SECOND LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

THIRD SESSION

1959 - 1960

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. 23RD NOVEMBER, 1960.

PRESENT:

His Honour the Speaker, Sir Donald Jackson.

Ex-Officio Members

The Honourable the Chief Secretary, Major I.O. Smith, O.B.E. (Ag.) The Honourable the Attorney-General, Mr. A.M.I. Austin, Q.C. The Honourable the Financial Secretary, Mr. W.P. D'Andrade.

Ministers

The Honourable Dr. C.B. Jagan, Minister of Trade and Industry.

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. E.B. Beharry Mr. F. Bowman

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. L.F.S. Burnham, Q.C. - on leave.

Mr. S. Campbell - on leave.

Mr. A.L. Jackson - on leave. Mr. Jai Narine Singh.

Mr. A.G. Tasker, O.B.E. - on leave.

The Clerk read prayers.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday, the 16th of November, 1960, as printed and circulated, were taken as read and confirmed.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Leave

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to -

- (a) Mr. S. Campbell from the 21st of November to the 8th of December, 1960.
- (b) Mr. L.F.S. Burnham, Q.C. and Mr. A.L. Jackson until the 25th of November, 1960.

ORAL ASKING AND ANSWERING OF QUESTIONS

Question No. 33

At the request of Mr. Hubbard, the questions listed in his name were deferred as the Minister of Community Development and Education was not present.

PUBLIC BUSINESS ORDER OF THE DAY

MOTION

Item 1 - MR. BOWMAN'S MOTION RECOMMENDING AN INCREASE FROM FIVE TO SEVEN YEARS OF TAX-HOLIDAY CONCESSIONS.

Mr. Bowman resumed and concluded his speech on the following motion which was seconded by Mr. Beharry:-

WHEREAS the unemployment situation throughout the Colony is progressively deteriorating and it is generally believed that only industrial investments on a large scale can alleviate this desperate situation and that the greatest encouragement should be given to investors both local and foreign:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this Council recommends to Government that the present period of tax-holiday concessions offered by Government to all new industrial enterprises be increased from five years to seven years.

In terms of Standing Order No. 35(2), a motion by Mr. Bowman seconded by Mr. Tello, to enable Mr. Beharry to continue his speech for another thirty minutes, was negatived on the following division:-

FOR

AGAINST

Mr. Gajraj Mr. Bowman Mr. Beharry Mr. Ajodha Si Mr. Saffee Mr. Rai Mr. Hubbard Mr. Tello Mr. Kendall Mr. Ram Karran' Mrs. Jagan Mr. Benn Dr. Jagan The Financial Secretary

The Attorney-General The Chief Secretary

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After further discussion, the motion was put and negatived on the following division:-

FOR

<u>AGAINST</u>

Mr. Bowman Mr. Beharry Mr. Fredericks

Mr. Tello Mr. Kendall

Mr. Hubbard
Mr. Gajraj
Mr. Ajodha Singh
Mr. Saffee
Mr. Rai
Mr. Ram Karran

Mrs. Jagan Mr. Benn

Dr. Jagan The Financial Secretary

The Chief Secretary

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ADJOURNMENT

At 5.15 p.m. the Speaker adjourned the Council to a date to be fixed.

Confirmed,

Speaker.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS, Georgetown.

9th December, 1960.