

FIRST SESSION

1973 - 1976

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 93rd Sitting of the National Assembly held in the Parliament Chamber at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON

MONDAY, 3RD MAY, 1976

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Speaker

Cde. Sase Narain, O.R., J.P., Speaker

Members of the Government, - People's National Congress (50)

Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister (2)

Cde. L.F.S. Burnham, O.E., S.C., Prime Minister (Absent - on leave)  
Cde. P.A. Reid, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Development

Senior Ministers (9)

- Cde. H.D. Hoyte, S.C., Minister of Economic Development (Absent - on leave)
- \* Cde. H. Green, Minister of Co-operatives and National Mobilisation (Absent)
  - \* Cde. H.O. Jack, Minister of Energy and Natural Resources (Absent - on leave)
  - \* Cde. F.E. Hope, Minister of Finance
  - \* Cde. S.S. Naraine, A.A., Minister of Works and Housing
  - \* Cde. G.A. King, Minister of Trade and Consumer Protection (Absent)
  - \* Cde. G.B. Komard, C.C.H., Minister of Agriculture (Absent - on leave)
  - \* Cde. C.L. Baird, Minister of Education and Social Development (Absent)
  - \* Cde. F.R. Wills, S.C., Minister of Foreign Affairs and Justice (Absent)

Ministers (5)

- Cde. W.G. Carrington, Minister of Labour  
Cde. S.M. Field-Ridley, Minister of Information and Culture (Absent)  
Cde. B. Ramsaroop, Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House
- \* Cde. O.M.R. Harper, Minister of Health (Absent)
  - \* Cde. C.V. Mingo, Minister of Home Affairs

Ministers of State (8)

- Cde. M. Kasim, A.A., Minister of State for Agriculture (Absent - on leave)
- Cde. O.E. Clarke, Minister of State - Regional (East Berbice/Corentyne) (Absent - on leave)
- Cde. P. Duncan, J.P., Minister of State - Regional (Rupununi) (Absent - on leave)
- Cde. C.A. Nascimento, Minister of State, Office of the Prime Minister (Absent - on leave)
- Cde. K.B. Bancroft, Minister of State - Regional (Mazaruni/Potaro)

\* Non elected Minister

- \* Cde. W. Haynes, Minister of State for Consumer Protection (Absent)
- \* Cde. A. Salim, Minister of State - Regional (East Demerara/West Coast Berbice)(Absent)
- \* Cde. F.U.A. Carmichael, Minister of State - Regional (North West)  
(Absent - on leave)

#### Parliamentary Secretaries (7)

- Cde. J.R. Thomas, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of National Development
- Cde. M.M. Ackman, C.C.H., Parliamentary Secretary, Office of the Prime Minister, and Government Chief Whip
- Cde. E.L. Ambrose, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture
- Cde. S. Prashad, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Co-operatives and National Mobilisation
- Cde. J.P. Chowritmootoo, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Education and Social Development
- Cde. R.H.O. Corbin, Parliamentary Secretary, Office of the Prime Minister (Absent)
- Cde. M. Corrica, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Works and Housing (Absent)

#### Deputy Speaker (1)

- Cde. R.C. Van Sluytman, Deputy Speaker

#### Other Members (18)

- Cde. L.M. Branco
- Cde. E.M. Bynoe
- Cde. E.H.A. Fowler
- Cde. J. Gill
- Cde. W. Hussain
- Cde. S. Jaiserrisingh
- Cde. K.M.E. Jonas (Absent)
- Cde. M. Nissar
- Cde. L.E. Ramsahoye
- Cde. J.G. Ramson
- Cde. P.A. Rayman
- Cde. E.M. Stoby, J.P.,
- Cde. S.H. Sukhu, M.S., J.P.
- Cde. C. Sukul, J.P.
- Cde. H.A. Taylor
- Cde. L.E. Willems
- Cde. C.E. Wrights, J.P.
- Cde. M. Zaheeruddeen, J.P.

#### Members of the Opposition - Liberator Party (2)

- Mr. M.F. Singh, Leader of the Opposition
- Mrs. E. Da Silva

#### OFFICERS

- Clerk of the National Assembly (F.A. Narain)
- Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly (M.B. Henry, AMBIM)

#### PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

OATH OF A NEW MEMBER

The Speaker informed the Assembly that he had been informed by the Chief Election Officer that the name of Cde. Edith Bynoe had been extracted from the People's National Congress List of Candidates as the person to fill the vacancy in the National Assembly, created by the death of Cde. J.N. Aaron, and that Cde. Bynoe had accordingly been declared to be elected a Member of the National Assembly.

Cde. Bynoe who was in the Chamber was invited to proceed to the Table where she made and subscribed the Oath of Office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER(i) Congratulations to Cde. Bynoe

The Speaker extended congratulations to Cde. Bynoe on her election as a Member of the National Assembly and welcomed her to the Assembly.

(ii) Appointment of new Sergeant-at-Arms

The Speaker informed the Assembly that Cde. Kenneth C. King had been appointed Sergeant-at-Arms to succeed Cde. Charles B. Cadogan, M.S., who had retired from the Public Service. On behalf of Members and himself, the Speaker extended congratulations to Cde. King and welcomed him to the Parliament Office.

(iii) Leave

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to Cdes. Burnham, Hoyte, Jack, Kennard, Kasim, Clarke, Duncan, Nascimento and Carmichael for that day's sitting.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONSPrivate Bills

The Clerk read the following petitions which were presented by Cde. Fowler on behalf of -

- (a) Brother James Stephen of 496 Middle Road, La Penitence, Georgetown, General President of the Guyana United Apostolic Mystical Council, seeking to have introduced in the Assembly a Private Bill to incorporate the Council.

(PARL: 3/2/2(2/1976))

- (b) Brother Benjamin George of 84 William Street, Campbellville, Georgetown, Vice-President of the St. Peter's Temple, seeking to have introduced in the Assembly a Private Bill to incorporate the Church.

(PARL: 3/2/2(4/1976))

The questions that the promoters be allowed to proceed were put and carried.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

- (1) By the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Development, on behalf of the Prime Minister:
- (a) Public Corporations (Guyana School of Agriculture) (Amendment) Order 1976 (No. 29), made under section 46 of the Public Corporations Act, Chapter 19:05, on the 29th of March, 1976, and published in the Gazette on the 3rd of April, 1976.  
(1/13/1)(Circulated)
- (b) 5th Annual Report of the National Insurance Board for the year 1973.  
(GSC: 11/404/2)(Circulated)
- (c) 6th Annual Report of the National Insurance Board for the year 1974.  
(GSC: 11/404/2)(Circulated)
- (2) By the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House, on behalf of the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources:
- Annual Report of the Geological Surveys and Mines Department for the year 1974.  
(ENR: 4/6 11)(Circulated)
- (3) By the Minister of Finance:
- (a) Financial Paper No. 1/1976 - Advance made from the Contingencies Fund on the Current and Capital Estimates during 1975, totalling \$7,240,612. (2/5 XI)(Circulated)
- (b) Financial Paper No. 2/1976 - Advance made from the Contingencies Fund on the Current and Capital Estimates during 1976, totalling \$2,185,032. (2/5 XI)(Circulated)
- (c) Financial Paper No. 3/1976 - Schedule of Supplementary Provision on the Current Estimates for the period ending 30th April, 1976, totalling \$3,000,005.  
(2/5 XI)(Circulated)

In terms of Standing Order No. 68(1), the Minister of Finance named Wednesday, 5th May, 1976, as the day for consideration of the Financial Papers.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLSPresentation and First Reading

WIDOWS AND ORPHANS PENSION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1976  
Bill No. 8/1976 published 28.4.76

The Minister of Finance, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE WIDOWS AND ORPHANS PENSION ACT.

PUBLIC BUSINESSMOTIONRETIREMENT OF CDE. CHARLES BENJAMIN CADOGAN, M.S., AS  
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That on the retirement of Cde. Charles Benjamin Cadogan, M.S., from the Public Service, this National Assembly places on record its appreciation of the services rendered by him as Sergeant-at-Arms of the Legislature since 1953;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That in view of the long and dedicated service of Cde. Cadogan, he be appointed an Honorary Officer of Parliament with privilege of entrée and a seat in the Chamber on occasions of ceremony.

The Leader of the Opposition spoke to the motion.

The Speaker associated himself with the tributes paid to Cde. Cadogan.

Thereafter, the motion was put and carried.

ADJOURNMENT

At 2.45 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House, the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 5th May, 1976.

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*5.5.76*  
S NARAIN  
Speaker

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,  
Public Buildings,  
Georgetown,  
5th May, 1976.