

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

FRIDAY, 13TH FEBRUARY, 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.

Ministers

The Honourable Dr. C.B. Jagan,
Minister of Trade and Industry.
The Honourable B.H. Benn,
Minister of Community Development and Education.
The Honourable E.B. Beharry,
Minister of Natural Resources.
The Honourable Janet Jagan,
Minister of Labour, Health and Housing.
The Honourable Ram Karran,
Minister of Communications and Works.

Elected Members, Majority Party

Mr. F. Bowman
Mr. S.M. Saffee
Mr. Ajodha Singh

Other Elected Members

Mr. L.F.S. Burnham
Mr. S. Campbell
Mr. A.L. Jackson
Mr. Jai Narine Singh

Nominated Members

Mr. R.B. Gajraj
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:

Mr. B.S. Rai - on leave.
Mr. W.O.R. Kendall - on leave.
Mr. A.G. Tasker, O.B.E. - on leave.

The Clerk read prayers.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday, the 12th of February, 1959, as printed and circulated, were taken as read and confirmed.

ANNOUNCEMENTSLeave

The Speaker announced that Mr. Kendall had been granted leave from that meeting and from the following day's meeting.

ORAL ASKING AND ANSWERING OF QUESTIONSQuestion No.3

Mr. Tello asked the Minister of Labour, Health and Housing the following questions:-

QUESTION 1: Is Government aware of the assurance given to Attendants of the Mental Hospital by the Ministry of Health and senior officers of the Medical Department, that opportunity would be afforded certain Attendants of that hospital to be trained as mental nurses, e.g. in occupational therapy, technology of mental nursing, etc.?

QUESTION 2: If the answer is "Yes", will Government state what steps have been taken to honour the assurance?

The Minister of Labour, Health and Housing gave the following reply:

ANSWER: The answer is No! No assurances were given at the meeting held between the Minister, the Assistant Director of Medical Services and Attendants early in December, 1958, that certain attendants would be afforded the opportunity for training as mental nurses. I did say that the general question of training of Attendants would be examined.

Mr. Tello and Mr. Jackson asked Supplementary Questions.

PUBLIC BUSINESSORDER OF THE DAY

BILL - In Committee.

Item 1 - APPROPRIATION BILL, 1959 - Bill No. 37/1958.

On a motion by the Financial Secretary, Council was resolved into a Committee to resume consideration of the BILL intituled AN ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE THE SUPPLIES GRANTED IN THE CURRENT SESSION OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, clause by clause.

In Committee

SCHEDULE

HEAD 3. Agriculture.

Committee resumed the debate on the amendment moved by Mr. Gajraj, at the previous day's meeting, for a reduction of the above Head by \$1:-

After discussion, the question was put and the amendment negatived.

Mr. Burnham then moved the reduction by \$1:- of Subhead 1 - item (2) - 2. Deputy Directors of Agriculture ... \$9,200:-

Committee was considering the amendment when, at 4.30 p.m., the Financial Secretary moved that Council resume.

Council resumed.

Suspension of Sitting - Tea Interval.

At 4.30 p.m. the Speaker suspended the sitting for a short tea interval.

Resumption of Sitting.

The sitting was resumed at 5.00 p.m.

Council then resolved itself into a Committee.

In Committee

Mr. Burnham's motion was further considered and thereafter withdrawn.

Committee was considering an amendment moved by Mr. Jai Narine Singh for a reduction by \$1:- of Subhead 1 - item (19) - 12 Agricultural Officers ... \$52,556:- when the hour of adjournment was reached.

Council resumed.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7.00 p.m. the Speaker adjourned Council to 10.00 a.m. on Saturday, the 14th of February, 1959.

Confirmed,

Donald Jackson

Speaker.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS,
Georgetown.

14th February, 1959.