THIRD SESSION

1971

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 20th Sitting of the National Assembly under the Constitution of Guyana, held in the Parliament Chamber at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON

MONDAY, 9TH AUGUST, 1971

PRESENT:

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

(a) Members of the Government

(i) Ministers

The Honourable L.F.S. Burnham, S.C., Prime Minister

The Honourable M. Kasim, A.A., Minister of Communications

The Honourable H.D. Hoyte, S.C., Minister of Finance

The Honourable W.G. Carrington, Minister of Labour and Social Security

The Honourable Miss S.M. Field-Ridley, Minister of Education

The Honourable B. Ramsaroop, Minister of Trade (Leader of the House)

The Honourable D.A. Singh, Minister of Housing and Reconstruction

The Honourable O.E. Clarke, Minister of Home Affairs

The Honourable C.V. Mingo, Minister of Local Government
The Honourable S.S. Ramphel S.C. Attorney-General and

The Honourable S.S. Ramphal, S.C., Attorney-General and Minister of State

The Honourable H. Green, Minister of Works, Hydraulics and Supply

(ii) Parliamentary Secretaries

Mr. J.G. Joaquin, J.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Finance

Mr. P. Duncan, J.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture

Mr. W. Haynes, Parliamentary Secretary,
Office of the Prime Minister

Mr. A. Salim, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture

Mr. J.R. Thomas, Parliamentary Secretary,
Office of the Prime Minister

Mr. C.E. Wrights, J.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Works, Hydraulics and Supply

(iii) Other Members

Mr. J.N. Aaron

Miss M.M. Ackman, Government Whip

Mr. K. Bancroft

Mr. N.J. Bissember

Mr. J. Budhoo, J.P.

Mr. L.I. Chan-A-Sue

Mr. E.F. Correia

Mr. E.H.A. Fowler

Mr. R.J. Jordan

Mr. S.M. Saffee

Mr. R.C. Van Sluytman

Mr. M. Zaheeruddeen, J.P.

Mrs. L.E. Willems

(b) Members of the Opposition

Mr. Ram Karran

Mr. R. Chandisingh

Mr. D.C. Jagan, J.P., Deputy Speaker

Mr. E.M.G. Wilson

Mr. A.M. Hamid, J.P., Opposition Whip

Mr. G.H. Lall, J.P.

Mr. M.Y. Ally

Mr. R.D. Persaud, J.P.

Mr. R. Ally

Mr. E.L. Ambrose

Mrs. L.M. Branco

Mr. Balchand Persaud

Mr. Bhola Persaud

Mr. I.R. Remington, J.P.

Mr. V. Teekah

Mr. M.F. Singh

Mr. J.A. Sutton

Mr. R.E. Cheeks

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

Absent:

Dr. the Honourable P.A. Reid, Deputy Prime
Minister and Minister of Agriculture - on leave
The Honourable H.O. Jack, Minister of
Mines and Forests

Mr. M. Corrica - on leave
Dr. C.B. Jagan, Leader of the Opposition - on leave
Dr. F.H.W. Ramsahoye, S.C. - on leave
Mr. E.M. Stoby, J.P.

Mrs. R.P. Sahoye - on leave

- on leave

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

Mrs. E. DaSilva

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

Leave

His Honour the Speaker announced that leave had been granted to Dr. Reid and Mrs. DaSilva for that day's sitting.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS. ETC.

(1) By the Minister of Trade (Leader of the House), on behalf of the Minister of Agriculture:

Report of the Guyana Rice Marketing Board for the period 1st October 1968 to 30th September, 1969.

(AGR: 108/65/2/3)(Circulated)

(2) By the Minister of Labour and Social Security:

Reports of the National Insurance Board for the years 1969 and 1970.

(68/14/2)(Circulated)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Presentation and First Reading

LIVESTOCK (LOANS FOR DEVELOPMENT) BILL, 1971 - Bill No. 19/1971 published 7.8.71

The Minister of Trade (Leader of the House), on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO MAKE PROVISION FOR FACILITATING THE RAISING OF LOANS BY PERSONS ENGAGED IN THE REARING OF LIVESTOCK AND FOR MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

BILLS - Second and Third Readings

ITEM 1 - PUBLIC CORPORATIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1971 Bill No. 18/1971 published 31.7.71

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE PUBLIC CORPORATIONS ORDINANCE, 1962, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING THE GUYANA STATE CORPORATION AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES CONNECTED THEREWITH.

Mr. Lall and Mr. Wilson spoke to the motion.

Mr. R.D. Persaud was speaking to the motion when the time for the suspension of the sitting was reached.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 4.00 p.m. the sitting was suspended for tea.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 4.30 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

Mr. R.D. Persaud concluded his speech.

Mr. Balchand Persaud, Mr. Sutton, Mr. M.Y. Ally and Mr. R. Ally spoke to the motion.

Mr. Hamid was speaking to the motion when the time for the suspension of the sitting was reached.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 6.30 p.m. the sitting was suspended.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 8.10 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

Mr. Chandisingh and Mr. Ram Karran spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the Prime Minister replied.

The motion was then put and carried on the following division:

FOR

Mr. Sutton

Mrs. Willems

Mr. Zaheeruddeen

Mr. Van Sluytman

Mr. Saffee

Mr. Jordan

Mr. Fowler

Mr. Chan-A-Sue

Mr. Budhoo

Mr. Bissember

Mr. Bancroft

Miss Ackman

Mr. Aaron

Mr. Wrights

Mr. Thomas

Mr. Salim

Mr. Haynes

Mr. Duncan

Mr. Joaquin

Mr. Mingo

Mr. Clarke

Mr. Ramsaroop

Miss Field-Ridley

Mr. Carrington

Mr. Hoyte

Mr. Kasim

Mr. Burnham

AGAINST

Mr. Teekah

Mr. Remington

Mr. Balchand Persaud

Mrs. Branco

Mr. R. Ally

Mr. R.D. Persaud

Mr. M.Y. Ally

Mr. Wilson

Mr. D. Jagan

Mr. Chandisingh

Mr. Ram Karran

The Bill was read a second time.

Assembly resolved itself into Committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

In Committee

Clause 1 was passed as printed.

Clause 2 - The following amendment by Mr. Sutton was put and negatived:

Deletion of the words "an auditor appointed by the Minister" and substitution of the words "the Director of Audit" in the proposed section 2K.

INTERRUPTION OF CONSIDERATION OF THE BILL

At 9.55 p.m. consideration of the Bill was interrupted to enable the Minister of Trade (Leader of the House) to move the suspension of Standing Order No. 9(1).

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER NO. 9(1)

On a motion by the Minister of Trade (Leader of the House), Standing Order No. 9(1) was suspended to enable the Assembly to sit beyond 10.00 p.m. in order to complete consideration of the Public Corporations (Amendment) Bill, 1971, and the Customs (Amendment) Bill, 1971.

RESUMPTION OF CONSIDERATION OF THE BILL

<u>Clause 2</u> - The following amendment by Mr. Sutton was put and <u>carried</u>:

Insertion of the words "not later than
nine months after each calendar year"
after the words "National Assembly"
in the proposed section 2L.

Clause 2 was then passed as amended.

Clauses 3 and 4 were passed as printed.

Assembly resumed.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 10.00 p.m. the sitting was suspended for coffee.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 10.17 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

Assembly resolved itself into Committee to resume consideration of the PUBLIC CORPORATIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1971.

In Committee

<u>Schedule</u> - The following amendment by Mr. D.C. Jagan was put and <u>negatived</u>:

<u>Deletion</u> of the word "direct" in the proposed amendment to section 46(3) of the Public Corporations Ordinance, 1962.

The following amendments by the Prime Minister were put and <u>carried</u>:

(1) Public Corporations Ordinance, 1962

Insertion of the following amendment after the proposed amendments to section 46:

Section 49 The words "or the deputy chairman or other member elected to preside at a meet-ing of the corporation" shall be inserted after the word "chairman".

(2) Rice Marketing Ordinance, Chapter 249

- (a) In the proposed section 6 -
 - (i) <u>Deletion</u> of the word "General" appearing before the word "Manager" in subsection (1);

and

- (ii) Insertion of the words "an Assistant Manager, a Secretary and" immediately after the word "employ" in subsection (2).
- (b) Substitution of the word "wherever" for word "whenever" in the proposed amendment to section 15.

The Schedule was then passed as amended.

Assembly resumed.

On a motion by the Prime Minister, the Bill was read the third time and <u>passed</u> as <u>amended</u> in Committee.

ITEM 2 - CUSTOMS (AMENDMENT) BILL. 1971 - Bill No. 17/1971 published 28.7.71

In accordance with article 80(2) of the Constitution, the Minister of Finance signified the Cabinet's recommendation and moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE CUSTOMS ORDINANCE.

Mr. Ram Karran spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the Minister of Finance replied.

The motion was then put and carried.

The Bill was read a second time.

Assembly resolved itself into Committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

In Committee

Clause 1 was passed as printed.

Clause 2 - The following amendment by Mr. R.D. Persaud was put and <u>negatived</u>:

Substitution of the word "twelve" for the word "six" in the proposed section 51 of the Principal Ordinance.

Clause 2 was then passed as printed.
Clause 3 was passed as printed.

ly resumed.

Assembly resumed.

On a motion by the Minister of Finance, the Bill was read the third time and <u>passed</u> as <u>printed</u>.

ADJOURNMENT

At 11.00 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Trade (Leader of the House), the Assembly was adjourned to a date to be fixed.

Si NARAIN

Speaker

PARLIAMENT OFFICE, Public Buildings, Georgetown. 16th August, 1971.