

THIRD PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA

FIRST SESSION

1973 - 1974

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 33rd Sitting of the National Assembly held in the Parliament Chamber at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON

WEDNESDAY, 8TH MAY, 1974

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Speaker

His Honour the Speaker, Mr. Sase Narain, J.P.

Members of the Government - People's National Congress (50)

Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister (2)

The Honourable L.F.S. Burnham, O.E., S.C., Prime Minister
Dr. the Honourable P.A. Reid, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Development and Agriculture

Senior Ministers (7)

- The Honourable H.D. Hoyte, S.C., Minister of Works and Communications
The Honourable S.S. Ramphal, S.C., Minister of Foreign Affairs and Justice (Absent)
The Honourable H. Green, Minister of Co-operatives and National Mobilisation (Absent)
The Honourable H.D. Jack, Minister of Energy and Natural Resources (Absent)
The Honourable F.E. Hope, Minister of Finance (Absent)
Dr. the Honourable K.F.S. King, Minister of Economic Development (Absent)
The Honourable S.S. Naraine, A.A., Minister of Housing

Ministers (6)

- The Honourable W.G. Carrington, Minister of Labour
The Honourable Miss S.M. Field-Ridley, Minister of Information and Culture
The Honourable B. Ramsaroop, Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House
The Honourable Miss C.L. Baird, Minister of Education and Social Development (Absent - on leave)
Dr. the Honourable D.M.R. Harper, Minister of Health (Absent)
The Honourable G.A. King, Minister of Trade and Consumer Protection

Ministers of State (9)

- The Honourable M. Kasim, A.A., Minister of State for Agriculture
The Honourable D.E. Clarke, Minister of State - Regional (East Berbice/Corentyne)
The Honourable P. Duncan, J.P., Minister of State - Regional (Rupununi) (Absent - on leave)

Non elected Minister

- The Honourable C.A. Nascimento, Minister of State, Office of the Prime Minister
The Honourable M. Zaheeruddeen, J.P., Minister of State - Regional (Essequibo Coast/West Demerara) (Absent)
The Honourable C.V. Mingo, Minister of State for Home Affairs
The Honourable W. Haynes, Minister of State - Regional (Mazaruni/Potaro) (Absent)
The Honourable A. Salim, Minister of State - Regional (East Demerara/West Coast Berbice)
The Honourable F.U.A. Carmichael, Minister of State - Regional (North West)

Parliamentary Secretaries (8)

- Mr. J.R. Thomas, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Housing
Mr. C.E. Wrights, J.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Works and Communications
Miss M.M. Ackman, Parliamentary Secretary, Office of the Prime Minister, and Government Chief Whip
Mr. E.L. Ambrose, Parliamentary Secretary (Agriculture), Ministry of National Development and Agriculture (Absent - on leave)
Mr. K.B. Bancroft, Parliamentary Secretary (Hinterland), Ministry of National Development and Agriculture
Mr. S. Prashad, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Co-operatives and National Mobilisation
Mr. J.P. Chcwritmootoo, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Education
Mr. R.H.O. Corbin, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Co-operatives and National Mobilisation

Deputy Speaker (1)

- Mr. R.C. Van Sluytman, Deputy Speaker

Other Members (17)

- Mr. J.N. Aaron
Mrs. L.M. Branco
Mr. M. Corrica
Mr. E.H.A. Fowler
Miss J. Gill
Mr. W. Hussain
Miss S. Jaiserrisingh
Mr. K.M.E. Jonas
Mr. M. Nissar
Dr. L.E. Ramsahoye
Mr. J.G. Ramson
Mrs. P.A. Rayman
Mr. E.M. Stoby, J.P. (Absent)
Mr. S.H. Sukhu, M.S., J.P.
Mr. C. Sukul, J.P.
Mr. H.A. Taylor
Mrs. L.E. Willems

Members of the Opposition - Liberator Party (2)

- Mr. M.F. Singh, Leader of the Opposition
Mrs. E. DaSilva

OFFICERS

- Mr. F.A. Narain, Clerk of the National Assembly
Mr. M.B. Henry, AMBIM, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly

Non elected Minister

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

Leave

His Honour the Speaker announced that leave had been granted to -

- (i) Miss Baird from 6th to 11th May, 1974, and
- (ii) Mr. Duncan and Mr. Ambrose for that day's sitting.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Presentation and First Reading

- (1) PUBLIC AUTHORITIES (LIMITATION OF ACTIONS) (SPECIAL PROVISIONS) BILL 1974 - Bill No. 11/1974 published 4.5.74

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House, on behalf of the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Justice, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO REMOVE THE REQUIREMENT THAT ACTIONS BY CERTAIN PUBLIC AUTHORITIES FOR THE RECOVERY OF MONIES BE BROUGHT WITHIN A PRESCRIBED TIME AND TO PROVIDE FOR MATTERS INCIDENTAL THERETO.

- (2) PUBLIC OFFICERS WIDOWS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1974 - Bill No. 15/1974 published 11.5.74

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House, on behalf of the Minister of Finance, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE PUBLIC OFFICERS WIDOWS ACT.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

MOTION

ITEM 1 SUPERANNUATION BENEFITS TO NON-PENSIONABLE GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

The Prime Minister moved the following motion:

WHEREAS the conditions governing the payment of superannuation benefits to non-pensionable government employees as authorised by Legislative Council Resolutions No. LII of the 6th July, 1951, and No. LVI of the 8th May, 1957, provide inter alia that

- (i) an employee who at the date of his retirement holds "an approved appointment", and has served in an approved appointment for at least twenty (20) continuous years immediately preceding the date of his retirement will be eligible for an annual allowance; and
- (ii) an allowance or gratuity will be paid only in respect of service after the age of twenty (20) years

AND WHEREAS provision exists in the Pensions Act (Chapter 27:02) for an officer to whom a pension is granted under that Act to exercise an option to take a reduced pension with a gratuity, and it is considered that similar provision should be made for the non-pensionable government employee to whom an annual allowance is granted to be given the option to be paid in lieu of such annual allowance an annual allowance at the rate of three-fourths of such allowance together with a gratuity equal to twelve and one half times the amount by which such allowance is reduced;

AND WHEREAS under the Pensions Act (Chapter 27:02) the holder of a pensionable office is eligible with effect from 3rd December, 1971, for the payment of a pension, gratuity or other allowance in respect of service from the age of 18 years instead of 20 years:

NLW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the conditions authorised by the Legislative Council Resolutions aforesaid mentioned be varied to

- (i) allow, with effect from 1st July, 1973, for an employee to whom an annual allowance is granted to be paid, at his option, an allowance at the rate of three-fourths of the allowance payable in terms of the Resolutions together with a gratuity equal to twelve and one-half times the amount by which such allowance is reduced; and
- (ii) permit service from the age of 18 years instead of 20 years to be counted for the purpose of payment of superannuation benefits to non-pensionable government employees in the employ of the Government on or after 3rd December, 1971.

The Leader of the Opposition spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the Prime Minister replied.

The motion was then put and carried.

BILL - Second and Third Readings

ITEM 2 FACTORIES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1974 - Bill No. 13/1974
published 18.4.74

The Minister of Labour moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE
FACTORIES ACT.

The Leader of the Opposition spoke to the motion.

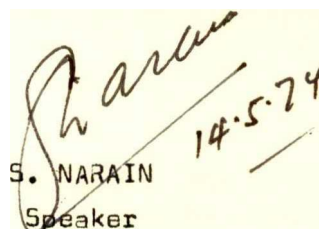
Thereafter the Minister of Labour replied.

The motion was put and carried.

The Bill was then read a second time and was, thereafter, taken through its remaining stages and passed as printed.

ADJOURNMENT

At 3.15 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of ~~the House~~, the Assembly was adjourned to a date to be fixed.



S. NARAIN
Speaker

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.
14th May, 1974.