

1956

MINUTES of the Proceedings of a meeting of the Legislative Council of the Colony of British Guiana under the British Guiana (Constitution)(Temporary Provisions) Order in Council, 1953, held in the Chamber of the Legislature at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.

on

FRIDAY, 26TH OCTOBER, 1956.

PRESENT:

The Deputy Speaker, Mr. W.A. Macnie, C.M.G., O.B.E. - In the
Chair.

Ex-Officio Members

The Honourable the Chief Secretary, Mr. F.D. Jakeway, C.M.G., O.B.E.
The Honourable the Attorney General, Mr. G.M. Farnum (Ag.)
The Honourable the Financial Secretary, Mr. F.W. Essex.

Nominated Members of Executive Council

The Honourable Sir Frank McDavid, C.M.G., C.B.E.
(Member for Agriculture, Forests, Lands and Mines).
The Honourable P.A. Cummings
(Member for Labour, Health and Housing).
The Honourable W.O.R. Kendall
(Member for Communications and Works).
The Honourable G.A.C. Farnum, O.B.E.
(Member for Local Government, Social Welfare and
Co-operative Development).
The Honourable R.B. Gajraj

Nominated Unofficials

Mr. T. Lee
Mr. W.A. Phang
Mr. C.A. Carter
Mr. E.F. Correia
Rev. D.C.J. Bobb
Mr. H. Rahaman
Miss Gertie H. Collins
Mrs. Esther E. Dey
Mr. R.B. Jailal
Mr. Sugrim Singh

Clerk of the Legislature - Mr. I. Crum Ewing.

Assistant Clerk of the Legislature - Mr. B.M. Viapree (Ag.)

Absent

His Honour the Speaker, Sir Eustace Gordon Woolford, O.B.E.
Q.C. - on leave.
The Honourable R C. Tello - on leave.
The Honourable L.A. Luckhoo, Q.C.
Mr. W.T. Lord, I.S.O. - on leave.
Mr. J.I. Ramphal - on leave.
Dr. H.A. Fraser

The Deputy Speaker read prayers

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Friday, the 19th of October, 1956, as printed and circulated, were taken as read and confirmed.

PAPERS LAID

(i) By the Chief Secretary:

Trading and Profit and Loss Accounts and the Balance Sheet of the Lethem Trade Store for the year 1955, together with the Director of Audit's certificate and report thereon.

(No. 1/19 II).

(ii) By the Financial Secretary:

Order in Council No. 66 of 1956 made under section 8 of the Customs Ordinance, Chapter 309, on the 26th day of September, 1956, and published in the Gazette on 20th October, 1956.

(F.S.C.Ex. 1/56)(Circulated).

(iii) By the Member for Communications and Works:

The Post and Telecommunications Annual Report - January - December, 1955.
(PT. 94/4 III).

GOVERNMENT NOTICES -Motion

The Financial Secretary gave notice of the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this Council in terms of section 9 of the Customs Ordinance, Chapter 309, confirms Order in Council No. 66 of 1956 which was made on the 26th day of September, 1956, and published in the Gazette on 20th October, 1956.

OTHER NOTICES -Motion

Mr. Lee gave notice of the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this Council approves of Standing Order No. 35 being amended by the addition of the following new paragraph (4) thereto:

(4) The provision of paragraph (2) of this Standing Order shall not apply to a debate on any motion which in the opinion of the Speaker relates to the expenditure of public funds or is of great public interest.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

- (i) The Chief Secretary gave notice of the introduction and first reading of the following Bills:
- (a) INTERPRETATION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1956.
(Bill No. 48/1956 published 20.10.56).
 - (b) THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCILS (REMUNERATION OF MEMBERS) (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1956.
(Bill No. 49/1956 published 20.10.56).
- (ii) The Financial Secretary gave notice of the introduction and first reading of the following Bill:
- THE INDUSTRIES AID AND ENCOURAGEMENT
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 1956.
(Bill No. 50/1956 published 20.10.56).
- (iii) The Member for Agriculture, Forests, Lands and Mines gave notice of the introduction and first reading of the following Bill:
- THE HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER BILL, 1956.
(Bill No. 47/1956 published 20.10.56).

PUBLIC BUSINESS

ORDER OF THE DAY

BILLS - First Reading.

Item 1 - (a) INTERPRETATION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1956
Bill No. 48/1956.

The BILL intituled AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE INTERPRETATION ORDINANCE was read a first time.

(b) THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCILS (REMUNERATION OF MEMBERS) (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1956 - Bill No. 49 1956.

The BILL intituled AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCILS (REMUNERATION OF MEMBERS) ORDINANCE, 1953. was read a first time.

(c) THE INDUSTRIES AID AND ENCOURAGEMENT (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1956 - Bill No. 50/1956.

The BILL intituled AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE INDUSTRIES AID AND ENCOURAGEMENT ORDINANCE was read a first time.

(a) HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER BILL, 1956 - Bill No. 47/1956.

The BILL intituled AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE PROVISION FOR THE GRANT OF LICENCES AUTHORIZING THE UTILISATION OF THE WATERS OF THE COLONY FOR THE PURPOSE OF GENERATING ELECTRICAL ENERGY, AND FOR MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH was read a first time.

BILLS - Second ReadingItem 2 -- PUBLIC UTILITY UNDERTAKINGS AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES ARBITRATION BILL, 1956 - Bill No. 43/1956.

On a motion by the Member for Labour, Health and Housing seconded by the Member for Agriculture, Forests, Lands and Mines the BILL intituled AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE AN ARBITRATION TRIBUNAL FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES IN PUBLIC UTILITY UNDERTAKINGS AND IN CERTAIN SERVICES AND TO PROHIBIT STRIKES AND LOCK-OUTS IN SUCH UNDERTAKINGS OR SERVICES, IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES, AND FOR PURPOSES IN CONNECTION THEREWITH was read a second time.

Council resolved itself into a Committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

In Committee

Clauses 1 and Schedule - were passed as printed.

Clauses 2 to 15 - were passed as printed.

Clause 16 - The Attorney General moved the deletion of the words "on the ground that it" in the second line of the Proviso to the clause and the substitution therefor of the words "which in the opinion of the Tribunal"

After discussion it was agreed to defer further consideration of the clause to a later stage.

Clauses 17 and 18 - were passed as printed.

Clause 19 - was passed as amended as follows -

by substituting "penalties" for "penaties" in the marginal note to correct a typographical error.

Clauses 20 and 21 - were passed as printed.

Title and Enacting Clause was passed as printed.

Council resumed.

At the request of the Member for Labour, Health and Housing, and with the consent of Council, further consideration of the Bill was deferred to enable the Attorney General to draft an amendment to Clause 16.

Item 3 - EDUCATION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1956 - Bill No. 46/1956.

On a motion by the Chief Secretary seconded by the Attorney General the BILL intituled AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE EDUCATION ORDINANCE WITH RESPECT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE was read a second time and was thereafter taken through its remaining stages and passed with the following amendments in Committee -

Amendments

By the substitution of the word "repeal" for the word "deletion" in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of Clause 2.

Item 4 - SUPREME COURT (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1956 - Bill No. 46/1956.

On a motion by the Attorney General seconded by the Financial Secretary, the BILL intituled AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE SUPREME COURT ORDINANCE was read a second time and was thereafter taken through its remaining stages and passed with the following amendment in Committee -

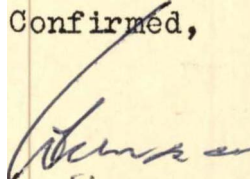
Amendment

By the substitution of the words "the Chief Justice" for the words "a judge" in the fourth line of Clause 2.

ADJOURNMENT

At 3.40 p.m. the Deputy Speaker adjourned Council to 2.00 p.m. on Friday, 2nd November, 1956.

Confirmed,



Deputy Speaker.

Public Buildings,
British Guiana.

2nd November, 1956.