

or will come under, the detailed observation and investigation of the Settlement Officers. The light which will be thrown on the whole agrarian situation in Champaran by their labours will be sufficient to enable Government to decide what measures, if any, are required to be taken in the interests of all classes concerned."

The Hon'ble Babu Braja Kishor Prasad asked :—

"(a) Will the Government be pleased to state the number of listed posts reserved for members of the Provincial Civil Service ? Listed appointments in Bihar and Orissa.

"(b) How many of these appointments are reserved for members of the Executive Branch and how many for members of the Judicial Branch of that Service ?

"(c) How many of these are at present held by members of the Provincial Civil Service ?

"(d) Do the Government intend to show special consideration to the claims of Bihari officers in this matter ?"

The Hon'ble Mr. LeMesurier replied :—

"(a) and (b) The Hon'ble Member is referred to the reply given to the Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Saiyid Fakhr-ud-din at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 17th January 1914 and to that given to the Hon'ble Babu Bishun Prasad at the present meeting.

"(c) At present three of these posts are held by members of the Provincial Civil Service and one by a member of the Statutory Civil Service.

"(d) The claims of natives of the Province are fully recognized in the case of all new appointments, but the promotion of officers already in the service of Government is determined by merit irrespective of race. It would be extremely unfair if officers already in the service of Government were debarred on racial grounds from the promotion which they have earned by their ability, experience and consistent good work."

The Hon'ble Babu Braja Kishor Prasad asked :—

"(a) Will the Government be pleased to state if a Circular has been issued from the office of the Director of Public Instruction to the effect (i) that students who are absent from College on any working day or for any part of a working day without leave from the Principal may be fined two annas for each day and one anna for part of a day in a Government College, and two annas or one anna per day and one anna or two pice for part of a day in an aided College, and (ii) that formal leave will be granted by the Principal on receipt of a letter explaining the reasons for the absence duly signed or countersigned by the father or the authorized guardian of the student or by the Superintendent in the case of boarders and (iii) that in case of concerted action without leave on the part of students on or before the 3rd day of such absence the names of the absentees will be struck off the College rolls ? Issue of a Circular by the Director of Public Instruction imposing fines on students absenting themselves without leave.

"(b) Will the Government be pleased to state the reasons which have led to the promulgation of the aforesaid Circular ?

"(c) Will the Government be pleased to state if any such Circular is in force in Bengal ?

"(d) Will the Government be pleased to state if they are aware of the fact that under the University Regulations students are required to attend only 75 per cent. of lectures delivered in their classes in order to qualify themselves for appearing at the University Examination ?"

The Hon'ble Mr. LeMesurier replied :—

"(a) The answer is in the affirmative. The rules leave a wide discretionary power to the Principal.