

SECOND SESSION

1958 - 1959

MINUTES of the Proceedings of a Meeting of the Legislative Council of the Colony of British Guiana under the British Guiana (Constitution)(Temporary Provisions) Orders in Council, 1953 and 1956, held in the Chamber of the Legislature at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.
on

WEDNESDAY, 11TH NOVEMBER, 1959.

PRESENT:

His Honour the Speaker, Sir Donald Jackson.

Ex-Officio Members

The Honourable the Chief Secretary, Mr. M.S. Porcher (Ag.)
The Honourable the Attorney-General, Mr. A.M.I. Austin, Q.C.
The Honourable the Financial Secretary, Mr. F.W. Essex, C.M.G.

Ministers

The Honourable B.H. Benn,
Minister of Natural Resources.
The Honourable Janet Jagan,
Minister of Labour, Health and Housing.
The Honourable Ram Karran,
Minister of Communications and Works.
The Honourable B.S. Rai,
Minister of Community Development and Education.

Elected Members, Majority Party

Mr. S.M. Saffee
Mr. Ajodha Singh

Other Elected Members

Mr. W.O.R. Kendall
Mr. L.F.S. Burnham
Mr. A.L. Jackson

Nominated Members

Mr. R.C. Tello
Mr. R.E. Davis
Mr. A.M. Fredericks
Mr. H.J.M. Hubbard

Clerk of the Legislature - Mr. I. Crum Ewing.
Assistant Clerk of the Legislature - Mr. E.V. Viapree.

Absent:

The Honourable Dr. C.B. Jagan,
Minister of Trade and Industry.
Mr. S. Campbell - on leave.
Mr. Jai Narine Singh - on leave.
Mr. E.B. Beharry - on leave.
Mr. F. Bowman - on leave.
Mr. R.B. Gajraj.
Mr. A.G. Tasker, O.B.E. - on leave.

The Clerk read prayers.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Friday, the 6th of November, 1959, as printed and circulated, were amended by the insertion of the name of Mr. Campbell among those who spoke to the motion, and confirmed.

ANNOUNCEMENTSLeave

The Speaker announced that -

- (i) leave had been granted to Mr. Campbell until the 19th November; and
- (ii) Mr. Beharry was indisposed and would therefore be unable to attend that sitting.

PAPERS LAID

By the Financial Secretary:

Annual Report of the Directors of the New Widows and Orphans' Fund for the year 1958 - in terms of section 16 of Chapter 75.

(F.S.G. 105/54).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

The Chief Secretary gave notice of the introduction and first reading of the following Bills:-

- (i) FIRE BRIGADE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1959.
(Bill No. 28/1959 to be published 14.11.59).
- (ii) FIRE PREVENTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1959.
(Bill No. 29/1959 to be published 14.11.59).

PUBLIC BUSINESSORDER OF THE DAYBIILLS - First Reading.

Item 1 - The following Bills were read the first time:-

- (i) FIRE BRIGADE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1959 - Bill No. 28/1959.
A BILL intituled AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE FIRE BRIGADE ORDINANCE, 1957.
- (ii) FIRE PREVENTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1959 - Bill No. 29/1959.
A BILL intituled AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE FIRE PREVENTION ORDINANCE, 1954.

MOTIONS

Item 2 - MOTION TO APPROVE SCHEMES AND ALLOCATIONS OF THE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME, 1960-1964.

Council resumed the debate on the following motion:-

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this Council approves of the schemes and allocations as set out in the Development Programme, 1960-1964 - Sessional Paper No. 5 of 1959.

Mr. Davis concluded his speech.

Mr. Fredericks, Mr. RamKarran and Mr. Hubbard spoke to the motion. The Financial Secretary then replied.

Thereafter, the question was put and carried.

Item 3 - MOTION TO APPROVE OF AN AMENDMENT OF PART IV OF THE FIRST SCHEDULE TO THE CUSTOMS ORDINANCE.

On a motion by the Financial Secretary seconded by the Attorney-General, Council adopted the following Resolution:-

RESOLVED, That this Council in terms of section 7 of the Customs Ordinance, Chapter 309, approves of the amendment of Part IV of the First Schedule to the Customs Ordinance, Chapter 309, by the addition of "Alumina" as Item 9 and "Manganese ore" as Item 10 in the list of exemption from export duties of customs.

BILL - Committee and Third Reading.

Item 4 - LAND BONDS BILL, 1959 - Bill No. 19/1959.

Council resolved itself into Committee to resume consideration of the BILL intituled AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE PROVISION FOR THE SATISFACTION OF THE WHOLE OR ANY PART OF THE PURCHASE MONEY OR OF THE COMPENSATION PAYABLE BY THE GOVERNMENT OF BRITISH GUIANA IN RESPECT OF THE PURCHASE OR COMPULSORY ACQUISITION OF ANY LAND BY THE ISSUE OF BONDS, AND FOR THE ISSUE, NEGOTIABILITY AND REDEMPTION OF SUCH BONDS, AND THE PAYMENT OF INTEREST THEREON AND FOR MATTERS INCIDENTAL TO OR CONNECTED WITH ANY OF THE FOREGOING PURPOSES.

In Committee

Clause 3 - The Attorney-General referred to the question raised by Mr. Burnham at the meeting of the 1st October, and explained that to give effect to Mr. Burnham's suggestion it would be necessary to amend Clauses 4 and 6 instead. Clause 3 was then put and passed as printed.

Clauses 4 and 6 were re-committed and amended as under and passed:-

Clause 4 - Inserted: The words "of such type as the Governor in Council determines" after the word "bonds" in the fifth line.

Clause 6 - Subsection (3) - Inserted: The words "of the type determined by the Governor in Council" after the word "bonds" at the end of the tenth line.

Council resumed.

On a motion by the Minister of Natural Resources seconded by the Attorney-General, the Bill was read the third time and passed as amended in Committee.

BILLS - Second and Third Readings.Item 5 - DEVELOPMENT FUND (1958 APPROPRIATION) BILL, 1959 -
Bill No. 25/1959.

On a motion by the Financial Secretary seconded by the Attorney-General the BILL intituled AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE PROVISION FOR THE APPROPRIATION TO THE DEVELOPMENT FUND OF A CERTAIN SUM OF MONEY TRANSFERRED THERETO FROM THE REVENUES AND FUNDS OF BRITISH GUIANA was read a second time and was thereafter taken through its remaining stages and passed as printed.

Item 6 - CUSTOMS (AMENDMENT NO. 3) BILL, 1959 - Bill No. 26/1959.

On a motion by the Financial Secretary seconded by the Attorney-General, the BILL intituled AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CUSTOMS ORDINANCE was read a second time and was thereafter taken through its remaining stages and passed as printed.

Item 7 - CUSTOMS (AMENDMENT NO. 4) BILL, 1959 - Bill No. 27/1959.

On a motion by the Financial Secretary seconded by the Attorney-General, the BILL intituled AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CUSTOMS ORDINANCE was read a second time and was thereafter taken through its remaining stages and passed as printed.

Item 8 - EXPORT OF TIMBER (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1959 - Bill No. 24/1959.

On a motion by the Minister of Natural Resources seconded by the Minister of Labour, Health and Housing the BILL intituled AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE EXPORT OF TIMBER ORDINANCE was read a second time and was thereafter taken through its remaining stages and passed as printed.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS

It was agreed that Private Members' Motions should be taken on Wednesday, the 18th of November, 1959.

ADJOURNMENT

At 4.57 p.m. the Speaker adjourned Council to 2.00 p.m. on Wednesday, the 18th of November, 1959.

Confirmed,

Donald Jackson
Speaker.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS,
Georgetown.

18th November, 1959.