

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

TUESDAY, 22ND MARCH, 1955.

PRESENT:

His Honour the Speaker, Sir Eustace Gordon Woolford, O.B.E., Q.C.

Ex-Officio Members

The Honourable the Attorney General, Mr. F.W. Holder, C.M.G., Q.C.  
The Honourable the Financial Secretary, Mr. W.O. Fraser, O.B.E.

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 G.H. Smellie  
The Honourable R.B. Gajraj  
The Honourable R.C. Tello

Deputy Speaker

Mr. W.J. Raatgever, C.B.E.

Nominated Officials

Mr. W.T. Lord, I.S.O.  
Mr. J.I. Ramphal

Nominated Unofficials

Mr. T. Lee  
Mr. W.A. Phang  
Mr. L.A. Luckhoo, Q.C.  
Mr. W.A. Macnie, C.M.G., O.B.E.  
Mr. C.A. Carter  
Mr. E.F. Correia  
Rev. D.C.J. Bobb  
Mr. H. Rahaman  
Miss Gertie H. Collins  
Mrs. Esther E. Dey  
Lt. Col. E.J. Haywood, M.B.E., T D.  
Mr. R.B. Jailal  
Mr. Sugrim Singh

Clerk of the Legislature - Mr. I. Crum Ewing

Assistant Clerk of the Legislature - Mr. E.V. Viapree (Ag.)

Absent

The Honourable the Chief Secretary, Mr. F.D. Jakeway, O.B.E. -  
indisposed.  
Dr. H.A. Fraser - on leave.

The Speaker read prayers.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Friday, the 18th of March, 1955, as printed and circulated, were taken as read and confirmed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Speaker announced that the Honourable the Chief Secretary, Mr. F.D. Jakeway, O.B.E., was unable to be present at that day's meeting through indisposition.

PRESENTATION OF REPORTS AND DOCUMENTS

The following documents were laid on the table:

(i) By the Financial Secretary:

The Report of the Regional Economic Committee of the British West Indies, British Guiana and British Honduras for the period May, 1952 - June, 1954.

(IC. 121/70 IV)(Circulated)

(ii) By the Member for Agriculture, Forests, Lands and Mines:

Report on the representation of the Forest Department at the Barbados Trade and Industries Fair, with a view to the establishment of a market in the Island for lumber produced in British Guiana.

(F. .945.241/B'dos)(Circulated)

UNOFFICIAL NOTICES

Rev. Bobb gave notice of the following motion:

WHEREAS there has been for many years a growing appreciation among all sections of the community of the value of secondary education;

AND WHEREAS it is the duty of Government to provide from public funds or such education;

AND WHEREAS the fully-aided Government Schools and partially-aided Private Secondary Schools cannot meet the numerical demands for such education;

BE IT RESOLVED;

That this Honou able Council recommends to the Governor in Council that consideration be given to gr nting financial assistance to Private Secondary Schools of an approved standard not at present receiving any aid from Government in order to help them to continue their work.

ORDER OF THE DAY  
GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

BILLS

With the consent of Council consideration of Items 1 to 5 in the Order of the Day was deferred.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESSMOTION BY REV. BOBB CONCERNING "FEDERATION".

Council resumed the debate on the following motion:-

That this Council, having noted the steps which are being taken by other Caribbean Governments and by Her Majesty's Government towards the creation of a British Caribbean Federation and the statement of the Secretary of State for the Colonies in Parliament to the effect that the constitutional instruments will provide that British Guiana and other territories which might care to do so will be quite free to join the Federation, is of the opinion that British Guiana should join the Federation and that the question of this country's participation therein should be re-examined.

This Council further prays His Excellency the Governor to take such steps as he may deem fit to keep British Guiana in close touch with the action now proceeding towards the setting up of the Federation and to ascertain the state of public opinion in this country towards participation in the Federation.

The following members spoke to the motion:-

Mr. Cummings  
Miss Collins  
Mr. Correia

Before adjourning Council the Speaker announced the following as the personnel of the Select Committee to investigate and report on Resolution No. XXXVI of the 4th of March, 1955, concerning the possibility of establishing a plywood industry in the Colony:-

Mr. W.J. Raatgeyer,	C B.E., Deputy Speaker - Chairman
Mr. W.A. Phang	)
Mr. C.A. Carter	) Members
Mr. E.F. Correia	)
Mr. H.B. Jallal	)

ADJOURNMENT

At 4.55 p.m. the Speaker adjourned Council to 2.00 p.m. on Wednesday, the 23rd of March, 1955.

Confirmed,

*E. J. S. W. G.*  
Speaker.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS,  
British Guiana.  
23rd March, 1955.