

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

The Hon. W. S. Jones (Nominated Unofficial Member).

Thursday, 8th June, 1933.

The Council met, His Excellency the Governor, SIR EDWARD DENHAM, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., President, in the Chair.

PRESENT.

The Hon. the Attorney-General, Mr. Hector Josephs, K.C., B.A., LL.M. (Cantab.), LL.B. (Lond.).

The Hon. T.T. Smellie, O.B.E. (Nominated Unofficial Member).

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

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

The Hon. R. E. Brassington (Western Essequibo).

Major the Hon. J. C. Craig, D.S.O., M.E.I.C., Director of Public Works.

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

The Hon. Q. B. de Freitas, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.), Surgeon-General (Acting).

The Hon. F. Birkitt, Postmaster-General.

The Hon. L. G. Crease, M.A. (Oxon), Director of Education (Acting).

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

The Hon. N. Cannon (Georgetown North).

The Hon. A. V. Crane, LL.B. (Lond.) (Demerara River).

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

The Hon. J. Gonsalves (Georgetown South).

The Hon. V. A. Pires (North Western District).

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

MINUTES.

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 5th April, as printed and circulated, were confirmed.

MEMBERS SWORN.

The following Members took and subscribed to the oath:—

Hon. T. Millard, acting Colonial Secretary.

Mr. E. F. McDavid, acting Colonial Treasurer.

Mr. P. W. King, Official Receiver.

Mr. H. G. Seaford.

Mr. E. M. Walcott.

PRESIDENT'S SPEECH.

The President addressed the Council as follows:—

HONOURABLE MEMBERS OF COUNCIL,

I am not proposing to-day to give a full review of all the Colony's activities but merely to refer to a few of the more immediate problems.

At a meeting of the Council held on the 28th March last in considering a Bill to appropriate the supplies granted for the current year, the Honourable Member for Demerara River asked for information with regard to certain points affecting the Colony's finances which it was promised should be given to Council at the next session. In accordance with that undertaking I now propose to summarise the financial position as it stood at the end of 1932 and as it appears to-day.

The report of the Colonial Treasurer for the year 1932 will to-day be laid on the table. It contains an exhaustive analysis of the financial position on the 31st December last and deals fully with the details of the Colony's expenditure for the year 1932.

I will, however, indicate to Council briefly the principal and outstanding features of the situation at the close of last year.

Excluding the figures relating to the Colonial Development Fund, Empire Marketing Board Schemes and Unemployment Relief Work, the Colony's revenue and expenditure totals for 1932 as originally estimated were \$4,533,424 and \$5,108,409, respectively, from which it will be realised that a deficit for the year of \$574,985 is indicated to which must be added the net deficit of \$187,199 brought forward from 1931. This total deficit, however, was fully covered by loan-in-aid provisions of £40,000 (\$192,000) and £120,000 (\$576,000) provided for in the United Kingdom budget for the financial year 1932-33.

The actual Colony revenue and expenditure totals for 1932, \$4,917,989 and \$4,997,390 respectively, show a *deficiency of \$79,401 or less by \$495,584 than the original estimate.*

This very satisfactory result was due mainly to the revenue of the year being increased by various extraordinary and special items which were not anticipated when the Budget was prepared while the further decline in ordinary revenue collections under the main heads of Customs and Excise (apart from new taxation) did not materialise as was anticipated when the original estimates for 1932 were framed.

As I informed Council at the time, these estimates were prepared on a very conservative basis and to conform with the downward trend in receipts experienced during the previous three years. There was some improvement in collections in a few directions while savings in expenditure in nearly every Department have also contributed to the result.

The extraordinary items of revenue referred to total \$266,592, which includes the allocation of \$71,569 received under the head of Reparations and gains on sales of and appreciation in the value of investments held on account of the Post Office Savings Bank, which amounted to \$191,365—these items could not, of course, have been allowed for.

Ordinary revenue collections exceeded the estimate by \$117,973, principally under the following heads: Customs *ad valorem* and specific (wines, spirits and malts), Bill of Entry Tax, Rum Duty and Income Tax.

In respect of the Bill of Entry Tax Honourable Members will recall that this Tax was first introduced with effect from January 22nd, 1932, at the rate of 1½ per cent. but in April, 1932, it was increased to 3 per cent. to cover the loss to the Colony's revenue resulting from the re-allocation of the costs of the Georgetown Sewerage Scheme.

I am glad to say that the increase in the rate has been found just sufficient to cover the deficiency.

The savings in expenditure on the original estimate amounted to \$111,019, the largest item being a reduction of \$240,020 under Public Debt charges, due principally to savings in interest charges on current borrowing following on the reduction in the floating debt due to the elimination of accumulated deficits.

Summarising the position in respect of loans-in-aid we received in 1931 \$1,104,000, of which \$240,000 was in respect of the deficit for the year 1930 and \$864,000 in respect of that for 1931. As I have already stated, there remained a deficit of \$187,199 at the end of 1931, which had to be carried forward to 1932 and this together with the estimated deficit of 1932 was covered by the votes of \$192,000 and \$576,000 provided in the United Kingdom Budget.

These sums were received in 1932. We have therefore received in all under the head of Loans-in-aid towards budget deficits a total of \$1,872,000, but, as I have already stated, the actual deficiency for 1932 was \$79,401 only and there remains in our hands an unappropriated balance amounting to a total of \$501,400 out of the 1932 loan-in-aid receipts.

The possession of this money has placed the Colony in the fortunate position of being able—temporarily at least—to pay off its floating indebtedness to the Crown Agents for working capital and at the moment we are actually in credit with them. I have represented to the Secretary of State that we should be permitted to retain this unexpended balance or a fixed proportion of it as a permanent advance to cover the Colony's floating debt requirements pending the creation of a surplus balance of our own, that is to say, we are

now in the position of having a reserve through the savings effected on the loan-in-aid to be placed against any deficit on our Budget for 1934.

Before dealing further with this point, however, I would refer to further sums which we have received from the Imperial Government in respect of schemes undertaken from funds provided by the Colonial Development Fund Advisory Committee and the Empire Marketing Board as also for Unemployment Relief Works. Up to 31st December, 1932, the Colony had received from the Colonial Development Fund for the various schemes undertaken with the approval of the Advisory Committee a sum of \$299,788, of which \$291,002 had been actually expended at that date. Of the expenditure so incurred \$232,718 is on loan, and the remaining \$58,284 is a free grant. Except for a comparatively small sum of \$3,600 spent on the scheme for the establishment of a revolving fund for the purchase and distribution of seed paddy, the whole of the loan expenditure incurred represents the cost of the Bartica-Potaro Road and bridge construction. The total cost of this road, including the bridge and branch roads to Tumatumari and Tiboku on the Mazaruni, is estimated at \$446,760. In addition there will be expended on lorries \$16,080 and \$39,830 on a geological and mineralogical survey of the area, which will commence under a special party under charge of Mr. Grantham, an experienced geologist and mineralogist, next month. Mr. Grantham's party, which I believe includes Mr. Bracewell who has had previous experience in this Colony, is leaving England on the 23rd of this month.

The total capital expenditure is estimated to be \$502,670, the whole of which is being provided as loans from the Colonial Development Fund.

The terms of the loan are that the first five years will be free of interest, repayment with interest to be made within 20-25 years thereafter or earlier if a loan covering the expenditure is raised by the Colony. It will be realised that the terms of the loan are generous and should not involve the charge of more than \$34,000 per annum spread over a period of, say, twenty-five years and only commencing in 1936 when it is hoped that the results

secured from this expenditure will more than cover this charge on the revenue.

I believe that the construction of this road through the interior of this Colony and under very considerable natural difficulties will be a work of which the Colony may be justly proud. The latest reports received show that the road is standing up well to the heavy calls already made on it. Over the period of sixteen months to date a weekly average of 11 tons—including some 4,000 passengers—has been transported over this road and under weather conditions which might reasonably have called for the temporary closing of the road, which has not however been found necessary. Difficulties have, of course, been met with, the principal being in respect of the foundations of the bridge; the blasting of the rocks on both sides of Garraway Stream owing to the nature of the soil has proved a difficult task, necessitating an increase in expenditure which, however, will raise the cost of the road and the bridges on the road only to approximately £450 a mile, which it will be recognised is a low estimate for a road of this length and quality.

Difficulties have also been experienced in obtaining the type of lorry best suited to the surface of the road. Expert opinions both here and in England favoured the use of heavy lorries while results now suggest that two-ton lorries are best suited to conditions and that six-wheel vehicles should not be used on the road, though the heavier lorries have been very useful in the conveyance of the heavy bridge material, the steel work for which will be delivered at Garraway Stream by the end of next month. It is hoped that the bridge will be completed before the end of the year and I shall take the opportunity of inviting the Honourable Members of Council to travel over the road and be present at the opening of the bridge.

Government has experienced further difficulties in respect of the road work owing to the shortage of staff, while it has been found necessary to grant leave to two of the five engineers in the Public Works Department on grounds of health during the past month. I am endeavouring to secure on a temporary agreement an engineer for the supervision of the completion of the work as it is at present impossible to spare any officer in the Public Works

Department for this duty. The cost of the engineer's services will be charged against the Development Fund loan for the road.

The expenditure incurred out of grants provided by the Empire Marketing Board for the purpose of sugar-cane research amounted to \$6,893 at the end of 1932. The whole of this expenditure is a free grant from the Board.

We have received since 1930 when funds were first obtained for this purpose the sum of \$1,043,548 for Unemployment Relief Works. The whole of this sum is a free grant from the Imperial Government. In addition a further grant of £36,000 or \$172,800 has been provided in respect of the United Kingdom financial year 1933-34. I need not emphasise the great value that these grants have been to the Colony, taking as they do the place of Public Works Extraordinary which now represents a very small item. The expenditure for the past three years from the vote has only totalled \$39,000.

It should be realised that these amounts are given to the Colony for the very definite purpose of relieving unemployment when and where it is established that such unemployment exists and that further the money is to be spread as widely as possible with the object of affording as much relief as possible to the workers.

It is essential that as the assistance is of a temporary nature it should only be devoted to works which can be completed from the provision made and the amount available has to be spread over a full year. I am sure that Council will feel with me that we should endeavour as far as possible to provide such work from our own resources rather than depend upon free grants from the United Kingdom, but it is well to realise that without such assistance unemployment in this Colony would have been a far more serious menace and that we could not have looked for the revenue returns we have obtained had it not been for the distribution so made in wages.

Care has been taken as far as possible to devote the amounts so granted to work which will be of future benefit to the Colony, and it is from this source that during the past two and a half years it has

been possible to maintain the East Coast and East Bank roads, to improve the condition of the roads and of the insanitary areas in Georgetown, to extend large cultivable areas in the Corentyne and Essequebo, to erect Government and Infant Schools and extensions to the Hospital in Georgetown and provide many other works which have been of immediate and will be of future value to the Colony.

To summarise, the Colony's obligation to the Imperial Government from 1930 and up to the close of 1932—the Colony had received from the Exchequer a total of \$3,222,229 in financial assistance in one form or another, of which \$2,678,193 has been expended leaving \$42,636 on hand towards works in progress and a balance of \$501,400, which, as I said, has been utilised as an advance for working capital in lieu of borrowing from the Crown Agents.

Of the amount expended \$232,718 was charged in the Colony's accounts as a definite loan repayable to the Colonial Development Fund, \$1,074,875 has been finally written off as a free grant, while \$1,370,600, which has had to be appropriated from the loan-in-aid provisions to quadruple revenue and expenditure and liquidate the deficit, has also been written off in the accounts but is noted in the Balance Sheet as a contingent liability of the Colony.

In December, 1930, the Colony was first informed that His Majesty's Government proposed to provide a deficit grant for British Guiana in reply to previous correspondence in which a "grant-in-aid" was requested—the term "grant-in-aid to local revenue," etc., appears in the United Kingdom Supplementary Estimates.

In the Secretary of State's despatch of the 17th of January, 1931, referring to his telegram relating to the deficit grant, it is stated that "His Majesty's Government had agreed to make provision for a Parliamentary grant by way of loan of £50,000 to British Guiana in aid of administrative expenses," etc., and in explanatory details of the Supplementary Estimate it appears that the grants-in-aid are described as "Loan on terms to be prescribed by the Treasury in aid of administrative expenses," etc.

In the report of the Financial Commis-

sioners the assistance is referred to as a Loan Grant. The position has been more clearly defined in subsequent correspondence by the separation of all money to be expended on relief of unemployment being referred to and treated as a free grant while the remainder has been described as a loan.

No terms have been made with regard to interest or repayment, nor is it likely that such will be suggested until the time arrives when the Colony ceases to be in need of financial assistance. The very valuable help which has been given us may therefore be regarded for the present as loan-grants, subject to their being treated as loans on terms of repayment and interest to be subsequently agreed upon should the financial position of the Colony improve to such an extent in the future as to justify such a claim being made.

Honourable Members may recall that in my first speech to this Council in October, 1930, I stated that "I sincerely trust and I am sure that this sentiment will be echoed throughout the country that the time may yet come when this Colony will be in a position to inform the Imperial Government that the money which was advanced in the hour of her need can be treated as a loan that the Colony will repay with interest or in such other form as may then prove acceptable."

It is recognised by His Majesty's Government that this Colony has loyally met the very heavy burdens which it has been necessary to impose during these past years while the increase in the Colony's revenue indicates that the individual contribution made in this Colony is so high as to justify the appeal which has been made—and met—for Imperial assistance.

I realise and appreciate the desire of Council that we should as soon as possible relieve ourselves of the burdens of debt. It is essential, however, that we should first be able to put ourselves in the position of being able to secure the general well-being of the community, to provide for unemployment as far as possible and to continue the development of the resources of the Colony.

It is obvious that these results can only be obtained at present by our own efforts,

supported by assistance from the Imperial Government—the returns of Revenue show that the activities of the Colony are being generally well maintained.

It is clear from the position at the end of 1932 and the fact, which I am glad to state, that the Budget anticipations for the current year have so far been fulfilled, that money is being put into circulation in this Colony and that a fair proportion of it is being contributed to the maintenance of the State.

We are all desirous of encouraging the introduction of capital from outside and I consider that we are doing our best in this direction by maintaining our position and developing our industries.

In Sugar our exports for first five months of the year were 63,386 tons, or 5,815 tons in excess of those for same period last year. We have every prospect of an excellent crop and original estimates, it is anticipated, will be exceeded. The sugar position is not merely reflected in the export trade but in the increased importation of sugar machinery and in the considerable expenditure to be undertaken this year on many of the sugar estates in improving health and sanitary conditions, an expenditure which will be warmly welcomed. There has also been considerable development in cane-farming, an industry which makes a special appeal to the Negro population.

In Rice our exports have been maintained. 13,089 tons were exported up to the end of May as against 13,880 tons for the same period in 1932. We have been menaced by competition from India but there is every hope now that we shall maintain our markets. Local prices are undoubtedly very low, causing much concern throughout the country.

The Rice Marketing Board has proved its value. The extent of the attempts to evade the regulations under the Ordinance show that had there been no restraining control chaos might have resulted in the export trade and prices further reduced to the still further detriment of the grower. It has further succeeded in averaging out the prices which our rice should obtain, which would not have been possible had there been no check on cut-throat competition. If every exporter of rice is pre-

pared to sell at any price which will give him an immediate return, however small, the effects are bound to be either a drop in the price of paddy which will dishearten the grower or else the elimination of the shipper who will be unable to supply at a cut-throat price which he has helped to establish—with attendant disorganisation and loss of markets which we are in more danger of losing to-day by asking too little than by asking too much. The Rice Marketing Board completes its work at the end of this month, unless it is intended to extend its term, and proposals during the course of this session will be put before Council with the hope that it may be possible to secure a measure of control of prices and safeguard the interests above all of the growers.

When it is realised that we have doubled our export of rice during the past three years and that we have secured new and valuable markets—Jamaica had up to the 31st May taken 3,490 tons of our rice as compared with a total export for the year 1930 of 1,953 tons and increased her purchases from 800,000 lbs. in January to nearly three million lbs. in April—and we are assured of good-will and encouragement in that market—it should surely be possible for our rice interests to get together and pool their resources rather than by suicidal competition amongst themselves lower the price of our rice to the point where the grower is in doubt as to whether he should continue his cultivation. The position has been further strengthened by a reduction in freight rates and successful schooner competition.

There is a better prospect for our cattle industry to-day than has hitherto been the case. Through the enterprise of Mr. Wong a successful exportation of fifty head was made to Trinidad and twenty-five head to Barbados last month. These are small beginnings but their value lies in the fact that they have proved that we can supply marketable cattle with some guarantee of continuance of supplies. Both these Colonies have undertaken to assist by protective measures against imports from foreign countries but naturally desire to be assured that we can guarantee continuity of supply.

Two successful drives of 118 and 116 head of cattle over the sixty-eight miles of the trail from Kurupukarri were made in April in which not a single head was lost,

a great contrast to many drives in the past. I would urge those interested in the cattle trade in the Colony to take advantage of the present conditions.

The minor agricultural products in this Colony are deserving of fuller attention. I welcome the attempts of those who urge growers to replace foreign importations by increased local output. There is further too great a tendency in this Colony to look upon ground provisions only from the point of view of the profit to be made from their sales. In Essequibo this is particularly the case, their value as a food crop is insufficiently realised while there are now larger openings for the plantain trade with Trinidad where a 10 per cent. protection is being afforded, while further concessions are being granted to Empire fruit and vegetables.

The position in respect of the coconut industry is causing serious concern owing to low prices of copra. I am awaiting a report from the Chamber of Commerce after the interview I had with their members. The position in Trinidad has been examined by the Director of Agriculture.

The latest reports received from the Agricultural Department with regard to the Pineapple Canning Industry on the Demerara River are distinctly encouraging.

In minerals, the gold industry, owing to the high price of gold, is doing well; the exports for the first five months of the year amounted to 9,175 ounces as compared with 7,104 ounces for 1932. The position in respect of diamonds is not so satisfactory, the figures for the same periods being 21,765 carats and 21,342 carats respectively, while values had fallen from 20 to 25 dollars per carat in April, 1932, to 16 to 18 dollars per carat in April of this year.

As regards Bauxite and Balata, I regret to state that the position of these industries is such as to cause anxiety and seriously to affect the revenue anticipated from these sources.

Every effort is being made to encourage capital to come into the country by advertisement, publication of articles and information regarding the Colony, propaganda in respect of the gold industry, and,

above all, by opening up and development of the interior. A Committee is now sitting to advise as to further steps to be taken to popularise the attractions of the Colony, and to induce more tourists to visit Kaieteur, while the possibilities of an Air Service to the Fall are being considered.

Honourable Members are aware of the special measures now being taken by Government to encourage men to go to the gold-fields. Any one of these men should be able to make a living and may possibly assist in discovery which must be the main source of attraction for outside capital.

There are indications in certain quarters that more interest is being taken in our minerals and it should be urged upon all enquirers that they should take the first opportunity to visit the Colony and its interior.

While our main sources of revenue are being maintained and while the value of our securities has appreciated, which will enable the transfer to be made to revenue of about \$105,000 representing the appreciation in the value of securities held in the Currency Note Guarantee Fund as approved in the Ordinance passed in Council last meeting, which will I hope enable this Colony to avoid drawing on the loan-in-aid in respect of 1933, the prospects for the future must still cause anxiety and do not warrant at present anticipations of any material change in conditions which will enable us to meet our liabilities without assistance.

It must be recognised that we have only been as successful as we have been in reducing our independence on loan-in-aid by so large an amount as I have already indicated by realising funds which were almost the last free resources possessed by the Colony—I trust that it may not be necessary to ask for the realisation of any further funds set apart for specific purposes—and by transfers and unexpected windfalls.

These, of course, did not cover the whole of the deficiency but are items which should be left out of the picture in considering the future. We have to face the general economic position as every other country in the world. We

have come through in many respects better than many of our neighbours and far better than some parts of the world, but it is clear that in these days when every article of production is experiencing economic depression and when the markets of the world are being continually upset that it is vain to bank on the continuance of high or even average prices. We have to face our liabilities.

I have already referred to the position of the rice industry. I paid a visit to Essequibo at the end of last month. This portion of the Colony, as you are aware, depends so largely on the rice industry that any fall in the price of padi which only gives partial employment necessarily results in the cry for more outlets for employment. I found that the condition of affairs while serious was likely to become much more serious owing to the danger of the rice cultivation being neglected altogether with the hope that something could be immediately found to take its place. The most urgent step was, in my opinion, to secure that the cultivation season was not lost and the rice-fields were not abandoned, and to encourage the people to remain on their lands and to appreciate the fact that if they cannot live by rice alone they can at least secure from rice a means, if not the sole means, of living. There is no cultivation at the present time which has not gone through a crisis during the last three or four years and I have no reason to believe that a rice crisis is more likely to destroy the rice industry than was the sugar crisis of three years ago to result in the closing down of all sugar factories. It is, however, undoubtedly the case that assistance is needed.

While Government is sympathetic to the desire that sugar should remain an industry on the Coast its obvious concern is that the industry should be in a position to carry on successfully, afford further employment and encourage the planting up of more cane and justify Government assistance to these ends.

When the natural wealth of this district is realised with its plentiful labour and water supplies it would seem that private enterprise may well be encouraged to maintain and develop the sugar industry in this part of the Colony. Any such enterprise or investment will undoubtedly

require to be satisfied on financial and economic considerations which must also weigh with the Government, which ordinarily does not participate in commercial ventures but on administrative and general economic grounds may be well advised to assist in any developments, but with the proviso that as in the case of other investors Government must be fully satisfied of the technical and financial soundness of any proposition made to it both to meet the immediate needs and the future welfare of the district. The immediate necessity is to assist the cultivation in hand and to enable as full a crop as possible to be secured. Steps are now being taken to put forward proposals in the form of agricultural loans to increase employment on existing cultivations and to enable advances to be given to the growers to allow such cultivations to be carried on.

Unemployment relief has been afforded largely hitherto in the country districts in opening up areas for future development. There would be little difficulty to-day in securing immigrants to take up some of these lands, but it is obvious that the people of the Colony should have the first chance of doing so.

It is evident too that fully to relieve unemployment it is essential to offer outside openings to those in Georgetown who cannot find employment there. One of the best methods is to open up areas for Market gardening and other cultivation in the neighbourhood which will keep those settled in these areas on the land while at the same time affording them the opportunity of finding employment when any large public or Municipal works are undertaken. It is inadvisable to move such a population too far from a road once it has become accustomed to town life, but it has to be realised that homes can be found and made outside Georgetown and amidst country and agricultural surroundings which will afford opportunities for labour and the means of livelihood. The proposed scheme for the extension of the Demerara Conservancy will assist in the opening up of lands on the East Bank. The cultivations in Lodge Village have increased and can be further extended. The canning industry for women which it is hoped that the Carnegie Trade Centre will go far to establish will require a constant supply of vegetables which can well be grown outside

Georgetown. The establishment of the Demerara Meat Factory and the opportunities given by the development of an export trade in cattle—for slaughter or chilled or frozen—should afford markets for local cattle which can be run to advantage on many of these lands, while there is a constant demand for milk which is brought into the town from the surrounding villages. These are measures which need Government assistance and Unemployment Relief can, I consider, best be given by enabling cultivators to extend their cultivations as well as in affording them subsidiary employment. There is no reason why the establishment of these small farms should not be worked in conjunction with the employment of men in the gold and diamond fields, for, as has been the case in respect of the villages on the East Coast, the men have gone to the fields and earned good money there while their homesteads have been kept going by the efforts of their wives and families.

Government is now endeavouring to set aside areas for this purpose—there are lands available on the Canals Polder and in other areas. It should be recognised that in the relief of unemployment as in every other branch of development it cannot be left to Government alone to find a way. The co-operation and assistance of the estates, of the firms, of private proprietors and of all employers are essential.

In respect of the estates, particularly those in the neighbourhood of Georgetown, assistance can be given in recruiting from the town men for the empoldering of land or in setting aside areas for cane-farming, a scheme which Government might assist by the erection of small houses on the land on which cane farmers could settle. These proposals will be further examined.

It must, however, be recognised by all classes seeking employment that the development of the country must be associated with the expansion of its agricultural and mineral resources, which in both cases necessitate work being undertaken *outside* Georgetown.

* The number of men employed in the fields at the present time is still very far below the figures of the past while conditions are infinitely better. Money can be just as easily made, the risks of transport

by water can be avoided by the use of the road, the cost of living is, I understand, very much less than it was ten years ago, and the health conditions generally are now improved and better understood.

While one of the principal remedies for congestion and unemployment in Georgetown is to find work outside for a considerable portion of its inhabitants, Government is not unmindful of the necessity for dealing with overcrowded and congested areas and I propose to appoint with the co-operation of the Municipal Council a Joint Committee of Government, Municipal and Unofficial representatives to consider and advise in regard to steps to be taken to improve housing conditions generally and with particular reference to tenements and yards. It will be open to the Committee also to recommend what steps should be taken and in what direction to secure larger areas of land for allotments for cultivation within a reasonable distance of the heart of the town and yet to satisfy the Health and Sanitation Departments in respect of the prevention of breeding areas for mosquitoes, etc.

In spite of the influenza epidemic, which while resulting in comparatively few fatal cases undoubtedly did much to impair the standard of health of the estate population in several districts, there is evidence to show that the health of the Colony is steadily improving and compares favourably with that obtaining in other tropical and sub-tropical countries similarly situated.

This Colony is particularly fortunate in its comparative freedom from many of the fevers common to European countries, such, for example, as Rheumatic Fever with its severe effects on the heart which is practically absent, whilst the death-rate of our chief disease—Malaria Fever—has declined from an annual average of 3.7 for the past five years to 3.3 per 1,000 of the population in 1932.

If the sanitary state of a community is judged by its Enteric Fever, the reduction from an average of 73 deaths annually over the past ten years to only 46 deaths in 1932 may be considered distinctly satisfactory, whilst Intestinal Diseases generally have similarly declined—from an average

death-rate for the last five years of 1.9 per 1,000 of the population to 1.4 in 1932.

The highest recorded number of births for the Colony, viz., 10,825—an increase in population of over 4,000 by births over deaths in 1932—coupled with a maintenance of the lowest recorded infantile mortality of 139 per 1,000 births and the lowest recorded death-rate of 21.1 per 1,000 of the population is evidence that the health and sanitation of British Guiana is improving and that real advances in Preventive Medicine are being made.

The erection of the new Seamen's Ward, the improvements to be undertaken to the Mental and other Hospitals will effect much needed improvements. The new Public Health Ordinance, which only now awaits the arrival of the new Surgeon-General, will it is believed do much to improve conditions in the country areas, which are also being largely benefited by the extension and re-conditioning of the artesian wells.

Progress is being made in many directions in Education.

It has been found possible to make a start with class examinations in the Primary Schools, which it is hoped it may be possible to make universal by outside examinations, but the staff of the Department does not at present so permit.

The withdrawal of the so-called Swettenham Circular has given the East Indian community a further opportunity of manifesting their desire to raise the standard of education, especially amongst East Indian girls. The Education Department is arranging for meetings to be held to discuss such steps and to give practical effect to this expression of policy which has the strong support of the community. Industrial classes are being increased and apprentices are now working as such and on works in charge of the Public Works Department.

A class has been started for motor mechanics and it is hoped to extend the number and subjects of further night classes.

It is proposed to establish a Working Men's Club in connection with the industrial classes. It is hoped too to encourage

the holding of lectures and classes by our learned societies and in our schools.

I am glad to state that the Carnegie Corporation has generously offered to subscribe \$7,000 to the reconstruction of the library and I hope to put forward a scheme combining the Carnegie Library and the Museum under one roof.

In considering the financial outlook it is necessary to take all these problems into account and to remember that in dealing with them and the extension of activities and developments in so many directions it is essential that there should be the requisite staff to cope with the situation and provide the essential supervision and control. It has been found that administration has suffered in certain directions, notably in respect of the Administration of Justice, and I have felt compelled to recommend to the Secretary of State that another Senior Police Magistrate should be appointed.

The administration of the Prisons has also caused anxiety and, as I informed Council last session, it was necessary to appoint the Inspector-General and Deputy Inspector-General to report on the conditions in the Prison. From their report it was clear that it is essential to secure the services of a Superintendent of Prisons with experience of prison work and skilled in the industrial side of such work, who could be usefully employed not only in assisting in the discipline of the Prison but also in providing useful industrial work for the prisoners in the Gaol, so reducing the number of working parties in the town with advantage to the prisoners themselves when they are discharged with the training to enable them to earn their living in a trade. The Secretary of State has approved the appointment of such an officer and it is suggested that a salary of £450—£550 by increments of £25 be provided for the post, if a suitable man can be found at this salary.

I have also addressed the Secretary of State with regard to the appointment of two additional Masters for Queen's College to be appointed from January 1st next, to give effect to the recommendations that the Intermediate Examination of the University of London now be taken for the British Guiana Scholarship.

I hope shortly to announce the names of those who will serve as Governors of the College. These new services will necessarily require additional provision. Wherever possible such increases will be accompanied by reduction in staff, but such are not always possible when Departments have been cut down to the minima and even to their loss in efficiency.

A Committee has reported on the grading and salaries of the Clerical Services—this report has been submitted to the Secretary of State and will be laid before Legislative Council for consideration.

Since the last meeting of Council we have had to mourn the death of men who have lent distinction to this Council and whose work for the Colony will be long remembered. Sir Alexander Swettenham, Governor of British Guiana from 1901—1904, was an able and zealous administrator, Mr. Philip N. Browne was an honoured and valuable Elected Member of the Council for 17 years.

The Colony has to mourn the loss of its most eminent savant in Dr. Roth and medical men held in high esteem amongst the community in Dr. Rowland and Dr. Gomes.

Mr. CRANE: May I ask whether Government will give an undertaking to afford the Council an opportunity during this session for a debate on the financial position of the Colony involved in the statement just read?

THE PRESIDENT: An opportunity will be given.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

COASTAL DRAINAGE SCHEMES.

Major CRAIG (Director of Public Works): I am the bearer of the following Message from His Excellency the Governor:—

MESSAGE No. 12

Honourable Members of the Legislative Council,

I have the honour to invite the attention of Honourable Members to the recommendations contained in the Reports of the Committee appointed in 1928 under the Chairmanship of the Honourable A. P. G. Austin to enquire into the coastal drainage schemes of

the Colony (Sessional Papers Nos. 3 and 4 of 1929) and to inform the Council that arising out of these Reports the question of what relief should be given in respect of coastal drainage was considered by Government. Under the Drainage and Irrigation (Costs Variation) Ordinance, 1932 (No. 37 of 1932), the Governor in Council is authorised to reduce the total cost of works in certain cases under the Drainage and Irrigation Ordinance, Chapter 165, for the purpose of affording relief in proportion to be paid by proprietors and local authorities.

2. Schedules are annexed hereto indicating the sums to which it is proposed that the cost of the works in each area should be reduced (Schedule I.), and setting out special cases in regard to which decisions have yet to be taken as to the amount of relief to be granted (Schedule II.). The "total cost of works" is defined in section 2 of the Drainage and Irriga-

tion Ordinance, Chapter 165, to mean all expenditure incurred in and incidental to the making of surveys and plans, the execution of works, and the payment of compensation in relation to a declared area, and the "proportionate cost" is defined to mean the proportion of the total cost of works which is to be repaid by the proprietors and local authorities in each declared area. The proportionate cost payable by proprietors has been fixed at a figure equivalent to 60 per cent. of the reduced total cost indicated in Schedule I.

3. With the concurrence of my Executive Council I invite the Council to approve of reductions being made in the total cost of works as indicated in the First Schedule to this Message.

EDWARD DENHAM,
Governor.

14th March, 1933.

DRAINAGE AND IRRIGATION (COSTS VARIATION) ORDINANCE NO. 37 OF 1932.

SCHEDULE 1.

1. AREA.	2. Total Cost.	3. Reduced Total Cost.	4. Proportionate cost payable by proprietors being 60% of reduced total cost.
ESSEQUEBO COAST—			
Johanna Cecelia to Annandale	... \$ 43,942 30	\$ 30,510 30	\$ 18,306 18
EAST COAST, DEMERARA—			
Plaisance	... 40,337 00	19,104 79	11,462 87
Triumph and Beterverwagting	... 76,855 64	51,246 25	30,747 75
Buxton and Friendship	... 75,303 10	42,407 00	25,444 20
Golden Grove-Nabaclis	... }		
Victoria	... }	91,757 82	55,054 69
Cove and John	... }		
Ann's Grove to Unity and Lancaster	... 98,716 01	31,802 00	19,081 20
EAST BANK, DEMERARA -			
Craig	... 14,722 61	7,468 58	4,481 15

DRAINAGE AND IRRIGATION (COSTS VARIATION) ORDINANCE NO. 37 OF 1932.

SCHEDULE 2.

AREA.	Total Cost.
EAST COAST, BERBICE AND CORENTYNE—	
Gibraltar-Courtlands	... \$ 79,830 90
Lancaster-Manchester	30,655 77
Ulverston-Salton	49,711 18
Limalair-Kildonan	52,193 01
WEST COAST, BERBICE—	
Bush Lot	38,390 96

TRADES CENTRE FOR WOMEN.

MR. CREASE (Director of Education):
I am the bearer of the following Message
from His Excellency the Governor:—

MESSAGE No. 13.

Honourable Members of the Legislative Council.

I have the honour to inform the Council that an advance of \$14,400 (£3,000) has now been received from the Carnegie Corporation as the first instalment of the grant of \$48,000 (£10,000) voted by the Corporation for the furtherance of educational development and in particular for the training of women and girls in industrial work in this Colony, of which I informed Council in my speech on the 12th of April, 1932.

2. Before any advance in respect of the grant could be obtained, it was necessary to prepare a scheme with full details of expenditure for the approval of the Executive Committee of the Corporation. After careful consideration, it was agreed that the money could most beneficially be spent on the vocational training of young women and girls, the need for which has been long felt in this Colony. A Special Committee was entrusted with the investigation of this problem and, as a result of their recommendations, Government has decided, with the approval of the Secretary of State and the Carnegie Corporation, with whom I fully discussed the proposals on my visit to America last year, on the establishment of a Trades Centre for Women and Girls. The scheme will necessitate the erection of a suitable building and the provision of the necessary staff and equipment, the initial and maintenance costs of which will be spread over a period of four years.

3. The site selected is in Georgetown on a plot of land situated to the north of St. Philip's Church, which has been decided upon with the approval of the Church authorities who have given every assistance in this matter. The work of erection commenced on the 6th of February last, and it is anticipated that the building will be ready for occupation towards the end of September this year.

4. With regard to staff, it is considered essential that, in order to ensure as far as possible the success of the undertaking, a fully trained and qualified Principal should be appointed to be in charge of the Centre. The Secretary of State has, with the assistance of the Board of Education, been able to secure the services of Miss B. B. Briant for this post. Miss Briant has now arrived and is carrying on the work of supervisor of the classes which have hitherto been conducted by the Working Women's Guild. She will also employ her time until the Centre is ready for occupation in visiting institutions in the Colony in which industrial work is being done and in studying local requirements and industries.

5. The supervision, organisation and control of the Centre will be under the Education Department with the assistance of a Special Committee composed of members of the Working Women's Guild, a Committee which has been of great assistance in providing work for girls in Georgetown during the past two years.

6. The details of expenditure from the grant will be included in a Supplementary Estimate for this year. Assistance towards the cost of the building is being met from Unemployment Relief Funds, which will enable the balance of the grant to cover the full cost of staffing, equipment, material and working over a period of four years.

7. It is hoped that as the work progresses funds will be accumulated sufficiently to provide for the continued operation of the Centre after the grant has been exhausted. It will be, however, recalled that the Carnegie Corporation has undertaken to consider the question of making a further grant of a similar sum (\$48,000) if the present project proves successful. Government has every reason to hope that this will be the case, and trusts that the steps taken to provide for the vocational training of young women and girls, so that they may eventually become useful and self-supporting members of the community, will meet with a full measure of success.

EDWARD DENHAM,

Governor.

21st May, 1933.

PAPERS LAID.

The following documents were laid on the table:—

Report on the Balata Industry in British Guiana with special reference to the Rupununi District by Mr. T. A. W. Davis, Asst. Conservator of Forests.

Consolidated half-yearly return of immigrants on plantations and in public institutions for the half-year ended 31st December, 1932.

Report of the Government Analyst for the year 1932.

Timbers of British Guiana—being notes on four Colony timbers recently tested at the Forest Products Research Laboratory, Princes Risborough.

Reports under the Food and Drugs Ordinance for the half-year ended 31st December, 1932.

Report and Statement of Expenditure of the Georgetown Public Free Library for the year 1932.

Report on the Transport and Harbours Department for the year 1932 (*The Colonial Secretary*).

Report of the Trustees, Berbice Lutheran Fund, for the year 1932 (*Attorney-General*).

Fifty-third Annual Report of the Comptroller of Customs relating to the Customs Revenue, Trade and Shipping of the Colony for the year 1932 (*Mr. D'Andrade*).

Annual Report of the Medical Superintendent of the Mental Hospital for the year 1932.

Report of the Chairman, Poor Law Commissioners, on the Alms House and Out-door Poor for the year 1932 (*Dr. De Freitas*).

Report of a Commission appointed to consider problems of Secondary and Primary Education in Trinidad, Barbados, Leeward Islands and Windward Islands, 1931-32 (*Mr. Crease*).

Report of the Colonial Treasurer for the year 1932 (*Mr. McDavid*).

Report of the Official Receiver for the year 1932 (*Mr. King*).

GOVERNMENT NOTICES.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS.

Notice was given that at the next or a subsequent meeting of the Council leave would be asked to introduce and have read a first time the following Bills :—

A Bill to validate certain acts and proceedings of the Georgetown Sewerage and Water Commissioners.

A Bill to provide for the collection of acreage taxes (*The Colonial Secretary*.)

A Bill further to amend the Summary Jurisdiction (Offences) Ordinance, Chapter 13, with respect to the keeping of animals.

A Bill to carry out certain Conventions relating to the employment of women, young persons and children.

A Bill to amend the Clubs Registration Ordinance, Chapter 269, with respect to the registration of Clubs (*The Attorney-General*).

A Bill to make provision for the regulation and control of rice factories and the manufacture of rice (*Professor Dash*).

A Bill to amend the Customs Duties Ordinance, Chapter 34, with respect to the duty on precious stones exported from the Colony (*Mr. D'Andrade*).

A Bill further to amend the Tax Ordinance, Chapter 37, with respect to the licences of Insurance Companies and the duties to be paid thereon (*Mr. McDavid*).

COASTAL DRAINAGE SCHEMES.

Major CRAIG gave notice of the following motion :—

THAT, with reference to Governor's Message No. 12 of the 14th of March, 1933, this Council approves of the total costs of the following areas declared under section nine of the Drainage and Irrigation Ordinance, Chapter 105, being reduced to the extent indicated in each case :—

AREA.	Total cost.	Reduced total cost.	Proportionate cost payable by proprietors being 60% of reduced total cost.
ESSEQUEBO COAST—			
Johanna Cecelia to Annandale ...	\$ 43,942 30	\$ 30,510 30	\$ 18,306 18
EAST COAST, DEMERARA—			
Plaisance ...	40,337 00	19,104 79	11,462 87
Triumph and Beterverwagting ...	76,855 64	51,246 25	30,747 75
Buxton and Friendship ...	75,303 10	42,407 00	25,444 20
Golden Grove-Nabaclis } ...	122,055 73	91,757 82	55,054 69
Victoria } ...			
Cove and John } ...			
Ann's Grove to Unity and Lancaster ...	98,716 01	31,802 00	19,081 20
EAST BANK, DEMERARA—			
Craig ...	14,722 61	7 468 58	4,481 15

READING OF BILLS.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Mr. T. Millard) gave notice that at a later stage he would move that Standing Order No. 11 (1) be suspended to enable the Bills of which notice had been given to be read the first time.

UNOFFICIAL NOTICE.

SALE AND EXPORT OF RICE.

Mr. CRANE gave notice of the following motion :—

That this Council is of opinion that before the passing of any further legislation to regulate the sale and export of rice from the

Colony or otherwise the Conditions under which rice is produced in the Colony, the prices paid to rice-growers by middlemen and the system of obtaining rice for export should be investigated by an impartial Commission with power to take evidence from all interested parties and report to His Excellency the Governor and this Council accordingly and respectfully requests His Excellency the Governor to appoint such a Commission under the Commissions of Enquiry Ordinance, 1933, for that purpose.

And this Council is further of opinion that the only system of export capable of affording the rice-grower reasonable and adequate payment for his crops and for securing competitive market prices for rice exported from the Colony is that of a Rice Pool on the basis of a single central selling and exporting agency on behalf of all rice producers having stocks for export and this Council accordingly respectfully requests His Excellency the Governor to refer to an appropriate Committee the working out of a scheme for the operation of such a pool.

ORDER OF THE DAY.

TELEGRAPH OPERATORS.

Mr. CRANE, on behalf of Mr. FREDERICKS, asked the following questions :—

1. How many young men are employed as telegraph operators in the Telegraph Service?
2. Where are they stationed?
3. What is the salary paid to each of them?
4. Is there any grade of promotion immediately above operators to which they can be promoted?
5. What is the qualification for such promotion?
6. What is the relation of the Mechanician's Shop to the Telegraph Department?
7. Is there a scheme that proposes to place telegraph operators in the Mechanician's Shop?
8. —(a) What is the Mechanician's Shop.
(b) Who is in charge of it?
(c) What is its daily routine of instructions?
9. When did this scheme come into operation?
10. Is such a transfer punishment or promotion?
11. If promotion what is the increase in salary?
12. Is it true that telegraph messages are sometimes despatched half an hour or longer after they are handed in?
13. Has any change taken place in the manner of transmitting messages which occasions these delays?

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY replied as follows :—

1. At present there are 13 operators in the Telegraph Service, but the actual number employed on telegraph duties is six, this figure being exclusive of Postmaster, &c., in charge of District Offices, whose normal duties include the operation of the telegraph. The reduced number of operators employed in the Telegraph Service is the result of an effort to effect economy, which has been accomplished by the installation at the Central Telegraph Office of a system which is the invention of the Senior Telephone Inspector. This invention has not only reduced the operating staff by 4 operators in 1932, and (now under trial) a further 7 this year, but has effected general economies throughout the Telegraph Service and reduced error risks and the time required to transmit messages from one telegraph circuit to another by more than half.
2. At present three operators are employed at the Central Telegraph Office, one at the General Post Office, one at Suddie Post Office, and one at New Amsterdam Post Office.
3. On telegraph duties, three at \$360 per annum, two at \$420 per annum and one at \$408 per annum. In the Mechanician's Shop, three at \$360 per annum.
4. Yes, as Travelling Sorters when vacancies occur in that grade.
5. The general knowledge of postal duties already acquired by operators, and good conduct and performance of duties. When an

officer has attained the required standard and qualified as a First Class Telegraph Operator he is eligible without any further qualification for promotion to the post of a Travelling Sorter.

6. The Mechanician's Shop is associated with the Telegraph Service in that all telegraph apparatus is repaired, assembled and tested there prior to being passed out for use in the Telegraph Service.

7. Yes. Recently three operators who have been temporarily released from telegraphic duties as a result of the developments referred to in the answer to question 1 are being temporarily employed in the Mechanician's Shop and elsewhere as occasion arises until they can be absorbed. In the Mechanician's Shop they have the opportunity to become acquainted with the repair and adjustment of telegraph and telephone apparatus, the knowledge so gained being essential when eventually they are promoted to be Postmasters in charge of District Telegraph Offices.

8. —(a) A section of the Post Office Engineering Branch, where, in addition to performing normal work such as repairs, etc., members of the Telegraph and Telephone Services receive the opportunity to become technically and practically acquainted with all kinds of telephone and telegraph apparatus used in this Colony. The experience which can be acquired is valuable to those who choose to make use of it.

(b) A Mechanician-in-Charge under the supervision of the Post Office Chief Engineer.

(c) Employees are allotted work in accordance with their abilities and the requirements of the Service.

9. As regards the Telegraph Operators, the scheme commenced on 1st March, 1933. The scheme so far applies to three operators only. Other employment has been found for the other redundant operators in associated services (one at Bartica on postal duties and one to the Wireless Section: two vacancies have not been filled).

10. Neither. The scheme is an experiment and an effort to retain in useful employment the services of three possibly redundant operators until such time as vacancies occur in the operating staff. Previous operators have not had the opportunity now offered to these operators to acquire previous practical information about the apparatus and equipment normally to be handled by them in their operating duties.

11. See answer to question 10.

12. The possibility is very remote and could only occur if the telegraph line or office was engaged for such a period with telegraphic traffic having priority.

13. A change has taken place in the method of transmitting telegrams in that all "through" traffic at the Central Telegraph Office is now electrically repeated to other circuits by the agency of the invention mentioned in the answer to question 1, thus eliminating the necessity of maintaining a large staff of operators at the Central Telegraph Office. It cannot be said of this change that any delay is occasioned. In fact the invention enables "through" messages to be sent in less than half the time previously required. This claim will be clear when it is pointed out that previous

to the installation of this invention a message from, say, New Amsterdam to Suddie required the services of four operators, one at New Amsterdam, two at Central Telegraph Office and one at Suddie, and took ten minutes to receive and re-transmit, whereas now in less than five minutes the same message may be sent direct from New Amsterdam to Suddie without the intervention of two operators at the Central Telegraph Office and without the resultant loss of time and risks of error previously existing in reception and re-transmission at the Central Telegraph Office.

MENTAL HOSPITAL EMPLOYEES.

MR. CRANE, on behalf of Mr. ELEAZAR, asked the following questions :—

1. How many persons have been dismissed from the Mental Hospital from the year 1929 to the present time?
2. What is the length of service of each? For what offence was each dismissed?
3. What was the salary received by each of these persons at the date of his or her dismissal?

DR. DE FREITAS (Surgeon-General) replied as follows :—

1. One employee has been dismissed and nineteen have been discharged.
2. The employee who was dismissed had 5 years and 9 months service and was dismissed for stealing Government property. The periods of service of the nineteen employees who were discharged and the circumstances which caused their discharge are as follows :—

LENGTH OF SERVICE.	CAUSE OF DISCHARGE.
3 years, 3 months	...Misconduct.
1 year, 2½ months	do.
1 year, 1½ months	do.
35 years, 10 months	do.
1 year, 6 months	do.
2 years, 2½ months	do.
2½ months	do.
3 months	do.
4½ months	do.
1 year	...Physical incapacity.
19 years	...Misconduct.
14 years, 4 months	...Physical incapacity
25 years, 9 months	do.
25 years, 9 months	do.
5 years, 1 month	...Misconduct.
1 year, 7 months	...Physical incapacity.
6 years, 9 months	... do.
25 years, 1 month	...Misconduct.
17 years, 10 months	do.

3. The salary received by the employee who was dismissed was \$25 per month. The salaries of the nineteen employees who were discharged are as follows :—

8	at \$12 00	per month.
1	at 13 00	"
1	at 15 00	"
1	at 17 00	"
2	at 18 00	"
2	at 22 00	"
3	at 27 00	"
1	at 30 00	"

READING OF BILLS.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY: I move that Standing Order No. 11 (1) be suspended to enable the Bills of which notice has been given to be read the first time.

MR. SMELLIE seconded.

Question put, and agreed to.

On motion duly made and seconded the following Bills were read a first time :—

A Bill to validate certain acts and proceedings of the Georgetown Sewerage and Water Commissioners.

A Bill to provide for the collection of acreage taxes (*The Colonial Secretary*).

A Bill further to amend the Summary Jurisdiction (Offences) Ordinance, Chapter 13, with respect to the keeping of animals.

A Bill to carry out certain Conventions relating to the employment of women, young persons and children.

A Bill to amend the Clubs Registration Ordinance, Chapter 269, with respect to the registration of Clubs (*The Attorney-General*).

A Bill to make provision for the regulation and control of rice factories and the manufacture of rice (*Professor Dash*).

Notice was given that at the next or a subsequent meeting of the Council it would be moved that the Bill be read the second time.

CLUBS REGISTRATION BILL.

THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL gave notice that at the Committee stage of the Clubs Registration Ordinance he would move the following amendments :—

5. Section seven of the Principal Ordinance is amended—

(a) by renumbering the section as "7 (1)";

(b) by substituting the following for paragraph (1)—

(1) that the club occupies premises in respect of which, within twelve months next preceding the formation of the club, a licence for a spirit shop has been forfeited or the renewal of a certificate for a licence for a hotel or a spirit shop has been refused under the Intoxicating Liquor Licensing Ordinance, or in respect of which an order has been made that they shall not be used for the purposes of any club.

(c) by the addition of the following as subsection (2) :—

(2) for the purpose of determining whether a club is conducted in good faith as a club the court shall have regard to the nature of the premises occupied by the club.

The Council adjourned until the following day at 11 o'clock.