

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY POST MASTER'S CIRCULAR.

557. Mr. Jamnadas Dwarkadas : (a) Are Government aware of a circular letter issued by the Presidency Postmaster, Bombay, proposing to lease out to such of the clerks desiring it a building constructed by the Bombay City Improvement Trust at a nominal rent of Rs. 33 per set of rooms?

(b) Will Government be pleased to say whether the rent demanded is the nominal rent in Bombay for a couple of rooms, and, if so, whether they will please consider the question of granting a suitable house-rent for the clerical cadre in Bombay City?

Mr. C. A. Innes : (a) Yes.

(b) The rent named by the Honourable Member is the rent fixed by the Bombay Improvement Trust. The Postmaster-General is now submitting proposals for the purchase of one or more of these tenements by Government for the housing of their employees.

RECOVERY OF EXCESS AMOUNT FROM A POSTAL CLERK.

558. Mr. Jamnadas Dwarkadas : (a) Are Government aware of a Circular issued by the Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs directing recovery of any excess amount due to Government after deduction of the arrears of pay due to a clerk from the one month's advance of pay granted before the introduction of the revised scales of pay and are they aware that this order, if carried out, would cause great hardship?

(b) Do Government propose to consider the advisability of waiving all dues?

Mr. C. A. Innes : The Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs has already represented the matter to the Government, and it has been decided that the recovery of any excess amount due to Government should be waived.

RAILWAY MAIL SERVICE SORTERS.

559. Mr. Jamnadas Dwarkadas : Are Government aware of the serious hardship caused to the Railway Mail Service sorters of the 'B' Division who have to stay in Bombay in the interest of service and do Government propose to consider the grant of the same scale of pay for them as is allowed in the Foreign Mail Service?

Mr. C. A. Innes : The question of raising the pay of the men of 'B' Division, Railway Mail Service, whose headquarters are fixed at Bombay, is under consideration. It should be noted, however, that the conditions of service are not the same as in the Foreign Mail Division.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE POSTAL INQUIRY COMMITTEE.

560. Mr. Jamnadas Dwarkadas : (a) Is it a fact that the recommendations of the Postal Committee of Inquiry were returned to that Committee for reconsideration as being too extravagant? If so, will Government lay on the table their original report?

(b) Has any correspondence passed between the Government and the Committee ever since the hearings began? If so, will Government be pleased to lay it on the table?