

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Tuesday, 7th October, 1941.

The Council met at 11 a.m. His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government, the Hon. G. D. OWEN, C.M.G., President, in the Chair.

PRESENT.

The Hon. the Attorney-General, Mr. E.-O. Pretheroe, K.C., M.C.

The Hon. F. Dias, O.B.E., (Nominated Unofficial Member).

The Hon. J. S. Dash, Director of Agriculture.

The Hon. E. A. Luckhoo, O.B.E., (Eastern-Berbice).

The Hon. E. G. Woolford, K.C., (New Amsterdam).

The Hon. E. F. McDavid, M.B.E., Colonial Treasurer.

The Hon. F. J. Seaford, O.B.E., (Georgetown North).

The Hon. M. B. G. Austin, O.B.E., (Nominated Unofficial Member).

The Hon. W. A. D'Andrade, Comptroller of Customs.

The Hon. N. M. Macleiman, Director of Medical Services.

The Hon. M. B. Laing, O.B.E., Commissioner of Labour and Local Government.

The Hon. L. G. Crease, Director of Education.

The Hon. B. R. Wood, Conservator of Forests.

The Hon. Percy C. Wight, O.B.E., (Georgetown Central).

The Hon. J. Elcazar (Berbice River).

The Hon. J. Gosalves, O.B.E., (Georgetown South).

The Hon. J. I. de Aguiar (Central Demerara).

The Hon. Jung Bahadur Singh (Demerara-Essequibo).

The Hon. Peer Bacchus (Western Berbice).

The Hon. E. M. Walcott (Nominated Unofficial Member).

The Hon. H. C. Humphrys, K.C., (Eastern Demerara).

The Hon. C. R. Jacob (North-Western District).

The Hon. J. W. Jackson (Nominated Unofficial Member).

The Hon. F. A. Mackey (Nominated Unofficial Member).

The Hon. C. V. Wight (Western Essequibo).

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE.

THE PRESIDENT administered the Oath of Allegiance to Mr. G. C. Green, M.B.E., Colonial Secretary (Acting), who then took his seat.

THE PRESIDENT: On behalf of Hon. Members of Council I welcome you as a Member of Council.

MINUTES.

The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 11th June, 1941, as printed and circulated, were confirmed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

HOUSTON-CRAIG RIVER DEFENCES.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (MR. G. C. Green, Acting) communicated the following Messages from His Excellency the Governor to the Council:—

MESSAGE NO. 10.

Honourable Members of the Legislative Council,

The Council is invited to approve of protective river defence works being carried out between Houston and Craig on the East Bank of the Demerara River at an estimated cost of \$38,000 and of necessary provision being included in the next Schedule of Additional Provision for 1941.

2. The Director of Public Works and Sea Defences has drawn attention to serious increase of erosion of banks and protecting dams on the East Bank of the Demerara River due largely to increased traffic of ocean-going steamers to and from Mackenzie. There is risk of serious damage to house property, cultivation and the public road if the damage continues unchecked. The Director recommends immediate protective works estimated to cost \$38,000.

3. The question of Government's liability for River Defences generally, as in the case of Sea Defences, is one of great importance and has been frequently raised. Up to now Government has maintained the position that defence against erosion by river is the responsibility of the individual proprietors concerned and local authorities, where they exist, but when damage to Government property is involved, or the matter is one in which the interests of the whole community are affected, special grants have been made.

4. In this case, the position has been largely brought about by increased traffic on the river due to developments undertaken in the national interest and, in view of this, I consider that Government should take the work in hand at once although it lies mostly on private river frontage properties.

5. The matter has been considered by the Executive Council and while adhering to the general principle referred to in paragraph 3 above, it has been agreed in this particular instance that the special circumstances in the case justify the work being done at the public expense subject to approval by the Legislative Council. Liability for the future maintenance of these works will, however, still rest with the proprietors concerned.

6. In view of the urgency of the matter, the Secretary of State for the Colonies has been informed of the position by telegram and has replied agreeing, subject to the approval of the Legislative Council, to the proposal and expenditure involved as a special case and on the understanding that this is not to be regarded as a departure from the general principle referred to in paragraph 3 above. The Council is accordingly invited to approve of the proposed work being undertaken at the public expense and of provision of the necessary funds on the conditions laid down.

W. E. JACKSON,
Governor.

14th June, 1941.

COMPASSIONATE AWARD TO ALI BACCHUS.
MESSAGE NO. 13.

Honourable Members of the Legislative Council,
Council is invited to approve of the grant of an *ex gratia* payment of an amount not exceeding \$1,680 to Ali Bacchus, who as a result of an assault on him by ex-Police Constable Barrington in December, 1939, has become permanently incapacitated.

2. Arising out of a "bush-rum" raid carried out by the Police on the 3rd December, 1939, P.C. Barrington and other police constables arrested three persons, including Bacchus. On the way to the police station a number of

persons, who were present at the arrests, became hostile and additional police had to be called out from the station. P.C. Barrington was left in charge of the prisoners including Bacchus. It appears that while in the police guard-room Barrington assaulted Bacchus on no less than three occasions. As a result of the injuries received Bacchus was taken by the police to the New Amsterdam Hospital and subsequently removed by his family to the Colonna Nursing Home.

3. Barrington, of whose sanity there had been some doubt, was sent to the Mental Hospital for examination by the Medical Superintendent, and on being pronounced sane was tried at the Criminal Sessions of the Berbice Assizes on an indictment for assaulting Bacchus with intent to cause actual bodily harm. He was found guilty of the charge and sentenced to four years' penal servitude.

4. The matter has been considered by the Executive Council who have recommended that, while Government is under no legal liability, the Council should be asked to authorise an *ex gratia* award to Bacchus of an amount not exceeding \$1,680 (this being the maximum amount which he might have been awarded if his case had come within the Workmen's Compensation Ordinance). I concur in the recommendation, and the Secretary of State has approved of the matter being placed before the Legislative Council.

5. It is proposed that the award should be paid over to the Public Trustee and disbursed by him at the rate of \$10 a month for the benefit of Bacchus and his wife and two minor children aged eight and six years. It has been ascertained that Bacchus has no house property, land or money. He is being maintained by his mother and his brothers, all of whom are labourers.

W. E. JACKSON,
Governor.

25th August, 1941.

WORKING CONDITIONS FOR TRANSPORT AND
HARBOURS DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES.

MESSAGE NO. 15.

Honourable Members of the Legislative Council,

The Council is invited to refer to the report (Sessional Paper No. 6 of 1941) of the Committee appointed on the 16th March, 1939, to enquire into the claims for increased pay and better working conditions for the employees of the Transport and Harbours Department, which has been laid at this Session.

2. The recommendations made in that report have had the careful consideration of the Board of Management of the Transport and Harbours Department and of the Governor in Council, and it has been decided to adopt the following proposals made therein:—

- (a) Scale of Seamen's wages; paragraph 27.
- (b) Increments to Captains, Mates and Engineers to be increased; paragraph 46.
- (c) Monthly status and increases to First Class Locomotive Drivers; paragraph 53.
- (d) Increased overtime rates to porters; paragraph 68.
- (e) Casual porters made regular workers; paragraph 70.

- (f) Increased rates of pay to Platelayers ; paragraph 72.
 (g) Increased pay and Sunday relief to High Street Gateman ; paragraph 75 (a) and (c).
 (h) Roster of dock labourers to be kept for available employment in other departments ; paragraph 76
 (i) Relief Staff for Clerical Workers ; paragraph 85.
 (j) Vacation leave to monthly staff ; paragraph 88 (d).

3. The Committee's recommendations with regard to the salary scales of clerical workers involve additional expenditure of approximately \$11,000 minimum, rising to \$18,000 maximum, which expense the Government cannot recommend should be incurred at this time. However, with the approval of the Secretary of State, it is proposed to adopt a modified scale involving an increase of expenditure of a minimum of \$3,000 and a maximum of \$12,000. The scales proposed, which it is intended should be put into effect as from 1st July, 1941, are as follows:—

PROPOSED SCALES	NO. IN SCALE
\$240— \$420 x \$30	67
\$420— \$570 x \$30	36
\$600— \$750 x \$36	27
\$780—\$1,020 x \$48	18
\$1,080—\$1,440 x \$60	8
\$1,500—\$1,800 x \$60	7

The Secretary of State is averse to any increases of this kind under war conditions, and has agreed to the revised scales as a special case in view of the fact that the enquiries on which they are based were initiated before the war.

4. Since the appointment of the Committee, many of the recommendations made in the report have already been considered and approved by the Board of Commissioners. A list of these is as follows:—

- (a) Monthly status and increases to foremen ; paragraph 49.
 (b) Increases to ex-apprentices ; paragraph 50.
 (c) Sleeping out allowances increased ; paragraphs 54 and 55.
 (d) Furnishing lorry drivers' resthouse ; paragraph 64 (c).
 (e) Trucks provided for handling cargo ; paragraph 69.
 (f) Improvements to gatemen's quarters ; paragraph 75 (b).
 This work is being carried out gradually.
 (g) Sick leave regulations ; paragraph 88 (a), (b) and (c).

The issue of free medical certificates to the lower grades is now being considered by Government ; paragraph 83.

5. The Government is unable to adopt the following proposals made by the Committee:—

- (a) Appointment of Staff Officer ; paragraph 33
 (b) Uniforms for night watchmen ; paragraph 58.
 (c) Daily paid men to be raised to weekly status ; paragraphs 51, 67 (a), (b) and (c) and 90.
 Overtime for weekly paid lorry-drivers ; paragraph 64 (b).

(e) A six-day week for platelayers ; paragraph 72.

(f) A Council to consider differences between the Department and its employees ; but service regulations are now being codified ; paragraph 91.

6. With reference to the Provident Society (Paras. 35 to 38), before the receipt of the Committee's report the Board of Commissioners had informed the Society that in view of the new leave regulations and superannuation benefits which had been recently brought into force, they felt unable to recommend to Government that the Department should give any further financial support to the Society. As a result, the Society was voluntarily wound up on the 31st December, 1940, with the consent of four-fifths of the members, as provided for in the rules, and the total assets of the Society were distributed among the members.

7. The Council is asked to approve of any increase in the net deficiency on the working of the Department which will be necessary as a result of the adoption of these proposals. The actual effect is difficult to estimate, but it is considered that a minimum increase in annual expenditure of approximately \$10,000 and a maximum of \$19,000 will be caused.

G. D. OWEN,
 Officer Administering the Government.

3rd October, 1941.

COMPASSIONATE GRATUITY TO MR. W. F. HALLEY.

Mr. McDAVID (Colonial Treasurer) communicated the following Messages from His Excellency the Governor to the Council:—

MESSAGE No. 7.

Honourable Members of the Legislative Council,

The Council is invited to approve of an *ex gratia* payment of \$1,153.84 to Mr. W. F. Halley who served this Government as an artesian well driller for periods totalling over 15 years, the last ten of which were continuous.

The amount of the payment is equivalent to the gratuity he would have been entitled to in respect of ten years' continuous service had Resolution No. XXV. of the 21st August, 1940, been passed prior to his retirement early in 1939 on account of ill health.

At the time of Mr. Halley's retirement the only authority under which he could be paid a gratuity was Legislative Council Resolution No. XLIII. of the 2nd July, 1930, as amended by Legislative Council Resolution No. XXIII. of the 10th February, 1931, which provided for gratuities to subordinate employees based on length of service without taking into account the rate of pay being drawn. Under this Resolution a gratuity of \$240 was paid to Mr. Halley but in view of his good record, the arduous nature of his duties, the hard living conditions in the outlying districts in which he worked and the circumstances under which he retired when in receipt of a salary of \$3,000 a year, it is recommended that an *ex gratia* payment be

made to him calculated on the basis of the 1940 resolution referred to above.

If the payment of \$1,153.84 is authorised, the sum of \$240, already paid to Mr. Halley, will be deducted therefrom.

W. E. JACKSON,
Governor.

9th March, 1941.

INCREASED PENSION TO EX-P.C. SMITH.

MESSAGE No. 8.

Honourable Members of the Legislative Council,

The Council is invited to authorise the payment to ex-Police Constable C. L. A. Smith, who was retired from the Force on the 16th February, 1938, of an increased pension at the rate of \$288 per annum.

2. Ex-Constable Smith was retired at the age of 42 years on the ground of physical unfitness for further service, and was granted a pension of \$55.60 per annum and a lump sum gratuity of \$281.60, in accordance with the provisions of section 25 (1) of the Constabulary Ordinance, Chapter 30. It has since been brought to the notice of the Government that his physical disability at such an early age may reasonably be held to have been materially hastened by injuries received in the execution of his duty about 2 years prior to his retirement. In these circumstances, and having regard to the fact that Smith's disability prevents him from earning anything to augment his small pension of \$55.60 per annum, from which he has to provide for himself and his five minor children, the Council is invited to approve, by resolution, of his being paid a pension at the rate of \$288 per annum with effect from the date of the passing of the Resolution, as if the provisions of section 25 B of the Constabulary Ordinance, Chapter 30 (as enacted by section 3 of Ordinance 2 of 1938) were applicable to him.

W. E. JACKSON,
Governor.

1st May, 1941.

COMPASSIONATE GRATUITY TO MRS. ADA KING, WIDOW.

MESSAGE No. 14.

Honourable Members of the Legislative Council,

The Council is invited to approve of the grant of an *ex gratia* payment of \$144 to Mrs. Ada King, widow of the late Mr. Napleton King, who was a regular road maintenance employee in the Public Works Department.

2. Mr. King served satisfactorily for 15 years and was forced to cease work on 1st June, 1940, owing to illness. He died on the 28th July, 1940, leaving a widow and six children.

3. On Mr. King's retirement he was in receipt of wages at the rate of \$4.30 a week and at that time no authority existed for the payment of gratuities to employees other than those paid at monthly rates.

4. In view of his satisfactory service it is recommended that his widow be granted an *ex gratia* payment of \$144 calculated at the rate

of 1/26th of a year's pay for each completed year of her late husband's service, *i.e.*, as if the terms of Legislative Council Resolution No. XXV, passed on 21st August, 1940, relating to superannuation benefits to non-pensionable Government employees, were applicable in his case.

W. E. JACKSON,
Governor.

20th September, 1941.

INCREASED DEVELOPMENT TRUST FUND GRANT.

Professor DASH (Director of Agriculture) communicated the following Messages from His Excellency the Governor to the Council:—

MESSAGE No. 11.

Honourable Members of the Legislative Council,

With reference to Resolution No. VI, passed on 29th December, 1939, approving of the Scheme for the improvement of the drainage of the Government Estates on the Essequibo Coast (including certain reconditioning works) set out in Legislative Council Paper No. 28 of 1939, for which a grant of \$25,000 from the Development Trust Fund was approved, it is reported that an excess of \$2,154 has been incurred in the actual expenditure on the works which have been completed. The excess is due to increased costs of materials since the war and to the payment of temporary war bonus on wages which were not provided for when the estimate on which the grant was based was prepared.

2. It is proposed that the original grant of \$25,000 should be increased by \$2,154 to cover the excess. This proposal has been considered by the Governor in Council and with the sanction of the Advisory Committee for the Development Trust Fund, the Council is now invited, in accordance with the provisions of Section 11 of the Colonization Fund Ordinance, 1937, No. 7 of 1937, to approve of the original grant being increased accordingly.

W. E. JACKSON,
Governor.

16th June, 1941.

GRANT FOR GOVERNMENT ESSEQUEBO ESTATES DRAINAGE.

MESSAGE No. 12.

Honourable Members of the Legislative Council,

Honourable Members will recall that a grant of \$25,000 was made with the approval of the Secretary of State and the Legislative Council, from the Development Trust Fund for financing improvement of the drainage of the Government Estates in Essequibo with a view to augmenting the production of rice and other food crops as a war emergency measure, and maintaining the value of the estates. The Committee's Report to the Governor in Council on the Scheme was presented to the Legislature as Sessional Paper No. 28/1939, and Council

signified its approval of the scheme by Resolution No. VI. of 20th December, 1939. The drainage improvements have been completed, and it became desirable to increase the acreage under rice on the estates by breaking down a further 230 acres which are available for the purpose, thus bringing the total rice area to 1,480 acres. The estimated cost of carrying out this work is \$6,500 as shown by the statement appended hereto.

The proposal has been considered and approved by the Advisory Committee to the Development Trust Fund, and sanctioned by the Secretary of State for the Colonies and as it was a matter of urgency that the land should be prepared in time for the mid-year planting, authority was given for the work to proceed. Council is now invited to confirm the grant of \$6,500 from the Development Trust Fund as an addition to the capital grant sanctioned in the first instance for drainage improvements.

W. E. JACKSON,
Governor.

30th June, 1941.

ESSEQUEBO ESTATES.

ESTIMATE OF CAPITAL EXPENDITURE REQUIRED TO 'BREAK' 230 ACRES NEW RICE LANDS AT SECTION "B," ANNA REGINA.

I. <i>Weeding</i> —			
230 acres at \$1 ...	\$	230	00
II. <i>Digging irrigation fourfoot</i> —			
400 rods at 28 cents ...	\$	112	00
III. <i>Forking and levelling</i> —			
8 cents per square rod = \$24.00 per acre;			
230 acres at \$24 ...	\$	5,520	00
IV. <i>Shaping and aligning meres</i> —			
230 acres at \$2 ...	\$	460	00
V. Contingencies ...	\$	178	00
			\$6,500 00

PAPERS LAID.

The following reports and documents were laid on the table:—

Report of the Directors of the Public Officers Guarantee Fund for the year 1939.

The Auditor's Report for the year 1939.

Report of the Director of Education for the year 1939.

Report on the Lands and Mines Department for the year 1939.

Report on the Forest Department for the year 1939.

Report of the Director of Agriculture for the year 1939.

The Imperial Forestry Institute University of Oxford—Fifteenth Annual Report, 1938-1939, and Sixteenth Annual Report, 1939-1940.

The Annual Report of the Director of the Imperial Institute for the year 1940.

Report of the Post Office Savings Bank for the year 1940.

Report of the Registrar of Friendly Societies for the year 1940.

Statement of loans from voted expenditure written off during the year ended 31st December, 1940.

Card from Mr. H. McN. Brassington and family conveying their thanks to Honourable Members of the Council for their expression of sympathy on the occasion of the death of the Honourable R. E. Brassington.

Fiftieth Annual Report of the Chamber of Commerce of the City of Georgetown for the year 1940.

Schedule of Petitions addressed to the Legislative Council which have been dealt with by the Governor in Council, showing the decision in each case.

Report on the Geology and mineral deposits of the Upper Waini River, North-West District, by Dr. Bryn-Davies.

Report of the Registrar of Trade Unions for the year 1940.

Report of the investigation of an accident involving loss of life at Plantation Skeldon by S. E. Gomes, Esq., Assistant Attorney-General.

Report on the Forest Department for the year 1940.

Report of the Directors of the Widows and Orphans' Fund, 1940.

Report on the Co-operative Credit Banks for the year 1940.

Report of the Superintendent of Prisons for the year 1940.

Imperial War Graves—Twenty-first Annual Report.

Report on the British Guiana Rice Marketing Board for the period 1st October, 1940, to 31st March, 1941.

Report of the Trustees, Berbice Lutheran Fund, for the year 1940.

Report of the Commissioners of Income Tax for the year 1940.

Annual Report of the Directors of the New Widows and Orphans Fund for the year 1940.

Report of the Registrar-General for the year 1940.

Report on the work of the Department of Labour and Local Government for the year 1940, Part I.

Report of the Transport Workers Enquiry Committee.

Report of the Governing Body and the Principal's Report to 31.12.40 and the accounts for the year ended 31.8.40 of the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture.

Report on the working of the Joint Colonial Fund for the year ended 31st December, 1940.

Report of the Director of Education for the year 1940.

Report of the Colonial Treasurer for the year 1940.

Report of the Director of Agriculture for the year 1940.

Despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies to Colonial Governments regarding certain aspects of colonial policy in war time—June 5, 1941.

Report of the Director of Colonial Audit on the accounts of British Guiana for the year ended 31st December, 1939, together with the Governor's comments thereon.

Despatch from the Comptroller for Development and Welfare in the West Indies to His Excellency the Governor forwarding notes on Agricultural Development in British Guiana by

the Inspector General of Agriculture in the West Indies.

Despatch from the Comptroller for Development and Welfare in the West Indies to His Excellency the Governor forwarding a note by the Medical Adviser on Public Health in British Guiana.

Despatch from the Comptroller for Development and Welfare in the West Indies to His Excellency the Governor regarding Drainage and Irrigation in British Guiana.

Defence (Control of Travellers) (Amendment) Regulations, 1941.

Defence (Censorship) Regulations, 1941.

Trading with the Enemy Ordinance, 1939, (Amendment) Regulations, 1941.

Defence (Customs Duties) (Amendment) Regulations, 1941.

Defence (Finance) (Restrictions on the Export of Articles of Value) (Amendment) Regulations, 1941.

Defence (Restriction on the Export of Articles of Value) Regulations, 1941.

Defence (Aliens) Regulations, 1941.

Defence (Control of Travellers) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations, 1941.

Defence (Finance) (No. 2) (Amendment) Regulations, 1941.

Defence (Amendment) Regulations, 1941.

Defence (Control of Wireless Telegraphy) Regulations, 1941.

Defence (Finance) (No. 2) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations, 1941.

Final Statement of Supplementary Expenditure for the year 1940 additional to that included in the schedules of additional provision for the year 1940, already passed by the Legislative Council.

Statement of supplementary expenditure which has occurred during the year 1940, and which has not been included in any previous schedule and now admitted as a charge to public funds under Colonial Regulation 265 (2).

First Schedule of additional provision for the period 1st January to 31st March, 1941, required to meet expenditure in excess of the provision made in the estimates for the year 1941.

Second Schedule of additional provision for the period 1st April to 30th June, 1941, required to meet expenditure in excess of the provision made in the estimates for the year 1941, and not included in the First Schedule of additional provision.—(*The Colonial Secretary*).

GOVERNMENT NOTICES.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS.

Notice was given of the introduction and first reading of the following Bills:—

The Militia (Amendment) Bill, 1941.

The Interpretation (Amendment) Bill, 1941.

The Drainage and Irrigation (Amendment) Bill, 1941.

The Rent Restriction Bill, 1941.

The Young Men's Christian Association (Colony Trustees Incorporation) (Amendment) Bill, 1941.

The Transport and Harbours (Amendment) Bill, 1941.

The New Amsterdam Town Council (Amendment) Bill, 1941.

The Judicial Proceedings (Regulation of Reports) Bill, 1941.

The Davson Centenary Fund (Amendment) Bill, 1941.

The Summary Jurisdiction (Appeals) (Amendment) Bill, 1941.

The Gambling Prevention (Amendment) Bill 1941.

The Pensions (Amendment) Bill, 1941.

The Income Tax (Amendment No. 2) Bill, 1941.—(*The Attorney-General, Mr. E. O. Pretheroe*).

The Supplementary Appropriation (1940) Bill, 1941.—(*Mr. McDavid, Colonial Treasurer*).

The Customs (War Powers) (Amendment) Bill, 1941.

The Customs Duties (Amendment) Bill, 1941.—(*Mr. D'Andrade, Comptroller of Customs*).

HOUSTON-CRAIG RIVER DEFENCES.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Acting gave notice of the following motions:—

THAT, with reference to Governor's Message No. 10 dated 14th June, 1941, this Council approves of protective river defence works being carried out between Houston and Craig on the East Bank of the Demerara river at an estimated cost of \$38,000 as a special case on the conditions laid down in the Message and of the necessary provision being included in a schedule of additional provision for 1941.

COMPASSIONATE AWARD TO ALI BACCHUS.

THAT, with reference to Governor's Message No. 13 dated 25th August, 1941, this Council approves the grant of an *ex gratia* payment of an amount not exceeding \$1,680 to Ali Bacchus, who as a result of an assault on him by ex-Police Constable Barrington in December, 1939, has now become permanently incapacitated.

WORKING CONDITIONS FOR TRANSPORT AND HARBOURS DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES.

THAT, with reference to the Officer Administering the Government's Message No. 15 dated 3rd October, 1941, this Council approves of any increase in the net deficiency on the working of the Transport and Harbours Department which will be necessary as a result of the adoption of the proposals embodied in paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 of the Message.

FINAL SUPPLEMENTARY EXPENDITURE FOR 1940.

THAT, this Council approves the final statement of supplementary expenditure for the year 1940, additional to that included in the Schedules of Additional Provision for the year 1940, already passed by the Legislative Council, which has been laid on the table.

SECOND SUPPLEMENTARY EXPENDITURE
FOR 1940.

THAT, this Council approves the statement of supplementary expenditure which has occurred during the year 1940, and which has not been included in any previous schedule and now admitted as a charge to public funds under Colonial Regulations 265 (2) which has been laid on the table.

FIRST SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE
FOR 1941.

THAT, this Council approves the First Schedule of Additional Provision for the period 1st January to 31st March, 1941, required to meet expenditure in excess of the provision made in the Estimates for the year 1941, which has been laid on the table.

SECOND SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE
FOR 1941.

THAT, This Council approves the Second Schedule of Additional Provision for the period 1st April to 30th June, 1941, required to meet expenditure in excess of the provision made in the Estimates for the year 1941, and not included in the First Schedule of Additional provision, which has been laid on the table.

COMPASSIONATE GRATUITY TO MR. W. F.
HALLEY

Mr. McDAVID (Colonial Treasurer) gave notice of the following motions:—

THAT, with reference to Governor's Message No. 7 dated 9th March, 1941, this Council approves an *ex gratia* payment of \$1,153.84 to Mr. W. F. Halley who served this Government as an artesian well driller for periods totalling over 15 years, the last ten of which were continuous.

INCREASED PENSION TO EX-P.C. SMITH.

THAT, with reference to Governor's Message No. 8 dated 1st May, 1941, this Council approves the payment to ex-Police Constable C. L. A. Smith, who was retired from the Force on the 16th of February, 1938, of an increased pension at the rate of \$288 per annum with effect from the date of the passing of this Resolution.

COMPASSIONATE GRATUITY TO MRS.
ADA KING, WIDOW.

THAT, with reference to Governor's Message No. 14 dated 20th September, 1941, this Council approves of the grant of an *ex gratia* payment of \$144 to Mrs. Ada King, widow of the late Mr. Napleton King, who was a regular road maintenance employee in the Public Works Department.

INCREASED DEVELOPMENT TRUST FUND
GRANT.

Professor DASH (Director of Agriculture) gave notice of the following motions:—

THAT, with reference to Governor's Message No. 11 dated 16th June, 1941, this Council approves, in accordance with the provisions of section 11 of the Colonization Fund Ordinance, 1937 (No. 7 of 1937), of the original grant of \$25,000 from the Development Trust Fund being increased by \$2,154 to cover the increased costs of material since the war, and the payment of temporary war bonus on wages which were not provided for when the estimate on which the grant was based was prepared.

GRANT FOR GOVERNMENT ESSEQUEBO
ESTATES' DRAINAGE.

THAT, with reference to Governor's Message No. 12 dated 30th June, 1941, this Council confirms the grant of \$6,500 from the Development Trust Fund as an addition to the capital grant of \$25,000 approved by Legislative Council Resolution No. VI. of 20th December, 1939, in order to increase the acreage under rice on the estates by breaking down a further 230 acres which are available for the purpose, thus bringing the total rice area to 1,480 acres.

ROYALTY ON BOARDS, PLANKS AND
SCANTLINGS.

Mr. WOOD (Conservator of Forests) gave notice of the following motion:—

THAT, in pursuance of section 17 of the Crown Lands Ordinance, Chapter 171, this Council hereby makes the Crown Lands (Amendment) Regulations, 1941, altering the First Schedule to the Principal Regulations with respect to the royalty on boards, planks and scantlings, as printed in the *Official Gazette* dated 4th October, 1941, and circulated.

UNOFFICIAL NOTICES.

TENANCY OF RICE LANDS.

Mr. C. V. WIGHT on behalf of Mr. LEE gave notice of the following questions:—

1. Is Government aware that proprietors of rice lands are increasing their rents? If the answer is in the affirmative, will Government state what steps are being taken to prevent this increase? Is Government also aware that the owners of rice factories have increased their charges to mill padi?

If no action is being taken to prevent these, will Government state whether any increase in the price of rice will be made?

2. Is Government aware that the landed proprietors, who are owners of rice mills on these said estates, are refusing to mill the padi of the tenants, and are compelling them to sell their padi to the mill?

3. Is Government aware that such proprietors have during this small or Spring crop paid less than the market price fixed for padi received at their mills? If the answer is in the affirmative, will Government state what steps are being taken to prevent this?

4. Is Government aware that the several tenants are under threats of dispossession, if the padi is not sold to the mill?

5. Will Government protect these poor tenants by introducing some measure of legislation to give them some security of tenure for the duration of the war?

SOCIAL WELFARE SCHEMES.

1. Will Government particularize the schemes introduced in the budget for the year 1941 which were to improve social conditions or to relieve unemployment for the said year from the funds of the Colony?

GOVERNMENT COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES.

1. Will Government state what schemes, proposals and/or memoranda were submitted to Sir Frank Stockdale for the improvement and development of the Colony by the Government?

2. Will Government supply the Members of this Council with copies of the said memoranda and etc., as given?

B.G. EAST INDIAN ASSOCIATION PETITION.

1. Will Government state whether a communication was received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies asking for certain information with regard to the petition laid over by the British Guiana East Indian Association for the residents in the Mahaica, Mahaicony and Abary Rivers? When was this communication from the Secretary of State for the Colonies received by the Government and when was the reply sent?

DEMERARA RIVER SLUICES.

2. Will Government state when the first two sluices in the Demerara River were built and on whose advice and proposal, and who was the engineer in charge of the said works?

WARDEN, MAHAICA HOSPITAL.

1. Will Government state what qualification Mr. Boyd, Warden of the Mahaica Hospital has for holding the said post, from which position was he promoted to the post of Warden, what salary was he receiving at his entry into the Unclassified Civil Service, and who were the persons recommending him for the post on his entry and for Warden?

2. Is Government aware that he is not a British subject?

3. Will Government make it a condition precedent that all future appointments in the Civil Service shall be British born subjects and preferably British Guianese?

CO-OPERATIVE CREDIT BANKS.

Mr. JACOB give notice of the following questions:—

1. How many Co-operative Credit Banks were in operation as at June 30th, 1941, in the counties of Demerara, Berbice and Essequibo giving each separately?

2. What was the amount of Capital in these Banks, how much was subscribed by their members and how much was loaned by the Government as at June 30th, 1941?

3. What is the rate of interest chargeable by the Government on loans to the Co-operative Credit Banks? Is it possible to reduce the rate of interest?

4. What is the rate of interest charged to members or borrowers on loans from the Banks?

5. What amount was loaned to Cane, Rice, Coconut and Coffee Farmers to the end of December, 1940, giving each separately?

6. What additional amount was loaned to Rice Farmers for increasing the production of rice after the deputation of the Rice Producers Advisory Committee had interviewed His Excellency Sir Wilfrid Jackson in July, 1940, when it was decided that a sum not exceeding \$150,000 would be made available for lending to rice producers?

7. When were these Banks established, and what is the reason for their slow progress, or no progress at all?

NEW BEST T. B. HOSPITAL.

Mr. GONSALVES gave notice of the following questions:—

1. (a) When was the construction of the new Tuberculosis Hospital at Best started?

(b) Is the construction completed according to the original plans?

2. (a) If the original plans have been modified, has the construction of the building according to the modified plans been completed yet.

(b) If completed, when will the new Hospital be available to the public?

(c) If not yet ready for use how soon will it be, and what is the cause of the delay?

3. Is Government aware of the very unsatisfactory conditions existing at the Public Hospital, Georgetown, for T.B. patients?

4. Have existing conditions at the Public Hospital, Georgetown, been brought by the T.B. Society to the notice of the Director of Medical Services of which Society he is Senior Vice-President?

5. Does Government not think that the opening of the new T.B. Hospital is a very urgent necessity?

6. When will the recently appointed Tuberculosis Specialist Medical Officer be taking up quarters at the Best Hospital Compound?

7. Is there any other Government Medical Officer in the Colony with a specialized knowledge of Tuberculosis work? If so, will Government consider the advisability of permitting this officer to keep in touch with this branch of work so that he will be available in the event of illness or absence from the Colony of the Tuberculosis Specialist Medical Officer?

ORDER OF THE DAY.

HAYNES PENSION BILL.

The Council resumed the debate on the second reading of the following Bill:—

A Bill intituled "An Ordinance to make provision for the payment of a pension to Edwin Allison Haynes".

THE PRESIDENT: On the last occasion that this Bill was before the Council there were very few Elected Members present, and as one or two had spoken in opposition to the Bill the President of the Council adjourned the debate on the second reading. It is now proposed that Council should resume the debate on the second reading.

Mr. JACOB: I have just been presented with the Order Paper and I do not think it is fair for Members to come to this Council not knowing what is on the Order Paper and that the debate on the second reading of a Bill should be proceeded with at such short notice. I am asking that this matter be adjourned to a later date so that Members can familiarize themselves with what is being done.

THE PRESIDENT: I am quite willing and ready to grant that request. As a matter of fact it is usual to adjourn to the following day, but as the Bill is one which had been before the Council at the last session I thought it might be possible that hon. Members were prepared to deal with it. I am perfectly ready to defer consideration of this Bill to another day. That being so, we have concluded the business on the Order Paper.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING RULES AND ORDERS.

THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL: I move the suspension of the Standing Rules and Orders to enable all the Bills of which notice of introduction had been given to be read the first time.

Professor DASH (Director of Agriculture) seconded.

Question put and agreed to.

Standing Rules and Orders suspended.

BILLS—FIRST READING.

The following Bills were introduced and read for the first time and notice given that at the next or subsequent meeting of the Council it would be moved that they be read the second time:—

A Bill intituled an Ordinance to amend the Militia Ordinance by prescribing the age for retirement of Bandsmen and Band Apprentices

A Bill intituled an Ordinance to amend the Interpretation Ordinance by providing that the appointment of a public officer to perform statutory duties may be made either by name or by the public office held by such officer.

A Bill intituled an Ordinance to amend the Drainage and Irrigation Ordinance, 1940, by making provision for the Registration of Title to land whereon new works are erected in a Drainage and Irrigation area.

A Bill intituled an Ordinance to restrict in specified areas the increase of rent of certain classes of dwelling houses and the right to recover possession thereof, and for purposes connected with the matters aforesaid.

A Bill intituled an Ordinance to amend the Young Men's Christian Association (Colony Trustees Incorporation) Ordinance by making provision to vest the property of the Association in the trustees.

A Bill intituled an Ordinance to amend the Transport and Harbours Ordinance, 1931, by inserting therein provision respecting the liability of owners or masters in the case of loss or damage caused by vessels under compulsory pilotage.

A Bill intituled an Ordinance to amend the New Amsterdam Town Council (Amendment) Ordinance 1940, by correcting certain references to the date from which certain specified periods shall be calculated.

A Bill intituled an Ordinance to regulate the publication of reports of Judicial proceedings in such a manner as to prevent injury to public morals.

A Bill intituled an Ordinance to amend the Davson Centenary Fund Ordinance by conferring discretionary power on the Committee to make payments, not exceeding a specified proportion, of the interest available for distribution to the Committee of the Medical Library at the Public Hospital, Georgetown.

A Bill intituled an Ordinance to amend the Summary Jurisdiction (Appeals) Ordinance by extending the power of the Full Court of the Supreme Court to include the substitution of more severe sentences.

A Bill intituled an Ordinance to amend the Gambling Prevention Ordinance, Chapter 95, by exempting certain lotteries and sweepstakes from the operation of the provisions thereof and by constituting the Sweepstakes (Charity) Committee.

A Bill intituled an Ordinance to amend the Pensions Ordinance, 1933, by making provision for the payment of pensions to the dependants of certain officers who lose their lives owing to enemy action while travelling to or from the Colony during war time; by providing for the grant of increased pensions to officers permanently injured while so travelling and by making certain minor amendments.

A Bill intituled an Ordinance further to the Income Tax Ordinance by substituting a new definition of the word "Company" and by defining more accurately the deduction allowed in respect of the payment of excess Profits Tax when ascertaining the chargeable income for the purpose of Income Tax.—(*The Attorney-General*).

A Bill intituled an Ordinance to allow and confirm certain additional expenditure incurred in the year ended the thirty-first day of December, 1940.—(*Mr. McDavid, Colonial Treasurer*).

A Bill intituled an Ordinance to amend the Customs (War Powers) Ordinance, 1939, by

making provision with respect to the date on which it shall cease to have effect.

A Bill intituled an Ordinance further to amend the Customs Duties Ordinance, 1935.—(*Mr. D'Andrade, Comptroller of Customs*).

THE PRESIDENT : That concludes the business before the Council for to-day and the Council will now adjourn to the usual time to-morrow.

The Council adjourned until the following day at 10.30 o'clock.