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Wednesday
21st June, 1961

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

DEWAN RA'AYAT
(HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES)

OFFICIAL REPORT

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FEDERATION OF MALAYA
DEWAN RA'AYAT
(HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES)

Official Report

Third Session of the First Dewan Ra'ayat

Wednesday, 21st June, 1961

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

PRESENT:

The Honourable Mr. Speaker, DATO' HAJI MOHAMED NOAH BIN OMAR,
S.P.M.J., D.P.M.B., P.I.S., J.P.

„ the Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs,
Y.T.M. TUNKU ABDUL RAHMAN PUTRA AL-HAJ, K.O.M.
(Kuala Kedah).

„ the Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Defence and
Minister of Rural Development, TUN HAJI ABDUL
RAZAK BIN DATO' HUSSAIN, S.M.N. (Pekan).

„ the Minister of Internal Security and Minister of the
Interior, DATO' DR. ISMAIL BIN DATO' HAJI ABDUL
RAHMAN, P.M.N. (Johor Timor).

„ the Minister of Finance, ENCHE' TAN SIEW SIN, J.P. (Melaka
Tengah).

„ the Minister of Works, Posts and Telecommunications,
DATO' V. T. SAMBANTHAN, P.M.N. (Sungai Siput).

„ the Minister of Transport, DATO' SARDON BIN HAJI JUBIR,
P.M.N. (Pontian Utara).

„ the Minister of Health and Social Welfare, DATO' ONG
YOKE LIN, P.M.N. (Ulu Selangor).

„ the Minister of Commerce and Industry, ENCHE' MOHAMED
KHIR BIN JOHARI (Kedah Tengah).

„ the Minister of Education, ENCHE' ABDUL RAHMAN BIN
HAJI TALIB (Kuantan).

„ the Assistant Minister of Information and Broadcasting,
TUAN SYED JA'AFAR ALBAR BIN HASAN ALBAR, J.M.N.
(Johor Tenggara).

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

„ the Assistant Minister of Rural Development, TUAN HAJI
ABDUL KHALID BIN AWANG OSMAN (Kota Star Utara).

„ the Assistant Minister of Labour, ENCHE' V. MANICKA-
VASAGAM, J.M.N., P.J.K. (Klang).

„ the Assistant Minister of the Interior, ENCHE' MOHAMED
ISMAIL BIN MOHAMED YUSOF (Jerei).

- The Honourable ENCHE' ABDUL GHANI BIN ISHAK, A.M.N. (Melaka Utara).
- „ ENCHE' ABDUL RAUF BIN A. RAHMAN (Krian Laut).
- „ ENCHE' ABDUL SAMAD BIN OSMAN (Sungai Patani).
- „ TUAN HAJI ABDULLAH BIN HAJI ABDUL RAOF (Kuala Kangsar).
- „ TUAN HAJI ABDULLAH BIN HAJI MOHD. SALLEH, A.M.N., P.I.S. (Segamat Utara).
- „ TUAN HAJI AHMAD BIN ABDULLAH (Kota Bharu Hilir).
- „ ENCHE' AHMAD BIN ARSHAD, A.M.N. (Muar Utara).
- „ ENCHE' AHMAD BOESTAMAM (Setapak).
- „ TUAN HAJI AHMAD BIN SAAID (Seberang Utara).
- „ ENCHE' AHMAD BIN HAJI YUSOF, P.J.K. (Krian Darat).
- „ TUAN HAJI AZAHARI BIN HAJI IBRAHIM (Kubang Pasu Barat).
- „ ENCHE' AZIZ BIN ISHAK (Muar Dalam).
- „ DR. BURHANUDDIN BIN MOHD. NOOR (Besut).
- „ ENCHE' CHAN SIANG SUN (Bentong).
- „ ENCHE' CHAN SWEE HO (Ulu Kinta).
- „ ENCHE' CHAN YOON ONN (Kampar).
- „ ENCHE' CHIN SEE YIN (Seremban Timor).
- „ ENCHE' V. DAVID (Bungsar).
- „ DATIN FATIMAH BINTI HAJI HASHIM, P.M.N. (Jitra-Padang Terap).
- „ ENCHE' GEH CHONG KEAT (Penang Utara).
- „ ENCHE' HAMZAH BIN ALANG, A.M.N. (Kapar).
- „ ENCHE' HANAFI BIN MOHD. YUNUS, A.M.N. (Kulim Utara).
- „ ENCHE' HARUN BIN ABDULLAH, A.M.N. (Baling).
- „ TUAN HAJI HASAN ADLI BIN HAJI ARSHAD (Kuala Trengganu Utara).
- „ TUAN HAJI HASSAN BIN HAJI AHMAD (Tumpat).
- „ ENCHE' HASSAN BIN MANSOR (Melaka Selatan).
- „ ENCHE' HUSSEIN BIN TO' MUDA HASSAN (Raub).
- „ ENCHE' HUSSEIN BIN MOHD. NOORDIN, A.M.N., P.J.K. (Parit).
- „ TUAN HAJI HUSSAIN RAHIMI BIN HAJI SAMAN (Kota Bharu Hulu).
- „ ENCHE' IBRAHIM BIN ABDUL RAHMAN (Seberang Tengah).
- „ ENCHE' ISMAIL BIN IDRIS (Penang Selatan).
- „ ENCHE' KANG KOCK SENG (Batu Pahat).
- „ ENCHE' K. KARAM SINGH (Damansara).
- „ CHE' KHADIJAH BINTI MOHD. SIDEK (Dungun).
- „ ENCHE' KHONG KOK YAT (Batu Gajah).
- „ ENCHE' LEE SAN CHOON (Kluang Utara).
- „ ENCHE' LEE SECK FUN (Tanjong Malim).
- „ ENCHE' LEE SIOK YEW, A.M.N. (Sepang).
- „ ENCHE' LIM JOO KONG (Alor Star).
- „ DR. LIM SWEE AUN, J.P. (Larut Selatan).

The Honourable ENCHE' LIU YOONG PENG (Rawang).

- „ ENCHE' T. MAHIMA SINGH, J.P. (Port Dickson).
- „ ENCHE' MOHAMED BIN UJANG (Jelebu-Jempol).
- „ ENCHE' MOHAMED ABBAS BIN AHMAD (Hilir Perak).
- „ ENCHE' MOHAMED ASRI BIN HAJI MUDA (Pasir Puteh).
- „ ENCHE' MOHAMED DAHARI BIN HAJI MOHD. ALI (Kuala Selangor).
- „ ENCHE' MOHAMED NOR BIN MOHD. DAHAN (Ulu Perak).
- „ ENCHE' MOHAMED SULONG BIN MOHD. ALI, J.M.N. (Lipis).
- „ ENCHE' MOHAMED YUSOF BIN MAHMUD, A.M.N. (Temerloh).
- „ TUAN HAJI MOKHTAR BIN HAJI ISMAIL (Perlis Selatan).
- „ ENCHE' OTHMAN BIN ABDULLAH (Tanah Merah).
- „ ENCHE' OTHMAN BIN ABDULLAH, A.M.N. (Perlis Utara).
- „ TUAN HAJI REDZA BIN HAJI MOHD. SAID (Rembau-Tampin).
- „ ENCHE' SEAH TENG NGIAB (Muar Pantai).
- „ ENCHE' S. P. SEENIVASAGAM (Menglembu).
- „ TUAN SYED ESA BIN ALWEE, J.M.N., S.M.J., P.I.S. (Batu Pahat Dalam).
- „ TUAN SYED HASHIM BIN SYED AJAM, A.M.N., P.J.K. (Sabak Bernam).
- „ ENCHE' TAN CHENG BEE, J.P. (Bagan).
- „ ENCHE' TAN PHOCK KIN (Tanjong).
- „ ENCHE' TAN TYE CHEK (Kulim-Bandar Bahru).
- „ TENGKU BESAR INDERA RAJA IBNI AL-MARHUM SULTAN IBRAHIM, D.K., P.M.N. (Ulu Kelantan).
- „ DATO' TEOH CHZE CHONG, D.P.M.J., J.P. (Segamat Selatan).
- „ ENCHE' TOO JOON HING (Telok Anson).
- „ ENCHE' V. VEERAPPEN (Seberang Selatan).
- „ WAN MUSTAPHA BIN HAJI ALI (Kelantan Hilir).
- „ WAN SULAIMAN BIN WAN TAM, P.J.K. (Kota Star Selatan).
- „ WAN YAHYA BIN HAJI WAN MOHAMED (Kemaman).
- „ ENCHE' YAHYA BIN HAJI AHMAD (Bagan Datoh).
- „ ENCHE' YEOH TAT BENG (Bruas).
- „ PUAN HAJJAH ZAIN BINTI SULAIMAN, J.M.N., P.I.S. (Pontian Selatan).
- „ TUAN HAJI ZAKARIA BIN HAJI MOHD. TAIB (Langat).
- „ ENCHE' ZULKIFLEE BIN MUHAMMAD (Bachok).

ABSENT:

- The Honourable DATO' SULEIMAN BIN DATO' HAJI ABDUL RAHMAN, P.M.N. (Minister without Portfolio) (Muar Selatan) (*on leave*).
- „ the Minister of Agriculture and Co-operatives, ENCHE' ABDUL AZIZ BIN ISHAK (Kuala Langat).
 - „ the Minister of Labour, ENCHE' BAHAMAN BIN SAMSUDIN (Kuala Pilah).
 - „ the Assistant Minister of Commerce and Industry, ENCHE' CHEAH THEAM SWEE (Bukit Bintang).

The Honourable ENCHE' AHMAD BIN MOHAMED SHAH, S.M.J. (Johore Bahru Barat).

- „ ENCHE' CHAN CHONG WEN, A.M.N. (Kluang Selatan).
- „ ENCHE' HARUN BIN PILUS (Trengganu Tengah).
- „ ENCHE' LIM KEAN SIEW (Dato Kramat).
- „ DATO' MOHAMED HANIFAH BIN HAJI ABDUL GHANI, P.J.K. (Pasir Mas Hulu).
- „ NIK MAN BIN NIK MOHAMED (Pasir Mas Hilir).
- „ ENCHE' NG ANN TECK (Batu).
- „ DATO' ONN BIN JA'AFAR, D.K., D.P.M.J. (Kuala Trengganu Selatan).
- „ ENCHE' QUEK KAI DONG, J.P. (Seremban Barat).
- „ ENCHE' D. R. SEENIVASAGAM (Ipoh).
- „ ENCHE' TAJUDIN BIN ALI, P.J.K. (Larut Utara).
- „ ENCHE' TAN KEE GAK (Bandar Malacca).
- „ ENCHE' YONG WOO MING (Sitiawan).

IN ATTENDANCE:

The Honourable the Minister of Justice, TUN LEONG YEW KOH, S.M.N.

PRAYERS

(Mr. Speaker in the Chair)

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Bantuan kepada pekebun² kecil

1. Enche' Ahmad bin Arshad (Muar Utara) bertanya kepada Menteri Perdagangan dan Perusahaan ada-kah Kerajaan berchadang hendak menambah bantuan kepada pekebun² kecil getah daripada \$600 jadi \$800; jika demikian, bila.

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Enche' Mohamed Khir Johari): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, berkenaan dengan chadangan hendak menambah bantuan kepada pekebun kecil, perkara ini Kerajaan telah melantek sa-buah jawatan-kuasa, dan penyata jawatan-kuasa itu akan dikeluarkan tidak berapa lama lagi.

Bantuan menanam sa-mula kelapa dan pokok buah²an

2. Enche' Ahmad bin Arshad bertanya kepada Menteri Pertanian dan Sharikat² Kerjasama apa-kah bantuan yang diberi oleh Kerajaan kepada petani² (a) untuk menanam sa-mula pokok kelapa;

(b) untuk menanam sa-mula pokok² buah²an.

The Minister of Transport (Dato' Sardon bin Haji Jubir): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya menjawab bagi pehak rakan saya kerana ia tidak ada di-sini.

Kerajaan tidak memberi bantuan ke-bendaan atau kewangan kepada petani² untuk menanam sa-mula pohon² kelapa atau pohon buah²an. Bagaimana pun, ada di-beri bantuan berupa nasihat tentang ranchangan dan chara menanam sa-mula kelapa atau pokok buah²an, dan bagaimana mendapat alat² tanaman, baja dan sa-bagai-nya. Bantuan kebendaan ada-lah di-berikan, sabagai-mana Ahli Yang Berhormat sendiri ma'alum, untuk ranchangan menanam sa-mula getah di-mana petani² bersetuju hendak menanam kelapa atau buah²an dalam tanah getah tua mereka. Bantuan kewangan melalui pinjaman untuk memajukan kebun² kelapa boleh di-dapati daripada Lembaga Pinjaman kepada pekebun² kecil dalam empat buah negeri yang dahulu-nya di-sebut Negeri² Melayu Bersekutu (F.M.S.).

Dalam Ranchangan Lima Tahun Kedua, sa-bagaimana yang terma'alum oleh Ahli Yang Berhormat sendiri, peruntokan wang telah di-perolehi untuk memberi bantuan menanam sa-mula

pokok² kelapa dan pokok buah²an dan kerja² menyiapkan kedua² ranchangan itu sedang di-teruskan dan segala pertolongan akan di-beri dalam tahun 1962.

MOTIONS

EMPLOYEES PROVIDENT FUND—ALLEGED MAL- ADMINISTRATION

Order read for resumption of debate on Question,

"This House expresses grave concern over the mal-administration of the Employees Provident Fund and calls upon the Government to institute an inquiry into the same in the public interest."

Question again proposed.

The Minister of Finance (Enche' Tan Siew Sin): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I note that the Honourable Member for Bungsar looks fit and fresh this morning . . .

Enche' V. David (Bungsar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, has it any relevance to the subject? I am always fresh and healthy. I am not suffering from any chronic disease like the Honourable Member (*Laughter*).

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: . . . and I hope, like me, he is looking forward with equal eagerness to a further examination of this rather interesting subject.

Sir, let us now deal with some of his more specific allegations. He started off by saying that security arrangements in the Board's premises were so slack that an intruder was even able to gain entry into those premises. Needless to add, this story, which must obviously have sprung from the depths of his imagination—and Honourable Members will probably agree that he has a highly developed sense of fiction—is completely without foundation.

The Honourable Member also quoted a number of audit queries which, according to him, reflected adversely on the Board of the Fund. To begin with, audit queries are not a Ministerial responsibility. If the Auditor-General is not satisfied with the way the affairs of the Fund have been conducted, he will

so report and, as I have informed Honourable Members, his reports so far have been eminently satisfactory. I have no doubt that the members of the Board, unlike the Honourable Member for Bungsar who, mercifully, is blessed with an unusually tough epidermis, would take suitable remedial measures if the Auditor-General had commented adversely on any aspect of the Board's financial management.

In the course of his long and vicious speech, he tried to give examples of alleged misdemeanours by the Fund. When one is dealing with over one million accounts, it is obviously not possible to give a detailed reply to allegations of what, after all, are only minor mistakes made in good faith, even if they were true. Perfection of operation must necessarily depend not only on the Fund's staff itself, but upon complete and flawless co-operation between the three parties to the transaction, namely, the Fund itself, the employer and the employee. Any act of omission or carelessness on the part of any of these three parties can delay postings, payments on withdrawal, and the like. I believe that any reasonable man, after hearing the speech of the Honourable Member for Bungsar last night, would have been surprised to learn that the number of mistakes have been so small considering the magnitude of the Fund's operations, and it should be remembered that the Honourable Member for Bungsar has left no stone unturned in his effort to smear the name of the Board as much as possible. It is not, however, altogether surprising, because the Fund is aware of the tremendous difficulties it has to contend with and is continually endeavouring to improve its organisation, including its accounting arrangements, and has installed the most modern and elaborate mechanical equipment in order to help it in this very essential task. In fact, I myself find this mechanised accounting so fascinating that it is interesting to me even on subsequent visits; and if Honourable Members would care to pay a visit to the Fund's office in Petaling Jaya, I have no doubt that they would be welcomed by the Board's Staff.

In this connection, it may be interesting to add that the Honourable mover of the motion is a frequent visitor to the Board's office, where he is treated with courtesy and respect, which he does not reciprocate; and great trouble is taken by the officers of the Fund concerned to see that all the matters he raises are dealt with to his satisfaction. But the matters he raises with the management of the Fund are never the matters he raises in this House, and it is curious that the cases he quotes in the House are almost invariably not originated by outside complainants, but are extracted from the Board's records of cases discovered and corrected within the Board's office. The Honourable Member manages to secure a great deal of half-baked and half-understood information by subversion of junior officers of the Fund whom he induces at the risk of their jobs, but needless to add at no risk to himself, to bring to him what in their ignorance they believe to be examples of mal-administration and which he in his own interest represents to this House as such. In other words, he repays the courtesy and consideration shown to him by the officers of the Fund by subverting their staff and attacking them in a place where they cannot defend themselves. It would have been simple for him to raise with officers of the Fund all these matters which he raises in this House, but he never does so, preferring to use them to derogate the management of the Fund. Why should the Honourable Member show so much enmity and bitterness towards this particular organisation? I cannot think that he has any personal animosity against any individual, and the only conclusion I can draw is that despite all the mismanagement he alleges, the organisation is never quite ill enough to manage to lose the records of the Honourable Member's own unscrupulous transactions (*Applause*).

Incidentally, I think it would not be inappropriate to congratulate the Board's staff on having unearthed the little bit of relevant history which I related last night. In all my 13 years in the Legislature of this country, I have never seen such terror as was written

on the face of the Honourable mover of the motion last night. It is the story of a man whose sole object was to do harm to others but ended up by harming himself.

Enche' V. David: We can see that outside the Chamber.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: I must say that I am indebted to the Honourable Member for giving us the opportunity which we would otherwise have lacked.

I can assure the Honourable Member that the Board will do everything in its power to improve its accounting arrangements in particular, and will devote itself with renewed vigour to the punishment of defaulters. It may even seek to enlist the help of the Honourable Member himself in this connection as he has proved to be so knowledgeable, and I have no doubt that the Honourable mover of this motion, in view of the fact that he obviously feels very strongly that defaulters should be prosecuted, will also insist that they should be pursued to the bitter end however high their station in life might be, even though they might be distinguished trade unionists, who have blossomed into Members of Parliament. It is particularly despicable to defraud those who earn their living by the sweat of their brow, and I have no doubt that the Honourable Member for Bungsar, who is always so concerned about the welfare of the poor and the under-privileged, must be particularly anxious that the Board should suitably deal with employers who fail to live up to their obligations in this regard, particularly those who are also trade unionists and Members of Parliament at the same time and who should therefore know better.

Finally, Sir, I think that this House would like me, on behalf of the Government, to acknowledge the sterling services rendered both by the Board and the Fund not only to the working people of this country but indeed to the country as a whole (*Applause*). This institution, which started from very small beginnings not so many years ago, now has assets

approaching \$600 million. In the foreseeable future this institution is expected to have assets totalling well over \$3,000 million. These assets continue to grow, and grow impressively with every year that passes, so much so that today it can be said to be the bulwark of the Government's Five-Year Development Plan (*Applause*). I submit, Sir, that that fact in itself gives the lie to any allegations of mismanagement. A mis-managed institution does not grow from small beginnings to a size of \$600 million in a few years. If that Plan—the Development Plan about which I have already spoken—proves to be a success, and I have no reason to believe that it will be otherwise, the Board can claim that its substantial resources made a valuable contribution towards that end. I have no doubt too that the Board's organisation will improve with the years in spite of difficult employers and, as I have already pointed out, we have quite a few of such people, though not many like the Honourable mover of the motion, who is admittedly one of the most unique of them and is in a class by himself.

I can end on no better note than by asking the House to reject this motion, and reject it decisively, coupled with an acknowledgment to the Board of our appreciation of a splendid job well and truly done under difficult circumstances, a job which is at the same time making a massive contribution to our future economic growth and prosperity (*Applause*).

Enche' Tan Phock Kin (Tanjong): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have heard the Honourable the Minister of Finance last night and this morning, and Honourable Members will agree with me that the bulk of the speech of the Minister is devoted not so much towards explaining away the maladministration but is concerned mainly with abusing the Honourable Member for Bungsar. Hiding under parliamentary privilege, he has called the Honourable Member for Bungsar a cheat without producing evidence . . .

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. That word has already been withdrawn.

Enche' V. David: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on a point of order, the Honourable the Minister of Finance has been allowed to dwell on an irrelevant subject; therefore, we must have equal opportunity to reply to the allegations.

Mr. Speaker: On what point of order?

Enche' V. David: Standing Order 36 (1) in regard to irrelevancy.

Mr. Speaker: I have ruled the matter relating to the Union as out of order.

Enche' V. David: Sir, it would be unfair on the part of this House not to hear the other side of the story in regard to the Union—the allegation made.

Mr. Speaker: I have already ruled that out.

Enche' Tan Phock Kin: Sir, he went on to discuss various matters with regard to the points raised by the Honourable Member for Bungsar, but I am afraid he failed to substantiate his allegations. Many a time Honourable Members of this House raised points of order, but determined as he was to say what he proposed to say he even tried to mislead this House by telling us that what he proposed to say about the Union was relevant though knowing very well that it was irrelevant. The very deplorable performance of the Honourable Minister is testimony of his cowardly character and, to say the least, he had acted in a manner most unbecoming for a Minister of the Government. If we were to go back to the question of upbringing, again, I must say that I am surprised that so eminent a father could have produced so cowardly a son.

I do not know whether his action is condoned by the Government, but we on this side of the House would definitely like to have a clarification. If debates in this House are going to degenerate into such a level, and if character assassination is going to be allowed in this House, then I am afraid Members on this side of the House may be forced in the last resort to the

same method of debate. I am sure that if we were to bring up the activities of the Honourable the Minister of Finance—his activities in Malacca—they may not bear close scrutiny in this House. So, I hope, Sir, that an assurance will be given in this House by the Government that it regrets the deplorable utterances of the Minister and that the debate of this House in future will not degenerate to such a level.

I shall now come to specific replies given by the Minister. He was arguing that the cases raised by the Honourable Member for Bungsar are so small that, because of that, everything is well in the Employees Provident Fund. I must point out here that the Honourable Member for Bungsar has only brought up issues which he himself is aware and if members of the Government Bench are active enough to go round and speak to the various people who have accounts with the E.P.F. I feel sure that they themselves will discover that quite a great proportion of the population are not by any means satisfied with the manner in which the E.P.F. is being run, and the proposals for a Commission of Inquiry is a very reasonable proposal. After all even the Minister himself admits that the E.P.F. being such a huge organisation having so many contributors obviously cannot be run perfectly. But I feel sure that it is the objective of the Government and of every Ministry to run their departments perfectly. That should be the objective. One should not put forward the excuse that because an organisation is big we can condone mistakes which are being made by that organisation. The Minister himself has pointed out that the Employees Provident Fund concerns with three big bodies—firstly, employers; secondly employees; and thirdly, the Fund. But never have the Government made any attempt to get view points of these three sections of people who are concerned in the E.P.F. The employers may have their grievances in regard to the inadequacies of the E.P.F.; the employees may have their grievances; and the Fund many also have some problems. And I feel sure that only a Committee

of Inquiry can get down to all these problems and perhaps put forward a Report that will pave the way for making the E.P.F. a perfect organisation. We must realise that the E.P.F. is concerned with the funds of both employers and employees—in other words, funds of the general public—amounting to millions and millions of dollars, and the fact that the assets of the E.P.F. is increasing year after year is no testimony of its efficiency. Any organisation if given the opportunity of running an E.P.F. even under the most inefficient conditions should also have assets, but my contention is that if the E.P.F. is run efficiently the rate of increase of assets would be higher than what it is today and I see no reason why the Minister of Finance should feel so perturbed because the Honourable Member for Bungsar brought up such a reasonable proposal. I see no reason why he should abuse the Honourable Member for Bungsar just because of this. If the Honourable Member for Bungsar had started by attacking the Minister personally I would have understood the anxiety of the Minister to attack back, but I have listened very attentively to the Honourable Member for Bungsar and on no occasion did he attack the Minister personally. Therefore, it has been most surprising to me to hear the speech of the Honourable Minister on such a line.

I would here put forward another suggestion for consideration by the Ministry, in the hope that they will agree to the constitution of a Commission of Inquiry. I think one of the most inadequate provisions in the E.P.F. is the fact that the E.P.F. makes no provision for differences in the purchasing power of money. It would be seen that anybody contributing to the E.P.F. does so for a period of so many years and when he comes of age and withdraws his money the cost of living may have increased tremendously and, therefore, the money he receives back will have lesser purchasing power than at the time when he contributed it towards the E.P.F. I believe that the E.P.F. in other countries have provisions to vary its value

with any variations in purchasing power, and I feel sure that a Commission of Inquiry can look into this question and evolve a system whereby contributors to the E.P.F. will not be made to suffer because of an increase or decrease in the purchasing power of money.

With all this I feel that the constitution of a Commission of Inquiry is very necessary, from various points of view—from the point of view of the Administration and also from the point of view of equity. I hope the Minister concerned will give very serious consideration to this and not allow his personal views to prevent him from accepting a very reasonable proposal.

Enche' Mohamed Sulong bin Mohd.

Ali (Lipis): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya bangun membangkang chadangan yang di-bawa oleh Yang Berhormat dari Bungsar. Saya sangat dukachita kerana chadangan ini di-bawa ka-dalam Parliamen, sebab sa-tahu saya perkara ini telah bangkit beberapa kali dan saya sendiri telah berchakap berkenaan dengan Provident Fund. Sa-tahu saya sa-patut-nya ada rungutan daripada Trade Union yang ada mewakili mereka itu dalam Board. Saya menga-kuai ada sedikit kesusahan berkenaan dengan orang yang masuk sa-bagai ahli E.P.F., tetapi ini ada-lah bersangkutan-paut dengan Undang². Mithal-nya, jika sa-saorang itu masuk menjadi ahli E.P.F. nominee-nya di-taroh pada orang lain, kemudian apabila ia mati, warith-nya menda'awa tentu-lah ta' dapat di-jelaskan, melainkan wang-nya itu di-bayar kepada nominee.

Bagitu juga berkenaan dengan pekerja di-dalam-nya yang di-tudoh sa-bagaimana yang kita telah ambil tindakan yang sekarang ini dalam pembicharaan. Perkara ini bukan-lah kelalaian daripada Board atau pun Ketua yang menjaga-nya. Perkara yang sa-umpama ini kita terpaksa menyiasat dengan sa-halus²-nya supaya bila sa-saorang itu di-bawa ka-Court dapat di-jelaskan (proof) yang ia itu salah.

Saya sangat dukachita, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, sebab saya ada-lah sa-orang daripada ahli yang di-lantek oleh Rubber Industry dalam Board itu yang

di-persetujui oleh Kerajaan. Sa-lama saya menjadi ahli dalam Board itu semua pihak ada mewakili dalam Board itu saperti Trade Union, wakil pekerja², pihak penggaji, pihak perusahaan (industry) dan pihak Kerajaan, tetapi tidak ada satu perkara yang besar berbangkit dalam Board itu diantara satu sama lain.

Saya menyokong ucapan Yang Berhormat Menteri Kewangan ia-itu memuji pekerjaan Board itu, kerana dalam Board itu tiap² kali meshuarat tidak ada satu perkara berbangkit tudoh-menudoh sa-bagaimana tudohan yang ada dalam Parlimen ini. Tidak menasabah pada saya jika sa-kira-nya Trade Union yang mewakili seluroh kaum buroh dan pihak penggaji yang mewakili semua sa-kali penggaji dalam Malaya yang ada di-situ tidak ada satu pertelengkahan tetapi sekarang ada tudohan dalam Parlimen ini. Yang saya dukachita, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, ia-lah yang membawa chadangan ini dalam Parlimen ini ia-lah sa-orang Ahli Parlimen yang chuma nampak-nya hendak mempengaruhi Trade Union, tetapi perkara itu tidak berbangkit dalam Trade Union.

Ini saya sifatkan sa-olah² sa-bagai satu publicity untuk hendak menchari pengaruh daripada pekerja². Saya sangat suka jika sa-kira-nya pekerja² tidak puas hati menulis surat kepada Board dan kita tidak akan mendiamkan kerana saya pun sa-orang daripada ahli Majlis Meshuarat Parlimen ini. Sa-bagai sa-orang ahli Board saya sedia membawa satu² perkara yang menyatakan untuk mempunyai hak di-dalam Board itu. Tetapi sa-lama ini saya tidak dapat satu rungutan pun daripada ahli² E.P.F. Lagi satu, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, satu soal yang besar yang kita hadap, ada-kah ra'ayat dalam negeri ini daripada kaum buroh suka kepada E.P.F. atau tidak suka. Board ini telah di-sahkan dan kita sendiri telah bersetuju maka Board ini menjalankan kerja-nya mengikut tata tertib di-dalam undang² ini, tidak boleh lebeh dan tidak boleh kurang daripada itu. Jika sa-kira-nya Ahli Majlis Yang Berhormat daripada Parti Socialist tidak suka kepada Board ini berjalan

dengan sempurna-nya maka sa-patut-nya mereka itu membuat satu chadangan menolak atau menghapuskan undang E.P.F. yang dahulu.

Saya sendiri memikirkan dan bukan sa-kali ini saya bangun, dahulu daripada ini saya ada berchakap berkenaan dengan E.P.F. ini saya memikirkan itu-lah satu chara Board yang akan menyelamatkan pekerja²-nya dan inilah satu Board yang saya fikir dalam tempoh dua tahun lagi akan mengurangkan orang² tidak ada pekerjaan. Kerana saya dapati dalam tempoh dua tahun lagi Board ini akan menjadi tidak kurang 500 orang. Jadi Board ini bukan sahaja menolong kepada orang yang sudah menjadi contributor, tetapi Board ini pada satu hari atau pada satu dua tahun lagi akan menolong orang yang tidak ada pekerjaan dalam negeri ini. Jadi ada tuduhan² yang mengatakan pentadbiran Board ini tidak sempurna maka kami sa-bagai wakil yang tidak ada kenamengena dengan orang makan gaji dalam Board ini sentiasa memerhatikan pekerjaan Board itu dan kami dapati kalau sa-kira-nya tidak di-tadbirkan dengan sempurna tentu-lah Board ini tidak dapat kemajuan. Tetapi pada tiap² tahun ada kemajuan yang berlebeh²an. Sa-patut-nya kita semua menguchapkan tahniah kepada pentadbir²-nya.

Saya fikir itu-lah sahaja yang saya hendak beritahu kepada Majlis ini dan saya harap rakan² saya akan menolak dengan sa-penoh-nya atas chadangan² yang di-bawa oleh Ahli Yang Berhormat wakil Bungsar itu.

Enche' S. P. Seenivasagam (Menglembu): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not intend to comment at length on the merits or demerits of the motion which is before this House, but it would appear that from both sides of the House very serious and grave allegations have been made. From the Honourable Member who moved this motion, allegations of mal-administration in the E.P.F. have been made; and from the Honourable the Minister of Finance, very, very serious allegations have been made against the Honourable Member for Bungsar.

Now, in view of the fact that these allegations against the E.P.F. are being persisted in at every meeting of this House, at every opportunity in this House, by the Honourable Members of the Socialist Front, I am rather puzzled to see why the Government does not seize the opportunity to hold an inquiry, which they ask for so much, and call upon them to substantiate their allegations: and if they do not, or are unable to, substantiate them, then it would be the Members of the Socialist Front who would be exposed as purveyors of falsehood.

I feel, Sir, that, as a matter of principle, when several elected Members, presumably representing their constituencies, persist in making serious allegations, then it is time for the Government to take up the challenge and to invite them to substantiate their allegations. If the Government does not do that, then, of course, one cannot help the public forming their own opinion—it may be a right opinion or it may be a wrong opinion. But, then, let us look at what happens in other countries. Take the case of Singapore, for example. A mere allegation that the Prime Minister of Singapore gave a job to his friend immediately resulted in a public inquiry being ordered. Take England, where some months ago somebody was assaulted in a police station, a constable was convicted in court, whereby an immediate inquiry into the treatment of prisoners in British prisons was ordered. That is the way things should be done in a democratic Government, and I note with some apprehension the reluctance of the Government in this country to hold commissions of inquiry. I think that whole attitude should be changed and every opportunity should be taken to hold an inquiry where allegations are persisted in. At this stage I do not say whether these allegations are true or not. I myself have had no opportunity of investigating them and Members of the Socialist Front have not placed any evidence before me. (*Laughter*).

Now in this House this morning the Honourable Minister of Finance stated

that he had not seen a man with such an expression of terror as he had seen last night on the face of Honourable Member for Bungsar. Obviously that was a reference to certain very serious allegations which he made this morning and also last night against the Honourable Member for Bungsar. It strikes me that these allegations, if true, would in themselves be some evidence of maladministration in the E.P.F. because if the E.P.F. knew that certain workers were, to put it colloquially, swindled of \$5,000, then it would have been the duty of the E.P.F., if it had been properly administered, to institute an immediate inquiry and bring to justice those who were responsible for making away with this \$5,000. As it is now, time has passed and allegations are made at this stage in this House, and I feel that in order to be fair to everybody these allegations should be repeated also outside this House, so that the issue will be forced and if the Honourable Member for Bungsar does not take any action open to him against the Honourable Minister of Finance, then the public will know that the allegations made by the Minister of Finance are true. On the other hand, if he does take action and if he proves his course of action, then the allegations will be refuted. It appears, Mr. Speaker, Sir, a fact that these allegations were made in this House not only yesterday but also today, but as to the truth or otherwise of them I do not know. But I would appeal to you, Sir, that these allegations having been made, the Honourable Member for Bungsar should be given an opportunity of clearing his name, if he could do so.

Enche' Liu Yoong Peng (Rawang):

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is surprising for us to hear from the Minister of Finance that he is quite satisfied with the running of the E.P.F. In fact, he has admitted that there are some irregularities in the running of the Fund of the E.P.F., but he excuses the E.P.F. for the reason that he thinks that the E.P.F. has to deal with millions of people. Now we know that in the business world there are big insurance companies, big banks, etc., which deal with millions of people, and

if these banks and insurance companies had committed irregularities to the extent, which we have now in the E.P.F., I am sure those banks and insurance companies would have closed down quite a long time ago because their clients would have mistrusted them. It is because the E.P.F. is not a business concern but a public concern that it can afford to make those mistakes. Therefore, the Employees Provident Fund can afford to make such mistakes, and as long as the E.P.F. has the backing of the Government, such as the Alliance Government, such irregularities can be carried on, and it can be quite sure that the members of this Fund would not be able to do much because they are left with no choice, because the law says that the employer must contribute and that the employees must contribute. Therefore, the E.P.F. can afford to rely on that and see that the E.P.F. is not closed down as long as we have such a Government, as long as we have such a person as the Minister of Finance.

Therefore, I think that the Government should take this matter very seriously, because unless such a public organisation can be as efficient as a business concern, then it will always give ground for people to say, "Why do you want to have national insurance scheme by the Government, why do you want to have Government-sponsored corporations, why don't you leave things to business concerns and private enterprises?"—and this I think is not good for all.

The Minister of Internal Security and Minister of the Interior (Dato' Dr. Ismail):

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I feel that I cannot let the observations made by the Honourable Member from Menglembu pass without some comment, because he struck a note on the fundamental fact of parliamentary democracy at work, because we on this side of the Government always pride ourselves that we want to uphold parliamentary democracy and we will heed whatever opinion expressed in this House, subject of course to certain conditions. For parliamentary democracy to function, the Government and

the Opposition must have equal responsibilities for what they say in this House and what they bring to this House. Now, to say that for every grievance brought to this House by Honourable Members the Government must set up a Committee of Inquiry or a Commission of Inquiry is to oversimplify matters.

Let us take, as an example, the motion before the House. If the Honourable Member for Menglembu will read it carefully, the motion says that "This House expresses grave concern over the mal-administration of the Employees Provident Fund . . .". Now, Sir, the word "mal-administration" is a very strong word to be used, especially when we have heard the speech made by the Honourable Member for Bungsar. All that he has put up to the House are minor irregularities. If there are minor irregularities—the Minister of Finance has so admitted—naturally the Government would look into the matter. However, it is a very different matter to bring this question of irregularities and another matter to blame the Employees Provident Fund for having committed a mal-administration in its work. We, on the Government side, will welcome constructive criticisms from the Opposition Members, but they must be constructive ones and they must not be trying to discredit the Government, or to discredit the Public Service, or Civil Service of this country for the sake of doing so. If there are irregularities, as the Honourable the Minister has said, the Government will willingly look into the matter, but irregularity and mal-administration are two entirely different things altogether. I want to make it clear to the Members of the Opposition that we in this House want to make democracy work and that we are willing to entertain any grievances by the Honourable Members, but they must not be over-exaggerated and must not make a mockery of the democracy in this country. (*Applause*).

Enche' V. David: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Honourable the Minister of Finance, entirely leaving aside the subject before the House, went on to mention the bringing up of myself and my family.

Mr. Speaker: Before you proceed on that question, I would like to say that I have already ruled him out, but unfortunately it has already been said by the Minister himself—a very serious allegation against you. I ruled that out after I heard it, and it was heard by Honourable Members in this Chamber last night. I am now giving you a chance to explain if you want to.

Enche' V. David: Mr. Speaker, Sir, even after the Chair had ruled it out, it will be in the records of this House.

Mr. Speaker: I am giving you a chance to explain because of that.

Enche' V. David: First of all, I must remind the Honourable the Minister that I was not brought up in the same way as he was brought up. I was born poor no doubt, but I was brought up in a respectful manner—not to cheat and exploit the weak ones as he has done and traditionally his family has done. Sir, in this country if you want to know the biggest exploiter of small-holders, it is nobody other than the Minister of Finance himself.

Mr. Speaker: I rule that out. I only give you a chance to explain the serious allegations made by the Minister last night.

Enche' V. David: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister went on to say about the Factory and General Workers Union. The Factory and General Workers Union was composed of officers who were not considered as employees but were willing to do work and to dedicate themselves for the up-bringing of this organisation, and all of them did not want to be employees; some of them were voluntary workers, some of them were part-time workers, receiving a certain amount of subsistence allowance. Ever since the inception of this organisation, it grew and in the end of 1957 the Government did say that even Trade Unions should contribute towards the Employees Provident Fund, and this was a shock to the Committee of this organisation. This organisation at that time did not have enough money to pay to the Employees Provident Fund—as reques-

ted by E.P.F. Board—the arrears from its inception. However, since the Employees Provident Fund Department had made it clear that the organisation should pay the arrears, the Committee after discussion agreed to pay the amount in instalments. It paid part of the amount as a first instalment and before it could pay the second instalment, the Honourable the Minister of Labour then, who is now the Minister of Health and Social Welfare, banned the Union for activities which he construed as subversive.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, there was no attempt by anybody or members of the Committee to cheat the Government, and I myself was not an employer. I was one of the officers and an employee of the organisation. I myself, if at all the organisation contributed to the E.P.F., would be entitled to \$750. Sir, we the officers of the Union did not want this money; we wanted the organisation; we placed the organisation before individuals; and therefore the false allegation made by the Honourable the Minister is untrue and unfounded. He evaded the issue which was under discussion and made a personal allegation bringing up an issue which was irrelevant just to hoodwink, deceive and mislead the public.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I also call upon the Minister, who has made these allegations here to repeat the same outside this House in an open rally. If he would do this, it could offer me a wonderful opportunity to take him to task.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in this House we bring up matters of public importance. The Minister went on to say that the officers in the Employees' Provident Fund Department had been very courteous. Personally, Sir, I have nothing against the officers. I have very good friends among the senior officers in the Department who have been very helpful and, I hope they will continue to be helpful. But that does not solve the problem which is today prevailing in the Department. We are concerned with thousands of workers, the underprivileged, the illiterates, who are

unable to obtain their money immediately on their request. This is what I am trying to stress in this House; it is not myself or my colleagues, who know at least a bit of the law to go through the proper procedure to obtain the money.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister did say that I moved this motion without having any sense of public duty and that I did it just for cheap publicity. Sir, my colleagues and I in this House have got wonderful opportunities to obtain publicity outside this Chamber. We hold frequent public rallies and we usually invite Ministers to open debates—we do not run away from our constituencies but we stick to our constituencies, unlike the Minister of Finance who ran away from Malacca, leaving his own constituency, fearing the Member for Bandar Malacca, who is not here at the moment, and going to a constituency where Malays are preponderant; perhaps, he was afraid to face the Chinese population. Mr. Speaker, Sir, a man who has been living there for years is unable to face the people of Malacca, because they know how dirty he is

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: Withdraw! withdraw!

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

HONOURABLE MEMBERS: Shut up!

Enche' V. David: You shut up!

Mr. Speaker: Order, order! Honourable Members should give this House the due respect. (*To Enche' V. David*) Will you withdraw the word "dirty"?

Enche' V. David: Yes Sir, at the same time, the words "Shut up" should be withdrawn.

Mr. Speaker: I will not allow anybody to continue like this. If anybody disobeys my order I have a remedy for it. I will ask the Honourable Members concerned to withdraw from the Chamber and they will be suspended. I have got to be firm on this from now on.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on a point of clarification, the Honourable Member has made the

charge that I ran away—it is completely untrue.

Enche' V. David: Sir, I refuse to give way.

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Sir, he did not give me a chance to explain.

Mr. Speaker: (*To Enche' V. David*) Will you confine your reply to arguments put up by the Government side. I am not going to allow further than that.

Enche' V. David: He also stated that the Union did not pay up the \$5,000. Sir, the Union did not make any deduction at any time from the officers' remuneration. It only realised that it had to pay at a later stage—it was prepared to pay back the arrears from its inception by instalments. Sir, there was no deduction made and the Minister's allegation that deduction was made and the money was not paid in is untrue and unfounded and it is misleading the House and the public. The people of this country are not so stupid as one would think. They possess vast knowledge, and may be better knowledge than people sitting in this House—and they know what is true and what is untrue. (*Laughter*).

Mr. Speaker, Sir, coming to the Suspense Account, last night the Minister did say that the Suspense Account does have a certain amount of money and that it would take time to credit the various contributors' accounts. Sir, when an amount of money is placed under the Suspense Account, as long as the money remains in the Suspense Account the contributors do not receive any interest at all—that means for the fault and inefficiency of the Department, the contributors have to lose their interest.

Again, when I mentioned about the intruder, he did say that no such thing had happened. It is for the police to investigate, Sir, I am not going to dwell on that. Further, he also accused certain staffs there, because I had managed to extract or obtain certain information. Sir, whether I extracted information from junior staffs—or it may be from the Minister's own office,

or it may be from the Minister's house—if those facts are correct they have to be accepted. All the file numbers and queries made by me, one by one, have not been refuted by the Minister. He merely evaded the issue completely, making personal insinuations without any foundation—all the queries raised by me in this House were not replied to at all.

Sir, coming to the composition of the Board, which is running the affairs of the Employees' Provident Fund, I would say that the Board at the moment is not properly constituted, because the Minister shows just the same arrogance to the Malayan Trade Union Congress of this country which is supposed to be the only body representing the workers in this country and they have not accepted nomination because of the arrogance of the Honourable Minister. Today the workers' representation on this Board is lacking. Therefore, I cannot admit that workers are fully represented in the Employees' Provident Fund Board.

The other Honourable Member for Pahang has stated that if we do not want the Employees' Provident Fund legislation, then we can move a motion in this House to repeal the legislation. Sir, no mention at all was made by me in this House, or by my colleagues, that the legislation should be repealed, but we only propose amendment to the legislation. We want the Employees' Provident Fund Ordinance, and the workers want it. The Malayan Trade Union Congress was the prime mover of this in 1952, as a result of which the then colonial Government enacted the Employees' Provident Fund legislation. We have not said at any time that we want to repeal this legislation. We only ask that the Employees' Provident Fund money should be operated in a proper manner that will give an opportunity to the contributors to withdraw their contributions without red tape if they desire to do so, so long as they can comply with the provisions of the Employees' Provident Fund.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, as far as my contentions are concerned, there are many

irregularities leading to mal-administration in the Employees' Provident Fund Department, and they need immediate rectification. Therefore, I submit that this motion is extremely necessary to restore the confidence of the people of this country in the Employees' Provident Fund Department. Thank you.

Question put, and negatived.

ANGGEREK KINTA DI-JADIKAN BUNGA KEBANGSAAN

Che' Khadijah binti Mohd. Sidek (Dungan): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, di-sini saya membawa satu usul yang berbunyi :

"Bahawa Majlis ini menetapkan ia-itu bunga Kebangsaan Persekutuan Tanah Melayu hendak-lah di-tukar kepada bunga Anggerek Kinta."

Saya mengemukakan chadangan ini, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, di-dalam Dewan yang berbahagia ini dengan alasan² ia-itu saya mempunyai pendapat bahawa bunga ini ada-lah satu bunga atau satu benda yang boleh menjadikan lambang bagi manusia. Kerana dari zaman dahulu kala ia-itu zaman Mesir sampai membawa ka-zaman Unani dan Rumawi maka bunga itu di-pakai sabagai jalinan hidup manusia ia-itu di-dalam gembira bagitu juga untuk menunjukkan sa-bagai lambang sa-suatu bangsa yang di-ertikan bahawa bunga Kebangsaan itu ada-lah di-ibaratkan kesuchian keperibadian dan ketegohan jiwa raga dari satu² bangsa atau negara. Oleh sebab itu, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, di-sini saya mengemukakan bahawa bunga Kebangsaan kita di-dalam Tanah Melayu ini yang telah di-tetapkan oleh Kerajaan pada hari ini ia-itu Bunga Raya. Dan di-dalam chadangan saya, saya minta supaya Bunga Raya itu di-tukarkan kepada bunga Anggerek Kinta. Kerana jika kita hendak menetapkan sa-suatu lambang daripada bangsa atau negara negeri itu sabagaimana saya telah terangkan, lambang itu hendak-lah menunjukkan bukan sahaja kekuatan jiwa raga daripada bangsa dan negara-nya. Maka di-sini, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, kita harus menilek kapada dua dasar. Yang pertama, dari mana ke-aslian-nya, bagi kita yang menjadikan

lambang itu. Sa-boleh²-nya hendak-lah bunga itu berasal dari Tanah Melayu sendiri. Yang kedua, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, hendak-lah kita tilek kapada nilai harga yang akan boleh memberikan kebanggaan kepada masharakat khas-nya dan dunia 'am-nya. Maka di-sini, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, menilek penyelidekan saya bahawa sudah sapatut-nya-lah bunga Anggerek Kinta ini kita jadikan bunga Kebangsaan kita di-sini kerana menilek pendapat pakar² daripada bunga, bahawa Anggerek Kinta ini atau orchid itu ada-lah tumbuh-nya atau asal-nya bukan daripada negeri yang berhawa iklim yang sejok, tetapi ada-lah daripada negeri yang beriklim panas. Dan kedapatan di-dalam hutan belantara; yang banyak kedapatan hutan² itu ada-lah di-dalam negeri kita Tanah Melayu.

Kinta ia-itu lembahan Kinta dalam Persekutuan Tanah Melayu yang terletak nun di-negeri Perak, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, dan Anggerek Kinta ini adalah sejati daripada lembahan Kinta, ia-itu satu tumbuhan² yang berupa sabagai satu tanaman rumput, daun-nya halus² dan berbunga. Tuan Yang di-Pertua, Anggerek Kinta ini telah diketahu² oleh dunia luar bangsa² Barat ia-itu 200 tahun yang telah lalu kerana kechanteakan-nya dan kemegahan-nya, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, sifat² yang tersebut ada di-punyai oleh Anggerek Kinta ini oleh sebab itu-lah maka tertarek peminat² penchina bunga di-dunia barat sa-hingga mereka datang ka-negeri² yang berhawa panas ia-itu negeri kita ini buat menyelidek di-dalam hutan² belantara di-lembah² sa-hingga mereka dapati bunga² ini; dan salah sa-orang penyelidek yang terkenal ia-itu Mahaguru di-dalam siasat perusahaan untuk menyelidek tumbuhan² yang bernama Mr. William Broker, ia-lah yang mula² dapat bunga Anggerek Kinta ini di-lembahan Kinta, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, dengan berbagai² chara di-pelihara-nya dengan chara baik. Maka kerana banyak sahabat² handai yang di-beri-nya Anggerek Kinta ini dan mereka juga mengambil perhatian besar serta memelihara Anggerek Kinta ini dan meminati dengan sesungguh²-nya maka Anggerek Kinta ini di-beri nama oleh mereka itu dengan nama

Vanda Hookariana, sebab, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, Vanda: erti-nya orchid, dan dalam bahasa Latin Hookeriana itu ada-lah nama daripada orang yang menyelidek yang pertama sa-kali mendapat bunga ini. Menurut pendapat orang yang menyelidek bunga ini bahawa dengan kekayaan alam tanah ayer kita ini tidak kurang daripada dua ribu jenis bunga Anggerek Kinta ini; Tuan Yang di-Pertua, dan untok mendapat kechanteakan dan kemolekan daripada bunga Anggerek Kinta ini maka dari pakar² atau dari peminat² bunga Anggerek Kinta ini di-adakan-nya-lah ia-itu untok merubah warna bunga atau merubah bentok bunga itu supaya bunga itu lebeh besar nilai-nya daripada yang biasa, maka di-adakan perusaha²an² untok mengkahwinkan bunga² itu sa-hingga dapat bunga² yang lebeh chantek lagi, Tuan Yang di-Pertua. Bunga Anggerek Kinta ini telah di-ke-tahui dari zaman dahulu kala sa-bagai mana yang saya katakan tadi kerana, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, dari satu buku bernama *Sejarah Melayu* telah dapat kita bacha satu peribahasa yang berbunyi:

Anggerek pun mengilai

Delima tersenyum

Dan bunga mawar berpantun

Dari zaman dahulu kala lagi kita telah dapat bunga Anggerek ini dan di-kenal oleh orang² tua kita.

Dan menurut keterangan salah sa-orang penchinta Anggerek atau salah sa-orang pakar daripada tumboh²an yang bernama Tuan T. C. Gek bekas kepala kebun raya di-Maison yang mengatakan bahawa ada-lah bangsa Anggerek ini yang bernama bunga Padang Ngo. Tuan Yang di-Pertua, ia mengatakan bahawa Padang Ngo ia-itu sa-orang pengukir emas tidak dapat mengukir bagaimana kesenian dan bentok daripada Anggerek yang di-katakan itu. Bagitu-lah kesenian dan peribadi yang terselit dalam bunga Anggerek ini yang sangat mempunyai nilai²an yang tinggi.

Di-sini saya ada membawa bunga Anggerek—ini emak-nya yang sejati ia-itu bunga Anggerek Kinta, Tuan Yang di-Pertua. (*Ketawa*) (*di-sampok*). Dan ini, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, ada-lah

anak-nya yang terlahir daripada emak bunga Anggerek ini, dan saya minta, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, supaya saudara² yang lain itu bersifat dengan sechara tertib.

Mr. Speaker: Proceed!

Che' Khadijah: Sebab, ini saya bukan menceritakan soal perkahwinan yang boleh di-ketawakan, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, kerana ini soal . . . (*di-sampok*).

Mr. Speaker: Order! order!

Che' Khadijah: Soal harga nilai²an daripada bunga ini, jadi bunga Vanda Hookeriana itu di-kahwinkan oleh sa-orang yang bernama Miss Joaquim ia-itu dengan satu bangsa Vanda Paris yang berasal dari Burma. Jadi bunga dari Malaya ini di-kahwinkan dengan bunga Anggerek dari Burma, maka terlahir-lah ini yang bernama Joaquim.

Baharu² ini ia-itu bunga yang di-bawa dari bunga yang besar—berbentek² yang di-atas-nya kechil puteh, tetapi apakala sudah di-kahwinkan maka bunga ini menjadi lebeh bagus dan berharga dengan nilai²an yang tinggi dari segi perniagaan, dan ini-lah yang membawa ketinggian perekonomian juga memperbaiki keadaan nasib ra'ayat kita dalam Tanah Melayu ini. Dan sa-bagai bunga Anggerek daripada tanah ayer kita ini—Tanah Melayu yang telah di-bawa ka-negeri barat ia-itu ka-Eropah dan di-situ mendapat penghargaan yang sangat tinggi. Maka kalau sa-suatu barang, sa-suatu tumbohan yang biasa tumbuh di-negeri panas di-bawa masuk ka-negeri Eropah yang negeri-nya berhawa sejok, alang-kah besar modal-nya untok di-pakai, di-hidupkan supaya tumbohan itu dapat hidup sa-bagaimana hidup-nya yang subur daripada tempat ia sendiri. Berapa banyak duit yang akan di-churahkan untok membuat tempat, untok menjaga penghidupan bunga Anggerek ini sa-bagaimana di-Eropah mereka membuat tempat² yang besar yang di-buat daripada kacha atau atap kacha—dinding kacha dan di-dalam-nya di-masokkan paip letrek supaya memanaskan bunga tumboh²an itu agar iklim yang ada di-dalam tempat itu sama keadaan-nya dengan iklim tempat

datang-nya bunga itu. Alang-kah besar-nya penghargaan bangsa Eropah terhadap bunga² terutama Anggerek yang berasal dari tanah ayer kita ini—Tanah Melayu. Ini-lah, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, penghargaan yang sangat tinggi daripada bunga Anggerek yang di-beri oleh bangsa² di-dunia ini. Sa-bagaimana yang kita ketahui terutama dalam surat² khabar, bunga Anggerek ini dipelihara oleh peminat² di-seluruh negeri dalam Persekutuan Tanah Melayu dan juga di-Singapura, maka pakar² daripada bunga Anggerek di-dunia ini telah mengadakan pamiran² atau mengadakan pertunjukan dari bunga² Anggerek ini dari seluruh dunia dan dalam pamiran² itu, pakar² daripada bunga mengadakan atau memberikan penilaian²-nya serta menjadi jury di-situ dan pada tahun 1954 Tanah Melayu telah mendapat satu kemuliaan dan kebanggaan yang besar oleh Anggerek-nya yang mana telah mendapat sijil yang pertama daripada Anggerek dari seluruh dunia yang bertempat di-Victoria, Australia. Dan dalam tahun 1960 pula Malaya telah terkenal dengan Anggerek asli-nya dengan mendapat kemenangan yang chemerlang ia-itu Pingat Emas dan sijil pertama telah di-dapati oleh Tanah Melayu, juga daripada pamiran² dari seluruh dunia dalam soal bunga Anggerek ini. Ini sebetul-nya kali yang pertama Tanah Melayu memiliki atau menggundol balek Bintang Emas dunia bagi Anggerek-nya ia-itu selama 150 tahun—persatuan Royal Horticultural Society menganjorkan pamiran bunga Anggerek-nya di-seluruh dunia yang bertempat di-Chelsea. Jadi alang-kah jauh bedza-nya jikalau kita bandingkan dengan bunga ini, kerana saya chari² dalam buku² yang khas untuk meriwayatkan sejarah Bunga Raya ini tidak ada, tetapi berapa banyak kita mahu soal bunga Anggerek ini ada. Di-sini ada dua buku sahaja yang kecil, tetapi ada yang besar dan yang tebal² lagi, Tuan Yang di-Pertua (*Ketawa*). Sebab bunga Anggerek ini ada kalau saya tidak salah 50 ribu macham yang baharu di-dapati dalam dunia dan berbagai² macham lagi nama-nya, chorak-nya, besar-nya, rupa-nya, warna-nya dan bentok-nya. Lagi pula yang patut kita megahkan pada bunga Anggerek ini ia-itu ia tidak gugor jatuh ka-tanah.

Ia kalau sudah layu tinggal di-tangkainya, dan kalau sudah kering baharu ia jatuh ka-tanah, tetapi sa-sudah ia kering dan menjadi buah maka baharu ia habis. Di-sebalek-nya pula Bunga Raya ini nama yang sebetul-nya mengikut nama yang di-kenal oleh dunia ia-itu hibiscus, jadi oleh kerana itu, saya rasa tidak berasal dari Tanah Melayu dan Bunga Raya ini kerana orang kita ia-itu orang Melayu yang dato' nenek moyang kita dahulu banyak yang tidak bersekolah, sangat susah mahu menyebutkan hibiscus itu kerana bunga ini besar, daun-nya besar serta luas, maka selalu-nya orang Melayu mengatakan yang besar itu raya. Jadi bunga ini di-namakan Bunga Raya kerana bunga-nya besar.

Mr. Speaker: Kenapa bunga yang besar ta' di-bawa sini? (*Ketawa*).

Che' Khadijah: Sebab ini (bunga) sudah kechut, Tuan Yang di-Pertua. (*Ketawa*). Semalam ia besar (*Ketawa*).

Mr. Speaker: Order! order! Proceed.

Che' Khadijah: . . sebab Bunga Raya, mithal-nya, jalan besar—jalan raya, balai besar—balai raya, gendang besar—gendang raya dan sa-bagai-nya, Tuan Yang di-Pertua. Jadi kerana besar-nya-lah bunga ini maka di-namakan bunga Raya. Dan, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, sa-tahu saya bunga ini dalam Tanah Melayu ini tidak ada orang yang memelihara-nya sa-bagaimana pemeliharaan yang di-adakan untok bunga Anggerek—Bunga Raya liar, tumbuh liar di-mana² sahaja—dan kalau-lah Bunga Raya ini bernasib baik, maka di-pakai orang, di-tanam orang untok penjaga rumah-nya, menjadi pagar keliling rumah. Ah! itu-lah, Tuan Yang di-Pertua. Dan sa-bagaimana yang kita lihat pada hari ini—Tuan Yang di-Pertua bertanya kapada saya kenapa tidak di-bawa yang besar itu—yang raya. Saya samalam bawa yang besar yang raya itu, dan ini-lah yang saya bawa sa-malam, Tuan Yang di-Pertua,—saya mengingatkan usul saya keluar sa-malam, tetapi kerana masa belum mengizinkan, saya terpaksa menompangkan bunga ini kapada “taukeh canteen” di-belakang sana supaya di-masokkan ka-dalam “ice box”.

dalam dunia ini dan Anggerek sudah pun mendapat bintang emas masa pertunjukan International di-England tahun 1960, saya juga dapat peluang hadir pada masa itu yang Malaya dapat bintang emas. Dan jika diketepikan mithal-nya dengan sebab pokok itu terletak di-hutan atau pun tertinggal tidak di-layan dia tetap juga bangga di-antara pokok² di-keliling-nya, dia tetap juga di-hormati oleh pokok² yang lain, sa-kali pun pokok² yang mati bahawa pokok Anggerek Kinta ini akan membalut pokok² yang mati itu membawa sari hidup-nya kembali.

Ini-lah kelebihan di-tempat yang sepi, di-tempat yang ketinggalan mithal-nya. Kalau kita lihat di-Kinta Valley ya'ani di-jajahan Kinta yang ma'amur, mewah dengan kekayaan bijeh dan kekayaan bumi-nya itu saperti nama yang di-katakan pokok bunga Anggerek ini. Ia tumbuh di-taman.² Orang² yang terkemuka yang chintakan kesenian Vanda—seni Anggerek ia tumbuh sendiri di-kampung, di-hujung² kampung, di-hutan², di-pinggir² gunung, di-tepi² sungai, di-paya² dan juga di-redang yang kita akan dapati mithal-nya di-sana ada sa-jenis pokok bakong. Bakong ada-lah sa-jenis pokok yang berbunga sendiri dalam ayer—dalam redang dan manakala beneh bunga Anggerek ini tumbuh dalam paya, maka ia pula mengambil bahagian sama menyerahkan keadaan paya, lurah² di-situ di-mana ia akan tumbuh dengan subor-nya mempamirkan bunga² Anggerek yang endah dalam paya² itu. Ini ada-lah menunjukkan bagaimana peribadi bunga Anggerek ini mempunyai kelayakan yang tepat sa-kali bagi menjadi bunga kebangsaan kita, kerana keaslian dan nature-nya di-bawa ka-tengah, ka-tepi dengan mempunyai layak yang tepat sa-kali di-samping mempunyai mutu dan nilai yang tinggi.

Jadi, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, dengan keterangan yang ringkas ini, saya rasa memadai-lah boleh kita lanjutkan lagi dengan chara scientific, dengan chara segi botany dan biology yang kita dapati bagaimana layak dan keindahan-

nya yang tepat tentang bunga Anggerek Kinta ini di-jadikan sa-bagai bunga kebangsaan.

Satu perkara lagi, sa-sudah kita hendak merdeka hari itu macham² pendapat ahli² fikir yang berkehendakan mereka lagu kebangsaan. Ini adalah satu perkara yang besar yang berkenaan juga dengan kebangsaan. Kita telah mendengar bagaimana fikiran² ra'ayat negeri ini memikirkan lagu kebangsaan akhir-nya kerana ada satu lagu kebangsaan yang sudah pun dipakai dalam sa-buah Negeri dalam Tanah Melayu ini ia-itu Lagu Kebangsaan Perak. Maka sudah-lah dengan persetujuan Perak, seni lagu yang diambil daripada lagu negeri Perak dan manakala kita memikirkan perkara ini, dan saya sa-benar-nya tidak pula terlintas di-hati hanya sa-masa saya berdiri ini sahaja tentang perkara lagu kebangsaan ini tadi yang mana sesuai pula dengan dudok-nya negeri Perak—Kinta itu dalam negeri Perak, maka menasabah-lah bahawa bunga kebangsaan itu di-tapak ambilan keaslian-nya juga berdasarkan di-atas bumi Kinta dalam negeri Perak itu juga dan sa-bagaimana dasar lagu kebangsaan kita yang telah kita tetapkan itu.

Mr. Speaker: Saya kemukakan usul ini bagi di-bahath.

Enche' Ibrahim bin Abdul Rahman (Seberang Tengah): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya bangun ada-lah membangkang usul ini. Saya berchakap di-sini bukan-lah sa-bagai sa-orang ahli botanist, atau sa-orang ahli yang pakar berkenaan dengan pokok, atau bunga tetapi dari segi philosophy atau psychology yang patut di-jadikan bandingan bunga kebangsaan ini. Sungguh chantek dan sungguh elok kalau kita pandang bunga Anggerek yang di-bawa oleh Ahli Yang Berhormat itu, tetapi kita tahu bunga Anggerek atau pun bunga Orchid itu ada-lah satu jenis yang kita katakan "parasite" yang tumbuh di-atas pokok yang lain atau ia terpaksa tumbuh di-atas pokok yang hidup. Di-sini saya suka bachakan berkenaan dengan bunga Anggerek saperti mana pendapat

ahli botanist dan juga dari segi almiyah yang mengatakan:

Betapa hati takkan pilu, bila bunga mulai mekar, memperlihatkan wajah-nya nan rupawan.

Kira-nya, tidak berlebihan, kalau bunga Anggerak di-tempatkan dalam chatatan buku kenangan hidup, sa-bagai lambang asmara-dahana teruna.

Ini ada-lah bunga Anggerak yang menunjukkan sa-bagai chinta berahinya.

Bunga Anggerak yang memiliki aneka-warna itu, nyata-lah kesuchian-nya bukan di-sebabkan warna-nya, tetapi kerana darjat-nya di-mata pengertian chinta.

Dalam kesusasteraan dunia, bunga Anggerak menepati pengertian yang istimewa untuk menggambarkan ketulusan chinta berahi antara pria dan wanita.

Jadi, Ahli Yang Berhormat pembawa usul ini ada mengatakan bahawa bunga Anggerak ini telah pun di-puji dan di-puja bukan sahaja oleh penduduk dalam Persekutuan Tanah Melayu, tetapi juga di-puji oleh seluruh manusia dalam dunia ini terutama di-barat sahingga di-gunakan dalam tempat yang tertutup yang di-perbuat daripada kaca. Tetapi kasehan Bunga Raya! Memang Bunga Raya hidup-nya di-tepi jalan sahaja sa-bagaimana yang kita telah mendengar pantun dahulu:

Wahai nasib-mu si-Bunga Raya,
Hidup-mu di-tepi jalan sahaja,
Tidak pernah di-atas meja.

Maka oleh sebab itu, patut-lah pada hari ini bunga yang telah hidup di-tepi jalan yang telah menjadi pagar di-kebun bunga yang endah itu di-jadikan bunga kebangsaan.

Bunga Raya jikalau kita lihat ia ada lima kelopak ia-itu menunjukkan pancha-ndera. Pancha itu ma'ana-nya lima. Penglihatan; pendengaran; penchiuman; perasaan dan penjabatan. Dan kalau kita lihat, bunga ini juga ada instinct ia-itu nature instinct, maka dengan ini patut-lah kita ucapkan terima kasih kepada Yang Amat Berhormat Perdana Menteri yang telah menjadikan Bunga Raya ini sa-bagai bunga kebangsaan.

Kerana Bunga Raya, sa-lain daripada hidup-nya di-tepi jalan, boleh-lah di-bandingkan dengan Persekutuan Tanah Melayu sa-belum merdeka dahulu. Persekutuan Tanah Melayu sa-belum merdeka dahulu sa-bagaimana yang kita tahu, di-kenali oleh dunia sa-bagai satu tempat persinggahan orang lalu lalang di-antara Timor dengan Barat. Yang terkenal ia-lah Singapura; Persekutuan Tanah Melayu di-pandang hanya tempat persinggahan sahaja—boleh-lah di-katakan hina, hina seperti Bunga Raya. Tetapi pada hari ini Persekutuan Tanah Melayu telah mencapai kemerdekaan nama-nya telah pun terkenal di-seluruh dunia; seperti juga Bunga Raya yang hanya untuk menjadi pagar pada masa dahulu, hari ini Bunga Raya di-tempatkan di-tempat² yang istimewa seperti di-Jamuan Negara, dan di-tempat² yang mulia.

Dan lagi, sa-bagaimana yang kita tahu bunga kebangsaan itu ia-lah Bunga Raya merah, dan bunga ini ada berbagai² jenis seperti puteh, kuning dan merah, tetapi yang merah itu pun ada berbagai² jenis. Yang di-pileh ia-lah Bunga Raya, sa-bagaimana yang saya terangkan tadi. Saya tidak ada bawa

Puan Hajjah Zain binti Sulaiman (Pontian Selatan): Ada. (*Ketawa*).

Enche' Ibrahim: . . . ada lima kelopak yang menunjukkan ada lima pancha-ndera

Mr. Speaker: Order! Jangan tunjok (*kapada Hajjah Zain*) sa-macham itu masa orang tengah berchakap. Majlis ini saya yang mengawal-nya. Please proceed!

Enche' Ibrahim: . . . bunga yang di-pileh ia-lah bunga yang merah: merah menunjukkan keberanian, dan Bunga Raya ini kalau kita lihat ta' pernah ia kembang menengadah ka-langit, tetapi ia kembang melambai². Jadi sunggoh pun ia berani dengan warna-nya yang merah itu, tetapi ia megah, bangga dan sentiasa bersabar.

Akhir-nya, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya mengatakan ia-itu bunga Anggerak ta' patut-lah di-jadikan bunga kebangsaan, dengan keterangan² dan alasan² saya tadi. Dan lagi saya suka

bachakan apa-kah kesudahan pendapat penulis ini berkenaan dengan bunga Anggerek, ia-itu "Apa-kah tidak ada bunga lain yang patut di-sejajarkan dengan bunga Anggerek? Bagi penulis, mithal-nya, tidak ada punya erti lain yang patut di-ertikan sa-bagai lambang asmara-dahana." Saya anggap bunga Anggerek ada-lah satu bunga yang menunjukkan cinta berahi. Dan Bunga Raya yang menjadi bunga kebangsaan ini ada-lah yang sa-patut² dan yang samulia² bunga. (*Tepok*).

Enche' Hanafi bin Mohd. Yunus (Kulim Utara): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, yang pertama sa-kali, saya mengucapkan shukur kepada Tuhan kerana usul ini telah di-tanggohkan beberapa bulan, maka dalam masa itu saya dapat menyiasat keadaan bunga Anggerek, yang mana saya belum pernah dengar lagi, tambahan pula di-hujong-nya di-tambah "Kinta". Lebeh² lagi, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya mengucapkan banyak terima kasih kepada Yang Berhormat dari Dungun yang membawa chadangan ini, yang mana telah mengulas dan memberi saya faham tentang bunga Anggerek dan juga di-sokong oleh Ahli² Yang Berhormat daripada sabelah sana. Jadi, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, dengan alasan² dan penjelasan itu baharu-lah saya dapat tahu ia-itu samacham itu yang di-namakan bunga Anggerek Kinta.

Jadi, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya bangun membangkang usul yang dibawa oleh Yang Berhormat dari Dungun yang menchadangkan, ia-itu bunga Anggerek Kinta di-jadikan bunga kebangsaan, menggantikan Bunga Raya, bunga kebangsaan kita yang ada sekarang ini.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saperti yang saya katakan tadi ini-lah yang pertama kali saya mendengar nama bunga Anggerek Kinta, dan saya perchaya banyak lagi Ahli² Yang Berhormat yang tidak mengetahui saperti saya. Tuan Yang di-Pertua, orang di-negeri Kedah biasa mendengar dan kenal bunga Anggerek itu, tetapi ta' ada "Kinta" di-hujong-nya. Bunga Anggerek ini kerap di-panggil dalam negeri Kedah satu jenis bunga yang hidup menompang di-pohon mati dan di-

pohon yang repot, ia-itu satu daun yang panjang² dan bunga-nya puteh. Ini-lah yang di-panggil bunga Anggerek. Tetapi kasehan!, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, bunga Anggerek ini sa-kira-nya datang angin yang kuat maka gugor-lah ia ka-bumi, kerana ia-menompang sahaja, ia tidak dapat kemerdekaan yang penoh sebab ia menompang kapada orang lain. Jadi hidup-nya sama-lah saperti "menalu atau jejawi", Tuan Yang di-Pertua.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, memilih bunga sa-bagai bunga kebangsaan ini ia-lah untuk di-jadikan lambang negara kita yang merdeka ini, maka bukan-lah kita dapat memilih sa-barang bunga saperti mana yang di-chadangkan oleh Yang Berhormat dari Dungun. Walau pun segala alasan-nya itu menunjukkan bunga Anggerek Kinta itu nampak chomel, chantek, tetapi pada pendapat saya tidak-lah tepat yang kita hendak jadikan bunga itu bunga kebangsaan atau lambang negara kita sekarang ini. Tuan Yang di-Pertua, sekarang ini kita telah ada bunga lambang negara atau pun bunga kebangsaan ia-itu Bunga Raya merah. Bunga Raya ini, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, sa-bagaimana yang diterangkan oleh sahabat saya tadi ia ada macham² warna, maka kita sekarang ini menjadikan lambang atau bunga kebangsaan itu ia-lah Bunga Raya merah. Jadi, barangkali, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, semua orang faham dan Yang Berhormat penchadang tahu awal² dan mula² lagi kita telah tahu ma'ana Bunga Raya. Jadi, ma'ana "Raya" besar. Tidak ada manusia yang tidak mahu besar (*Ketawa*)—barangkali ada satu atau dua perkara . . . (*Ketawa*) sahaja yang tidak di-sukaï.

Oleh itu, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, pada fikiran saya sangat-lah tepat dan baik yang kita telah menetapkan Bunga Raya itu menjadi lambang atau bunga kebangsaan negara kita.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya suka-lah mendzahirkan rasa hati saya sebab saya fikir sangat-lah molek dan kena pada tempat-nya kita jadikan Bunga Raya itu sa-bagai bunga kebangsaan negara kita ini. Tuan Yang di-Pertua, Bunga Raya ada-lah sa-jenis bunga yang sangat mashhor dan terkenal sahinggakan kanak² yang dudok main

tempurong itu pun tahu memanggil Bunga Raya itu. Tetapi bunga Anggerek itu baharu saya dengar, Bunga Raya ini ada-lah terdapat di-kampung² orang² Melayu dan di-jadikan pagar buat pertahanan kampung halaman. Jadi saya fikir memang-lah sangat sesuai kita jadikan ia Bunga Kebangsaan sa-olah² menjadi pahlawan yang chukup gagah berani buat menjaga kampung halaman kita.

Sa-lain daripada itu Bunga Raya itu boleh juga di-buat mengilatkan sepatu dan batang-nya boleh di-buat berus gigi. (*Ketawa*). Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya tidak dapat hendak menyokong chadangan Yang Berhormat dari Dungun membawa usul itu dengan mengkesahkan chantek-nya bunga Anggerek itu sa-olah² bunga Anggerek yang hendak di-jadikan bunga kebangsaan itu sa-bagai gadis yang chantek molek, akan tetapi kita di-sini hendak menjadikan lambang negara ia-lah hendak menchari sa-orang pahlawan yang gagah perkasa. (*Ketawa*).

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya tidak dapat menyokong chadangan Yang Berhormat dari Dungun yang membawa usul supaya bunga Anggerek menggantikan tempat Bunga Raya sa-bagai bunga lambang kebangsaan kita. Tuan Yang di-Pertua, Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Dungun itu salah. Kalau sa-kira-nya Ahli Yang Berhormat menchadangkan Bunga Anggerek yang di-rayu²kan-nya itu menjadi lambang perhintaan atau pun lambang asmara tetap saya akan menyokong-nya, Tuan Yang di-Pertua. (*Ketawa*).

Dr. Lim Swee Aun (Larut Selatan): Mr. Speaker, Sir, had the motion been "that the national flower should be an orchid", it would have received my sympathy. However, I do not know why the Honourable mover should have chosen "Anggerek Kinta". Those who know orchids, those who read books on orchids, will know that Anggerek Kinta is the Vanda Hookeriana, but to the general public, if you ask anybody in Kuala Lumpur, for example, what is Anggerek Kinta, the first answer will be, "Oh, yes, that is the orchid which you see growing up in the Cameron Highlands on the road-

side." In fact, those of us in Perak who know orchids—the rest of Malaya apparently do not know what orchids are in Perak—know that that Anggerek Kinta is the "Tapah Weed", or, to give it its proper name, it is "Arundina Bambusifolia". So, there is always confusion as to what is "Tapah Weed" and what is "Kinta Weed"—which is Anggerek Tapah and which is Anggerek Kinta. Only connoisseurs of orchids will be able to tell the difference.

The Honourable mover has spent a lot of time in praising the qualities of orchids, and I quite agree with her that orchids are lovely flowers which though tropical could stand the cold and they do not shrink in the cold—in fact they stand out more in the cold (*Laughter*). The Honourable mover has forgotten to describe to this House that Anggerek Kinta or Vanda Hookeriana is a specie of wild orchid which connoisseurs do not grow in their gardens. Why? It is because the orchid has very poor flowering qualities. Though it has a nice stalk with four or five buds, only one flower opens at a time, and when the second one opens the original one turns white. As has been shown by the mover just now, in that little stalk of two flowers, one is white and the other is coloured; and because of its poor flowering qualities people do not grow it in their gardens. But that the hybrids of orchids are valuable, there is no doubt about it: for example, the Vanda Miss Joaquim, Vanda Tan Chay Yan and Dendrobium Lim Swee Aun—I do not know whether she has heard of that one. Now, she has said that the qualities of a national flower should be its origin and its value. Though I do not quarrel with her that Kinta Weed is a Malayan flower, but its value is no better than Bunga Raya because, as I have said, its flowering qualities are very poor; if you put it in a refrigerator it will shrink as much as the Bunga Raya; if you send it to England it won't win any prize—the prizes are being won by the hybrids of orchids, the big genus of orchids, not Anggerek Kinta.

Now, it is apparent that the Honourable mover has made some study

and she has read some books on orchids; perhaps, there are many more books she should have consulted. She, perhaps, must have realised that the "orchids" or "Anggerek" is a generic term. There are orchids grown in the tropics; there are orchids grown in temperate countries; orchids in Malaya; orchids in England; orchids in South America; but they all come under one group. It is so wide, therefore, I presume that she has been wise enough not to choose the genus orchids as the national flower but, to be more specific, she has chosen Anggerek Kinta.

Now, as she had chosen Anggerek Kinta, this flower, even by its name, shows that it is limited in its habitat, that is to say, it is limited to Kinta; it grows wild only in Kinta and nowhere else in the whole of the Federation; and as Honourable Members in this House have pointed out, this Anggerek Kinta is not known outside Kinta. The rest of Malaya do not know what it is. So, how can we have it as the national flower?

The Honourable mover could, perhaps, have had made a better choice by choosing Anggerek Punai, or the Anggerek Pigeon, which can be found along the roadside right down from Perlis to Singapore sticking on trees, and it only flowers very very rarely, when the temperature of the night is 10° lower than the temperature in the morning; then you have flowers once in a while and it only lasts for one day. I am, therefore, surprised that she should have chosen Anggerek Kinta—why not Anggerek Punai or Pigeon Orchid which is found all over Malaya? If she had wanted to choose a flower, an orchid of value, an orchid that could have won a prize in international shows, an orchid that we can be proud of, when compared with the rose or chrysanthemum of other countries, then, perhaps, she could have chosen a local hybrid. But then again, the question may arise as to which hybrid should be chosen, and after whom it should be named, since there are so many hybrids. As she has pointed out, orchids are named after persons. As I have said just now, there is an orchid named after me.

Is she going to choose that as the national orchid? (*Laughter*). Hence, there is this difficulty of finding out what is the correct or suitable orchid in Malaya that should be the national flower.

Sir, I have no doubt that the Government realises all these difficulties. Whilst the orchid may be a lovely flower, perhaps, for these reasons, the Government has rejected its choice and has gone to the simple, common flower, the Bunga Raya, which is found all over the country, which is easily identified, which perhaps may not be of such value to the connoisseurs, but which is appreciated by all and sundry.

Puan Hajjah Zain binti Sulaiman:

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya berdiri membangkang usul ini. Bunga Raya—bunga kebangsaan kita yang kita megahkan, indah berseri dan permai ini hendak di-tukarkan pula dengan bunga Anggerek Kinta yang baharu ini di-dengar oleh orang. Bunga Raya kita telah ada dan telah hidup dalam Tanah Melayu ini sama lama-nya dengan bangsa Melayu dan Tanah Melayu ini sendiri (*Tepok*). Sila lihat Bunga Raya ini wahai Yang Berhormat, lihat-lah bagaimana kelopak-nya yang lima di-chipta, dan jalor-nya yang gagah perkasa macham rupa Chokmar yang di atas meja Tuan Yang di-Pertua itu. Apa-kah kekurangan Bunga Raya ini? Ta' ada satu pun kurang-nya! Tuan Yang di-Pertua, Bunga Raya ini hidupnya bebas, senang di-tanam, mudah di-chochok di-mana² sahaja ia boleh hidup. Bagitu-lah peribadi bunga kebangsaan kita sa-bagaimana orang Melayu, bangsa Melayu atau pun Malayan bagitu-lah bunga kebangsaannya. Ia layu kalau di-ambil atau di-petek walau pun di-simpan dalam tempat sejok. Jadi kepantangan kapada bunga kebangsaan yang bebas merdeka di-kurong² macham tawanan. Sila lihat! dengan perhatian (*Ketawa*).

Dan lagi sa-bagaimana bahasa kebangsaan ia-itu bahasa Melayu yang senang di-pelajari, senang di-tutor dan senang di-gunakan oleh segala bangsa dan puak dalam Semenanjung Tanah Melayu—tanah ayer kita ini, maka

tumbuh di-mana juga di-tanam, tumbuh-lah ia dengan senang, dan yang ka-empat, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, kalau kita tunjukkan atau tanya kepada siapa juga maka dengan senang dikenali, bukan sahaja oleh orang tua dan orang dewasa bahkan kanak² pun ketahui dan kenal bunga yang di-sebutkan itu. Dan lagi, ia menjadi kegunaan bagi satu² gulungan dan puak dalam negeri itu. Mithal-nya, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, sa-bagaimana yang di-sebutkan oleh sahabat saya ia-itu di-negeri Jepun bunga kebangsaan-nya ia-lah bunga Sakura, negeri India, kalau saya ta' silap bunga Kiambang (lotus) dan England bunga cherry blossom kalau ta' silap saya

Mr. Speaker: Kalau ta' tahu jangan sebut (*Ketawa*).

Tuan Haji Ahmad bin Saaid: Jadi, negeri ini waktu hendak menetapkan satu bunga yang menjadi bunga kebangsaan, di-dapati sa-bagaimana saya sebutkan tadi ada-lah bunga kebangsaan yang di-pilih oleh Yang Teramat Mulia Perdana Menteri setelah menerima pendapat dan pandangan daripada seluroh ra'ayat dan kebanyakan-nya bersetuju ia-itu bunga raya di-jadikan bunga kebangsaan. Raya berma'ana kebesaran, keagongan, sa-bagaimana yang di-sebutkan jalan raya, gendang raya dan lain² yang menentukan keagongan, kebesaran sa-sa-buah negeri itu.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, sa-bagaimana yang di-sebutkan oleh rakan saya tadi bunga raya ini di-pilih dan di-tentukan kerana sesuai sangat dengan syarat² yang lazim di-buat untuk memilih bunga. Oleh sebab beberapa orang rakan saya tadi telah menta'arif dan mema'anakan tentang bunga raya ini, saya ingin juga hendak mengeluarkan fikiran saya: tampok-nya yang hijau itu ma'ana-nya negeri ini ia-lah sa-buah negeri pertanian, yang selalu-nya hijau dan mengeluarkan hasil bumi dengan banyak dan kaya-raya, kelompok-nya yang merah itu tanda "berani kerana benar dan takut kerana salah" kata orang² tua, dan belalai-nya itu mengeluarkan madu, ini menunjukkan kema'amoran sa-sabuah negeri itu, dan ada pula warna kuning yang biji-nya ter-

letak di-belalai itu menunjukkan bahawa negeri kita di-perintah dengan chara "parliamentary democracy" atau pun "constitutional monarchy". Ia ada berkaitan dengan chara pentadbiran negeri kita ini.

Perkara yang besar sa-kali saya dapat tahu bahawa Bunga Raya ini ada-lah menjadi satu ubat, daun-nya di-ramas²-kan dengan ayer sejok dan di-buat param kepada orang² yang demam panas atau demam kepialu (*Ketawa*). Akar-nya boleh jadi satu penawar yang besar bagi orang² kampung di-asah akar-nya dan di-minum sa-bagai penawar di-sapu buat menyembuhkan penyakit kulit. Orang² kampung tahu dan sangat menghargai Bunga Raya ini. Sa-bagaimana yang telah di-sebutkan oleh Ahli Yang Berhormat wakil dari Besut tadi mengatakan bahawa Bunga Raya itu ia-lah sa-bagai satu bunga pelachoran, saya tidak dapat hendak menerima tuduhan² yang sa-macam itu dan juga sa-bagaimana yang diterangkan oleh ahli yang menhadangkan bahawa bunga Anggerek itu telah pun di-kahwinkan dengan beberapa bunga yang lain hingga mengeluarkan jenis²-nya yang lain yang lebih indah daripada itu. Akan tetapi Bunga Raya yang merah ini tidak pernah siapa kahwin dengan-nya (*Ketawa*). Jadi sangat tidak kena pada tempat-nya yang mengatakan bahawa Bunga Raya itu sa-bagai bunga pelachoran. Yang sa-benar-nya bunga Anggerek itu-lah patut di-katakan bunga pelachoran, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, bagaimana yang di-terangkan oleh sahabat saya tadi.

Mr. Speaker: Jangan di-ulang²kan lagi, kalau di-ulang²kan boleh menghilangkan masa.

Tuan Haji Ahmad bin Saaid: Sakian-lah sahaja, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, (*Ketawa*).

The Minister of Transport (Dato' Sardon bin Haji Jubir): Tuan Yang di-Pertua, bagi pihak Kerajaan, rakan saya Menteri Pertanian tidak ada disini, apa sebab Kerajaan memilih Bunga Raya sa-bagai bunga kebangsaan? Bukan-lah Kerajaan memilih dengan bermahrajalela sahaja. Dengan kerjasama Pejabat Penerangan dalam

beberapa bulan telah masuk ka-kampong² meminta pandangan² daripada orang² ramai untuk memberi persetujuan mana-kah bunga yang hendak di-jadikan bunga kebangsaan itu. Daripada sembilan buah negeri yang Pejabat Penerangan pergi dengan jalan membuang undi maka di-dapati 117,700 orang yang suka memberi pandangan terhadap bunga yang hendak di-jadikan bunga kebangsaan itu. Jadi beberapa kali tapis daripada bilangan yang banyak itu ada tujuh jenis bunga sahaja yang masuk bilangan dan daripada 7 itu di-kurangkan menjadi 5 bunga sahaja. Biar-lah saya bachakan supaya Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Dungun itu tahu yang orang ramai tidak memilih bunga Anggerak Kinta itu:

Bunga melor	...	22,846
Bunga chempaka	...	19,080
Bunga mawar	...	19,063
Bunga tanjong	...	18,073
Bunga raya	...	17,830

dan Anggerak Kinta tidak ada (*Ketawa*). Tuan Yang di-Pertua, daripada pendaptan orang ramai ini maka kita menyiasat juga lagi bahawa bunga² yang kita hendak jadikan bunga kebangsaan mesti-lah asal-nya di-negeri kita ini. Mengikut pendapat ahli bunga bahawa bunga chempaka itu datang dari India, bunga mawar dari sa-belah utara India juga, bunga tanjong dari India, Burma, bunga teratai itu juga dari India dan China dan bunga kenanga daripada Malaysian Group, itu pun tidak begitu banyak, yang banyak di-Sumatera, Phillipine, akan tetapi apabila sampai kepada Bunga Raya ini berasal dari negeri China dan Jepun dan Pacific areas tapi Bunga Raya ini sudah beberapa tahun ada di-dalam Tanah Melayu ini, dan memang-lah keadaan Bunga Raya itu sangat sesuai dengan keadaan orang Melayu sebab warna-nya pun merah, berani dan di-mana sahaja terchampak dia hidup. Orang Melayu mana dunia pergi pun hidup, daun-nya hijau dan bunga-nya merah. Kerana hijau itu ada-lah menunjukkan subor Tanah Melayu ini dan merah itu menunjokkan bangsa Melayu ini berani. Dengan sebab itu-lah maka Kerajaan memutuskan memilih bunga ini kerana di-kenal

oleh semua bangsa tambahan pula orang kita Melayu kerana bunga ini sangat terkenal oleh orang ramai bukan-lah di-kira kepada chantek dan mahal. Terima kaseh.

Che' Khadijah: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, yang pertama sekali saya suka menjawab kepada Ahli Yang Berhormat dari Seberang Tengah yang mengatakan bahawa bunga Anggerak ini ada-lah satu bunga yang hidup menumpang kepada pokok lain atau parasite. Maka ini, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya merasa bahawa Ahli Yang Berhormat itu tidak berapa mengetahui tentang soal² bunga Anggerak, yang ia tahu yang menumpang itu sahaja—barang yang menumpang di-kampung itu pokok sakat yang ada tumbuh di-pokok² yang besar, tetapi apa yang saya bawa ini ia-lah bunga Anggerak Kinta. Dia ini tidak menumpang kepada pokok² yang lain. Dia tidak menghisap darah pokok yang lain. Dia hidup tegak dengan kebanggaan-nya sendiri. Saya sangat dukachita sekali di-atas keterangan² beliau itu yang dia menyangkal betul² sehingga di-bacha-nya sa-buah majallah yang kata-nya bunga Anggerak ini di-kenal oleh kesusasteraan dunia yang mengagongkan dia, dan kata-nya lagi sunggoh sangat molek tetapi di-pakai oleh pria dan pemuda sa-bagai lambang chinta berahi.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, ia chuma mengetahui chinta itu chinta berahi sahaja. Selalu membawa itu ka-arrah yang kotor sahaja, Tuan Yang di-Pertua. Chuba di-bawa-nya chinta—chinta bangsa, chinta tanah ayer yang boleh mengurbankan jiwa kerana tanah ayer. Tetapi sangat sayang Ahli² Yang Berhormat dalam Dewan ini selalu membawa apakala sa-orang wanita berchakap membawa kepada aliran peribadi yang rendah sahaja, Tuan Yang di-Pertua. Sangat mendukachitakan Dewan ini, kalau sa-kira-nya ada tetamu² daripada negara lain maka sangat menyedehkan, kechiwa sangat, dukachita sekali bahawa Parlimen kita Tanah Melayu ini selalu menghina²kan kebesaran wanita kita Tanah Melayu ini. (*Hear! hear!*) (*Tepok*).

Ahli Yang Berhormat itu membawa satu pantun atau satu sastera kata-nya

yang di-tujukan kepada Bunga Raya ini:

Wahai nasib-mu si-Bunga Raya

Hidup-mu hanya di-tepi jalan sahaja.

Ini juga pantun asmara yang sebetulnya, Tuan Yang di-Pertua (*Ketawa*). Tetapi kerana di-pakai untuk kepentingan diri-nya maka di-bawa-lah konon-nya kepada satu benda yang hanya selalu hidup di-tepi jalan. Apakah beliau itu lupa bahawa perempuan pelachor yang berkeliaran di-tepi jalan itu bernama bunga raya, dan ini-lah di-pantunkan oleh peminat² bunga raya itu. Ia merasa sedeh, ia merasa duka kerana ia menchintai² itu, Tuan Yang di-Pertua. Maka di-kata-lah—Wahai si-bunga raya, nasib-mu di-tepi jalan sahaja. Maka saya sekarang akan menchuba membawa ka-dalam istana kayangan ini. Ini dia itu, Tuan Yang di-Pertua (*di-sampok*). Saya minta, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, semasa saya berchakap ini supaya Ahli² Yang Berhormat itu berlaku adab sedikit. Dan dalam soal ini, saya berpendapat sangat chetek sekali dan sangat tidak adil sekali pendapat² yang di-keluarkan oleh Ahli² Yang Berhormat tadi itu terhadap bunga Anggerek Kinta ini. Saya juga ada pungutan surat khabar ini saperti mana yang di-bachakan oleh Ahli Yang Berhormat dalam majallah-nya itu. Lambang, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, ini satu penghargaan yang sangat di-muliakan oleh dunia sastera.

Dalam kesusasteraan dunia, bunga Anggerek menepati pengertian yang istimewa untuk menggambarkan ketulusan chinta berahi antara pria dan wanita.

Ini kalau di-bawa kepada pria dan wanita maka ini lagi kesuchiaan dan keaslian-nya, tetapi kalau di-bawa kepada bunga kebangsaan—kapada bunga—bunga ini ada-lah satu ibarat lambang yang akan memberikan perasaan chinta—chinta kesuchiaan dan keberanian, walau pun harta jiwa-nya akan melayang, tetap akan mempertahankan bangsa dan negara-nya lembang perpaduan bangsa.

Mr. Speaker: Order! Saya chuma hendak mengingatkan—hak puan ini hanya boleh menjawab atas hujah² yang di-keluarkan sahaja. Jangan membawa hujah yang baharu!

Che' Khadijah: Saya menjawab perkara yang tadi, Tuan Yang di-Pertua. Dan berik特nya, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saudara saya Ahli Yang Berhormat wakil dari Kulim Utara dengan ketawa² kechil-nya sa-akan² yang Anggerek ini ta' pernah di-ketahu². Sedeh sekali, sa-orang bangsa Melayu yang duduk dalam Tanah Melayu ini, anak Melayu jati yang tidak mengenal bunga mastika yang terpendam dalam hutan belantara di-tanah ayer-nya sendiri. Sedeh dan sangat dukachita saya mendengar-nya. Juga beliau itu berkata tadi yang di-kenal-nya di-negeri Kedah sana, barangkali memang bertenggek² di-atas pokok dan selalu puteh² bunga-nya. Itu di-namakan bunga sakat, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, dan itu memang termasuk salah satu jenis daripada Anggerek juga, tetapi itu sahaja yang di-ketahu²-nya, malah ia tidak mengetahui serta mempelajari sedalam²-nya. Sa-bagai sa-orang Ahli Parlimen ia mesti mengetahui-nya (*Ketawa*) sa-suatu hal itu dengan sunggoh²—tidak main teka² sahaja sa-bagai budak kechil melihat bunga itu ada di-situ—oh itu sahaja dunia-nya bunga Anggerek yang ada dalam negeri Kedah. Sedeh sekali, sa-orang Ahli Dewan Ra'ayat dalam Persekutuan Tanah Melayu, kalau sa-kira-nya di-dengar oleh orang² dari luar dunia sunggoh sangat mendukachitakan, Tuan Yang di-Pertua. Kata-nya, kalau-lah di-ibaratkan bunga Anggerek ini—saya mengatakan bunga Anggerek Kinta—bukan-nya bunga yang menumpang tumbuh. Ia mempunyai pokok yang tersendiri. Ia tidak bersandar kepada pokok lain. Ia tidak menjadi penghias darah (*Ketawa*). Jadi kata-nya kalau ini-lah yang di-ambil menjadi bunga kebangsaan, maka kemerdekaan kita ini tidak penoh. Memang kemerdekaan Tanah Melayu ini belum penoh lagi, Tuan Yang di-Pertua. Beliau itu pun belum tahu lagi barangkali (*Ketawa*).

Dan kata-nya lagi—bahwa Bunga Raya besar, gendang raya, balai raya, jalan raya—memang sunggoh sa-bagai mana yang saya katakan tadi, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, nampak-nya lekas dari jauh, kerana chahaya-nya merah dan merah kata-nya tanda berani bangsa

Melayu. Wahai saudara-ku Ahli Yang Berhormat (*Ketawa*) lihat!

Mr. Speaker: Ini yang tertawa dari PAS nampak-nya.

Che' Khadijah: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya menjawab. Merah—gagah perkasa. Memang saya juga berserta dengan warna merah itu ia-itu merah—darah daripada kita bersama, bangsa kita di-sini yang gagah perkasa, tetapi kalau-lah merah bunga ini belum masuk ka-gelanggang sudah undor, sudah kechut, ini-kah yang di-namakan merah pahlawan yang di-bangga²kan? Sangat sedeh sekali (*Tepok*). Kalau begitu-lah pengertian-nya dari pehak Ahli² Yang Berhormat yang bermegah²kan tadi itu sunggoh sedeh dan saya juga sa-bagai bangsa Melayu yang berserta di-masokkan ka-dalam ini tadi, saya berasa malu saudara².

Ahli Yang Berhormat wakil dari Larut Selatan yang kata-nya bersetuju dengan saya, kalau sakira-nya bunga Orchid atau bunga Anggerek yang chantek yang lain, tetapi sa-benar-nya itu saya sudah nyatakan yang beliau itu bersetuju dengan saya, kerana bersetuju dengan Orchid ini. Saya menyatakan yang asli yang di-ketahuī oleh dunia bahawa Orchid Kinta ini dengan nama Vanda Hookariana itu di-ketahuī dan ini, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya dapat ini tadi dengan pertolongan Yang Berhormat Menteri Kehakiman yang mana beliau menge-tahuī dan ia juga meminati bunga ini; dan sangat-lah menghairankan kepada saudara² dari Perikatan yang tidak mengetahui bahawa salah sa-orang dari Menteri-nya yang ada di-sini membawa dan menolong saya men-dapatkan bunga yang ada dalam per-karangan beliau. Dan lihat-lah bagaima-na molek-nya sa-bagaimana yang saya katakan tadi memang keadaan-nya tumbuh ia-itu bunga ini sa-bagai berkelamin, sa-bagai manusia juga dan ia mengikut satu² jenis dan satu² ke-lamin. Jadi walau pun beliau itu menerangkan berbagai² perkara tentang soal Anggerek ini, saya menyatakan bahawa ia bersetuju dengan pendapat saya yang Anggerek ini mempunyai penghargaan, tetapi sunggoh pun bagitu beliau terpaksa menentang kerana

ia mesti tundok kepada suara ramai dari pehak-nya sendiri, kalau tidak ia nanti akan melanggar tata tertib parti-nya pula.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya sangat dukachita sekali kepada Ahli Yang Berhormat wakil dari Pontian Selatan. Saya lihat Ahli Yang Berhormat itu berdiri macham chaching kepanasan—ta' tahu merunta, ta' boleh letak bunga yang di-tangan-nya itu—ta' boleh bersabar lagi, tetapi saya akan jawab dengan sechara tenang dan sabar muga² ilham akan masuk ka-dalam jiwa Ahli Yang Berhormat itu dan beliau itu nanti akan bersama² dengan saya. Sebab saya merasa dukachita yang sebetul-nya dalam pemilehan bunga ini yang sebetul-nya, johari-nya ia-lah wanita, tetapi wanita pula yang menentang dan membangga²kan yang ini. Allah hurabbi . . . alang-kah sedeh-nya bagaimana johari-nya wanita yang sedemikian itu, dan kata beliau . . .

Mr. Speaker: Masa sudah pukul satu ini.

Che' Khadijah: Panjang lagi, Tuan Yang di-Pertua. (*Ketawa*).

Sitting suspended at 1.00 p.m.

Sitting resumed at 8.30 p.m.

(Mr. Speaker in the Chair)

ADJOURNMENT SINE DIE

(Motion)

Tun Haji Abdul Razak: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move,

That at its rising this day the House do stand adjourned *sine die*.

Dato' V. T. Sambanthan: Sir, I beg to second the motion.

Question put, and agreed to.

Resolved,

That at its rising this day the House do stand adjourned *sine die*.

MOTION

"ANGGEREK KINTA" DI-JADI-KAN BUNGA KEBANGSAAN

Debate resumed.

Question again proposed.

The Minister of Justice (Tun Leong Yew Koh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, before

the Honourable Mover continues with her speech, may I give a short explanation in that when I gave her the "Anggerek Kinta" this morning, I did not have the intention of supporting the motion. I did so because last night I saw her bring to the House the Vanda Joaquim and I thought I would put her right by giving her the correct flower. I have grown "Anggerek Kinta" for several years and would like to say that the plant is a fragile one and it has to cling to some wooden stump before it can thrive.

Che' Khadijah: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, menyambong penjawapan hujah daripada Ahli² Yang Berhormat tadi, maka saya teruskan penjawapan saya tentang hujah wakil dari Pontian Selatan. Wakil dari Pontian Selatan mengatakan tadi dengan suara yang garang ia-itu "haram" bunga itu dimasukkan dalam peti sejok. Saya sangat hairan dan terperanjat mendengar kata "haram" itu, Tuan Yang di-Pertua. "Haram" dari segi mana, ada-kah hadith yang mengatakan haram memasukkan bunga ka-dalam peti sejok?

Hajjah Zain: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, untuk penjelasan. Saya tidak chakap "haram". Saya chakap "pantang" . . .

Mr. Speaker: Nanti dahulu! (*Ketawa*). Apabila hendak beri penjelasan hendak-lah tunggu sama ada pehak yang berchakap itu beri jalan atau tidak, kalau ia belum dudok berma'ana jangan langsungkan perchakapan itu. Proceed (*Kapada Che' Khadijah*).

Che' Khadijah: dan kata beliau itu juga pantang kebangsaan, kerana kita sudah merdeka. Saya ingin juga bertanya dalam soal ini: Kebangsaan mana yang memantangkan itu, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, kebangsaan bangsa Melayu-kah atau kebangsaan warganegara Persekutuan Tanah Melayu-kah? Sebab hairan di-balek hairan, pantang kebangsaan memasukkan bunga ka-dalam peti sejok, dan kalau-lah itu pantang, saya juga mentafsirkan pantang mempunyai peti sejok di-rumah. Saya fikir Ahli Yang Berhormat itu ada mempunyai peti sejok

dan juga Ahli² Yang Berhormat yang lain. Jadi pantang itu tidak tepat, tidak kena pada tempat-nya di-keluarkan oleh Ahli Yang Berhormat tadi—(*Interruption*).

Che' Khadijah: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, kalau ada Ahli Yang Berhormat yang ingin berchakap . . .

Mr. Speaker: Proceed!

Che' Khadijah: Sa-lain daripada itu, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, beliau mengatakan ia tidak suka bahawa bunga okid, sa-bagaimana yang saya telah terangkan tadi, di-chintai dan diminati oleh bangsa² asing, bunga itu di-pelihara dengan chara yang baik dalam kacha dengan mengeluarkan modal yang banyak. Kata-nya, ia tidak mahu, kerana di-minati oleh bangsa dari luar. Ini hairan juga! Kita lebeh senang dan lebeh megah kalau bunga Kebangsaan kita di-hargai dan di-beri nilai yang tinggi oleh dunia luar walau pun dari segi warna dan kebagusan-nya atau dari segi perekonomian dalam menchari kewangan. Jadi dalam soal ini saya ta' tahu-lah Yang Berhormat itu betul² "menegakkan benang basah". Akhir-nya beliau berkata, saya tolak mentah², kalau ta' mentah ditolak juga, Tuan Yang di-Pertua. Jadi ta' payah kata mentah itu—(*Interruption*)—minta jangan biadab.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, kerana beliau bersunggo² mengatakan Bunga Raya itu penoh megah dan mempunyai penghargaan yang tinggi dan di-minati oleh tiap² orang di-dalam Tanah Melayu ini hinggakan budak² kechil sa-kali pun suka meminati-nya. Kerana beliau membangga²kan bahawa Bunga Raya itu-lah yang mendapat nilayan tinggi oleh yang berhormat itu dan boleh-lah dengan kebangsaan-nya kapada Bunga Raya itu saya memberi gelaran Bunga Raya Perikatan. Tuan Yang di-Pertua, berpaling kapada yang berhormat rakan saya wakil Jitra-Padang Terap, senyum nampak-nya saudari itu (*Ketawa*). Kerana, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya sa-betul-nya menghargai yang berhormat itu kerana beliau tadi berkata kalau saya memberi keterangan yang tegas di-dalam Anggerek Kinta ini, kata beliau, beliau

akan sokong saya, ini bererti hati kechil yang berhormat itu pada pehak saya. Tuan Yang di-Pertua, tetapi kerana disiplin parti barangkali terpaksa ditolak juga. Pandai betul rakan saya itu memang itu-lah sa-orang wanita yang sa-jati, Tuan Yang di-Pertua (*Ketawa*).

Wakil daripada Muar Utara, beliau telah membanggakan yang berhormat itu sa-bagai sa-orang pendidek, sa-bagai sa-orang guru, kata-nya senang dia memberikan pengertian kepada murid²-nya, senang di-kenal. Bunga Raya samemang senang di-kenal, di-mana² sahaja siapa yang tidak kenal Bunga Raya itu di-pagar, terchorok² satu timbul, nun di-sudut², rawa², nun ditepi jalan ada Bunga Raya. Tetapi tidak ada di-pelihara dengan sunggoh² dan saya yakin dan perchaya di-rumah yang berhormat itu tidak ada memelihara Bunga Raya, barangkali sudah itu nanti, Tuan Yang di Pertua, beliau balek menanam-nya.

Sa-lain daripada itu beliau berkata, sa-lain daripada membuat perhiasan jauh sa-kali, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, belum sa-tengah hari sudah kunchup. Bunga Raya yang di-bawa oleh yang berhormat tadi ia-lah bunga yang dibuat dari plastic, ini memang tidak layu², Tuan Yang di-Pertua. Ini tidak sa-jati, itu ia-lah immitation ia-itu barang tiruan tidak barang asli. Tuan Yang di-Pertua, beliau berkata yang kata-nya pokok Bunga Raya itu dibuat sa-bagai pagar dan sangat kuat kata-nya di-tarek kambing pun tidak apa². Tuan Yang di-Pertua, pokok Bunga Raya sahaja yang boleh menjadi pagar, pokok senudok pun boleh jadi pagar juga dan lagi pula kuat. Ini chuma kata sahaja, tetapi tidak dibuktikan dan saya rasa di-rumah yang berhormat itu tidak ada pagar yang dibuat daripada Bunga Raya. Lagi kata-nya, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, Bunga Raya ini sangat berguna kerana bunga-nya boleh di-buat mengilatkan kasut. Jadi kalau itu-lah hasil Bunga Raya itu, berapa orang-kah di-dalam Dewan ini barangkali yang menjadikan Bunga Raya itu belakin kasut-nya. Entah-lah kalau yang berhormat itu memakai belakin kasut-nya daripada Bunga Raya saya tidak tahu-lah (*Ketawa*). Berapa-kah factory² di-dalam Tanah

Melayu ini menghasilkan Bunga Raya itu membuat belakin kasut. Saya rasa tidak pernah ada factory yang di-buat belakin daripada Bunga Raya. Tuan Yang di-Pertua, jadi ini nyata² dan terang² tidak boleh di-napikan bahawa segala hujah² itu ada-lah menegakkan benang basah. Dan lagi kata-nya, pokok itu kuat dan kayu-nya boleh di-buat berus gigi. Saya tidak pernah melihat orang memakai berus gigi daripada pokok Bunga Raya. Ta' tahu-lah, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, kalau di-negeri Melaka banyak orang² memakai berus gigi daripada batang Bunga Raya.

Enche' Abdul Ghani bin Ishak: Saya hendak menerangkan bab 35, saya tidak berchakap perkara itu, kalau hendak datang besok pagi, boleh-lah datang ka-rumah saya (*Ketawa*).

Mr. Speaker: Ini apa bab 35 (*Ketawa*). Dudok dahulu dua². Apabila sa-orang tengah berchakap yang lain boleh menyampok dengan mengatakan hendak beri satu² kenyataan, kemudian minta ia memberi jalan, kalau ia tidak memberi awak tidak boleh bangun. Saya telah berchakap banyak kali berkenaan dengan ini. Ada-kah Che' Khadijah hendak beri ia jalan.

Che' Khadijah: Tidak. (*Ketawa*). Tuan Yang di-Pertua, di-dalam soal menjadikan kayu Bunga Raya itu berus gigi tidak tahu-lah saya kalau daripada pehak Perikatan mahukan factory itu untuk membuat berus gigi mereka.

Enche' Hanafi bin Mohd. Yunus: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, fasal hendak buat berus gigi itu saya yang berchakap-nya.

Mr. Speaker: Ada-kah Che' Puan hendak memberi jalan.

Che' Khadijah: Saya tidak beri.

Mr. Speaker: Dia ada hak menjawab atas apa juga hujah yang ada di-sini.

Che' Khadijah: Kalau yang berhormat daripada Kulim itu berkata, beliau-lah mengatakan Bunga Raya itu boleh di-buat belakin kasut atau batang-nya boleh di-buat berus gigi, saya juga tidak pernah mendengar di-sana ada factory berus gigi daripada Bunga Raya.

Enche' Hanafi bin Mohd. Yunus: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, . . .

Che' Khadijah: Saya tidak beri Wakil daripada Melaka Utara tadi mengatakan, kata-nya walau pun Bunga Raya itu di-ranggut kambing sa-kali pun tidak apa². Barangkali, saya rasa, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, pokok Bunga Raya itu tidak sedap, jadi dia terus mengelakkan diri-nya. Ini bererti-lah dan terang² jangankan manusia, tetapi kambing pun tidak menyukai-nya. Saya berasa sangat dukachita sa-kali bagaimana yang berhormat rakan² saya di-sini boleh mempertahankan dengan chara bermatian² untuk menjadikan Bunga Raya itu sa-bagai Bunga Kebangsaan.

Menjawab yang berhormat dari Seberang Utara yang menyebutkan ia itu negara² yang mempunyai Bunga Kebangsaan, kata-nya negeri Jepun dengan Sakura-nya, bunga Kiambang dari saudara² bangsa India. Dan kalau-lah satu² negara itu satu² bangsa itu megah dengan bunga Kebangsaan-nya dan kalau negeri Jepun dengan bunga Sakura-nya memang-lah, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, kerana keadaan bunga Sakura itu sangat istimewa dan sangat mengkagumkan. Dengan ini-lah yang menjadikan bangsa Jepun sa-bagai jiwa, roh dan peribadi-nya daripada bangsa yang melambangkan bunga Sakura itu. Tetapi, alang-kah dukachita dan sedeh-nya jika Bunga Raya ini kita lambangkan kepada negara Persekutuan Tanah Melayu yang terkenal sekarang yang di-agongkan di-seluruh dunia di-mana berbangga dengan tentera²-nya yang telah di-kirim ka-Congo sana untuk menolong menyelamatkan negara luar, tetapi sedeh sangat dan dukachita jika bunga yang semacam ini kita banggakan, kita keluarkan sa-bagai ikatan peribadi bangsa kita di-tanah ayer kita ini. (*Hear! Hear!*).

Mr. Speaker: Bunga Raya yang layu! (*Ketawa*).

Che' Khadijah: Ini Bunga Raya yang layu. Tadi telah saya katakan—Yang Berhormat Perdana Menteri tadi tidak hadir di-sini—semalam saya bawa yang segar—Bunga Raya dan bunga Anggerek, tetapi oleh kerana usul saya

ta' dapat di-kemukakan semalam, saya terpaksa meminta tolong simpankan di-kantin sana, maka di-masokkan-lah ka-dalam ice-box. Bunga Anggerek yang saya bawa bersama yang saya kemukakan dalam Dewan ini untuk menggantikan Bunga Raya ini maseh segar lagi, maseh berchahaya, maseh menegakkan diri-nya sa-bagai bunga yang bernapas saperti saudara² yang ada dalam Dewan ini. Dan kebetulan pula Bunga Raya yang tinggal sama² semalam yang baharu satu hari di-simpan, sudah layu, Tuan Yang di-Pertua. Tetapi mana boleh di-bandingkan dengan bunga Sakura dari Jepun, atau Indonesia, atau bunga Kiambang dari India—sungguh menyedehkan sama sekali!

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Sudah layu!

Che' Khadijah: Kerana sudah layu maka ia tidak nampak besar (*Ketawa*) (*di-sampok*).

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, kalau saudara Yang Berhormat itu hendak berchakap ada masa-nya nanti!

Mr. Speaker: Order! order! Saya ada (*Ketawa*).

Che' Khadijah: Saya selalu di-ganggu, Tuan Yang di-Pertua.

Mr. Speaker: Boleh berchakap perkara yang lain (*Ketawa*).

Che' Khadijah: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, sa-bagai yang telah saya katakan tadi kalau di-bawa bunga kebangsaan daripada negara lain di-tandingkan kepada bangsa² yang berkehendakkan satu pamiran daripada bunga kebangsaan daripada satu bangsa atau satu negara pada suatu masa kelak, maka di-kirimkan-lah daripada Tanah Melayu Bunga Raya; daripada negara Jepun bunga Sakura, dan daripada tempat² lain di-kirimkan-lah bunga² kebangsaan-nya dengan megah turun masing² dari kapal terbang, maka karangan bunga dari Tanah Melayu apabila kapal terbang itu turun, di-songsong-nya-lah oleh panitia itu maka di-lihat karangan-nya bunga kebangsaan itu daun-nya sahaja yang tinggal, bunga-nya sudah layu. Jadi kalau bagini-lah bunga kebangsaan kita

di-pamirkan dalam pamiran antara bangsa seluroh dunia ini, mana letaknya penghargaan dunia tentang bunga kebangsaan Tanah Melayu ini.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: Bangga bagi Malaya!

Che' Khadijah: Ya, bangga.

Mr. Speaker: Order! Yang Berhormat ta' boleh menjawab perkara itu. Ini nampak-nya sudah lari daripada itu.

Che' Khadijah: Sebab, hujah tadi bunga kebangsaan yang di-seluroh dunia, Tuan Yang di-Pertua.

Mr. Speaker: Ini sudah melarat.

Che' Khadijah: Dan Ahli Yang Berhormat itu berkata daun Bunga Raya ini juga mendatangkan menafaat, mendatangkan hasil dan boleh di-jadikan ubat bagi orang² kampung. Daun-nya itu di-ramas. Jadi ayer-nya berlendir keluar (*Ketawa*) (*di-sampok*). Dan dengan yang demikian dapat mengubat orang yang sakit, Tuan Yang di-Pertua. Kalau daun ini menghasilkan ubat, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, ta' payah di-buat factory ubat dari luar negeri, chukop dengan daun Bunga Raya ini di-adakan factory dan di-buat untuk mengubat penyakit otak orang² kampung. Sunggoh ajaib dan sunggoh berbahagia kita jikalau sudah ada factory ubat daun Bunga Raya dalam negeri ini, dan kata-nya lagi akar-nya juga di-jadikan ubat. Jadi banyak semua yang terpakai. Bunga-di-megahkan sa-bagai kebangsaan bangsa kita. Daun-nya di-gunakan sa-bagai ubat. Akar-nya juga di-gunakan sa-bagai ubat. Tetapi ubat apa? Dan berapa orang-kah yang telah menggunakan ubat itu? Saya pun tidak tahu. Kalau-lah kita boleh adakan factory ubat ini daripada daun bunga ini—ah ini harus boleh jadi kagum, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, dan boleh kita banggakan. Tetapi, kita ta' nampak, jikalau Ahli Yang Berhormat itu ada mengatakan banyak orang yang memakai ubat ini, malah di-tempat saya ta' ada orang memakai-nya.

Dan beliau berkata Bunga Raya ini ta' pernah di-kawinkan dan ta' ada

siapa yang mengkawinkan (*Ketawa*)—(*Interruption*)—

Mr. Speaker: Proceed.

Che' Khadijah: . . . tetapi kalau-lah itu yang di-jadikan hujah, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, Ahli Yang Berhormat itu sunggoh tidak mengetahui ilmu tumbohan², bahawa dengan sa-sunggohnya ia ta' tahu Bunga Raya juga banyak di-kawinkan sa-hingga boleh menghasilkan saperti Bunga Raya yang di-jadikan Bunga Kebangsaan—yang sa-malam sudah layu—ini—Tuan Yang di-Pertua, biar saya bukakan supaya nampak daun kelopak-nya—(*Interruption*)—jadi kalau ini di-kawinkan maka daun-nya boleh berlapis dan warna-nya berbagai². Chubalah pergi ka-kebun bunga. Saya telah pergi ka-kebun bunga pagi tadi, dan saya telah di-beri tahu oleh penjaga kebun itu kata-nya, bunga ini di-kawinkan dengan bunga ini—menjadi bagini dia. Jadi itu menunjukkan bahawa Bunga Raya ini juga di-kawin²kan. Jadi banyak—jangan ketawa kalau di-sebut kawin—(**AN HONOURABLE MEMBER:** Ta' betul)—

Mr. Speaker: Order. No interruption please.

Che' Khadijah: Sentiasa-lah biadab (*Kapada Ahli Yang Berhormat yang menyampok*).

Tuan Haji Ahmad bin Saaid: Perkataan “biadab” itu unparliamentary. “Biadab” ma'ana-nya kurang ajar. Minta tarek balek.

Mr. Speaker: Puan ta' boleh chapak kalimah “biadab”.

Che' Khadijah: Dalam Standing Order mengatakan kalau menyampok orang berchapak mesti beradab—ta' boleh biadab—jadi ini parliamentary, Tuan Yang di-Pertua.

Mr. Speaker: Kalimah “biadab” itu unparliamentary.

Che' Khadijah: Ia-lah, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya selalu di-ganggu, Tuan Yang di-Pertua. . . .

Mr. Speaker: Apel (appeal) pada saya.

Che' Khadijah: Di-apel pun, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, yang lain maseh mengganggu terus

Mr. Speaker: Saya akan tahan.

Che' Khadijah: . . . saudara pehak lelaki tidak menghargai wanita dalam Parlimen ini

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Dudok. Saya minta Ahli² Yang Berhormat jangan mengganggu apa yang di-chakapkan oleh pehak yang berchakap

Che' Khadijah: Saya minta . . .

Mr. Speaker: Puan jangan pula mengganggu saya berchakap supaya kita dapat menghabiskan kerja dengan selamat.

Che' Khadijah: Terima kaseh, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya harap supaya kalau wanita yang berchakap dalam Dewan ini pehak daripada kaum bapa

Mr. Speaker: Tidak apa.

Che' Khadijah: . . harus berlaku dengan tenang.

Mr. Speaker: Chakap.

Che' Khadijah: Jadi, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, dalam soal tumbohan² untuk membaiki dan untuk mengeluarkan hasil yang lebeh bagus, maka bunga² itu memang di-kawinkan—itu bahasa Melayu-nya.

Dan, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, bagi menjawab hujah yang di-beri oleh salah sa-orang Menteri Yang Berhormat tadi yang mengatakan bahawa masa memilih bunga Kebangsaan ini ada di-minta daripada orang ramai supaya menghantar chadangan-nya masing². Tetapi saya ta' tahu, saya merasa soal bunga Kebangsaan ini bukan-lah soal kechil, ini ada-lah soal besar, ini ada-lah soal negara dan soal bangsa. Sa-harus-nya hendak-lah di-beri masa yang lama untuk ra'ayat Persekutuan Tanah Melayu mengemukakan pendapat-nya sa-bagaimana lama-nya masa yang di-beri untuk memilih "Lagu Kebangsaan". Tetapi saya merasa dalam soal bunga Kebangsaan ini masa-nya tidak lama dan

penerangan-nya tidak berapa luas di-beri untuk meminta pendapat daripada orang ramai, sebab saya sendiri ta' tahu, dan kalau sa-kira-nya untuk memilih bunga ini, saya merasa sa-harus-nya Kerajaan meminta kapada tiap² persatuan wanita, kerana wanita-lah yang lebeh mengetahui dalam soal bunga, biasa-nya, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, wanita yang menyukai dan meminati bunga, tetapi ini tidak di-perbuat oleh pehak Kerajaan. Jadi kalau lelaki yang memilih—kebanyakan-nya itu-lah—yang nampak di-tepi jalan itu yang lekas di-ambil. Tetapi sa-harus-nya kita mesti pilih dengan sunggoh², kita mesti bandingkan satu², kita mesti lihat kegunaan-nya, keaslian-nya, kechanteakan-nya dan ibarat yang ada di-kandung oleh bunga itu boleh di-jadikan ibarat kapada bangsa kita dalam tanah ayer kita. Jadi harus ini memakan masa yang agak panjang, tetapi tidak, tiba² sahaja dengan tidak di-sedari telah di-umumkan bahawa Bunga Raya menjadi bunga Kebangsaan. Menurut keterangan-nya tadi ada beberapa bunga yang telah di-kemukakan, dan yang di-pilih 5 bunga ia-itu Melor, Chempaka, Mawar, Bunga Tanjung dan Bunga Raya. Maka yang di-pilih mengikut suara sa-ramai 17,000 ia-lah Bunga Raya. Beliau juga mengaku bahawa Bunga Raya ini berasal dari negara luar ia-itu dari negeri China dan Jepun. Jadi di-ketahui sunggoh . . .

Dato' Sardon bin Haji Jubir: Tuan Yang di-Pertua, untuk penjelasan. Saya kata kawasan pacific—termasok kita.

Che' Khadijah: Ia-lah . . . tetapi tadi di-sebut negeri China dan Jepun. Jadi, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, kalau kita telah mengetahui asal-usul kedatangan-nya dari luar, tentu lebeh bagus kita ambil yang asli, yang ada dalam tanah ayer kita ini saperti Bunga Anggerak Kinta, sa-bagaimana yang saya terangkan tadi, ia-itu asli, tumbuh dalam Tanah Melayu ini, ia-itu nun! lembah Kinta

The Assistant Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Tuan Syed Ja'afar bin Hasan Albar): Dungun.

Che' Khadijah: . . . terang² kita menyatakan . . . tidak di-Dungun, tetapi dalam Kinta—di-tanah Arab (*Ketawa*)—(*Interruption*)—

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Che' Khadijah: Dan, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, Yang Berhormat itu juga mengatakan Kerajaan memilih Bunga Raya itu kerana ia gagah perkasa, merah itu kata-nya, tanda berani dan hijau itu menunjukkan kedudukan Tanah Melayu ini subur dan penoh dengan hasil bumi. Kalau pengertian warna itu memang tepat, betul, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, warna merah itu memang garang, erti-nya berani dan hijau itu menunjukkan tumbuhan² ia-itu hasil bumi Tanah Melayu—itu pengertian warna. Tetapi kalau di-bawa kapada bunga, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, sudah berlain erti-nya kalau di-bawa kapada Bunga Raya ini pengertian-nya sudah lari, sudah ta' tepat. Sebab kalau gagah perkasa dan berani di-taroh dalam pasu walau pun beberapa hari lama-nya, ia tetap segar, gagah sa-bagai siap sedia untuk melawan, tetapi ini baharu dua hari sahaja sudah tidak ada lagi—sudah kunchup—layu (*Ketawa*)—(*Interruption*).

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Che' Khadijah binti Mohd. Sidek: Kalau di-bawa kapada Bunga Raya itu bererti sudah lari, sudah tidak tepat, sebab kalau ia gagah perkasa yang berani di-masokkan dia di-dalam pasu walau beberapa lama sa-kali pun dia tetap segar, megah sa-bagai orang yang sedia untuk melawan sahaja, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, tetapi baharu sahaja dua hari tidak ada lagi kunchup dan layu sahaja, Tuan Yang di-Pertua. (*Ketawa*). Jadi sudah menggeletar tulang-nya, sudah takut menghadap lawan-nya. Tuan Yang di-Pertua, itu tidak tepat kalau yang di-katakan tadi kalau merah itu gagah dan perkasa. Di-sini erti-nya bahawa Bunga Raya itu ada-lah pengechut dan penakut belum ka-gelanggang sudah undor, Tuan Yang di-Pertua.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, kalau hijau itu biar-lah saya bersetuju kerana daun Bunga Raya itu dia tidak layu dan

sama juga dengan daun² yang lain. Kata yang Berhormat itu, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, Bunga Raya itu di-pandang tinggi dan Bunga Raya itu ada-lah sa-bagai pahlawan sa-bagai benting ia-itu menjadi pagar, erti-nya pagar dalam rumah², kalau ia, bunga ini sa-bagai pahlawan, jadi pagar, bukan untuk rumah, pagar untuk bangsa, pengertian-nya, Tuan Yang di-Pertua. Saya merasa Yang Berhormat itu juga, dia berkata itu tetapi dia tidak kota. Saya yakin juga rumah yang Berhormat itu pagarnya tidak ada di-buat daripada Bunga Raya. Dan kalau-lah sunggoh, saya boleh hetong di-dalam bandar Kuala Lumpur ini saya berjalan kapada tiap² rumah barangkali dalam 1,000 satu pun tidak ada pagar Bunga Raya.

Tuan Yang di-Pertua, saya yakin dan perchaya kalau di-bawa Bunga Anggerek Kinta dan di-bawa Bunga Raya itu ka-dalam musharakat orang ramai di-tanya kapada mereka manakah mereka suka di-antara dua bunga ini. Saya yakin dan perchaya Bunga Anggerek Kinta ini akan mendapat pilihan yang ramai, Tuan Yang di-Pertua. Jadi gelaran Bunga Raya sa-bagai pahlawan itu sangat mendukachitakan, dukachita saya katakan walau pun di-bangga²kan. Dan pula saya yakin dan perchaya kalau saya tanya tiap² jiwa raga daripada yang Berhormat² yang duduk dalam Dewan ini mereka itu tentu sukakan bunga Anggerek ini, Tuan Yang di-Pertua. Tetapi kerana terpaksa sudah ter-langkah maka tidak mahu menarek balek langkah itu maka mahu ta' mahu, walau pun dalam hati suka terpaksa juga menentang-nya.

Mr. Speaker: Itu hujjah mana itu (*Ketawa*).

Che' Khadijah: Hujjah yang Berhormat itu.

Mr. Speaker: Itu tidak ada orang sebut.

Che' Khadijah: Jadi pada pendapat saya, walau pun usul saya ini pada ketika ini jatuh dalam Dewan ini, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, tetapi saya yakin dan perchaya satu masa nanti usul saya ini akan kembali di-kemukakan lagi dan mungkin akan berjaya. Sa-belum saya

menghabiskan ucapan saya, saya akan menutup-nya, Tuan Yang di-Pertua. Dengan melihat lekas layu-nya Bunga Raya itu pada taksiran saya bahawa Bunga Raya itu di-beri ibarat kepada pahlawan² di-tanah ayer kita ini dan kalau-lah Yang Berhormat² dari Perikatan bermati²an mempertahankan Bunga Raya ini maka saya mempunyai taksiran bahawa pahlawan² Perikatan kelak akan undor sa-belum masok dalam gelanggang, Tuan Yang di-Pertua, dan mungkin tahun 1964 maka pahlawan² Perikatan undor akan digantikan oleh pahlawan² yang lain dalam negeri ini.

Sa-takat ini sahaja.

AN HONOURABLE MEMBER: PAS!

Che' Khadijah: Mudah²an.

Question put, and negatived.

HOSPITAL CHARGES AND SPECIALISTS' FEES

Enche' K. Karam Singh (Damansara):

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move,

That this House views with concern the adverse effects on the medical services of the present system of hospital charges and specialists' fees and resolves that a commission of inquiry be appointed to review the said system of hospital charges and specialists' fees with a view to ensuring that the best medical treatment and medical skill are extended to all patients, irrespective of their economic standing, in Government hospitals throughout the Federation.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it would be a grand day for the people of Malaya when we have a socialised medical service, which would treat all sick persons in this country purely as part of humanity's fight against disease—and not as part of a struggle for the medical profession to acquire more and more riches—but that remains an ideal before the people of Malaya. In the meantime the position of the medical services in our country has further receded from this great ideal. Whereas a few years ago the ordinary people of our country could go to any hospital and get medicines free of charge; today they go to the same hospital, they are examined, they get the prescriptions and when they are about to take the medicine they are told to pay up. And many of them go

back disappointed, because they do not have even that small sum of money which is demanded by the hospitals for medicine, which only a short while ago was given free. Mr. Speaker, Sir, all this makes the Malayan ra'ayat feel very sceptical of Government's statement that it is going to expand the medical services further and further and in a greater measure into the rural areas.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I should say that we have got a ra'ayat in this land who are medically neglected; and that neglect stems from the present structure of society where money has more value than men and where although a man may be dying of sickness he does not get treatment just because he does not have the monetary qualifications. But, Sir, the central point of my motion is contained in paragraph 56 of Cap. F of the General Orders of our Government, on page 10. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will read the entire paragraph:

"To officers who have performed services for which Consultation, Miscellaneous and Specialist Fees are received, the following portions of such fees shall be refunded, the balance in each case being retained by the Government:

- (a) Fees paid to Clinical Specialist Officers, i.e., Surgeons, Physicians, Anaesthetists, Ophthalmologists, Obstetricians, Gynaecologists, Ear, Nose and Throat Specialists, and such other Specialist Officers as may be declared by the Director of Medical Services to be Clinical Specialist Officers—
 - (i) of the first \$500 per mensem inclusive of Consultation and Nett Fees, the full sum;
 - (ii) of the next \$750 per mensem, Consultation Fees in full and Nett Fees (if any), one-half;
 - (iii) of the next \$2,000 per mensem, Consultation Fees in full and Nett Fees (if any), one quarter;
 - (iv) of any sum in excess of \$3,250 per mensem, Consultation Fees in full and Nett Fees, one-tenth.
- (b) Fees paid to non-Clinical Specialist Officers, i.e., Radiologists, Pathologists, Bacteriologists, Biochemists and such other Specialist Officers as may be declared by the Director of Medical Services to be non-Clinical Specialist Officers—
 - (i) of the first \$500 per mensem inclusive of Consultation and Nett Fees, the full sum.

- (ii) of the next \$750 per mensem, Consultation Fees in full and Nett Fees (if any), one-quarter;
 - (iii) of any sum in excess of \$1,250 per mensem Consultation Fees in full and Nett Fees one-tenth.
- (c) Fees paid to other officers—
Such portions of fees as are prescribed for non-Clinical Specialist Officers in (b) above."

Mr. Speaker, Sir, for the benefit of those, who are not well acquainted with this paragraph, I will clarify a little further in that certain portions of the fees I have mentioned just now—in the first case \$500, in the second case \$750, in the third case \$1,250 and so on—are to be given to the specialist officer concerned. If the fees earned by the specialist officer is \$500 per mensem, the specialist takes that \$500; above \$500, if he earns \$750 p.m. the specialist takes all the consultation fees and half of the nett fees; of the next \$2,000 p.m., the specialist takes one-quarter, i.e., \$500; and of any sum in excess of \$3,250 p.m., he takes all the consultative fees and of the nett fees, one-tenth. This refunding to specialist officers who are clinical specialists officers is almost repeated for non-clinical specialist officers.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is very important for us to note that these specialist fees are given to the specialist officers over and above their regular salaries and—apart from the fact that it is an irregular practice in that although the medical specialist officers receive certain fixed salaries they also get something over and above that, it is not a fixed amount—I will show to this House how certain very grave and adverse effects arise out of this system of refunding specialist fees to specialist medical officers.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we find that most of the high fees charged in Government hospitals are charged in the first class wards by paying patients. For instance, Sir, on page 13 of Cap. "F" of the General Orders it says:

"Operation and Psychiatric Fee:

Paying patients in First	
Class Ward	Minimum \$25, maximum \$500

Paying patients in Second
Class Ward Maximum \$200
Third Class patients ... No charge."

And then further down it reads,

"The maximum charge for surgical and psychiatric services for the relief of the same condition, even if more than one operation is required, will be limited to \$750."

And further down in paragraph 3 it is stated as follows,

"Accouchement and Maternity Fees (including all requisite ante-natal and post-natal examinations conducted in hospitals at pre-arranged times).

Paying patients in First
Class Ward Maximum \$200
Paying patients in Second
Class Ward Maximum \$100
Third Class patients ... No charge."

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we find that most of these high fees for specialist treatment come from the first class patients and, slightly lower than that, from the second class patients and according to the General Orders no fees are charged on third class patients. Sir, on these General Orders when it reads "Third class patients—No charge" it sounds very nice and it looks as if the third class patients of our country get free specialist service. But this is entirely misleading, as what this amounts to in practice is that the third class patients do not get specialist treatment at all. How is it that the third class patients do not get specialist treatment at all? I know that in many hospitals in our country specialist officers are known not to have visited the third class wards at all, and the reason is very simple. The specialist officer if he attends a third class patient will get no charges. He will not get \$200; he will not even get \$2 because there is no provision for fees, and if the specialist officer cannot get any fees from third class patients, it follows that he will not get any refund at all because nothing is paid. So what is happening is that the specialist officers devote themselves only to first class patients who are rich so that these rich patients will pay them a good fee, and out of that fee they can retain a very handsome proportion. If their total fees for a month amounts to \$500, it is theirs for the taking. Mr. Speaker, Sir, if we abolish the refunding of specialist fees

to specialist officers and all specialist fees are instead credited to the Government Revenue, we will remove the one inducement to the specialist officers in our hospitals which attracts the specialist officers to the moneyed patients in the first class; and since it will remove that attraction it will make on difference to the specialist officer whether he attends to a first class patient or a third class patient, because he is not going to get any monetary profit from serving the one instead of the other. When this refunding system is abolished, he can see the patient as a sick person and not as a rich person to be attended to, and leaving a poor person alone. By the abolition of this system of refunding fees to specialist officers, we will find that the medical service will then, in Government hospitals at least, be truly meant for sickness and not for status.

In the Government Service specialist officers get a regular salary, but if the present system of paying refunds continues it will make the specialist officers selfish and will reduce the position of the specialist officer—apart from his salary—to that of a private practitioner, who makes a type of private income whilst still in Government Service. The abolition of the refunding system will remove this temptation from our specialists in Government hospitals.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, another evil that arises from this system is this: there are certain specialist officers who get more cases than others. For instance, we know very well, and our Minister of Finance complained about it the other day, that Malaya's population is increasing very fast. So, what we have is that those specialists who are obstetricians get more cases in the first class wards than do other specialist officers. So, there are some specialist officers who do not get big fees and who subsequently do not get very much of refunds. But there are officers, like obstetricians, who every month get a lot of cases and whose fees are very high and who consequently get a very big income apart from their salaries. What it leads to is that one specialist officer gets less income in

Government Service than another, but their qualifications are on the same level—they specialise in different sections of the medical science. What this will lead to in our Medical Service is that the specialist who gets less income apart from his salary will have heart-burning and he will be jealous of the specialist who gets more; and once these jealousies are stirred, once the General Orders make provision for such jealousies, it is bound to affect the efficiency of our Medical Service. There will be disgruntled elements who sincerely feel that they are not getting what their colleagues get and, consequently, you will find that they will not give off their best to the patients who come to them.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, another evil consequence of this system of refunding fees to medical officers is that specialist officers like only to work in big towns, like Kuala Lumpur, where there are a lot of rich people who are always coming to the first class ward. If they are in places like Kuala Lumpur and always get rich patients in the first class ward, they can always have refunds and be very happy.

So, this makes the specialist officer very reluctant to go to small towns where there are very few rich people, and it will be interesting to our colleagues from the East Coast to know that this is one of the reasons why specialist medical officers are not found on the East Coast or, if found, they are found rarely, because there are not very many rich people on the East Coast. Therefore, there is not enough financial inducement for these medical officers to leave the prospects of additional income—say, in Kuala Lumpur—and go to the East Coast. But, Mr. Speaker, Sir, if this system is abolished, then it will make no difference to the specialist officer whether he serves in Kuala Lumpur, or in Grik, or in Kuala Lipis, or in Kota Bharu, or in Dungun, or in Kuala Trengganu; it will be the same for him, because he is not going to get more or less money by being in one or another place.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, another grave, and I would say catastrophic, effect of this system is that it affects those people,

who are the victims of the worst diseases in our country. We know the Government has always brought into prominence its fight against tuberculosis and leprosy. We know also that those people in our country, the vast majority, who get tuberculosis and leprosy are poor people, who cannot afford to pay the maximum charges of specialist fees amounting sometimes to \$200 and sometimes to \$500. Since these people are not in a position to pay specialist fees, the specialists do not care to come into those sections of the Medical Service which deal with tuberculosis and leprosy, because if they come to these sections of the Medical Service, they will not get any extra money which they can get if they stay on in some other sections of the Medical Service where there are rich patients.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it will be futile for the Government to continue this system of refunding fees to specialists and at the same time to propagate its campaign for the eradication of tuberculosis and for the fight against leprosy because, although you may be able to get the public support in the fight against these two diseases, although you may have the best intentions in the world, you will not have the men, medical specialists, who will be willing to come and attend to patients who suffer from tuberculosis and leprosy. It would be a service to humanity if this barrier—the system of paying refunds—to the service of our tuberculosis and leprosy patients is eradicated.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we know that the poor in our country, who do not get food which is good enough and whose living conditions are very meagre and who are most susceptible to disease, are at the moment not getting the best medical attention which is their due. It is the imperative duty of this Government to see to it that those who are under-privileged by their living conditions, by their social conditions, are at least not denied the best medical services that the public of our country possesses.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, then we find that a question may arise, if we are going to abolish this system of refunding medical

specialist fees to specialist officers; and that is, what are we going to do to replace the present system? Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not saying that this be done or that be done, but I am only asking that a Commission of Inquiry should be appointed to consider what the best system is; and if it finds that the specialist officers are not getting enough for their services, that they are overworked, then it may consider it necessary to regularise the position by giving them a rise in their salaries. Further, I would say that that rise should be fixed and regular payments made and that this evil system of refunding should be abolished.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, my motion is not a controversial one and it is not a party issue; it is for the benefit of all; and I am sure all parties would accept the arguments that have been advanced, and I hope that all parties and all Members in this House would give it its due support.

Sir, I beg to move.

Enche' V. David (Bungsar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to second the motion reserving my right to speak at a later stage.

Enche' Chin See Yin (Seremban Timor): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the motion before us is one that is really simple—simple in the sense that a test will be put to this House to ask that “a Commission be appointed to review the system of hospital charges and specialists' fees with a view to ensuring that the best medical treatment and medical skill are extended to all patients . . .”

Sir, first, I will deal with the hospital charges. In regard to the hospital charges, I would like to draw your kind attention to the General Orders concerning the medical section which is on page 12 where fees are laid down for first class, second class and third class wards. For the first class, second class and third class, with the exception of third class, the patients will have to pay. Now, the intention there is very clear—free for those who are not able to pay. In regard to the hospital charges in my town, which I am aware of, it is laid down that when a patient wishes

to seek admission to the first class, he has to deposit \$100, for the second class \$50, but the third class patients are asked to pay \$10, whereas it is stated in the General Orders that it is usually free of charge. What is the purpose of this charge? There must be something wrong somewhere regarding the charge of \$10 deposit. Therefore, Sir, you will see that this motion has a lot to be said for it because it is a request for the appointment of a Commission.

Now, Sir, hospital charges include treatment, and treatment comes in in the form of prescription of medicine and examination of sickness. The first and second class patients usually secure the services of specialists and naturally the third class patients will not have the chance. I have heard, at least concerning my town, that there are about 700 beds in the hospital. Surely, Sir, you will appreciate that the number of patients in the first and second class will naturally occupy a lot of time of the specialists as we have only one Physician. Now that Physician—by the time he has been able to get round the first and second class wards—I do not think he will have much time to attend to the third class patients.

Sir, in any hospital in this country and the world over, it is usually the third class wards where you find most people. Now, for most of these patients, the attention of specialists, I think, is more urgently required, for the simple reason that the number is much more than those in the first and second class wards. Therefore, if a specialist should impose fees, as suggested just now and properly defined by the Honourable the Mover of this motion, then you will see that the purpose of having a specialist employed in the hospital is no longer there, because the intention of having a specialist is to cure the sick and that is the duty of the medical profession, which is a very noble one.

Now, I come to the question of treatment and charges. In regard to treatment and charges, that is to make the poor to pay, I would say that particularly those from the working class have got no money to pay. In

my town there is a Town Clinic. In that Town Clinic you will find that patients going there are mostly those who are not in a financial position to go and consult a private practitioner, and because they are unable to do so, they are left with no choice—and they must get themselves cured in order to go to work—but to go to the Town Clinic which is a Government set-up. Therefore, after they have been examined and given a prescription, they have been told to pay \$2 or \$3 for the medicine depending on the nature and the type of medicine given to the patients. As far as I know, out of one hundred cases, at least seventy to eighty are made to pay, and most of these people are not in a position to do so. We are speaking of the importance of health in this country, of social services and health services so much, yet we are not spending enough money to give free medical treatment.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, by these little examples that I have shown they are sufficient to prove that there is a need for this Commission to be set up in so far as it concerns hospital charges.

Now, as regards the specialists in Government hospitals, they are doctors most of whom have received Government scholarships to become specialists—some, of course, through good fortune, are able to become specialists without getting aid from the Government. All these doctors who are now specialists—and they have become specialists because of the Government scholarships which are awarded from public money—should give most of their time to practise that noble profession more than anything else. For that reason I feel that it is of utmost importance that the people in the third class wards be given more attention than those who are in the first and second class. The patients in the first and second class wards can well afford to pay private practitioners to treat them, and among the private practitioners there are also specialists. I see no reason why more attention should be given by the specialists in the hospital to the first and second

class patients than to those who are in the third class.

Sir, I feel that it is important that this House should give every consideration to this proposed resolution and I hope that in the interests of the country the Government will give the poor that need they require. On the question of health, this motion should be given support. That is all I wish to say.

The Minister of Health and Social Welfare (Dato' Ong Yoke Lin):

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the whole system of specialists' fees and charges, which has been in existence since pre-war days, has now been under very active review by the Government. In doing so, the Government is giving very careful consideration to the interests of the patients and the specialists in the various fields of specialisation as a whole, and also to the question of public funds. Discussions have been held with representatives of the specialists with a view to finding the most equitable formula which, it is the intention of the Government, should be consistent with the interests I have just mentioned.

Sir, there has been no evidence of discrimination by the specialists on grounds of the economic standing of the patients. In fact, our specialists do maintain at all times the highest traditions of their profession in the treatment of patients, who come under their care. I think it is rather unkind and unjustified for the Honourable Mover to have said that these specialists, because of their rush for money, do not give treatment to the third class or non-paying patients. This is not true, because the vast majority of patients are non-paying cases and, whenever it is necessary, our specialists do give them their specialist treatment. However, it is realised by Government that the existing system of fees and charges can give rise to a feeling among the general public that the non-paying patients do not get the same attention as the paying ones. In reviewing this situation or the system, it is hoped to rationalise these fees and charges, so as to allay any such

feeling. The Honourable Mover, I am afraid, has been rather over-simplifying socialism, when he spoke of a free medical service or national health service for all. Now, Sir, it is a common error for some people to think that a national health service is a free service. It is nothing of that kind. Under the National Health Service in the United Kingdom every wage-earner has deducted from his wage packet regularly a sum of money to contribute towards the National Health Service, whereas under our system at the moment we are one of the very few countries, I think, that gives free medical treatment, medicines and so on to those who are genuinely unable to pay—and these people do not have to pay towards a National Health Service. I want to assure this House once again—I have done it before—that no one who goes to a Government hospital, either to be admitted, or for out-patient treatment, or for any treatment in any hospital or dispensary, who is genuinely unable to pay, is denied free treatment or free medicine.

The Honourable Member from Seremban Timor has misread, I am afraid, the charges on page 12 of Cap. F of the General Orders. He mentioned third class as free. That refers to mental hospitals (*Laughter*); whereas if he had taken the trouble to look under 1 (a) of that page, he would have seen—Third class...\$1.00, indigent persons free. So, normally a dollar is charged for third class, but whenever a patient is genuinely unable to pay, that patient gets free treatment, free medicine, free food and also free specialist service, which is at all times available whenever it is necessary.

Sir, I do not agree to the appointment of a Commission of Inquiry into this matter as proposed by the Honourable Mover, in view of what I have mentioned about the Government's action and I, therefore, oppose this motion.

Enche' Liu Yoong Peng (Rawang):
Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister has said that a third class patient does get