

Bill No. 10 of 1958.

**CRIMINAL LAW (OFFENCES) (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1958.
ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS**

Section

- 1. Short title.
- 2. Amendment of section 286 of Chapter 10.
- 3. Amendment of section 303 of Chapter 10.

A BILL

Intituled

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CRIMINAL LAW
(OFFENCES) ORDINANCE.**

Enacted by the Legislature of British Guiana:—

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Criminal Law (Offences) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1958, and shall be construed and read as one with the Criminal Law (Offences) Ordinance, hereinafter referred to as the Principal Ordinance, and any Ordinance amending the same. Short title.
Cap. 10

2. Section 286 of the Principal Ordinance is hereby amended— Amendment
of section
286 of Chap-
ter 10.

- (a) by renumbering the section as subsection (1); and
- (b) by the addition of the following as subsection (2)

Cap. 283. —

“(2) Any reference in this Title to silver coin shall include a reference to coin of cupro-nickel issued under the provisions of the Currency Ordinance and accordingly such coin shall be excluded from the definition of “copper coin” in subsection (1) of this section.”

3. Section 303 of the Principal Ordinance is hereby amended by the deletion therefrom of the words “having been once summarily convicted before a magistrate or magistrate’s court thereof.” Amendment
of section
303 of Chap-
ter 10.

OBJECTS AND REASONS

This Bill seeks to extend the definition of the expression “silver coin” in section 286 of the Criminal Law (Offences) Ordinance to include the current fifty cent, twenty-five cent and ten cent coins which although commonly called silver coins are in fact made of cupro-nickel. This would make the law relating to the counterfeiting of silver coins and kindred offences extend to the so-called silver coinage.

2. Section 303 of the Ordinance declares to be offences the acts specified in paragraphs (a) and (b) of that section if done after a previous conviction for any of those acts before a magistrate. Clause 3 of the Bill seeks to delete the requirement of a previous conviction before a magistrate as there is no provision in the law for this type of offence to be tried by a magistrate: the gravity of the offence justifies its trial on indictment.

A. M. I. AUSTIN,
Attorney General.

13th February, 1958.
(M.P. L. No. 94/75).
(Leg. Bill No. 10/1958).