greater London whether or not the cemetary was provided for an area in Greater London. I beg to move.

Amendment moved—

Page 62, line 22, after ("provided") insert ("in or").—(*Lord Hastings.*)

On Question, Amendment agreed to.

LORD HASTINGS: My Lords, I explained this Amendment when I moved No. 133A. I beg to move.

Amendment moved—

Page 62, line 24, at end insert ("and

(*b*) section 51 of the Burial Act 1852 shall apply to cemeteries in which burials are discontinued by virtue of this subsection as it applies to burial grounds in which interments are discontinued under that Act.").—(*Lord Hastings.*)

On Question, Amendment agreed to.

Schedule 9 [*Modification and re-enactment as from 1st April 1965 of enactments relating to sewerage and drainage*]:

6.47 p.m.

LORD CROOK moved, after paragraph 2, to insert:

"3. Nothing in this Act, or in any other enactment, shall be deemed to render unlawful the continuation by the Greater London Council of a discharge from a sewer, pumping station or sewage disposal works vested in them by virtue of section 35 of this Act in any case where that discharge was lawfully being made prior to 1st April 1965 by a county council, Authority or Board referred to in subsection (1) of the said section 35."

The noble Lord said: My Lords, I beg to move this Amendment. This is a matter about which there was some considerable controversy in the Committee stage, and the Amendment moved then was in exactly the same terms as that I am now moving. I am afraid, therefore, that, in order that the House should know what we desire, it is inevitable that I shall repeat some of the things that we said from this side on that occasion. The fact that we have to give your Lordships this repetition is in our view, not our fault. We think that we ought not even to have needed to move the Amendment on the Committee stage, and we certainly do not think we should have been forced into this position again. We had expected a Government Amendment to be on the Marshalled List on the occasion of the Committee stage. We had reason to expect that, because in the other place the Minister of Housing and Local Government agreed to look into the legal aspects of the point that was raised there in a similar Amendment, and he said that he would put down an Amendment, if necessary.

No Amendment was forthcoming, either in the other place or in this House, and accordingly we moved in Committee the Amendment the terms of which were exactly similar to the Amendment I am now moving. The reply which we received did not satisfy us at all in the light of the memoranda that we had had from the London County Council, based on legal advice which that Council had received. Finally, the noble and learned Lord on the Woolsack said [OFFICIAL REPORT, Vol. 250 (No. 89), col. 462]:

"If there is really serious ground for thinking the law is as the noble Lord has been advised, I should certainly like to see our intentions made clearer, because I do not think the position ought to remain that a great authority such as the Greater London Council is going to be, should be faced with any such choice."

In the light of that statement we withdrew the Amendment, instead of dividing. But as we are advised at the moment, we shall not be so lightly persuaded to-day.

We see no Amendment from the Government, but we have had renewed advice from the same legal advisers of the London County Council, and I must abide by their advice. I am not a lawyer myself. That advice indicates, to use the Lord Chancellor's words when he spoke on May 23, that "there is really serious ground" for thinking that the law is as we stated. I therefore suggest to your Lordships that the Government must face up to facts. They cannot go on as they have done, in our view on this matter, in this half-and-half fashion. I refer to a "half-and-half fashion", because the noble and learned Lord who sits on the Woolsack said on May 23 [OFFICIAL REPORT, Vol. 250 (No. 89), col. 461]:

". . . one obviously does not want to set an example of law-breaking by the London County Council . . ."

That is what we have been trying to avoid throughout. We are not satisfied with the whole approach of the Government on this matter; nor do we quite understand why the Government are being so awkward about the matter.

When my noble friend put a straight question—and I am now quoting from column 457—to the noble Lord, Lord Hastings, opposite in these terms:

"As I understand it, under this Bill it will become unlawful . . . for the Council to permit any sewage to enter the River Thames. Am I or am I not right that it is unlawful?"

he received the reply:

"It could be considered unlawful."

When challenged that his phrase was a quibble, the noble Lord replying for the Government could only say:

"As in the rest of the country."

We are not prepared to see this Bill leave this House, if we can avoid it, with this double outlook. If, as we say, and as the Government admit, there is grave legal doubt, then we must put that matter beyond peradventure.

May I tell your Lordships to-night what was, and what is, in fact in question? I will try to be brief and clear though the noble Lord speaking for the Government said that this was (col. 455):

". . . a rather complicated and technical subect."

This refers to the Public Health Act, 1936, and in particular to a special provision of it, in Section 30, which says:

"Nothing in this Part of this Act shall authorise a local authority to construct or use any public or other sewer, or any drain or outfall, for the purpose of conveying foul water into any natural or artificial stream . . . until the water has been so treated as not to affect prejudicially the purity and quality . . ."

The noble Lord, speaking for the Government, said:

"Of course, under the general law, there is always an absolute prohibition against causing a nuisance in the exercise of sewerage powers to which the London County Council itself is subject, as are all other authorities throughout the country."

Later in his speech the noble Lord went on to say [col. 456]:

". . . it is better to bring the Greater London Council into conformity with the rest of the country in respect of storm water outflows . . ."

That is the first point of the problem. The Government do not seem to us to be sure about the matter and, if I may, I will repeat the two quotations, because they make it clear:

". . . the London County Council itself is subject, as are all other authorities throughout the country."

The second quotation is:

". . . it is better to bring the Greater London Council into conformity with the rest of the country . . .".

What the Government face in this matter is the choice of either allowing the Greater London Council to discharge sewage into the Thames when it is unavoidable during a storm, or, alternatively, to allow large areas of London to run the risk of being flooded, filling basements, homes and offices, and with disaster and disease coming in the wake of these floods. There is another section of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, which the Government remain adamant in their desire to repeal in this Bill. I am referring to Section 28(1)(*a*). The repeal of that section takes away any protection of the Council, for thereunder they are merely required to prevent sewage passing into the Thames as far as practicable. With that repeal, the restriction of Section 30 of the Public Health Act, 1936, which I have read to your Lordships, would in fact apply.

As was pointed out during Committee stage, the sewers in the County of London are combined sewers: that is, they receive storm water as well as sewage. It would be quite impracticable to have sewers of such a size that the huge volume of flow in times of storm can be carried to the outfall works at Barking and Erith. In order to prevent flooding, the sewers are, and must be, relieved of flow in excess of their capacity by means of gravity outfalls, or by pumping, to the River Thames. It would also be out of the range of practicability to construct a new series of separate foul and storm water sewers in London. The 60 separate storm flows to the river in the present L.C.C. area must of necessity contain sewage, even if in all the circumstances it is diluted, and it follows that the right to discharge that sewage must continue.

If the powers are not there, what is to happen in a storm? The water can build up to thirty times its ordinary flow, or even more, as my noble friend pointed out on the last occasion. The sewers are constructed to take only six times the normal dry weather flow. When there

[Lord Crook.]

are conditions such as those we have seen in quite recent days, some relief is essential. What we do not understand is why the power for this relief is denied. Why must the Greater London Council have to face the prospect of causing preventable floods or, in the alternative, of breaking the law?

We do not feel that it is reasonable for the new Council to be asked to rely upon a statement made by the noble and learned Lord on the Woolsack that if they proceed to break the law, the chances of any legal proceedings ensuring are extremely remote. Nor should they be asked to rely upon the statement of the noble Lord replying for the Government [column 455]:

". . . there is no risk that the Attorney General would, in practice, institute proceedings in respect of a storm water discharge by the Greater London Council which was clearly accidental and not due to their negligence in carrying out their duties".—

I invite your Lordships to note carefully the remainder of the Government statement as I continue my quotation—

"since it is fully recognised that sewers cannot be constructed large enough to take any overflow as a result of the storm."

The quotation ends:

"That is, in fact, what the storm water overflows are for, so that the sewers need not be of an unnecessary size."

Very well, my Lords. If that is so, let this be clear in this Bill, and let the Greater London Council start with the clear knowledge of what its powers are. I am not a lawyer, but I had always thought, from what little I did know, that it was no defence in law to say that there was reproduced in *Hansard* what a Minister had promised, or what a Government intended when they introduced a measure. I thought the courts construed the law in the terms in which it existed. Similarly, I thought that no Minister could promise —as the noble and learned Lord on the Woolsack did—as to some future Attorney General in a future Administration (and I repeat the quotation):

"There is no risk . . . that he would institute proceedings."

We ask that the Greater London Council shall start with powers, and not promises. Unless the Government can give us much better evidence than was given in Committee, we shall desire to press the Amendment. We are not prepared to agree even to a risk of homes and offices in London being flooded. For that reason, I beg to move the Amendment.

Amendment moved—

Page 168, line 17, at end insert the said paragraph.—(*Lord Crook.*)

7.0 p.m.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR: My Lords, it might be to your Lordships' convenience if I reply to this Amendment forthwith. I was a little astonished about the complaint of the noble Lord, Lord Crook, that no Amendment had been put down as yet, because I gave an undertaking, in the light of the discussions which I heard on the Committee stage, that I would examine the whole legal position and there was no commitment to put down an amendment. Indeed, I hope to satisfy your Lordships that no Amendment is necessary, and, even further, that an Amendment is undesirable.

The argument was put forward that, in consequence of this Bill's attracting the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, the Greater London Council would not have the power it is said that the London County Council have of discharging untreated sewage through storm water sewers. I think I have summarised the argument correctly. I undertook to examine the position, and I have done so. I do not, as a result of my researches, think that there is really any substance at all in this argument. I do not want to weary your Lordships with a long legal argument, but there are one or two arguments which have been put forward on law in support of this Amendment both in the Committee stage and again to-day with which I feel your Lordships would like me to deal.

The argument was put forward in the Committee Stage—and the noble Lord put it forward again to-day—that under Section 28(1)(*a*) of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, the L.C.C. have an implied power to discharge sewage into the Thames. I think that summarises the argument and I will deal with that. The noble Lord said that if this is taken away then the Greater London Council, if they have not got the benefit of that implied power, will not have the power that the L.C.C. now have of discharging it. The argument put forward on behalf of the L.C.C. is founded on

that, although my information is that in recent discussions they abandoned that argument as completely untenable, as in fact it is, because if one looks at Section 28(1)(*a*) one see that it imposes a duty on the L.C.C.

"to construct such sewers and works including works for deodorising sewage as they think necessary for securing effective sewerage and drainage, for improving the main drainage of the country and for preventing, so far as practicable, the sewerage of or within the county or any part of that sewage from passing into the Thames in or near the county".

So it is perfectly clear in its terms that the section imposes on them a duty to construct sewers which will, so far as possible, prevent sewage from passing into the Thames. That is not a section on which you can rely for saying that this gives the L.C.C. power to discharge into the Thames untreated sewage. It is a very unsound foundation for an argument that this statutory provision gives the L.C.C. the right, in certain circumstances, to discharge untreated sewage into the Thames. As I understand it, that contention, which was originally put forward by the London County Council, has now been abandoned by them as untenable.

But, my Lords, the matter does not end there because, if the noble Lord, Lord Crook, will now turn and look at Section 31(4) of the Public Health (London) Act, he will see that the London County Council are under a positive duty in disposing of any sewage to act in such a manner as not to create a nuisance. That is their position. To dispose of untreated sewage by turning it into the Thames may or may not create the nuisance, but if it does create a nuisance they are, as the law now stands, liable to have proceedings brought against them. Contrast that, if you like, with the position under the Public Health Act, 1936, as attracted by this Bill. You will see that Section 31 of the Public Health Act, 1936, provides that a local authority shall so discharge their functions under that Act as not to create a nuisance. So, so far, the two Statutes overlap and go step by step. I hope I have made that clear to the noble Lord. So, in this respect, the L.C.C. are in the same position as all other local authorities.

However, it is of course quite wrong to suggest that all other local authorities have a dual system and do not have, on occasions, great difficulties owing to storm water sweeping sewage into streams unless steps are taken to prevent it. The L.C.C. and the other local authorities cannot lawfully discharge sewage so as to create a nuisance. Whether, in fact, it creates a nuisance will depend on the particular circumstances of each case. The point I want to make so far is that there is no change in the legal position of the Greater London Council through the Bill's attracting the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936. I think that is clear and really not arguable.

I now want to come to the section on which I think the noble Lord founded quite a lot of his argument in the course of the Committee stage, namely Section 30 of the Public Health Act, 1936—not the Public Health (London) Act. That section provides that nothing in that part of the Act shall authorise a local authority to construct or use any public or other sewer for the purpose of conveying foul water into a stream or watercourse until the water has been so treated as not to affect prejudicially the purity or quality of the water in the stream or water course. So, when this is passed, the Greater London Council cannot rely on the Public Health Act, 1936, as authorising them to discharge sewage into the Thames if it will prejudicially affect the quality of the water. This section has not counterpart in the Public Health (London) Act, 1936. So, as I understand it, it is argued that the Greater London Council will be restricted as to the discharge of sewage to a greater extent than in fact the London County Council are. I do not think that really is the case. I have already drawn your Lordships' attention to the relevant provisions of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, and there is nothing in that Act on which the L.C.C. can rely as authorising them to discharge sewage so as prejudicially to affect the purity or quality of the water.

LORD MORRISON OF LAMBETH: My Lords, may I interrupt the noble and learned Lord? I am sorry that I was a little late and missed part of what the Lord Chancellor has said. Does the argument of the Lord Chancellor mean that he is affirming that the London County Council or the Greater London Council, even in a state of emergency when there is storm water or flooding

[Lord Morrison of Lambeth.]
about, cannot let even impure liquid into the Thames although, by letting them do it, they would save from extensive flooding houses, offices and factories in London?

THE LORD CHANCELLOR: The noble Lord, as he said, has not heard the whole of my argument as he has not been here all the time, and the point which he raises I have not yet reached. Certainly I am going to deal with that particular question, but I think it best that I should proceed by stages until we come to it. It is a technical matter, as the noble Lord himself said on a previous occasion, and I want to put it as clearly as I can to your Lordships in order to convince your Lordships, if I can, that there is no reason for alarm or apprehension about the position of the Greater London Council. I will come to the noble Lord's point, but there is no real dilemma there.

What I was saying—and I want to stress this point—is that the London County Council cannot rely on anything in the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, as entitling them to make a discharge which will prejudicially affect the quality and purity of the water into which the discharge is made. There is no statutory right of that kind given by that Act. So, my Lords, if in the future, and I think at the present time, the discharge of untreated sewage into the Thames prejudicially affects the purity and the quality of the river then that discharge would be unlawful, either as a nuisance or as that form of nuisance which consists of prejudicially affecting the quality or purity of water in a river.

I am on this point: the argument has been that under the Bill the Greater London Council will have less rights than the London County Council. In my submission, it is quite clear that their rights will be to all intents and purposes the same, not less and not greater. But, as I understand it from some of the arguments that your Lordships have advanced, particularly to-day, in saying the choice is between flooding a lot of places in London or of pouring out sewage into the Thames, I rather gather that your Lordships are really arguing that the Greater London Council should have what the London County Council has not got—a statutory right of discharging untreated sewage into the Thames, irrespective of what the effect might be. I could not agree with that. I am glad the noble Lord, Lord Morrison of Lambeth, agrees with me.

LORD MORRISON OF LAMBETH: What about the other effect?

THE LORD CHANCELLOR: I should like to carry on with the argument. I do not quite know what the other effect is to which the noble Lord refers. The other effect is not an alternative. The water of the Thames to-day is of such a character that it would require a great volume of untreated sewage to make it any worse, and while that is the position there can be no chance of action by anyone. That is the simple factual approach and I think it is the correct one. Some may take the view, and I certainly do, that in the years to come the quality and purity of the River Thames may be gradually improved. We pass Acts here dealing with river pollution and things of that kind, and I think it is fairly well known that it is proposed to try to apply the River Pollution Act to the Thames in this part of Greater London, in which case authority will have to be given and consent given to the discharge of sewage into the Thames. But we are not dealing with that to-day. I am on the simple and narrow point which was put against this: that by attracting the 1936 Act and not the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, we were really prejudicing the position of the Greater London Council. I can be wrong—anyone can be wrong—but I have given this matter such consideration as I can, and, as I said at the Committee stage, if I felt there was any doubt I would certainly want to see that doubt cleared up. I do not think there is, and I do not think there is any need to put down any Amendment.

I should have liked, none the less, to go some way to meet the views of your Lordships, if I could, by putting down some saving provision, but the difficulty about that is that this Section 30 applies throughout the whole of the country, and if you introduce a particular saving provision applying only to the Greater London Council then you cast a great deal of doubt as to the meaning of Section 30 in relation to the local authorities over the rest of the country. For that reason I came to the conclusion

that it really would not be right even to go as far as that. I hope I have not taken up too much of your Lordships' time, and I hope I have made the point clear. There is no Party politics in this. There really is not, in my belief, the dilemma that noble Lords sought to put forward between breaking the law at times of heavy storm or flooding a lot of cellars and basements. I do not think that choice exists as a consequence of the passage of this Bill. It will be the same position as it has been for many years under the L.C.C.

LORD SHEPHERD: My Lords, we are very grateful to the noble Lord who sits on the Woolsack for the reply that he has given this afternoon. I rise with some diffidence; as I said on Committee stage, I am happy to cross swords with him on political matters but when it comes to a question of law, that is another matter. But the first point I would make to the noble Lord is this: he suggested that the case we put on Committee stage on behalf of the London County Council has now been withdrawn by the authority.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR: My Lords, I think I made one slight error. I have some advice on this. I think I said that the L.C.C. had conceded that Section 28(1)(*a*) gave them no power to discharge. I do not think I am quite right about that, but what they have conceded is that, irrespective of any power they may have, they are liable for nuisance, which I do not think they had conceded before.

LORD SHEPHERD: I am glad the noble Lord has made that point. When we talk about "power", as the noble Lord will know, there is some difficulty on our part, and this is a considerable legal point. As I said in Committee, if we used phraseology that was unfortunate I hoped we should be forgiven. I would ask the House to consider the point. The noble Lord, the Lord Chancellor, said that this was not a question of alternative between the London County Council or the Greater London Council, which will be the main sewage authority, of either putting sewage into the Thames or pumping it into the streets.

This is a real alternative. This is a real factor. I would say to the noble Lord who sits on the Woolsack that during an average year the London County Council has put through its 60 storm outlets approximately 100 hours of storm water through each outlet. In fact the most recent occasion when they were forced to do so, I understand, was at Whitsun, when we had the heavy rain in North London. The authority has no possibility, in fact, of complying with the Public Health Act, 1936. Clause 30 of that Act says:

> "Nothing in this Part of this Act shall authorise a local authority to construct or use any public sewer or any drain or outfall for the purpose of conveying foul water into any natural or artificial stream."

When a heavy storm hits London, because of the construction of London with so very little natural seepage and drainage such as fields and the like, there is a tremendous build up of water. There is no possibility of the authority, with the best will in the world, retaining that water over a period in order to deal with it and to reduce the sewage. One might say that when a heavy storm occurs, either in the North or the South of London, there is a moment of crisis; there is a moment when the build-up of water is such that it cannot be retained, it cannot be controlled; it must, in fact, be released. Therefore, because London is so constructed—and I imagine your Lordships can appreciate this problem when you look at the streets and houses with very litte natural drainage—there is this tremendous build-up of water and the problem of the particular authority

I am quite satisfied in my own mind, without being a lawyer, that the Greater London Council and the London County Council in fact cannot comply with the Public Health Act, 1936. I believe it is utterly impossible. From the advice I have received from the engineers and those responsible for the sewage in London, I believe they have no alternative but to put the sewage into the River Thames. The only alternative to that is to pump it into the streets.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR: Is the noble Lord suggesting that putting sewage into the Thames in the present state of the Thames water is an offence?

LORD SHEPHERD: My Lords, it would be an offence under this particular section.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR: The noble Lord has, I gather, had second thoughts about the use of the words "foul water". Those words do not appear in the section.

LORD SHEPHERD: But foul water, surely, is in fact sewage.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR: You can put a certain quantity of sewage in. It depends what you put it into. If you put it into a trout stream the effect is obvious; but putting it into the River Thames may be permissible; it depends on the quantity. The test provided for in Section 30 is that it must not prejudicially affect the purity or quality of the river. There is no complete prohibition on the discharge of sewage.

LORD SHEPHERD: Am I to understand, therefore, whether it is the Thames or the main rivers in Glasgow, which are well known to be contaminated, that it would be lawful to put more contaminated material into the water and that that could be done without prosecution?

THE LORD CHANCELLOR: My Lords, I can answer that question by saying, that if it does not prejudicially affect the quality and nature of the water the answer is "Yes". That section does not prohibit it. It does not follow that the addition of sewage will not of itself constitute a nuisance, in which case that might be dealt with as a nuisance, in regard to which special considerations apply.

LORD HAWKE: My Lords, perhaps the noble Lord could help us by defining what proportion this abnormal storm water bears to the normal sewage flow upon which it is superimposed.

LORD SHEPHERD: I am not quite sure whether I caught the question aright. My noble friend suggested that during a heavy storm the diameter of the sewers is such that pressure would be so great that they are forced to release the flow because it would be built up at the far end.

LORD HAWKE: I think it is rather important, from the point of view of the sewage mixture in the Thames, to know what proportion this extra water bears to the normal flow which is all the time running through the sewers.

LORD SHEPHERD: It is not obviously sewage, but it is in fact contaminated water. The noble Lord who sits on the Woolsack has now said that we must take into account the state of the Thames. This is quite different from any advice that I have received. It seems to raise an important matter of principle. It is a great suprise to me, because I thought that one was prohibited from putting into a river any form of contaminated matter.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR: The noble Lord put that as a general question. In my answer to him I am dealing merely with Section 30 of the Public Health Act, 1936. In that provision you cannot put into a river or watercourse or stream anything that would prejudicially affect the purity and quality of the water in the stream.

LORD SHEPHERD: Then I will accept that from the noble Lord. In the meantime, I will seek other legal advice; but I would not in any way dispute his interpretation. The London County Council are quite clear—and I think their point of view must be considered—in taking the view that under the 1936 Act (here I am in dispute) there is upon them a definite prohibition. Inadvertently, on the Committee stage in regard to Clause 28 I suggested that the London County Council had a right to put sewage in. I am sorry; that was not my intention. What I tried to imply was that the words of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, were so drafted that if the authority were forced to place sewage into the Thames in a moment of crisis they would not in fact be prosecuted for it.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR: I can help the noble Lord on that. I do not want to interrupt him more than necessary. There is nothing that takes them out of the other section (I think it is Section 31) which says that they must not create a nuisance by the discharge of their sewage. Putting that sewage into the river at any particular time, if it materially affects the purity or quality of the water, may well constitute an offence.

LORD SHEPHERD: I agree with the noble Lord that there are these two factors, the creating of a nuisance and the actual putting in of diluted sewage. Presumably, in regard to a nuisance one would have to prove that a nuisance has

been created, that there was a special occurrence causing a nuisance to an individual. But, as I understand it, the position under the Bill as it now stands is that the Greater London Council if they place sewage, no matter how diluted, into the River Thames, they will in fact be creating an offence. However, we have the assurance of the noble and learned Lord on the Woolsack—and surely there is nobody higher to give us the law—and no doubt our friends on the London County Council and the Greater London Council will be much at ease to know that they will be able to put in sewage, as they have been forced to do up till to-day, and there will be no prosecution by the Attorney General.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR: I am not making any promises about that. That is obviously undesirable. I did not go so far on the Committee stage as to make any promise.

LORD SHEPHERD: You said so to-day.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR: I did not make any promise. I said—and I was expressing a personal opinion—that I thought there was no chance of that happening. But I hope that the noble Lord is not taking me as saying that sewage can be discharged with impunity into the Thames in all circumstances by the London County Council or by the Greater London Council. I am saying that if this Bill is passed in its present form there will be no material difference between the two authorities.

LORD SHEPHERD: We seem to be getting into difficulty. I am prepared to take the blame for it. I understood the noble and learned Lord who sits on the Woolsack to say that under Section 30 of the Public Health Act, 1936, if the Greater London Council puts storm water with sewage into the Thames they would not be creating an offence because of the character and quality of the River Thames. Am I right about that?

THE LORD CHANCELLOR: I did not put it that way, but the noble Lord is improving—he is getting it more nearly right. I said that you will contravene Section 30 only if what you put in prejudicially affects the quality and purity of the water that is already there. Some sewage that goes along with storm water may be a little bit purer than the Thames is in certain parts.

LORD SHEPHERD: I hope we are not playing with words. Obviously, if you put in sewage you in fact reduce the quality of the water, unless of course there is a greater flow of fresh water to help purify the Thames. But I will take this from the Lord Chancellor. This is important, and it is not a political matter. I am not trying to be clever about it; it is a matter of considerable importance. Can we take it, therefore, that the Greater London Council by this Bill will be in no worse position in the eyes of the law if they carry on the practice that they are forced to carry on to-day, of putting storm water with sewage into the Thames in moments of crisis? And that their position in regard to nuisance—because in their view the position has changed—again has been in no way affected?

THE LORD CHANCELLOR: Certainly I will do my best to comfort the noble Lord. He will perhaps gain some comfort from the fact that, over all the years that the L.C.C. have done it, I think I am right in saying with comparative impunity, there have been some proceedings brought against them for nuisance in regard to the discharge of sewage into the Thames; but those have been particular cases. No doubt that will happen in the future. I can give no assurance that it will not. But I do not think the risk is any greater, so far as the Greater London Council is concerned, by the mere fact of Section 30 in the Public Health Act, 1936.

LORD SHEPHERD: So we have at least achieved this result: that the Greater London Council will, in fact, in the view of the Government, be in no worse position than the L.C.C. are to-day. If that is the case, I would advise my noble friends to consider this matter between now and Third Reading, when perhaps we shall have obtained some further advice.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR: My Lords, I said when I replied to the noble Lord, Lord Crook, that I did not think there was any material difference between the present position of the London County Council and the position of the Greater London Council.

LORD SHEPHERD: We will look at the matter, which, as I say, is not a Party matter but one in which the authorities are very much concerned. On behalf of my noble friend I beg leave to withdraw the Amendment.

Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

[*The sitting was suspended at twenty-nine minutes before eight o'clock and resumed at half past eight o'clock.*]

LORD HASTINGS: My Lords, paragraph 2 of Part II of Schedule 9 prohibits a local authority from "vesting in themselves a sewer or sewage disposal works" already vested in another authority. There seems to be no real reason why a London borough and county district councils should not have the same power as local authorities outside London, to vest in themselves sewers vested in another authority at the request of that authority. The effect of this Amendment is to give them that power except in relation to the Greater London Council. The Greater London Council's power for taking over sewers from other authorities outside their vested area continues to be wholly governed by Clause 35. I beg to move.

Amendment moved—

Page 169, line 4, leave out from ("exercisable") to end of line 5 and insert—

("(*a*) by the Greater London Council as respects a sewer or sewage disposal works which is vested in the council of a London borough or county district;

(*b*) by the council of a London borough or county district as respects a sewer or sewage disposal works which is vested in the Greater London Council.").—(*Lord Hastings.*)

On Question, Amendment agreed to.

LORD SHEPHERD: My Lords, I do not propose to move Amendment No. 135, as it is very much in line with Amendment No. 134, to which the noble and learned Lord who sits on the Woolsack replied. However, as in the case of that Amendment, I wish to take advice upon the position and reserve our position at the Third Reading.

8.32 p.m.

LORD CHAMPION moved, after paragraph 18, to insert:

"19. Section 330 shall not apply in the sewerage area of the Greater London Council.

20. Section 333 shall not apply—

(*a*) in so much of the sewerage area of the Greater London Council as is situate in an inner London borough, the City or the Temples; or

(*b*) in any other part of that area as respects works to which paragraph 4(1) of Part III of this Schedule applies."

The noble Lord said: My Lords, this Amendment was moved admirably and fully by the noble Lord, Lord Crook, on the Committee stage of the Bill, but I think it right to take some little time to explain what it is all about. Here I am discussing two Amendments, Nos. 136 and 137, together, because later on I shall ask the House to act as arbitrator, as it were, between the London County Council's point of view, on the one hand, and that of the statutory undertakers, on the other. The London County Council's powers for executing sewerage and drainage works are governed by the Public Health (London) Act, 1936. Section 29(2) of that Act prevents the council from executing any sewerage or drainage works on the banks, the bed or the shores of the Thames which may interfere—and I wish to underline that word "interfere"—with the navigation of the river, unless the Port of London Authority have given a certificate stating that they have approved the plans and that the works will not interfere with navigation. Section 78 of the same Act requires the London County Council or a metropolitan borough council, before executing any sewerage or drainage works which will interfere with a railway or canal, to serve a notice on the company concerned; and it also provides for arbitration in the case of any dispute.

The whole of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, is being repealed by this Bill and is being replaced by Section 333 of the Public Health Act, 1936, which will apply in its stead in relation to sewers. This will mean that, before the Greater London Council execute any work in, across, under or at a harbour basin, *et cetera,* or any land belonging to a dock undertaking, the Greater London Council will have to obtain the consent of the undertaking. Consent will also have to be obtained from a railway company before executing any works along, across or under a railway. Section 333 provides that consents are not to be unreasonably withheld, and provision is made for arbitration and for compensation payments.

Your Lordships may very well be asking yourselves: what is the difference between the provisions of the Public Health (London) Act and the general Public Health Act which will apply after the passing of the Bill? The London Act, both in the case of the Port of London Authority and of a railway or canal, requires consent only if interference is likely to result from the projected works. The general Public Health Act requires consent whether there is interference or not. Consent has to be given even if the proposed sewer is, as so many London sewers are, 60 feet below the property owned by any of the undertakings that I have mentioned. This will place these statutory undertakings in a peculiar and exceptional position. For example, if a sewer is to run many miles underneath London, it might at one point pass 60 feet below some property owned by the Port of London Authority or a railway undertaking, and in those circumstances the Greater London Council will have to obtain consent from the Authority or from the undertaking concerned. Whether any particular work would or would not interfere with navigation or a railway might very well be open to technical argument, but in practice a certificate from the Port of London Authority has always been sought, and notice has always been given by the London County Council to any railway under or over which the London County Council have wished to carry a sewer.

Agreement on safety measures has never brought about any difficulty between the statutory undertakings and the London County Council. In every case, so far as I am aware, they have eventually reached agreement; but not always as to any payments that might be made, for the railways have from time to time (or so it seemed to the London County Council) made claims which could not be justified, and in some circumstances they have asked that a railway engineer should supervise the work being done by the experts of the London County Council. Indeed, there has been a fairly recent instance of this where, under a £1 million contract, the railway company concerned, under whose land, at some distance down, the sewer was to be carried for a short distance—some 15 feet or so, I believe it was—asked and tried to demand, I think quite unjustifiably, that the contractor doing the work should be approved by the railway company. That, it seems to me, is carrying their powers very much too far.

Very many sewers have been constructed in London under the present law, and one wonders why the powers of the Greater London Council should be more circumscribed than those of the London County Council, and why the powers of the docks undertakers and railway and canal boards should be increased. If there is a good reason for this I should like to hear it. I hope that when the noble Lord, Lord Chesham, comes to reply he will not rest his case on the desirability of uniformity with the rest of the country in this matter.

I am asserting here—and I think with some justification—that in the matter of sewerage London is in a unique situation. It is unique in the size and complexity of the undertaking and in the size of the built-up area which it serves. It is a fact that an alteration to a sewer in one place may affect the whole system, from the West End of London to the outfalls at Barking or Erith. In places some of these sewers are 60 feet down. The scope for altering existing sewers is restricted by the existence of the underground railway system. In no other city in this country do problems of this magnitude exist.

As the Bill now stands, it empowers railway authorities, drainage authorities and docks undertakers to alter sewers vested in a local authority by substitute sewers, and provides that any dispute may be referred to arbitration. Expert opinions on what is effective may differ, and it is wrong that expert and experienced officers, the sort of people who will be available to the Greater London Council, should not even have the right to approve any proposals for the alteration of those sewers by the Port of London Authority, the railway authorities or canal undertakers. As at present drafted the Bill permits the works to be carried out by the undertakers before the matter has gone to arbitration, even though the local authority may have objections to the works that are proposed.

Similar Amendments to those I am moving were withdrawn by my noble friend Lord Crook at the Committee stage, when the noble Lord, Lord Chesham, announced that a meeting had

[Lord Champion.]
been arranged between the Ministers concerned, the London County Council and the affected undertakers. The noble Lord, Lord Chesham, has been good enough to write to my noble friend Lord Crook about that meeting, and my noble friend wishes me to thank the noble Lord for his courtesy and for the trouble he took over the matter. The letter is too long to read to the House so I shall (not unfairly I hope) refrain from referring to the arguments contained in it, except to say that no agreement was reached at that meeting. As I understand it from another source, the London County Council wished, understandably, to retain for the Greater London Council the powers of the London Act, whilst the undertakers wished, also understandably, to secure the greater controlling powers they would have under the provisions of the general Act.

The failure of that meeting to agree means that Parliament is being asked to act as an arbitrator. Surely in those circumstances we ought to lean very heavily in favour of the *status quo*. This is a Conservative House, with a capital "C", and also in this case, I hope, with a small "c". The provisions of the London Public Health Act have acted reasonably; they have acted well, and I think there has been no suggestion that in the past they have acted unfairly against the statutory undertakers. It seems to me that in those circumstances this Conservative House ought to come down heavily in favour of things that have worked well. That is surely part of our functions, in this connection at any rate. Finally, in recommending these Amendments to your Lordships, I would ask: "Why should we tip the scales in favour of the undertakers as against the London ratepayers?" I beg to move.

Amendment moved—

Page 172, line 8, at end insert the said words. —(*Lord Champion.*)

8.46 p.m.

LORD CHESHAM: My Lords, the noble Lord, Lord Champion, has made his usual painstaking good job of explaining the Amendments, and he strained at his particular gnat to produce an argument to back up what he suggested we should accept. He squeezed every possible nuance of meaning he could out of this admittedly rather "mixed-opinion case" in favour of the arguments he put forward. When we discussed this in Committee, I referred to a meeting which was to take place on May 28 between all the parties affected and the Departments concerned. As the noble Lord said, I also wrote to the noble Lord, Lord Crook; although I, also, do not want to go into all the details of the letter which runs for very nearly three pages of foolscap. I think it was overstating the case a little to say boldly that no agreement was reached. I think that presents the position in a worse light than it is, because the differences the noble Lord described to us between what, perhaps, I could call two codes of practice, were discussed by all these people to see where lay the overall advantage.

There were only three points left over, as I understand it, on which there was no agreement; and it was agreed that these three points should be further investigated by the Government to see whether the point which the noble Lord has been putting forward could be or should be met. The first of those three is concerned with what the noble Lord correctly described as Section 330 of the Public Health Act, 1936, where four undertakers were given power to alter sewers providing that they substituted, at their own expense, something "equally effectual". In case of dispute there is provision for arbitration by the Institution of Civil Engineers. I would remind noble Lords in passing that this straight away, in the case of dispute, puts the matter in the hands of experts and not in the hands of affected parties. The present position, which I think I must take fully clear, is that in the L.C.C. area the undertaker cannot do anything that involves L.C.C. sewerage apparatus without the L.C.C.'s agreement; and there is no provision for arbitration. In the last resort, if it is not settled, the undertaker can only seek powers in a Private Bill.

The noble Lord has told us the arguments, based on the L.C.C.'s view of this matter; and, in particular, that arbitration would not be appropriate; and that, in practice, the use of arbitration, and the fact that a dispute could be taken to arbitration, might lead to arrangements not generally regarded as satisfactory. That is the gist of what the noble Lord said on this point.

LORD CHAMPION: Plus the fact that it seems, under the Bill as drafted, that the work could actually proceed; but no statutory——

LORD CHESHAM: I am coming to that point. It is no good the noble Lord's saying that he hopes I am not going to use a certain argument, and pouring a little scorn upon it in advance; because, if an argument seems good to me, I am certainly going to put it forward and shall not be put off by having the argument discounted in a slightly pitying tone of voice by any noble Lord. There is no doubt whatever that uniformity in this matter has a good deal to commend it.

As things stand, there are no provisions for arbitration between undertakers and the L.C.C. in London; and it seems wrong that the undertakers in London should be deprived of a right which they have over the rest of the country. It is true, technically and legally, that Section 330, as worded, could allow undertakers to carry out work before arbitration provisions had been invoked. But what happened in discussion was that the undertakers made it plain that they would regard it as absurd to alter sewerage apparatus without consultation with the Greater London Council. It was agreed at the meeting by all concerned that it was unthinkable that a responsible authority would act first and arbitrate afterwards, either in London or outside it.

I do not think it can be claimed that there is a tremendous benefit to the undertakers at London's expense; and if it is so claimed, it is overstated, because the only benefit that I can see the undertakers can get in practice, under the application of Section 330, is the right to go to arbitration in the event of a failure to reach agreement with the Greater London Council as to what ought to be done.

The noble Lord and the L.C.C. at the meeting made the point strongly that conditions in London are such as to justify special treatment. On reflection, it does not seem to us that the conditions are so very different, or that the problems of a sewerage authority are so much greater in London as to justify special treatment. I think that it would be preferable to see a uniform application of the Public Health Act. In view of the fact that the undertakers have given what must be regarded as a firm undertaking not to misuse their powers under Section 330 in carrying out work without consultation, I should have thought the right course was to have uniformity rather than special treatment.

Now I come to the second point, which is contained in Section 333(1), paragraphs (*a*) to (*d*) of the Public Health Act, which concern the need for a sewerage authority to obtain the consent of a dock or canal undertaking for works which interfere with or go under their undertaking. Under Section 29 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936 the L.C.C. have to obtain the consent of the P.L.A. only for works that affect navigation. I had understood the position to be that the L.C.C. accepted that the definition is too narrow, and that it is reasonable for the undertaker's consent to be obtained for works that will affect the Thames in any way or "interfere with" any part of the undertaking. As I understand it, the only point at issue is whether it is reasonable to have to obtain the undertaker's consent for works that may merely go under part of the land they own. But, surely, in that case only the P.L.A. are in a position to judge whether works that will go under their land are likely to interfere in any way with future developments that they may have in mind. That area of dispute—if "area of dispute" is the right expression for it—between the sewerage authority and the P.L.A. is a small one. It does not seem to us that the London sewerage system presents such special problems as to justify special treatment in this rather small respect. Therefore, again I feel that we should stick to the Public Health Act. What is more, Section 333 protects the sewerage authority by saying, as the noble Lord told us, that the consent shall not be unreasonably withheld; and there is also provision for arbitration where they cannot agree without it.

The third point I come to is found in Section 333(1), which requires the sewerage authority to obtain the consent of the "railway company concerned to execute any work along across or under any railway". Currently, as the noble Lord said, the London code requires consent only for works which will "interfere with the railway". There are—and I do not think there is any disagreement

[Lord Chesham.]
between us about this—advantages and disadvantatges in either form of words. We have carefully considered substituting "interfere with" for "along across or under". Both the legal and technical advice we have had on this would seem to show that whether we use the one form of words or the other will have little practical effect.

There are certain difficulties which are bound to occur in this matter. The first is that it does not seem logical to make that alteration in respect of sewerage works alone, because the Public Health Act, 1936, deals also with a considerable number of other functions, like water supply and the prevention of nuisance. To make a substitution, particularly when there is a good deal of controversy as to whether it is beneficial or not, apply also to these other functions, would involve a complicated Amendment to Schedule 11, as well as to Schedule 9. If this substitution were made, it would, for drafting purposes, have to apply throughout the sewerage area of Greater London, and could not be limited to the inner area—and that is what I think was in the noble Lord's mind. It might even, in the process, create some new problems.

I am afraid that I have had to speak for some time on this rather tricky and not very exciting subject to deal properly with the matters put forward by the noble Lord. Taken by and large, I can see no strong reason, such as I forecast would be necessary, to agree to a change in this matter. I cannot see that strong reason to depart from an overall uniformity. I should have thought that the key to a satisfactory relationship between the sewerage authority and the undertakers would lie in that sensible co-operation between them which has always existed, and to which the noble Lord himself referred. I am glad to join with him in recognising that sensible co-operation. I should have thought that, since both are likely to have to carry out works affecting the work of the other, we could rely firmly on that sensible co-operation and, therefore, that our best course would be to leave things as it is suggested they should be in the Bill.

LORD CHAMPION: My Lords, it seemed to me that in suggesting that I was straining at a gnat, the noble Lord has swallowed the camel of quite unnecessarily changing the law as it stands in relation to London and its sewerage system. The noble Lord has made a number of points, and I must admit that I cannot pretend to reply to them. What I will do is to study them carefully between now and Third Reading. In the meantime, I think we ought to express our dissent from the general attitude of the Government on this matter, and for that reason I do not propose to withdraw the Amendment.

9.2 p.m.

On Question, whether the said Amendment (No. 136) shall be agreed to?

Their Lordships divided: Contents, 16; Not-Contents, 48.

CONTENTS

Alexander of Hillsborough, E.
Archibald, L.
Burden, L. [*Teller.*]
Champion, L.
Crook, L.
Henderson, L.
Latham, L.
Longford, E.
Lucan, E. [*Teller.*]
Milner of Leeds, L.
Morrison of Lambeth, L.
Shackleton, L.
Shepherd, L.
Stonham, L.
Summerskill, B.
Wootton of Abinger, B.

NOT-CONTENTS

Aberdare, L.
Ailwyn, L.
Albemarle, E.
Ampthill, L.
Auckland, L.
Chelmer, L.
Chesham, L.
Cholmondeley, M.
Colgrain, L.
Colville of Culross, V.
Conesford, L.
Craigmyle, L.
Craigton, L.
Denham, L.
Derwent, L.
Devonshire, D.
Ferrers, E.
Fortescue, E.
Glentanar, L.
Goschen, V. [*Teller.*]
Grenfell, L.
Hailsham, V. (*L. President.*)
Hanworth, V.
Hastings, L.
Hawke, L.
Howard of Glossop, L.
Iddesleigh, E.
Jellicoe, E.
Jessel, L.
Lothian, M.
MacAndrew, L.
Margesson, V.
Merrivale, L.
Mills, V.
Milverton, L.
Monk Bretton, L.
Monsell, V.
Newton, L.
Ormonde, M.

St. Aldwyn, E. [*Teller.*]
St. Oswald, L.
Sandys, L.
Soulbury, V.
Strathcarron, L.
Strathclyde, L.
Stuart of Findhorn, V.
Waldegrave, E.
Waleran, L.

Resolved in the negative, and Amendment disagreed to accordingly.

Schedule 11 [*Modification and re-enactment from 1st April 1965 of provisions of Public Health Acts*]:

LORD HASTINGS: My Lords, the paragraph mentioned in the Amendment is in the Public Health Act, 1875. It prohibits burial in any church built in an urban area after August 31, 1848. This Amendment leaves matters as they are in inner London; that is to say, burial in most churches is prohibited by Order in Council, but there are a few exceptions which will not be disturbed. I beg to move.

Amendment moved—

Page 187, line 15, at end insert—

("4A. The paragraph in Part III of Schedule 5 relating to vaults and graves in churches and other places of public worship shall not apply to the inner London boroughs, the City or the Temples.")—(*Lord Hastings.*)

LORD MORRISON OF LAMBETH: My Lords, could the noble Lord tell us why this Amendment relates to inner London and why it does not apply to Greater London as a whole? What is the distinction between the inner London boroughs and the outer London boroughs in this respect?

LORD HASTINGS: My Lords, perhaps I should explain that the Act of 1875 which I mentioned does not apply to the metropolis, and we do not want it to. There are the exceptions I mentioned, and the question of Westminster Cathedral where people are sometimes buried, and we want that to continue.

LORD MORRISON OF LAMBETH: That was not my point. This Amendment says

"shall not apply to the inner London boroughs . . .".

Presumably, therefore, it applies to the outer London boroughs. What I was asking was what was the reason for the distinction between the inner London boroughs and the outer London boroughs?

LORD HASTINGS: I do not know that this Amendment really refers at all to the outer London boroughs. We are simply making sure we are leaving matters as they are in inner London, and therefore it does not apply to the outer London boroughs.

LORD SHEPHERD: My Lords, if it does not apply to

"the inner London boroughs, the City or the Temples"

to where does it apply?

LORD MORRISON OF LAMBETH: There must be a reason why this distinction is made between the inner and the outer London boroughs. It may be a matter of importance or it may be that it does not matter. I see that the lifeline has been held out, and the noble Lord can now probably tell us the answer.

LORD HASTINGS: My Lords, outer London is not mentioned because it already applies to the outer London boroughs.

On Question, Amendment agreed to.

LORD HASTINGS: My Lords, this is essentially a drafting Amendment. Parts III, IV and V of the Public Health Act, 1925, are no longer in force; hence, the paragraph needs to be amended. I beg to move.

Amendment moved—

Page 187, line 32, leave out paragraphs 8 and 9 and insert—

("8. Notwithstanding anything in section 2(2) or 3, sections 14, 16 and 26 shall extend to Greater London without being adopted there and sections 17 to 19 shall not extend to, and may not be adopted in, Greater London, and accordingly the said sections 2(2) and 3 shall not apply to Greater London.

9. Section 76 shall not apply to Greater London.")—(*Lord Hastings.*)

On Question, Amendment agreed to.

9.16 p.m.

LORD STONHAM moved, after paragraph 16, to insert:

"17. Section 82 shall not apply to an inner London borough, the City or the Temples."

The noble Lord said: My Lords, I beg to move Amendment No. 139, and I hope it will suit your Lordships' convenience if we consider with it Amendments No. 130 and No. 144, which is actually the substantive Amendment.

[Lord Stonham.]

No doubt at a somewhat earlier stage in the proceedings your Lordships, like myself, listened entranced to my noble friend Lord Shepherd drawing a distinction between what he called "pure sewage" and contaminated water. I shall not put forward to your Lordships any such esoteric or highly intellectual distinction, because these Amendments seek just to make the carriage of offensive and fæcal matter through the streets of inner London subject to uniform standards which are set out in Greater London Council by-laws, instead of subject to standards which, as the Bill stands at present, would be set out in thirteen different sets of by-laws made by the inner London boroughs and the City Corporation.

This seems to me to be a highly sensible Amendment, particularly as it would continue the excellent arrangements now made by the London County Council who at present regulate this matter. But I am compelled immediately to confess that the fact that this seems an eminently sensible arrangement does not necessarily mean that the noble Lord, Lord Hastings, or whoever is to reply, is going to leap up and accept it. Such has been our experience in dealing with this Bill that, at least on first presentation of our case, the fact of its eminent common sense and virtual unanswerability does not necessarily encourage us to think that the Government will accept it. I am somewhat more encouraged on this occasion, because this is the second time that I have had the privilege of presenting this Amendment on behalf of the citizens of London. Therefore, as the Government have had time on this particular subject to get their breath and to consider the matter anew, I am hoping for a more favourable outcome.

We attach considerable importance to this Amendment because, unsavoury as this particular subject is, it nevertheless is one which is of great importance to the health and well-being of the millions of people who live in metropolitan London. It is the case that over the past twenty years negotiations have been going on between the London County Council and representatives of the metropolitan borough councils on this particular matter, and after twenty years they have now agreed new refuse and drainage by-laws for the whole of London, which are now awaiting formal approval by the Minister of Housing and Local Government. These powers have been made by the London County Council under the powers contained in Section 84(2) and Section 107(1) of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, and they contain requirements relating to the storage, removal and disposal of refuse, and to drainage.

The effect of the Amendment No. 144 is to add the words of the first subparagraph of the Amendment to the existing paragraph (3) now in the Bill so as to incorporate in the Bill the substance of as much of subsection (2) of Section 84 of the 1936 Act as it is considered necessary or desirable to re-enact. It seems to me that it is obviously desirable that standard times and constructional requirements in vehicles should continue to apply in connection with the carriage of refuse and other offensive matter by road in inner London. And, of course, this control is very important from the point of view of traffic management.

This kind of very necessary work goes on every night (or should I say, in the main, in the small hours of the morning?) every day of the week. And to a large extent it goes on without our knowledge, although if we pause to reflect we know that it must happen. The vehicles and the vessels carrying this matter which we create have to travel across London, and a great many of them, of course, have to travel in the same direction to the Thames or to some other disposal unit. It is perfectly obvious that the vehicles will travel from various of the new boroughs which are created across the territory of other boroughs, and that it could be very offensive to the people of London, as well as a matter of considerable inconvenience, if the co-ordination which at present exists in this matter, so that it is discreetly, efficiently and conveniently done, were interrupted.

At present in inner London— or what we are now learning to call "inner London" in connection with this Bill— this work is being done by the London County Council, and the effect of this Amendment would be to ensure that that kind of control continues, instead of the utterly idiotic idea now in the Bill that it should be left haphazardly to thirteen

different London authorities. Anything more utterly stupid and unrelated to reality it is difficult to conceive. The noble Lord, when he comes to reply, may say: "Of course, all these twelve or thirteen authorities will get together, and will co-ordinate their arrangements, so that they approximate to something approaching the kind of efficiency which now exists". He obviously has not sat in on conferences of twelve or thirteen local authorities, all with their different offices, all with their different ideas of how this should be done.

Before we ever get back to the same kind of arrangement that we have now, another thirty years will have rolled on; and even then we shall still not have got it. Throughout that time inner London will continue to be affronted with the stupid kind of unpleasant mishap that occurs. We do not want to see these things, we do not want them to be unnecessarily, brutally, nauseously brought to the notice of our citizens, which will be the case unless we make the sensible kind of arrangement which I am now proposing.

When I raised this question on Committee stage the noble Lord said, in effect, that it was desired that London boroughs should have this kind of function. He said, as a sort of consolation to the case I then put forward, that these boroughs will presumably have regard to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government's model by-law, and that the Minister could use his power as confirming authority to ensure that there was sufficient uniformity throughout the area to make the removal of refuse and nauseous matter through the streets of inner London a simple and inoffensive operation. My Lords, it might be thought that it is hardly a worthwhile function for the boroughs to possess, if they have to follow the model by-law, though the Bill does not say so, and then be subject to ministerial alterations to secure proper uniformity. Surely the sensible procedure is for these by-laws to be made by one authority, by the Greater London Council, as indeed they have been made by the London County Council in the past. This will save much unnecessary duplication of labour and greatly ease things for the operators of the vehicles concerned, who will have to consult only one set of by-laws instead of twelve.

It seems to me that the Government's attitude up till now has been just one more example of their failure to realise that whatever is done, even if this Bill becomes an Act of Parliament, London will still be London and will be an entity. In the matter of so many of these services, and particularly this one, it will have to be and will remain London and must be dealt with as such. We are not the same here—and it is a point which my noble friend Lord Champion tried to make on the previous Amendment, which was discussed but not accepted—as any self-contained county borough in another part of the country. Your Lordships will, I am sure, listen with the utmost care to the reply which the noble Lord, Lord Hastings, will make to what I have said. I would ask you to judge this issue on its merits and, if the Government are unable to accept the case we have put forward, to vote for it on its merits.

I would remind your Lordships that, humble and venial as this subject may appear to be, it is one which is essential to the health of the people of our capital city. I would remind you that we are asking for the continuance of arrangements which are working extremely well now, very efficiently, and without offence to anybody. We are asking in this Amendment for the implementation of agreements which have been reached by all the parties concerned after twenty years of discussion. I submit that it would be the height of folly for the Government to refuse this Amendment and disrupt the arrangements which have been successful, and which have been agreed to by people who are closer to the problem as the right arrangements. I think, therefore, that on this occasion, unless they can refute anything that I have said, they must accept these Amendments. I beg to move.

Amendment moved—

Page 190, line 4, at end insert—

("17. Section 82 shall not apply to an inner London borough, the City or the Temples.").—(*Lord Stonham.*)

9.30 p.m.

LORD HASTINGS: My Lords, the noble Lord, Lord Stonham, made a very strong, even impassioned speech.

LORD STONHAM: It is a strong subject.

LORD HASTINGS: But in order to convince himself he had to say repeatedly not only that his Amendment was sensible, but that it was eminently sensible and that it was obvious common sense. After he had said it three or four times I began to doubt whether he believed it himself. That is a matter of opinion, and opinion on this side of the House does not agree with the noble Lord. We are entitled to our opinions, and we feel that the arrangements we have made in this Bill are sensible, eminently sensible and common sense—and I am saying it only once.

Now in respect of two preliminary points which the noble Lord made, he mentioned Section 107(1) of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936. The Greater London Council is, of course, continuing those powers. They refer to the London building code; and it was made quite clear during the Committee stage that, although the Bill leaves matters as they are in that respect, there is later going to be a comprehensive review of building codes, and then something else will happen. In respect of Section 84, subsection (2), I think he mentioned that we have set down Amendment No. 144A, which is going to extend the L.C.C. powers under that section to the London boroughs—so that, at least, meets part of one of the noble Lord's points.

Coming now to the main argument, that it is the obvious thing that the Greater London Council should have these powers to arrange for bylaws and the general disposal of this offensive matter through the central London boroughs, one wonders, in the first place, why, if the noble Lord feels so passionately about this, he should confine it to only the inner London boroughs, apart from the fact that the L.C.C.'s powers are confined to those boroughs. Logically, he ought to extend it to the whole of Greater London, because once you have moved matter outside inner London you have still a very large area before you get to the outside of Greater London. So his case is not entirely logical. But, quite apart from that, his arguments really are, I suggest, more plausible than realistic, because there is no justification for departing from the general scheme of the Bill that the London boroughs should have these powers. They are, after all, the public health authorities, and they are the right people to make these bylaws. It will be a simple matter—and I do not apologise for repeating this argument, which I used on Committee stage—for the Ministry of Housing, as confirming authority, to ensure that there is sufficient uniformity throughout the area to make the removal of offensive matter a simple and inoffensive operation.

Suppose that the Greater London Council were to have these bylaw-making powers. They would obviously have to consult and agree any proposals with the individual boroughs, and that could take equally as long as, and even longer than, the boroughs would in consulting directly with the Ministry of Housing. Really, the noble Lord's opinion of the London boroughs absolutely astonishes me. Does he really mean that they are so inefficient, so incompetent and so quarrelsome that they cannot arrange this matter; or have they been so long under the paternal dominance of the London County Council that they are reduced to complete inability to fend for themselves? Really, my Lords, I think that is carrying things a bit too far. I suggest that reason and common sense are on the side of the Government, and I would ask noble Lords to reject this Amendment.

LORD MORRISON OF LAMBETH: My Lords, before the noble Lord sits down, let us suppose that the London boroughs have different bylaws; and suppose I am engaging in this business of transportation or traffic, or whatever you call it, and am moving matter from one borough to another. I know the bylaws of my own borough, but I do not know the bylaws of the other borough, or the next borough to that, through which I shall have to go. I may be committing an offence. Is everybody expected to know all the varying details of these bylaws?

LORD HASTINGS: My Lords, may I reply, by leave of the House? I referred to our model by-laws in this matter; and moreover the Minister of Housing and Local Government has confirming authority. There should be no difficulty.

LORD MORRISON OF LAMBETH: But the by-laws are not obligatory and the 13 boroughs may make different by-laws.

LORD STONHAM: I notice the noble Lord, Lord Hastings, said only once that the Government's proposals were eminently sensible. He mentioned that I said it three times. That may be the reason why he seemed to be so singularly unconvincing. He asked me why I should confine the Amendment to the inner London boroughs. It is for the very ordinary and simple reason that that is where it exists now. I want to preserve something which is in existence. Secondly, in regard to the outer London boroughs the disposal traffic of this nauseous matter in most cases does not come through inner London at the present time, so why on earth the noble Lord should think I want to make an Amendment to cart filth from 15 miles out of London which now goes by another route, so that it goes through inner London, I just do not know. I hope that is a satisfactory answer to the extraordinary question that he put to me: namely, why did I not make this Amendment wider. The Amendment deals with a situation as it exists at present, which I want to preserve because it is efficient. It has sought to preserve the agreement reached between the London County Council and the Metropolitan Standing Joint Committee on this subject, which I emphasised took twenty years to reach this new agreement.

This is just a sample of the way the Government so often expose their lack of knowledge on this subject. The noble Lord, Lord Hastings, says that surely these 12 Greater London Boroughs which do not yet exist can come to an agreement on this matter. At present I think the 12 are 26, or something like that, and they will be contracted into 12. Every year the London County Council produces a General Powers Bill which is the result of discussions which have gone on throughout the twelve months preceding the introduction of the Bill with the 26 existing metropolitan boroughs or through the Metropolitan Standing Joint Committee. I do not know whether it is news to the noble Lord, Lord Hastings, but there is a very large field of disagreement between these boroughs. Eventually they may come to a majority agreement—a majority which, even when the Bill is introduced into Parliament, leads very often to quite strong differences of opinion which are expressed in another place or in your Lordships' House.

I myself recall a matter as simple as regulations for street traders, where there was a strong difference of opinion and where I was personally responsible for the London County Council's agreeing to delete something like three whole clauses, consisting of pages and pages of that proposed General Powers Bill. The noble Lord now asks—and I took his words down—why it is that I expect the boroughs to be so quarrelsome that they cannot come to an agreement, and he said "Really, my Lords!"—in a way that one does when one is expressing disapproval of something unreasonable. I say "Really, my Lords, it astounds me that the noble Lord, Lord Hastings, has so little knowledge of London government in this respect".

It is not a question of being quarrelsome. The people who come together in these discussions have real, active, live knowledge and concern for the areas in which they live, and they are not, and their requirements and needs are not, precisely the same. They are not quarrelsome about it but they express the needs of the citizens they represent to the best of their knowledge and belief and in the interests of the people they represent. Eventually they come to a compromise on the best solution. I am saying that, so far as metropolitan London—which we are beginning, unwillingly, to call inner London—is concerned, the best system of disposal of nauseous matter is the one which has been agreed and is now awaiting only the formal approval of the Minister of Housing and Local Government. That is the system which, unless these three Amendments are accepted, will be entirely disrupted, and throwing away the results of twenty years of negotiations and the experience of all these people. I would say—and we are not going to give way on this—that anyone with knowledge of this matter, anyone who has heard the arguments, cannot possibly vote against these Amendments. I hope they will be even more determined about this matter and that they will accompany my noble friends and myself into the Lobby to vote for the Amendment.

9.41 p.m.

On Question, Whether the said Amendment (No. 139) shall be agreed to?

Their Lordships divided: Contents, 14; Not-Contents, 48.

CONTENTS

Alexander of Hillsborough, E.
Archibald, L.
Burden, L. [*Teller.*]
Champion, L.
Henderson, L.
Latham, L.
Longford, E.
Lucan, E. [*Teller.*]
Milner of Leeds, L.
Morrison of Lambeth, L.
Shepherd, L.
Stonham, L.
Summerskill, B.
Wootton of Abinger, B.

NOT-CONTENTS

Aberdare, L.
Abinger, L.
Ailwyn, L.
Albemarle, E.
Ampthill, L.
Auckland, L.
Chelmer, L.
Chesham, L.
Cholmondeley, M.
Colgrain, L.
Colville of Culross, V.
Colyton, L.
Craigmyle, L.
Craigton, L.
Denham, L.
Derwent, L.
Devonshire, D.
Falmouth, V.
Ferrers, E.
Fortescue, E.
Glentanar, L.
Goschen, V. [*Teller.*]
Grenfell, L.
Hailsham, V. (*L. President.*)
Hanworth, V.
Hastings, L.
Hawke, L.
Howard of Glossop, L.
Jellicoe, E.
Jessel, L.
Lothian, M.
MacAndrew, L.
Margesson, V.
Merrivale, L.
Mersey, V.
Mills, V.
Milverton, L.
Monk Bretton, L.
Newton, L.
Ormonde, M.
St. Aldwyn, E. [*Teller.*]
St. Oswald, L.
Sandys, L.
Strathcarron, L.
Strathclyde, L.
Stuart of Findhorn, V.
Waldegrave, E.
Waleran, L.

Resolved in the negative, and Amendment disagreed to accordingly.

9.50 p.m.

LORD SHEPHERD moved, after paragraph 21, to insert:

"22. Section 198 in its application to Greater London shall have effect as if any reference to a local authority were a reference to the Greater London Council and to no other authority."

The noble Lord said: My Lords, I beg to move Amendment No. 141 and, with permission, I would speak also to No. 141A. When this Bill was first introduced into another place, it provided that the authority for the provision of mortuaries and post-mortem rooms should be the Greater London Council. This position was confirmed by the noble Lord, Lord Hastings. He did not give us any reason for the change, except that a number of the outer boroughs that were being brought into the area which are at present public mortuary authorities prefer that the position should remain; and the Government then decided to omit those words from this provision. In other words, basically, we are now back to the present position in London, and I believe throughout the country, where the boroughs are the public mortuary authorities.

On the Committee stage, on the Question, "That Clause 40 stand part", I raised the unsatisfactory position of public mortuaries and post-mortem rooms in the London area. I pointed out that these public mortuaries provide two services. In the first instance, they provide the last resting place for a deceased person—and I think the Committee shared my view then that that type of facility should obviously have some dignity, considering the sad event. The public mortuaries also provide a further service in the interests of the community, and that is the provision of the proper facilities in the post-mortem rooms in which the pathologists and their staff have to work. This type of service is necessary. Perhaps the first thing that springs to one's mind is the detection of murder or suicide, or other forms of crime; but there are also the prevention and detection of disease. Therefore, I think the House will recognise that these post-mortem rooms constitute an important part of our general health and legal service.

We have a case in London whereby the coroner is appointed by the Home Secretary. He is, however, housed in a court and provided with staff by the London County Council; and I presume that once this Bill has passed this will be done by the Greater London Council. The coroner will order an autopsy and pay the pathologist's fee. Therefore we have the case of the coroner and the Greater London Council (or the London County Council, as it is now)

being called upon to provide all the services connected with a post-mortem, with the exception of ensuring that the facilities, the standard of accommodation—and perhaps the instruments—are provided.

On the Committee stage I read a letter I had received from Dr. Francis Camps, one of the leading pathologists in the country. He referred to the present position in London as very unsatisfactory. He said that in many cases it was extravagant, in the sense that the boroughs were being called upon to provide services which if provided jointly, might be provided on a more economic basis. He also said that what is being provided is inefficient. He then referred to the working conditions of the employees of the authority, and he used these words:

"I would have thought these were intolerable".

He then went on to refer to the question of pay.

I raised this point with the noble Lord, Lord Hastings. I suggested that one of the probems was that the boroughs themselves were of such a size that they found the provision onerous upon them. I believe that in many cases boroughs get together to provide a joint service, but there are others who do not do so for one reason or another. I put this position fairly and squarely to the noble Lord, Lord Hastings, and he agreed to consider it between the two stages of the Bill. I have had a letter in reply from the noble Lord, and I am grateful to him for it. I will not read it, but I am sure he will not mind if I state at least the basis of his letter.

The noble Lord agreed that the standards in most of the mortuaries and post-mortem rooms throughout the country—not just in London—were unsatisfactory. But, as the London Boroughs were being made larger and were having this responsibility placed upon them, he saw no reason why they should not be in a position to provide this service. The noble Lord admitted in his letter that boroughs of comparable size to those in London were not providing a satisfactory service at the present time. Therefore, I question whether we can take much heart in the Government's suggestion that the size of London boroughs is sufficient to secure the standard of service which pathologists and, I think, the general public would expect to see in these rooms.

I have taken advice where one can receive it in this matter. There are some who feel that post-mortem rooms in particular, which are part of the legal service of this country, should be supplied and maintained by the Home Office as part of police detection. I do not think I would go quite so far as that, but there is some point to it in the sense that coroners use these rooms in most of the cases where post-mortems take place. Therefore, there would be a case for bringing this facility under the control of the Home Secretary. No doubt we should then see the Home Office raise its standards. I feel that this is something which local authorities should provide, but from the advice and guidance that I have received it seems to me that this is something which should be provided by at least a county size authority, because they would have the need (shall I say?) for providing this facility for a wide area. I would not object.

I think there is some point in saying that a mortuary to which bodies of a borough pass for resting until final burial might well remain with a local borough. I think there is some case for that. But when one comes to the type of service—the lighting, water, instruments and many other things which are connected with post-mortem work—it seems to me that it would not be practical for a borough to provide that type of service which is not always being used every day or every week. It may not be. Therefore, it would seem to be far more efficient to see that that facility was provided to cover a fairly wide area. I cannot see any difficulty, because the coroner becomes the custodian of a body when he makes his order for a post-mortem. There would be no difficulty in transferring the body from one part of London to a central post-mortem room.

My Lords, I must reject the idea that the Home Office should be the authority for post-mortem rooms. Therefore, having equally found, I think, that the boroughs themselves are not in a position to provide this service—and, even if they were called upon to do so,

[Lord Shepherd.]

it would be an extravagant way of proceeding—one then comes back to what is the next authority. Obviously, it is somewhere between the borough and the Central Government, which is the county council—or, in this particular area, the Greater London Council.

I hope that the Government will be able to respond to me in one way or another this evening. My first Amendment, No. 141, reverts to the position obtaining when the Bill was introduced into another place: that the Greater London Council should become the particular authority. But if the Government cannot go as far as that I should certainly need to press them in regard to the second Amendment. This would mean that where boroughs are now providing a post-mortem room and a mortuary, they could continue to do so. That would be their duty, and to their choice, but it would at least give power to the Greater London Council, if they thought fit, to set up perhaps one, two or three really first-rate post-mortem buildings and facilities. I think, from the information that has come to me that this would be very much welcomed by the pathologists in London. The work of pathologists is very exacting and detailed and they need the proper facilities in which to do it efficiently. I believe that perhaps two or three first-class buildings, with all the equipment and properly staffed, would, in fact, meet the wishes and the needs of the Greater London area. I suggest that these should be provided by the Greater London Council. The cost, of course, would be borne by all the boroughs, according to their share on the rate.

I therefore put the choice. I should like the Government to accept one of these two Amendments. At the present moment I myself prefer No. 141A, which would at least mean that the boroughs could retain their own public mortuaries and, if they so wished, retain their own post-mortem room, but it would then make it possible for the Greater London Council, no doubt with the advice and guidance of the Home Office, to provide the central facilities for this very valuable and important service. I beg to move.

Amendment moved—

Page 190, line 36, at end insert the said paragraph.—(*Lord Shepherd.*)

10.4 p.m.

LORD HASTINGS: My Lords, the noble Lord, Lord Shepherd, referred to the proceedings on Committee stage when I revealed the fact that the Greater London Council had at one stage been considered as the appropriate authority in respect of mortuary services. I was looking up the reference (though unfortunately, I failed to find it) while the noble Lord was speaking, and I cannot remember actually giving the reason, as he said I had, that there had been objections from the outer London boroughs. Whether that was the case or not, it was, in fact, a mistake that the clause in that form found its way into the Bill in another place. It had previously been agreed, actually before the drafting of the Bill, that that should not be the situation, and therefore the clause was left out in another place, actually without any comment. That is how it happened. It was a misunderstanding.

This is a very difficult and highly technical subject, which we discussed at some length on the previous occasion. As the noble Lord, Lord Shepherd said, I have written him a letter. After considering the matter very carefully, the Minister of Housing and Local Government, after consultation with the Home Office, felt that there had to be a very good reason indeed if these services were not to be handled by the boroughs. We could see no reason to suppose that, even if the Greater London Council were given these powers, they would necessarily be more successful in bringing up the standards. And we are not disagreeing on that particular point: that the standards are not in all cases what they should be. The fact is, of course, that many hundreds of local authorities all over the country have these powers, and it would be surprising if the quality of the facilities offered by some did not fall below the general average, or even below what is acceptable in some cases. But these shortcomings are not, of course, as I think we agreed on the previous occasion, confined to the Greater London area. We feel that it would not be the right answer to deprive the London boroughs of these powers, since they will be among the biggest boroughs in the country and better able to cope with this comparatively minor service than any other authority in the country which is and will

continue to be entitled to provide mortuaries.

We have thought about this matter again since the noble Lord received his letter, and since he gave me to understand that he was not altogether satisfied with it. I think there is something which could be done about standards generally in the country as a whole. I think it would be a good thing if my right honourable friend, the Minister of Housing and Local Government (and naturally he has been consulted about this) were to arrange discussions with the local authority associations and the professional bodies concerned—including, naturally, the pathologists—with a view to seeing exactly where improvements are most needed and what guidance and advice can be given to local authorities generally, and not merely those in Greater London. Noble Lords opposite will remember that a working party was set up in the early 1950's to examine the planning of mortuaries and post-mortem rooms, and a memorandum of advice was issued to local authorities in 1956 and has unquestionably proved very useful. We feel that perhaps the time has come to reinforce that advice, and my right honourable friend is perfectly willing—and I am able to give this assurance—that these further consultations will be held, covering the country as a whole.

I hope that in view of that undertaking the noble Lord may feel able to withdraw his Amendment. At this stage, and in the present uncertain position, we do not see our way to accept either of these Amendments. We are prepared to hold further discussions on this matter, even in the short time between now and Third Reading, but I cannot give any commitment or hold out any hope that I shall be able to bring back a better answer at Third Reading. But I can say that we will hold these consultations with the whole country in mind to see what can be done to arrive at the proper standards which should be aimed at, and we are considering how those standards can be achieved.

LORD SHEPHERD: My Lords, I am most grateful to the noble Lord, Lord Hastings, for his reply. I will respond and not at present put the Amendment to a Division; I prefer to have it negatived. I think that this is a matter of very considerable importance, and not only for London. I think that later on in the Bill we shall find in what we are achieving for London that we may be making some headway so far as the rest of the country is concerned. If we find that this debate on this subject can do something to improve what is obviously an unsatisfactory position in the rest of the country, our time will not have been ill spent. I hope that the noble Lord will carefully consider this matter, particularly in connection with the pathologists who are the people who have to make use of these facilities. In those circumstances, I would prefer the Amendment to be negatived rather than withdrawn.

On Question, Amendment negatived.

LORD HASTINGS: My Lords, Part XI of the Public Health Act, 1936, deals with the cleansing of water courses and gives borough and district councils power to deal with streams and culverts which become stagnant because they are choked with weeds, mud, rubbish, *et cetera.* The council may require the landowner to take the necessary action or may, alternatively, do any necessary work themselves. The purpose of this Amendment is, quite simply, to place the Greater London Council in the same position as other land drainage authorities on this particular point, so that London borough councils will be required to consult the Greater London Council before taking any action under Part XI of the Public Health Act, 1936, with regard to any of the metropolitan water courses. I beg to move.

Amendment moved—

Page 190, line 37, leave out from ("(1)") to ("Greater") in line 38 and insert—

("(i) the references to a land drainage authority shall include references to the").—(*Lord Hastings.*)

On Question, Amendment agreed to.

EARL JELLICOE: My Lords, I should like to suggest that we should consider together this Amendment and Amendment No. 226, the last Amendment on the Marshalled List, which is to Schedule No. 18. They flow from the decision which we took on Committee to make the Greater London Council responsible for the licensing of stores of petrol throughout Greater London. Section 73 of the Public Health Act, 1961, gives local authorities powers to require the occupier or owner of premises containing fixed

[Earl Jellicoe.]
tanks which have been, but are no longer, used for the storage of petrol, to take any steps reasonably necessary to prevent danger from those tanks. The present effect of Clause 40 and Schedule 11 under this Bill would confer the power under Section 73 on the London boroughs. This provision was also consistent with the original provision in the Bill to make the boroughs responsible as the petrol licensing authorities.

However, in view of the Amendment which we made on Committee, we now think it would be right and reasonable to give the Greater London Council rather than the boroughs power to deal with the disused petrol tanks. The petrol licensing authority, which will be the Greater London Council, is, we feel, in a better position to know of all the premises where tanks are installed and when any tanks cease to be used. This is the purpose of this Amendment. I beg to move.

Amendment moved—

Page 192, line 22, at end insert—

("37A. In section 73, in its application to Greater London, any reference to a local authority shall be construed as a reference to the Greater London council alone.").—(*Earl Jellicoe.*)

On Question, Amendment agreed to.

LORD HASTINGS: My Lords, Amendment No. 142A, which stands in my name is not going to be moved, and I will explain why. It was to adapt Section 18 of the Ancient Monuments Consolidation and Amendment Act, 1913. It now seems that this section can be completely repealed, and we propose to put down on Third Reading an Amendment to this effect.

10.16 p.m.

LORD HASTINGS: My Lords, this Amendment, No. 143, should be taken together with No. 145. Schedule 18 of the Bill proposes the repeal of Section 68 of the London County Council (General Powers) Act, 1961. This is actually in response to an Amendment put down on Committee stage by the noble Lord, Lord Shepherd. He proposed to retain Section 68, and withdrew his Amendment then on my undertaking that we would put the substance of that section into the Bill itself. This we are now doing. It fulfils the undertaking, and we claim that it improves on the Opposition's proposal, for, whereas Section 68 applies only to metropolitan boroughs, the powers contained in this Amendment and No. 145 will be available to all the London boroughs. I beg to move.

Amendment moved—

Page 192, line 30, leave out ("PUBLIC HEALTH (LONDON) ACT 1936") and insert ("ENACTMENTS RELATING TO PUBLIC HEALTH IN LONDON").—(*Lord Hastings.*)

LORD SHEPHERD: My Lords, I must respond to the noble Lord and thank him very much for this concession. Perhaps it is something to make up for the hours we have spent here. Perhaps, as we go along, we may be able to get a little bit more.

LORD HASTINGS: You have had quite a lot already!

On Question, Amendment agreed to.

LORD HASTINGS: My Lords, I mentioned this Amendment briefly when replying to a previous Amendment by the noble Lord, Lord Stonham. Under Section 84(2)(*c*) of the Public Health (London) Act, 1936, the London County Council have certain powers to make bylaws connected with refuse disposal. These powers are slightly wider than those exercisable by local authorities generally under the Public Health Act. The purpose of this Amendment is to make sure that bylaws in the Greater London Area can, in future, cover all the aspects at present dealt with in bylaws made by the London County Council. I beg to move.

Amendment moved—

Page 193, line 48, at end insert:—

("5A. The council of any London borough and the Common Council may make byelaws with respect to the following operations, except when carried out by a local authority (including the Greater London Council) and except so far as byelaws with respect thereto may be made under section 72 or 82 of the Public Health Act 1936, that is to say—

(*a*) the removal of refuse from premises in the council's area;

(*b*) the conveyance of refuse by rail, road or water from loading points in that area;

(*c*) the deposit of refuse in premises in that area pending its removal or disposal").—(*Lord Hastings.*)

LORD STONHAM: My Lords, I appreciate that the noble Lord mentioned that this Amendment goes some

way towards the one I moved in Amendments 139, 140 and 144. We are at least grateful for that. Of course, it does not go nearly as far as I should like. As I understand it, this Amendment will mean that the by-law making powers on this subject which at present reside in the London County Council will be transferred to the Greater London Council. Is that the point?

LORD HASTINGS: No. The amendment reads:

"The council of any London borough and the Common Council may make byelaws with respect"

to these matters.

LORD STONHAM: So it means, therefore, that on this particular matter we are still in the position that we have 12, or in fact 13, authorities who can exercise by-law making powers in this respect, and not, as at present, where we have just the one authority, the London County Council. My noble friends will not, I think, oppose this particular Amendment, but I am bound to say that we regard it as representing a most unsatisfactory situation which does not anything like meet the position that we had hoped would arise; nor indeed does it meet the needs of the situation.

On Question, Amendment agreed to.

LORD HASTINGS: My Lords, I have spoken to this Amendment and the noble Lord, Lord Shepherd, was good enough to agree. I beg to move.

Amendment moved—

Page 194, line 12, at end insert—

("7A.—(1) Where it appears to a local authority, being the council of a London borough or the Common Council, that any land within the area of the authority is by reason of its derelict, neglected or unsightly condition detrimental to the amenities of the neighbourhood, the authority may, after serving notice of their proposals on the owner and on the occupier of the land and subject to sub-paragraph (3) of this paragraph, execute such works and do such other things as the council consider expedient for the purpose of restoring or improving and thereafter preserving the appearance of the land:

Provided that the works and other things which may be required to be executed or done under this paragraph shall not include the erection or maintenance of any building or the doing of anything in or upon any building, but may include the erection or maintenance of a hoarding or fence.

(2) Any person served with a notice under the foregoing sub-paragraph may, if aggrieved by the proposal specified in the notice, appeal to a magistrates' court within the period of twenty-eight days beginning with the date of the service of the notice.

(3) A local authority may proceed with the proposals specified in a notice under sub-paragraph (1) of this paragraph if but only if—

(*a*) none of the persons on whom the notice was served has, within the said period of twenty-eight days, taken steps to implement the proposals himself or instituted an appeal against the proposals to a magistrates' court; or

(*b*) any such steps begun to be taken by any such person within that period are not completed within a reasonable time; or

(*c*) any appeal instituted within that period has been dismissed or abandoned or failed for want of prosecution.

(4) Any expenses incurred by the local authority in removing any materials from any land in exercise of the powers conferred on them by this paragraph and the cost of selling any materials so removed may be deducted by the authority from the proceeds which they are required by section 276 of the Public Health Act 1936 to pay to the person to whom the materials belonged.

(5) The foregoing provisions of this paragraph shall not be construed as prejudicing the powers exercisable by the Greater London Council under section 69 of the London Building Acts (Amendment) Act 1939, or by the council of an outer London borough under section 27 of the Public Health Act 1961, or by the local planning authority under section 89 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949.").—(*Lord Hastings.*)

On Question, Amendment agreed to.

LORD MORRISON OF LAMBETH: My Lords, I thought, since we had reached the end of the Schedule, that subject to what the Government may think, this might be a convenient point to adjourn the Report stage until to-morrow.

EARL JELLICOE: My Lords, I am naturally anxious to respond to the noble Lord. I think this probably would be a natural break, although I must say that I am a little disappointed at the rather slow progress which we have made throughout a number of rather arduous hours to-day, and we have left ourselves quite a big chunk to bite off to-morrow. Nevertheless, I beg to move that the Report stage be now adjourned.

Moved, That the Report stage be now adjourned.—(*Earl Jellicoe.*)

On Question, Motion agreed to.

FINANCE BILL

Brought from the Commons, endorsed with the Certificate from the Speaker that the Bill is a Money Bill within the meaning of the Parliament Act, 1911; read 1[a], and to be printed.

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT BILL

Brought from the Commons; read 1[a], and to be printed.

DOVER HARBOUR BILL

The Queen's consent signified; and Bill reported, with Amendments.

WRITTEN ANSWER

DISTRIBUTION BY EGYPTIAN GRANTS COMMITTEE

VISCOUNT COLVILLE OF CULROSS asked Her Majesty's Government:

What progress has been made towards the distribution of the sum made available to relieve comparative hardship among British owners of desequestrated property in the United Arab Republic.

THE EARL OF DUNDEE: The Egyptian Grants Committee, whose constitution I announced in the House on February 7, has received a number of applications for these grants and has made a preliminary examination of them. It now appears, however, that a number of potential applicants may well have been unable, for various reasons, to complete their applications before the terminal date of July 1. It has therefore been decided to extend the time limit for applications for grants out of the £2½ million funds up to September 1, 1963. No application that is not received in completed and definitive form by that date will be considered by the Committee; and no further extension of the time limit is contemplated.

This time limit does not apply to applications for grants out of the £500,000 fund allocated for assistance towards the settlement of agents' charges.

House adjourned at twenty-two minutes past ten o'clock.

July 2nd. 1963.

SECRET

B 7

To ... 1 JUL 1963

P.A. to ...

PHILBY

LONDON W.C. 7 PM 1 JUL 1963 A

Mrs. Milne,

18 Carrick Court,

Kennington Park Road,

London, S.E. 11.

TELEPHONE: HOLBORN 6061 (3 LINES) CHANCERY 5338.
TELEGRAMS: TOOXAM, HOLB, LONDON.

A & G TOOTH

SOLICITORS AND
COMMISSIONERS FOR OATHS

Gerald Tooth M.C.
Michael Tooth.

11, New Square,
Lincoln's Inn,
London, W.C.2.

AND AT { RADLETT, TEL. RADLETT 6121
BISLEY, TEL. BROOKWOOD 2169

OUR REF GT/H YOUR REF

1st July 1963.

Dear Mrs. Philby,

A line to let you know that Mr. Tomas Harris arrived from Spain last week and will I understand be in this country for a month.

I have not seen him personally but I have spoken to him by telephone.

As you know his address is:-

Garden Lodge,
Logan Place, W. 8.

and the telephone number is: Freemantle 8763.

Yours sincerely,

G Tooth

Mrs. Eleanor K. Philby,
c/o Mrs. Milne,
18 Carrick Court,
Kennington Park Road,
London, S.E. 11.

P.S. Since dictating this letter I have received the enclosed envelope addressed to you from the Wells Fargo Bank

July 2nd. 1963.

SECRET B 7

307

WELLS FARGO BANK

464 CALIFORNIA STREET
SAN FRANCISCO 20, CALIFORNIA

Mrs. Eleanor K. Philby

STOCK ASSIGNMENT

FOR VALUE RECEIVED.....*hereby sell, assign, and transfer*
unto .....
.....
of the.....*shares of the Capital Stock*
on the books of said.....*standing in*.....*name*
represented by Certificate No.....
and do hereby irrevocably constitute and appoint.....
.....
the said stock on the books of said Company with full power of substitution in the premises.

Dated..... *Signature*.....
Eleanor Kenney Philby

In the presence of..... *Signature*.....

NOTICE: The signature to this assignment must correspond with the name as written upon the face of this Certificate in every particular without alteration or enlargement or any change whatever.

MIS 121 (5-62) 30M - 8-62-(62155)

073

July 2nd. 1963.

SECRET B 7

307

Since 1852

WELLS FARGO BANK

June 26, 1963

TRUST DEPARTMENT

HEAD OFFICE
464 CALIFORNIA STREET
SAN FRANCISCO 20, CALIFORNIA

3-15321

Mrs. Eleanor K. Philby

Dear Mrs. Philby:

ESTATE OF NATHANIEL H. CALLARD

Your letter of June 20 has been received. We read of your unfortunate circumstances in Time Magazine but were informed by Mr. Copass that friends had heard from you and they stated that you had reported the situation under control and had simmered down. Be assured that you have our sympathy.

If you find that you are in need of funds for your support and maintenance, please notify us immediately. You should furnish a statement of your means and your requirements so that we will have sufficient information upon which we may base our judgment pursuant to the discretionary provisions of this trust.

In the meantime, you will recall that we are holding 135 shares Rayonier, Inc. and 22 shares Crown Zellerbach Corporation which are presently worth approximately $5,100 and expect another distribution of a like amount when Mr. Copass finally settles that matter in Seattle. It would be necessary for you to furnish stock assignments, forms enclosed, before either of these could be liquidated.

I am certain that you will find any one of the large New York Banks with offices in London will adequately serve you. If you would like us to write a letter of introduction to the bank you select, please advise us, giving the name and address of the bank of your choice. In the meantime, we will pay income to you from this trust by remittance of our New York draft to your order.

Sincerely yours,

H. Sahlberg
Assistant Trust Officer

Enclosures
hs;am

FORMERLY WELLS FARGO BANK AMERICAN TRUST COMPANY

113734

844B

SECRET. 1 JUL 1963

TEMPLE BAR 2151. (Communist Party H.Q.)

Outgoing. 1.7.63. Daily Worker Line.

Raji (PALME DUTT) to Sam (RUSSELL).

Raji had only just got back and had been taking a review of things and he gathered that Sam had not been looking in on Idris (COX) and the department lately, and he would like it to become regular again. They decided on Thursday mornings.

Sam had just received news that HEATH had made a statement in the House about PHILBY, and had said that he was behind the Iron Curtain. Raji said that he was waiting for that, although he had also wondered about Yemen in relation to him. Raji asked if they had been more specific. Sam said no, it was still coming over.

83-2295-163.

1616.

FLLT.

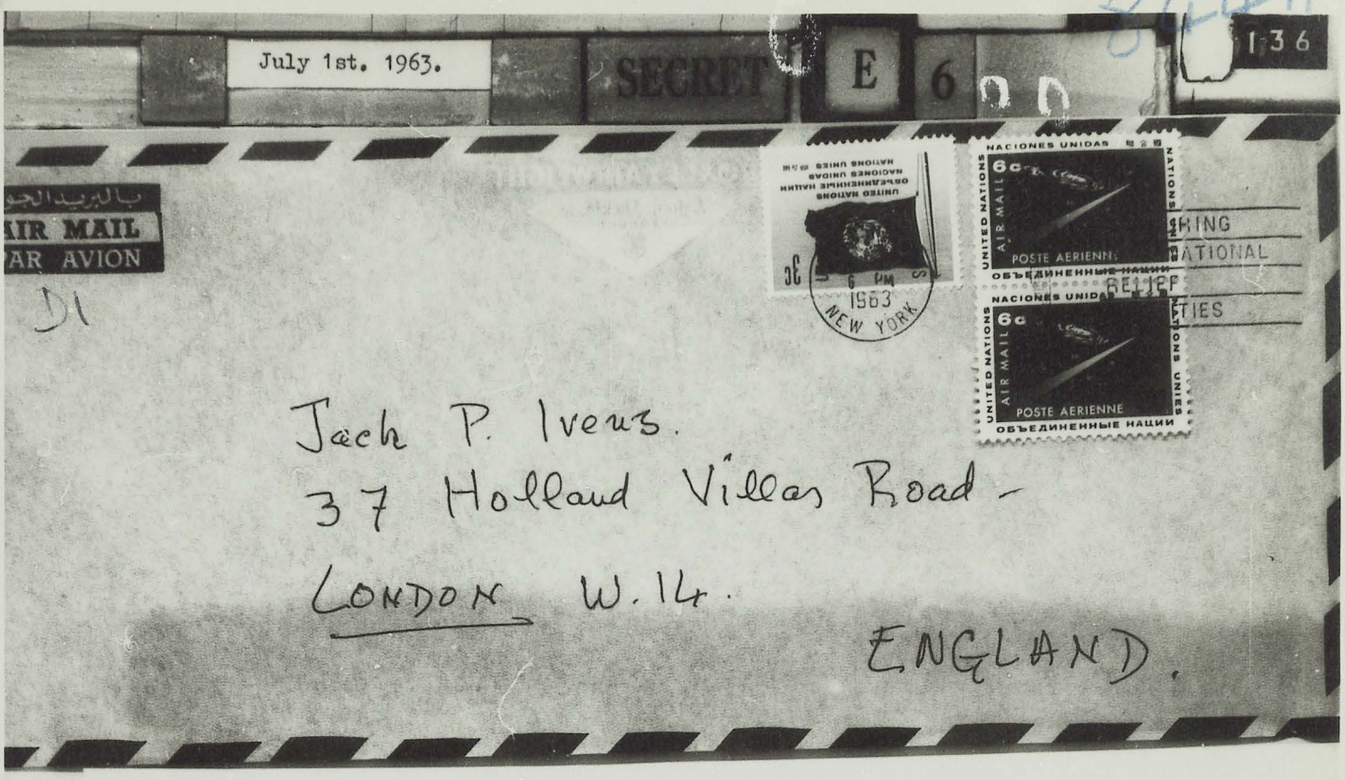
DI 47

PF 604584

PHILBY please

Held RS

1617 84 DI 10.7.63



TELEPHONE PLAZA 4-1234

CABLE ADDRESS UNICEF

TO D/EMB.
- 1 JUL 1963
P.A. in

PHILBY

UNICEF

UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND · FONDS DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENFANCE

UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK

June 27th 1963 -

My dear Eleanor - Just a note in great haste to thank you for your letter which reached me in Lagos. Since then we have packed up there & have been here in New York at meetings. We go on to the farm soon for a holiday with our young ones. We hope that Anne will join us there - we will love to have her. She is looking very well & quite happy & relaxed. Anna is greatly looking forward to having her.

We go to Geneva in September. I do hope that all your problems & uncertainties will soon be over.

I'll write again when I am more settled - Meanwhile our love & all the best to you -

Alice - SUTTON

Congratulations to Josephine - there is going to have one, too!

SECRET

843A

COPY for PF 604,584 - PEACH of T/C material from C.P.H.Q.

Receipt Date: 1.7.63.

TEMPLE BAR 2151 (Communist Party H.Q.)

Outgoing. 1.7.63. Daily Worker Line.

Raji (PALME DUTT) to Sam (RUSSELL).

Raji had only just got back and had been taking a review of things and he gathered that Sam had not been looking in on Idris (COX) and the department lately, and he would like it to become regular again. They decided on Thursday mornings.

Sam had just received news that HEATH had made a statement in the House about PHILBY, and had said that he was behind the Iron Curtain. Raji said that he was waiting for that, although he had also wondered about Yemen in relation to him. Raji asked if they had been more specific. Sam said no, it was still coming over.

83-2295-163.

1616.

FLLT.

SECRET

840a
842a.

June 28th. 1963. SECRET E 2

0227

839A

PA.
PHILBY
File

2212

June 28th. 1963. SECRET E 2 X

Eleanor.

TEL: WATLINGTON. OXON 257.

ORCHARD CLOSE,
BRITWELL SALOME,
WATLINGTON,
OXON.

June 26th.

My dear Eleanor

I'm afraid I found that there was not much money in Kim's account with the Westminster Bank when I ~~went~~ there yesterday. Intend ~~to be~~ precise only £60 odd. The reason for this being that nothing has come in from the Observer or Economist since February so the £100 (not £150) which you paid in on Feb: 21st + the £200 that ~~Dick~~ Pat paid in a few weeks ago has been more or less swallowed up by a) his overdraft + b.) his monthly outgoing expenses on John + Thomas (which have been £51 per month). + I have paid out on his account a few bills such as John's art school fees

So I have had to give the Bank instructions to pay Kim's monthly payments from my "B" a/c.
The Manager did not think it would take long for the money to come through from Kim a/c with the Bank of the Middle East & directly it does come, I will send you a cheque.
It's going to be pretty difficult there next month to meet the children's expenses so lets hope you get news of Kim soon, from their point of view, & not to mention yours.
I won't write more now because I have dozens of other letters to get down to & supper to cook for the family.
With love to you & Pat

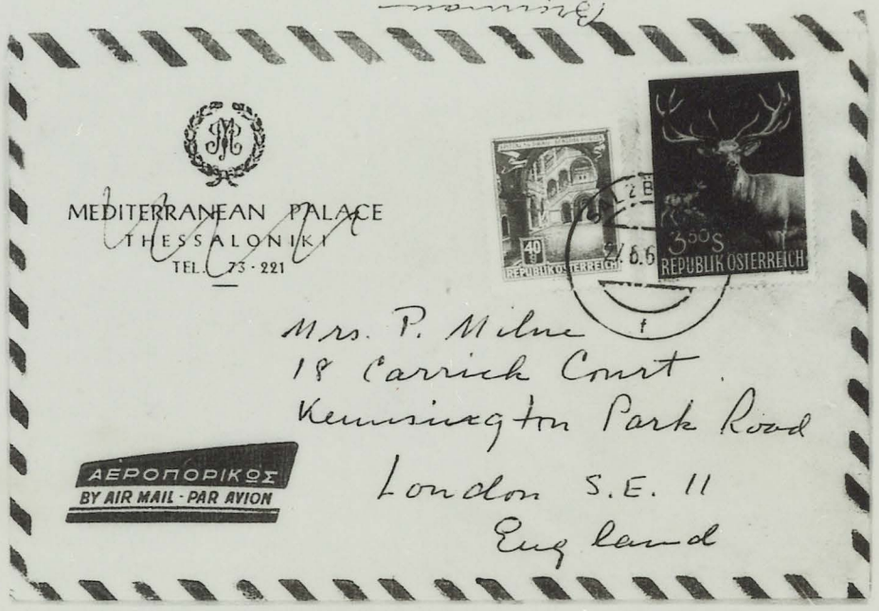
Melanie

June 28th. 1963. SECRET B 8

838A

Letter from Kay Brouwer American friend of Mrs. P.

PA. MILBY



serious cases.

MRS. PHILBY FLIES TO LONDON

FROM OUR MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT

BEIRUT, MAY 31

Mrs. Eleanor Philby, wife of Mr. H. A. R. Philby, the British journalist who disappeared in Beirut last January, left by air for a visit to London today. She was accompanied by two of Mr. Philby's children by a previous marriage who have been with her in Beirut.

11 MODERATES LEAVE TURKISH PARTY

ANKARA, May 31.—Eleven Turkish deputies and senators belonging to the moderate wing of the Opposition Justice Party announced tonight that they had resigned from the party. They stated that they would stay in Parliament as Independents.—*Reuter.*

LIMA.—Hugo Blanco, the Peruvian communist guerrilla leader who is alleged to have organized the disturbances in the Convencion valley near Cuzco at the end of 1962, has been captured after a police chase lasting five months.

Times - 1 June

— 1 June

Still Missing

Philby Flies to ... with Children

ilby, wife st Harold Beirut ing on a at to Lon- l her still ysterious her hus- eirut flat

irs. Philby ner hus- n, Miranda ld, 13 who ng with their since their father's disappearance on Jan. 23.

Mystery

But even as Mrs. Philby boarded the plane, just like her husband's departure from Lebanon, she too left a trail of mystery behind her, this time involving the son Harold.

Airport officials Friday evening confirmed that a British embassy official, Glenn Balfour-Paul, accompanied Mrs. Philby and the children to the airport.

Passport ?

Meanwhile, sources ... to the family disclosed that the son, who was registered on his father's passport, was issued a special «travel document» allowing him to leave the country. On the other hand, informants reported that the son may have left the country using his father's own passport.

Although this report could not be confirmed, these informants said that the presence of a British official at the airport was to vouch for the son, a minor, carrying his father's passport. Airport officials have refused to comment on the matter.

The departure of Mrs. Philby came as a surprise However, it was reliably learned that the British embassy in Beirut had known about Mrs. Philby's plans 3-days ago and her departure was arranged jointly.

Mrs. Philby flew on flight BA 901 which left Beirut International Airport one hour behind schedule. She indicated before her departure that she would be away for one month.

Philby, aged 51, was Middle East correspondent of the London «Observer» and ...

242

KV 2/1763

141 AMERICAN HOLIDAY MOTORING DEATHS

INVALIDS

Daily Star – 1 June

Husband Still Missing

Mrs. Philby Flies to London with Children

Mrs. Eleanor Philby, wife of missing journalist Harold «Kim» Philby, left Beirut early Friday morning on a BOAC non-stop flight to London, leaving behind her still unsolved the mysterious «disappearance» of her husband from their Beirut flat four months ago.

Accompanying Mrs. Philby to London were her husband's two children, Miranda aged 16 and Harold, 13 who have been living with their step-mother since their father's disappearance on Jan. 23.

Mystery

But even as Mrs. Philby boarded the plane, just like her husband's departure from Lebanon, she too left a trail of mystery behind her, this time involving the son Harold.

Airport officials Friday evening confirmed that a British embassy official, Glenn Balfour-Paul, accompanied Mrs. Philby and the children to the airport.

Passport ?

Meanwhile, sources close to the family disclosed that the son, who was registered on his father's passport, was issued a special «travel document» allowing him to leave the country. On the other hand, informants reported that the son may have left the country using his father's own passport.

Although this report could not be confirmed, these informants said that the presence of a British official at the airport was to vouch for the son, a minor, carrying his father's passport. Airport officials have refused to comment on the matter.

The departure of Mrs. Philby came as a surprise However, it was reliably learned that the British embassy in Beirut had known about Mrs. Philby's plans 3-days ago and her departure was arranged jointly.

Mrs. Philby flew on flight BA 901 which left Beirut International Airport one hour behind schedule. She indicated before her departure that she would be away for one month.

Philby, aged 51, was Middle East correspondent of the London «Observer» and «Economist». His wife reported his disappearance to the Lebanese security authorities on Jan. 24 but two days later asked that the search for him be called off. On March 2 the «Observer» reported that it had sought the aid of the British Foreign office in tracing him.

In Yemen?

UAR authorities stated in March that they had no record of Philby's entry into Egypt. They also stated that a cable sent in his name from Cairo to his wife in Beirut was not in fact signed by Philby.

Later reports by Middle East News Agency alleged Philby was with the royalists in Yemen while a London newspaper report suggested he was serving with the Yemeni Republican government as an adviser.

In Beirut, security officials confirmed at the time that they had no record of Philby's departure from Lebanon. Officials later said that if he returned to Lebanon he will be questioned on the way he left the country.

Kaigasse 19 – Salzburg 26 June 1963

HOTEL "NORMANDY"

AVENUE DES FRANÇAIS - BEYROUTH (LIBAN)

Dear E.

Home at last & exhausted after nearly 3 weeks on the road. Myrtle turned out to be the perfect travel companion (how very lucky I was after all) & we had a wonderful time. Trip took a week longer than either of us had expected & she had to cable the office for leave extension. But I am sure she enjoyed the trip as much as I did. I left her in Rijeka where she was to board a ship for Corfu thence to Idra to inspect her property which she has never really seen.

It is good to be home. Inga had my flat newly painted & I am slowly – but slowly & with many rests – moving back in. It's almost as hard to unpack as to pack. The crate from Debbas arrived at the same time I did. Inga was in Dornbirn but Albert was here & what a welcome he gave me – screamed with joy and wriggled all over the place. Wouldn't let me out of his sight & naturally slept with me or rather on me. I loved waking up to find his little tail, hind feet in air, on my pillow.

But – no word from you, which I had hoped to have on arrival. Hope you got my letter from somewhere in England! Please

HOTEL "NORMANDY"
AVENUE DES FRANÇAIS - BEYROUTH (LIBAN)

write. I am worried since I have heard absolutely nothing since your departure which was 4 weeks ago tomorrow. I feel very out of touch after weeks in lower England & am going to buy your favorite mag rag to get caught up. But please, please write if nothing more than just a note to say that you & the kids are alright.

No word from Lorraine either but I shall write her now.

Much love to you & the kids

K.

Am enclosing 2 clips - which you have probably seen by this time -

Reference PF.604,584

837A

NOTE

PEACH

D.G. told me today that the latest draft had been shown to Mr. Heath, who dislikes it.

Informed D.1.

M.E.D. Cumming

D.

28th June 1963

CODE 18-76

Kept D 28.6