

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the Fourth Legislative Council of the Colony of British Guiana at its Fourth Session, 1951, held at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara, on

THURSDAY, 8TH NOVEMBER, 1951,

AT 2 P.M.

PRESENT:

The President,	His Excellency the Governor, Sir Charles Campbell Woolley, K.C.M.G., O.B.E., M.C.
The Honourable	the Colonial Secretary, Mr. J. Gutch, O.B.E.
"	the Acting Attorney General, Mr. A. C. Brazao
"	the Acting Financial Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. W. O. Fraser
"	Dr. J. B. Singh, O.B.E. (Demerara-Essequibo)
"	Dr. J. A. Nicholson (Georgetown North)
"	T. Lee (Essequibo River)
"	V. Roth, O.B.E. (Nominated)
"	T. T. Thompson (Nominated)
"	J. P. Coghlan (Demerara River)
"	D. P. Debidin (Eastern Demerara)
"	J. Fernandes (Georgetown Central)
"	Dr. G. A. Gonsalves (Eastern Berbice)
"	W. O. K. Kendall (New Amsterdam)
"	A. T. Peters (Western Berbice)
"	W. A. Phang (North Western District)
"	G. H. Smellie (Nominated)
"	J. Carter (Georgetown South).

The Clerk read prayers.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Friday, the 2nd of November, 1951, as printed and circulated, were taken as read and confirmed.

PRESENTATION OF REPORTS AND DOCUMENTS

The Financial Secretary and Treasurer laid on the table the Minutes of the Meeting of Finance Committee, held on the 25th of October, 1951.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

The Financial Secretary and Treasurer gave notice of the introduction and first reading of the following Bill and of his intention, with Council's consent, to take the Bill through all stages at the next meeting:-

A BILL intituled AN ORDINANCE TO ALLOW AND CONFIRM CERTAIN ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE INCURRED IN THE YEAR ENDED THE THIRTY-FIRST DAY OF DECEMBER, 1950.
(L.P. 123/3/1 IV).

INACCURATE PRESS REPORTS

Before proceeding to the Order of the Day, Dr. Nicholson was granted leave to refer to a report in the Daily Chronicle of Friday, the 6th of November, on the debate on the Antibiotics Bill, which he stated was inaccurate and misleading.

Mr. Roth supported the remarks of Dr. Nicholson.

In requesting the Press to take notice of what had been stated the President drew attention to the following Standing Rule and Order of the Council:-

"5(b) If there should be published in any newspaper an unfair or misleading report of anything which has transpired at a Meeting of the Council, the Council may direct that no representative of that newspaper may be permitted to attend the sitting of the Council for such period as the Council may determine."

UNESCO SCHEME TO LIQUIDATE ADULT ILLITERACY

Mr. Debidin was granted leave to refer to a news item over the radio to the effect that UNESCO proposed to spend a sum of \$20,000,000 (U.S.) for the liquidation of adult illiteracy in various parts of the world and that six stations would be established in various centres in the world for this purpose. He requested that enquiries should be made to ascertain whether the Colony could benefit under the Scheme.

The President stated that as far as he was aware no notification had been received by Government in connection with the scheme but that enquiries would be made as suggested by the Honourable Member.

ORDER OF THE DAY

ANTIBIOTICS BILL, 1951

Council resolved into Committee to consider the Bill intituled AN ORDINANCE TO REGULATE THE IMPORTATION, STORAGE, DISTRIBUTION, SALE AND USE OF ANTIBIOTICS' clause by clause.

Dr. C.R. Subryan, Acting Director of Medical Services, and Dr. H.P. Fernandes, Health Officer, Tuberculosis, were invited to be present.

Committee

Clause 1 - was passed as printed.

Clause 2 - was amended as follows:-

(a) the definition of "antibiotic" was amended by the substitution for the words

"and any other antimicrobial substance"

the words -

"and any other anti-microbial organic substance produced by living organisms or synthetically with the same structural formula as the natural product of the organism".

(b) a semi-colon was substituted for the full stop at the end of the clause and the following new definitions were inserted:-

"dentist" means a person registered as a dentist under the Colonial Medical Service (Consolidation) Ordinance;

"medical practitioner" means a person registered as a medical practitioner under the Colonial Medical Service (Consolidation) Ordinance;

"veterinary surgeon" means a person registered as a veterinary surgeon under the Animals Diseases Ordinance, No. 29 of 1936. 1936."

Clause 3 to 9 - were passed as printed.

Clause 10 - the word "registered" in the second line was deleted.

Clause 11 - the words "if the Court so orders" were inserted after the word "Board" at the end of the clause.

Clause 12 - was passed as printed.

Clause 13 - the word "registered" in the third line was deleted.

Clause 14 - Committee considered the following amendment moved by the Attorney General and agreed to defer further consideration to enable the Attorney General to redraft the proviso in the light of the discussion:-

"Provided that where a case of emergency arises in any area of the Colony in which a government dispenser or registered nurse, is stationed, and the services of a medical practitioner are not immediately available, such dispenser or nurse may administer penicillin, a compound of penicillin or any medicinal preparation containing penicillin."

Clause 15 - the word "registered" in the third line of sub-clause (2) was deleted.

Clause 16 - was passed as printed.

Clause 17 - was amended by insertion of the words
"to import antibiotics" between the words
"licence" and "under" in the third line.

Clauses 18 and 19 - were passed as printed.

Clause 20 - the singular "antibiotic" was substituted
for the plural in paragraphs (a) and (b);
and a semi-colon was substituted for the
full stop at the end of paragraph (c) and
the following new paragraph (d) was inserted -

"(d) providing the punishment for any
breach of any regulation made
under this section."

Clauses 21 and 22 - were passed as printed.

Clause 23 - the following new clause 23 was inserted -

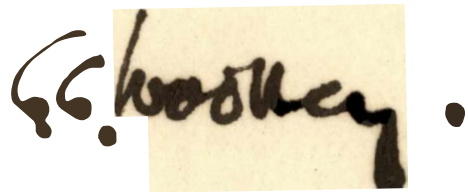
"Commencement of Ordinance. 23. This Ordinance shall
come into operation on the
first day of March, nine-
teen hundred and fifty-
two".

Council resumed.

ADJOURNMENT

The President adjourned Council to 2.30 p.m. the
following day.

Confirmed,



President.

COUNCIL CHAMBER,
Public Buildings,
British Guiana.
9th November, 1951.