

## LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Friday, 30th November, 1928.

*The Council met pursuant to adjournment, His Excellency THE GOVERNOR, BRIGADIER-GENERAL SIR GORDON GUGGISBERG, K.C.M.G., D.S.O., President, in the Chair.*

### ABSENT :—

Hon. E. G. Woolford, K.C., (Elected Unofficial Senior Member for New Amsterdam).

Hon. E. A. Luckhoo (Elected Unofficial Senior Member for Berbice).

Hon. A. R. F. Webber (Elected Unofficial Junior Member for Berbice).

### MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Council were taken as read.

**The PRESIDENT:** Is it the wish of hon. members that the minutes of the proceedings of yesterday should be confirmed as printed, or does any member wish to raise any point?

**Mr. CANNON:** I should like to say, Your Excellency, that no doubt the minutes are in order, but I had no chance of reading them through.

**The PRESIDENT:** I hope that steps will be possible to ensure hon. members having the minutes earlier.

**The Colonial Secretary (Mr. C. DOUGLAS-JONES):** It is a question of the printing facilities. I am hoping that when we get the new organisation "going" we will get them a little earlier than at present. One of the advantages of reading minutes is that it gives hon. members an opportunity of spotting inaccuracies and suggesting corrections, but, on the other hand, it wastes time.

**The PRESIDENT:** The whole point seems to be this: If we cannot get the minutes out in time to let hon. members read them before they come into the Council we would have to read them, otherwise the confirmation becomes a farce. If we can get out the minutes in time then the reading of them becomes a waste of time. I would like to know whether hon. members desire to have them read.

No request for the reading of the minutes having been expressed they were confirmed as printed.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS.

#### THE KING'S ILLNESS.

**The PRESIDENT:** I have received the following telegram from the Governor of Barbados, who says he received it from the Secretary of State, dated the 28th November:—

I gather from you that the Cabinet wish for more detailed opinion about His Majesty's illness than is contained in the daily bulletins. Will you therefore inform them as follows:—The King is suffering from inflammation or congestion of the right lung with extensive plastic pleurisy on the right side, which, as you know, is a painful condition. Such infection must, from its nature, be serious. In all illness of this character there must be anxiety which will continue for the present, but I am happy to say the King passed a quiet night. The condition of the lung shows some improvement and his strength is maintained. So far, then, the illness is being controlled and its force lessened; its symptoms are being alleviated and I hope its duration will be curtailed.

Dawson of Penn,  
Stanley Hewett..

#### ACOUSTICS OF CHAMBER.

**The COLONIAL SECRETARY:** You have desired me, sir, to announce that you are dissatisfied with the acoustics of this Chamber and that you wish an attempt made to improve the seating accommodation so that all the mem-

bers can hear what is said. It is perfectly obvious that hon. members at the further end find it difficult to hear what is said at this end, and equally so is it difficult for those at this end to hear what is said at the other end. The present arrangement of the room is devised so as to make use of the furniture available to the best advantage. It is obviously not the best arrangement, and it appears to me that no definite improvement can be made unless new furniture is provided. At the same time it is proposed to use the present furniture and move it about in order to improve the situation until we discover the best possible arrangement for the seating accommodation of members. In other words, it is proposed on the adjournment and before we meet on Tuesday to re-arrange the seating accommodation in this room in a manner which we hope will enable hon. members to hear what is being said better than they do at present. It is your wish, sir, that the matter be announced so that when hon. members arrive on Tuesday morning and find the room in some disorder they would understand what it means.

#### MESSAGES.

**The COLONIAL SECRETARY:** I beg to communicate the following Messages from His Excellency the Governor:—

##### MESSAGE No. 2 OF 1928.

Honourable Members of  
the Legislative Council,

have the honour to invite the Council to approve of the payment of a compassionate allowance at the rate of \$150 per annum as from 16th February, 1928, to Mr. J. Rose, Wireman in the Engineering Branch of the Post Office Department.

On 14th February, 1928, Mr. Rose was certified by Dr. Francis, Government Medical Officer, to be suffering from leprosy and was sent to the Lèper Asylum on 16th February, 1928.

Mr. Rose has served the Government for over twenty-eight years and the Postmaster General states that he cannot speak

too highly of the services which he has rendered to the Post Office Department and that, in spite of his age (65-68 years), he has always been extremely regular in his attendance.

The Medical Superintendent of the Lèper Asylum suggested that if Mr. Rose was given one of the cottages for paying patients he would have a better chance of recovery. This entails payment by the patient of about \$3.50 a month, and as Mr. Rose is in very straitened circumstances and unable to meet the charge himself, the late Combined Court informally sanctioned the payment to him of a compassionate allowance of \$120 per annum from the date of his admission in the Lèper Asylum. It is now considered, however, that in the special circumstances of the case this should be increased to \$150 per annum.

I therefore recommend that the payment of a compassionate allowance at this rate be approved.

F. G. GUGGISBERG,

Governor.

Government House,  
Georgetown,  
November, 1928.

##### MESSAGE NO. 3 OF 1928.

Honourable Members of  
the Legislative Council,

I have the honour to invite this Council to give to the Executive Council power to consider and deal with petitions addressed to the Legislative Council.

Petitions in the past have been presented to the Governor, to the Court of Policy, and to the Combined Court, and have usually been referred to the Petitions Committee for advice. Considerable delay in considering petitions has been experienced owing to the difficulty of assembling the Petitions Committee.

It has been decided that in future petitions addressed to the Governor, and to the Governor-in-Council (provided that those addressed to the Governor are considered of sufficient importance) will be considered, as they are received, by the Executive Council. As the matters which are the subject of petitions are usually such as can best be dealt with by the Governor-in-Council, it is suggested that petitions addressed to the Legislative Council should also be dealt with in a similar manner. If petitions are considered weekly as they are received congestion will be avoided. Should the finding of the Executive Council involve any expenditure from public funds

the matter will be submitted for the consideration of the Legislative Council in the usual form.

All petitions addressed to the Legislative Council will be laid on the table at the next session of the Council with the decision of the Governor-in-Council thereon.

F. G. GUGGISBERG,  
Governor.

Government House,  
Georgetown,  
November, 1928.

MESSAGE NO. 4 OF 1928.

Honourable Members of  
the Legislative Council.

I have the honour to invite the Council to approve of this Government supporting a scheme, in which the Secretary of State has asked this Colony to participate, for the purpose of providing a meeting place and suitably stocked library for the use of entrants to the Colonial Services, while they are undergoing courses of instruction at the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge before taking up their appointments.

A recommendation that accommodation of this sort should be obtained was made in the report of a Committee set up last year by the Colonial Office Conference, to report on the Courses of Instruction at Oxford and Cambridge for Probationers appointed to the Tropical African Administrative Services. In that report the following recommendation was made:—

“We consider it essential that in each University there should be some central focus for the Colonial Probationers.

This should include:—

- (i.) A well-equipped library.
- (ii.) Something in the nature of a common room where the probationers can meet each other and hold discussions. This room should be at the disposal of any probationer who is under training for any branch of the Colonial Service. We consider that the provision of such a common meeting ground would be of great importance to the comfort of the men and would do much to promote *esprit de corps* and improve the future relations between those who will enter different branches of the Service.

(iii.) If possible, one or more lecture rooms.”

In January of this year, premises were acquired and equipped at Oxford and Cambridge, and Colonial Services Clubs were

instituted. Experience has already shown that, by bringing together men with common interests and by affording convenient meeting places where Governors and senior officers of various Colonial Administrations have been able to meet and address the members, these clubs are doing much to promote *esprit de corps*, and to achieve the other purposes for which they were formed.

The financial liability which the Colony would incur is estimated to be £6 or £7 a year for each probationer who is selected for service in this Colony and who becomes a member of one of these clubs. The amounts provided by Colonial Governments will be required for the rents and rates of the premises, the other running expenses being met by the members' subscriptions.

It is considered desirable that the facilities offered by the Colonial Services Clubs should be available for probationers selected for this Colony, and that the necessary funds to cover this Colony's contribution to the scheme should be provided. No contribution will be required unless at least one officer selected for service in this Colony is a member of the Club.

I therefore recommend that the Council should approve of this Government supporting the scheme.

F. G. GUGGISBERG,  
Governor.

Government House,  
Georgetown,  
November, 1928.

MESSAGE NO. 5 OF 1928.

Honourable Members of  
the Legislative Council,

I have the honour to invite the Council to approve of the pension of Mr. J. Hampden King, late Immigration Agent General, being increased by £100 per annum.

Mr. Hampden King spent 47 years in the Public Service, all of them in British Guiana with the exception of a few months during which he acted as Administrator of Dominica, and was called upon to act as Colonial Secretary on 14 occasions between April, 1887, and March, 1928, for various periods aggregating 7 years and 9 months. He retired from the Colonial Service on 1st July, 1928, and was paid the lump sum of £2,160 and pension at the rate of £585 a year to which he was entitled.

In view of the valuable services which Mr. Hampden King has rendered during

his long and faithful connexion with the Government of this Colony, the Executive Council considered the question of granting him pension at an increased rate and expressed the opinion that his case deserved every consideration and should be brought to the notice of the Secretary of State.

This was done and the Secretary of State has now replied that he is anxious to meet the views of the Executive Council and suggested that an addition to Mr. Hampden King's pension of an amount of £100 per annum be voted.

I therefore recommend that provision be made for the payment to Mr. Hampden King of an addition of £100 a year to his pension as from 1st July, 1928.

F. G. GUGGISBERG,  
Governor

Government House,  
Georgetown.  
November, 1928.

**The Attorney General (Mr. HECTOR JOSEPHS):** I beg to communicate the following Message from His Excellency the Governor:—

MESSAGE NO. 6 OF 1928.

Honourable Members of  
the Legislative Council.

I have the honour to invite the Council to authorise the payment of a compassionate allowance at the rate of \$150 per annum to Bailiff H. Bartt from the date of his retirement, *i.e.*, 1st July, 1928.

This officer has faithfully served the Government with uniformly good character for a period of 30 years, and on account of age is no longer physically fit to perform the duties of his appointment.

I therefore recommend that a compassionate allowance at this rate be approved.

F. G. GUGGISBERG,  
Governor.

Government House,  
Georgetown.  
November, 1928.

**Major GRAY (Director of Education):** I beg to communicate the following Messages from His Excellency the Governor:—

MESSAGE NO. 7 OF 1928.

Honourable Members of  
the Legislative Council.

I have the honour to invite the Council to adopt the report of the Committee of the late Combined Court appointed to consider Petitions dated the 23rd June, 1928, and to vote the money necessary for giving effect thereto.

F. G. GUGGISBERG,  
Governor.

Government House,  
Georgetown.  
November, 1928.

MESSAGE NO. 8 OF 1928.

Honourable Members of  
the Legislative Council.

I have the honour to invite the Council to approve of this Colony taking part in a scheme which has been established by the Director of the Commonwealth Fund for the award of Fellowships to British Graduate students for study at American Universities.

The following are the particulars of the scheme. At the Colonial Office Conference held in 1927, considerable attention was paid to the question of granting study leave to selected officers of the Colonial Service, and as a result of this, the Directors of the Commonwealth Fund, a philanthropic foundation existing since 1918, have modified their original Fellowship Scheme to allow such officers to participate. The purpose of the Fellowships is to promote the mutual amity and understanding of Great Britain and the United States, by affording opportunities to British Graduate students to study at certain specified American Universities.

The following are the different categories of Fellowships offered for award in 1929 and subsequently:—

(a) Twenty Fellowships tenable only by graduates of recognised Universities who are of British birth, domiciled in England, Scotland, Wales or Ireland, unmarried and not more than thirty years of age on 1st September of the year of award. The minimum tenure of a Fellowship of this category is two academic years.

(b) Three "Extra Fellowships," tenable only by persons of British birth, who have studied, but not necessarily graduated, at a British University and who hold appointments under the Foreign Office, Colonial Office, India Office, or Forestry Com-



mission. Candidates for "Extra Fellowships" need not show a British domicile, but in all other respects they must satisfy the conditions specified in 2 (a). The minimum tenure is two academic years.

(c) Two "Special Fellowships." The conditions attached to this class of Fellowship are the same as for "Extra Fellowships, except that the maximum age limit is 35, the minimum tenure is 15 months, and the holder is not required to reside continuously during term-time at any one American University or Institution, but will be free to visit institutions and districts appropriate to his subject of study.

Intellectual ability, personal character, health and qualities of leadership are taken into consideration by the Committee of Award. Only candidates who express a definite intention of returning to Great Britain or some other part of the British Empire after the expiration of their Fellowships will be eligible for appointment.

Each Fellowship involves a cost to the Commonwealth Fund of approximately £600 a year and includes provision for:—

(a) An equipment allowance of \$200 and a travel allowance from the Fellow's home to the University and return.

(b) Tuition, laboratory fees, etc.

(c) \$150 a month, paid quarterly, for living expenses.

(d) Allowance for two or three weeks' travel during the Christmas vacation.

(e) Allowance for three months' travel at the end of the first academic year.

Officers already in the Colonial Service and newly appointed officers who would be likely to benefit from a course of study before taking up their duties are eligible for the Extra and Special Fellowships. This applies to officers in any branch of the Service.

With regard to the financial liability of the Colony, it is considered that no expenditure will be involved unless an officer whose salary exceeds \$150 a month is selected for a Fellowship, in which case the difference between the officer's salary and the allowance of \$150 a month made by the Commonwealth Fund for living expenses would, it is considered, have to be provided by the Colony.

F. G. GUGGISBERG,  
Governor.

Government House,  
Georgetown,  
November, 1928.

## MESSAGE NO. 9 OF 1928.

Honourable Members of  
the Legislative Council.

I have the honour to invite the Council to consider the attached memorandum\* giving particulars of a scheme which the Secretary of State for the Colonies proposes to introduce for the organisation of a unified Colonial Agricultural Service.

I recommend that this Government should co-operate in the scheme and agree to the proposed percentage cess on the revenues of the Colony for financing the organisation, and that the sum of £160, which is the Colony's proportion of the sum required for the establishment and maintenance of the Headquarters Council during its initial stages, be placed on the Estimates for 1929.

F. G. GUGGISBERG,  
Governor.

\*Sessional Paper No. 5/1928.

Government House,  
Georgetown,  
November, 1928.

**Colonel BRADBURN (Inspector General of Police):** I beg to communicate the following Messages from His Excellency the Governor:—

## MESSAGE NO. 10 OF 1928.

Honourable Members of  
the Legislative Council,

I have the honour to invite the Council to grant a compassionate allowance of \$60 per annum to Mrs. Deborah Magdalene Mitchell, widow of the late Corporal Mitchell, British Guiana Police Force.

Corporal Mitchell served as a member of the Police Force for nine years, and was Non-Commissioned Officer in charge of the Tarlogie Police Station. He was killed whilst in the execution of his duty on the 26th of November, 1927.

He was married in 1914, but there were no children of the marriage, and he was not living with his wife at the time of his death. In view of the service rendered by Corporal Mitchell, and the circumstances under which he met his death, I recommend that a compassionate allowance to his widow of \$60 per annum be approved.

F. G. GUGGISBERG,  
Governor.

Government House,  
Georgetown,  
November, 1928.

## MESSAGE NO. 11 OF 1928.

Honourable Members of  
the Legislative Council,

I have the honour to invite the Council to approve of the remission of the licence duty imposed by section 30 of the Tax Ordinance, 1928, on bicycles kept and used on official duty (with the Colonial Secretary's sanction) by members of the Police Force, where a maintenance allowance for such bicycles is granted by the Government.

Policemen receive an allowance of \$12 a year towards the upkeep of their bicycles, the allowances being made principally to men stationed in the country districts. Under the present Tax Ordinance it is only in cases where no maintenance allowance is granted by the Government that no licence is required, but the case of these allowances to policemen was overlooked. The necessary amendment will be made to the Tax Ordinance, 1929.

F. G. GUGGISBERG,  
Governor.

Government House,  
Georgetown.  
November, 1928.

## MESSAGE NO. 12 OF 1928.

Honourable Members of  
the Legislative Council.

I have the honour to invite the Council to consider a recommendation of the Army Council which has been received through the Secretary of State that, in order to avoid delay in appointing officers to vacancies on the staff of Local Forces in the Colonies as they occur, the Army Council be informed of impending vacancies six months ahead, and that the officer be appointed and sent out to fill the impending vacancy before the departure of the officer holding the appointment.

The Army Council is anxious to promote the efficiency of the Local Forces in the Colonies and considers it desirable, from an administrative point of view, but still more so from that of efficiency, that an officer appointed to the command or staff of the Local Forces of a Colony should be sent out in time to take over his duties before the departure of his predecessor. It is appreciated that the adoption of this recommendation will cause extra expense owing to the payment for a short period of two officers as occupants of the same post, but it is considered that the expense caused would be compensated by the advantages gained.

I therefore recommend that the proposals of the Army Council be adopted and that the necessary funds be provided from time to time as required for this purpose.

F. G. GUGGISBERG,  
Governor.

Government House,  
Georgetown.  
November, 1928.

**MAJOR CRAIG (Director of Public Works):** I beg to communicate the following Messages from His Excellency the Governor:—

## MESSAGE NO. 13 OF 1928.

Honourable Members of  
the Legislative Council.

I have the honour to invite the Council to authorise the payment of a compassionate allowance at the rate of \$460.80 per annum to Mr. W. F. Elcock, 1st Class Overseer, Public Works Department, from the date of his retirement, *i.e.*, 1st January, 1929.

Mr. Elcock was appointed a 2nd Class Overseer on the 16th June, 1916, and promoted to the 1st Class on the 1st July, 1919, a position which he still holds. His salary is \$1,416 per annum.

Before his appointment in 1916 Mr. Elcock was continuously employed on various works by the Public Works Department as working carpenter and foreman for a period of about 38 years, and he has therefore been connected with this Department for about 50 years, during which period he has performed his duties faithfully and with uniformly good character.

I therefore recommend that a compassionate allowance at this rate be approved.

F. G. GUGGISBERG,  
Governor.

Government House,  
Georgetown.  
November, 1928.

## MESSAGE NO. 14 OF 1928.

Honourable Members of  
the Legislative Council.

I have the honour to invite the Council to approve of this Colony contributing £10 a year for five years to the funds of the Committee of the Institution of Civil Engineers on the deterioration of structures exposed to sea-action.

The work of the Committee consists in carrying out investigations to determine the nature and extent of the deterioration of timber, irons, steels, and reinforced concrete, when exposed to sea water, and the best means of preventing or reducing such deterioration.

With this object in view timber specimens, impregnated with various poisons, have been exposed, and encouraging results are being obtained more especially in the use of arsenic as a preservative in conjunction with creosote. Specimens of various irons and steels have also been exposed, and those specimens taken up for examination are giving interesting and valuable results. Experiments with reinforced concrete are also being made.

It has been pointed out to the Secretary of State that the investigations of the Committee are likely to be handicapped in the future unless additional subscriptions can be obtained to cover the cost of the work involved. The Committee required a minimum of £1,100 per annum for 5 years to pursue its investigations, and promises of subscriptions amounting to £727 have been received leaving £373 still to be raised.

Subscribers will be entitled to a copy of all reports published by the Committee during the period covered by their subscriptions.

The results of the Committee's researches will undoubtedly be of great value, and I therefore recommend that a contribution of £10 a year for five years be made to the funds of the Committee.

F. G. GUGGISBERG,  
Governor.

Government House,  
Georgetown.  
November, 1928.

MESSAGE NO. 15 OF 1928.

Honourable Members of  
the Legislative Council,

I have the honour to invite the Council to approve of the additional amount of \$3,831.36 expended on the purchase of a well boring plant being met from the unallocated balance of \$94,000 of the loan to be raised for defraying the cost of the Drainage, Irrigation, and Pure Drinking Water Schemes for the more populous districts of the Coastlands of the Colony.

Owing to the number of applications made to Government for artesian wells to be sunk on private properties at the expense of the owners, the late Combined

Court approved by Resolution XXVI. of the 29th June, 1926, of the expenditure of a sum of \$18,000 from the loan to be raised for Coastal Drainage and Irrigation and Water Supply for the purchase of an additional well boring plant.

The cost of this was as follows:—

|                                |             |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| Plant and boiler landed in the |             |
| Colony .....                   | \$19,488.52 |
| Tools, pipes, lines, etc.....  | 2,342.84    |
|                                | <hr/>       |
|                                | \$21,831.36 |

which exceeds the authorised amount by \$3,831.36. I therefore recommend that this sum be charged against the unallocated balance of the loan.

F. G. GUGGISBERG,  
Governor.

Government House,  
Georgetown,  
November, 1928.

MESSAGE NO. 16 OF 1928.

Honourable Members of  
the Legislative Council.

have the honour to invite the Council to approve of a further sum of \$30,000 being allocated from the unallocated balance of \$90,168 of the loan of \$2,426,000 to be raised for defraying the cost of the Drainage and Irrigation, and Pure Drinking Water Supply Schemes for the more populous villages and districts of the Coastlands of the Colony.

By Resolution No. XCII. of the 14th December, 1923, the Combined Court authorised an amount not exceeding \$2,426,000 to be raised by loan for the purpose mentioned above, and of this sum \$473,000 was allocated in respect of Pure Water Supply.

In October, 1927, the Director of Public Works set out his proposals for carrying on the work of sinking artesian wells during 1928, and it was estimated that an additional sum of about \$100,000 would be required to continue the work to the end of the year, but the Combined Court approved by Resolution LXV. of 28th December, 1927, of a sum of \$50,000 being allocated to carry on the work to 30th June, 1928.

The Resident Engineer, who is now responsible to the Consulting Engineers for this work, reports that this amount has been exhausted, and that a further sum of \$30,000 is required to meet expenditure to the end of the year.

I therefore recommend that approval be given for the sum of \$30,000 being allocated from the unallocated balance of the loan of \$2,426,000 abovementioned.

F. G. GUGGISBERG,  
Governor.

Government House,  
Georgetown,  
November, 1928.

**Mr. BRASSINGTON:** In announcing these Messages the number of the Message may be given. It will help us to find them.

**The PRESIDENT:** Hon. members will give the correct printed number of the Messages.

## GOVERNMENT NOTICES.

### MESSAGES FOR APPROVAL.

Notice was given that the following Government Motions would be moved at the next meeting of the Council:—

*Be it Resolved.*—That, with reference to the Governor's Message No. 2 of 1928, this Council authorises the payment to J. Rose, Wireman in the Engineering Branch of the Post Office Department, of a compassionate allowance at the rate of \$150 per annum as from 16th February, 1928.

*Be it Resolved.*—That, with reference to the Governor's Message No. 3 of 1928, this Council hereby gives to the Executive Council power to consider and deal with petitions addressed to the Legislative Council.

*Be it Resolved.*—That, with reference to the Governor's Message No. 4 of 1928, this Council approves of this Government supporting a scheme, in which the Secretary of State has asked this Colony to participate for the purpose of providing a meeting place and suitably stocked library for the use of entrants to the Colonial Services, while they are undergoing courses of instruction at the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge before taking up their appointments.

*Be it Resolved.*—That, with reference to the Governor's Message No. 5 of 1928, this Council approves of the pension of Mr. J. Hampden King, late Immigration Agent General, being increased by £100 per annum.—(*Colonial Secretary*).

*Be it Resolved.*—That, with reference to the Governor's Message No. 6 of 1928, this Council authorises the payment to Bailiff H. Bartt, of a compassionate allowance at the rate of \$150 per annum as from the date of his retirement, *i.e.*, 1st July, 1928—(*Attorney General*).

*Be it Resolved.*—That, with reference to the Governor's Message No. 7 of 1928, this Council hereby adopts the report of the Committee of the Combined Court appointed to consider Petitions dated 23rd June, 1928, and authorises the necessary money votes being inserted in the Supplementary Estimate.

*Be it Resolved.*—That, with reference to the Governor's Message No. 8 of 1928, this Council approves of this Colony taking part in the scheme which has been established by the Director of the Commonwealth Fund for the award of Fellowships to British Graduate students for study at American Universities.

*Be it Resolved.*—That, with reference to the Governor's Message No. 9 of 1928, this Council approves of the Government co-operating in a scheme which the Secretary of State for the Colonies proposes to introduce for the organisation of a unified Colonial Agricultural Service, and agrees to the proposed percentage cess on the revenues of the Colony for financing the organisation, and that the sum of £160, which is the Colony's proportion of the sum required for the establishment and maintenance of the Headquarters Council during its initial stages, be placed on the Estimates for 1929.—(*Major Gray, Director of Education*).

*Be it Resolved.*—That, with reference to the Governor's Message No. 10 of 1928, this Council hereby approves of the grant of a compassionate allowance of \$60 per annum to Mrs. Deborah Magdalene Mitchell, widow of the late Corporal Mitchell, British Guiana Police Force.

*Be it Resolved.*—That, with reference to the Governor's Message No. 11 of 1928, this Council approves of the remission of the licence duty imposed by section 30 of the Tax Ordinance, 1928, on bicycles kept and used on official duty (with the Colonial Secretary's sanction) by members of the Police Force, where a maintenance allowance for such bicycles is granted by the Government.

*Be it Resolved.*—That, with reference to the Governor's Message No. 12 of 1928, this Council approves of the recommendation of the Army Council that, in order to avoid delay in appointing officers to vacancies on the staff of Local Forces in



the Colonies as they occur, the Army Council be informed of impending vacancies six months ahead, and that the officer be appointed and sent out to fill the impending vacancy before the departure of the officer holding the appointment.—(*Colonel Bradburn, Inspector General of Police*).

*Be it Resolved.*—That, with reference to the Governor's Message No. 13 of 1928, this Council authorises the payment to W. F. Elcock, 1st Class Overseer, Public Works Department, of a compassionate allowance at the rate of \$460.80 per annum as from the date of his retirement *i.e.*, 1st January, 1929.

*Be it Resolved.*—That, with reference to the Governor's Message No. 14 of 1928, this Council approves of the Colony contributing £10 a year for five years to the funds of the Committee of the Institution of Civil Engineers on the deterioration of structures exposed to sea action.

*Be it Resolved.*—That, with reference to the Governor's Message No. 15 of 1928, this Council approves of the additional amount of \$3,831.36 expended on the purchase of a well boring plant being met from the unallocated balance of \$94,000 of the loan to be raised for defraying the cost of the Drainage, Irrigation, and Pure Drinking Water Schemes for the more populous districts of the Coastlands of the Colony.

*Be it Resolved.*—That, with reference to the Governor's Message No. 16 of 1928, this Council approves of a further sum of \$30,000 being allocated from the unallocated balance of \$90,168 of the loan of \$2,426,000 to be raised for defraying the cost of the Drainage and Irrigation, and Pure Water Supply Schemes for the more populous Villages and Districts of the Coastlands of the Colony.—(*Major Craig, Director of Public Works*).

#### GOVERNMENT BILLS, ETC.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY gave notice:—

(a.) That at the next meeting of the Council, he would ask leave to introduce and have read the first time "A Bill to amend the Shops Regulation Ordinance, 1925, in respect of the opening of certain shops in Georgetown and New Amsterdam.

(b.) That at the next meeting of the Council, he would move the suspension of the Standing Rules and Orders to enable "A Bill to amend the Shops Regulation

Ordinance, 1925, in respect of the opening of certain shops in Georgetown and New Amsterdam" to be taken through all its stages.

(c.) That on Wednesday, 5th December, he would move that the Council do approve of the following Regulations:—

Regulations revoking the Regulations relating to Cinematograph Machines made by the Governor and Court of Policy on the 30th day of October, 1911.

Regulations as to the terms and conditions upon which patients may be treated as out or in-patients in any public hospital for medical or surgical disabilities directly due to war service.

Regulations amending the Regulations for Cash on Delivery Service within the Colony.

Regulations amending the River Navigation Regulations, 1924.

Additional Regulations relating to the renting of private letter boxes at Post Offices.

Regulations amending the Post Office Telegraph Regulations, 1924.

Regulations as to the terms and conditions upon which patients may undergo X-Ray and Electrical Treatment and Examinations at Public Hospitals.

#### UNOFFICIAL NOTICE.

##### PRIVATE BILL (INSURANCE).

Mr. DIAS gave notice that, on Wednesday, 5th December, he would ask leave to introduce and have read the first time, "A Bill to amend the British Guiana and Trinidad Mutual Fire Insurance Company's Ordinance, 1923."

#### PETITION.

##### DRUGS AND POISONS (COMPOUNDING AND DISPENSING)

Mr. CRANE laid on the table a petition from the British Guiana Chemists and Druggists Association praying that the Pharmacy and Poisons Ordinance be amended so as to permit of the "compounding and dispensing" of drugs and poisons by registered Chemists and Druggists only.

## ORDER OF THE DAY.

## BILLS.

Motion made, and question put and agreed to, that the following Bills be read the first time:—

"A Bill to make provision for granting to the Imperial War Graves Commission of London, England, the exclusive right and title to the graves of Members of His Majesty's Forces who died in the Great War."

"A Bill to amend the law relating to Pawnbrokers by declaring the punishment for making separate loans in respect of different parts of the same pledge."—(*Colonial Secretary*).

"A Bill to amend the Georgetown Town Council Ordinance, 1913, with respect to the giving of security by officers of the Council and to the making of By-Laws by the Council.—(*Attorney General*).

"A Bill to amend the Widows' and Orphans' Pensions Ordinance, 1923, with respect to the Directors of the Fund, to contributions and to enable Officers of the Harbour Board to become contributors."

"A Bill to amend the Miscellaneous Licences Ordinance, 1861, with respect to the duties on Transfers of Licences."

"A Bill to amend the Pensions (Increases of Pensions) Ordinance, 1924."

"A Bill to amend the General Loan and Inscribed Stock Ordinance, 1913, by giving power to suspend contributions to the sinking fund of any loan where it appears that the value of the fund will be sufficient to redeem the loan, and also to confer similar power in the case of inscribed stock created and outstanding under the Inscribed Stock Ordinances, 1886 and 1897."—(*Mr. Millard*).

| Name.                           |
|---------------------------------|
| Hon. A. P. G. Austin (Chairman) |
| Hon. J. Mullin                  |
| Hon. A. V. Crane                |
| Hon. H. C. Humphrys             |
| F. J. Seaford, Esquire          |
| C. Shankland, Esquire           |
| A. E. Craig, Esquire            |

## VILLAGE ADMINISTRATION REPORT.

Mr. FREDERICKS asked if Government will make a statement as regards acceptance or otherwise of the non-contentious portions of the Village Administration Commission Report *vide* Combined Court Sessional

A Bill to amend the Georgetown Public Free Library Ordinance, 1908."—(*Major Gray*).

"A Bill to restrict the privileges and immunities of Rural Constables."

"A Bill to facilitate the identification of prisoners."—(*Colonel Bradburn*).

"A Bill to amend the Trade Marks Ordinance, 1914."—(*Mr. Wood*).

"A Bill to make provision for granting retiring allowances to European Nurses who have served in the Colony."

"A Bill to amend the Pharmacy and Poisons Ordinance, 1899."

"A Bill to make provision for giving effect to the recommendations of a conference made with regard to quarantine in the West Indies."—(*Dr. Boase*).

Bills read the first time and notice given of their second reading at the next meeting of the Council.

## QUESTIONS.

## DRAINAGE SCHEMES COMMITTEE.

Mr. FREDERICKS asked:

1. When was the personnel of the Committee appointed to enquire into matters concerning the excess of estimates and actual cost of the Drainage Schemes finally settled upon?

2. Who are the persons composing the Committee and the date on which each was invited to serve, and also the date of their acceptance of Government's invitation to so serve?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY: In reply to the first question the date is the 12th September, 1928.

The reply to the second question is as follows:—

| Date Invited. | Date Accepted. |
|---------------|----------------|
| 6.9.28        | 7.9.28         |
| 30.8.28       | 4.9.28         |
| 30.8.28       | 1.9.28         |
|               | verbally.      |
| 2.8.28        | 8.8.28         |
| 2.8.28        | 9.8.28         |
| 2.8.28        | 4.8.28         |

Paper No. 13 of 1925.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY: Government is not in a position to make a statement at the present time.

The Council adjourned until 11 o'clock on Tuesday, 4th December, 1928.