

THIRD SESSION

1956 - 1957

MINUTES of the Proceedings of a Meeting of the Legislative Council of the Colony of British Guiana under the British Guiana (Constitution) (Temporary Provisions) Order in Council, 1955, held in the Chamber of the Legislature at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON
THURSDAY, 11th APRIL, 1957.

PRESENT:

His Honour the Speaker, Sir Eustace Gordon Woolford, O.B.E., Q.C.

Ex-Officio Members

The Honourable the Chief Secretary, Mr. F.D. Jakeway, C.M.G., O.B.E.
The Honourable the Attorney General, Mr. A.M.I. Austin.
The Honourable the Financial Secretary, Mr. F.W. Essex.

Nominated Members of the Executive Council

The Honourable Sir Frank McDavid, C.M.G., C.B.E.
(Member for Agriculture, Forests, Lands and Mines).
The Honourable W.G. R. Kendall
(Member for Communications and Works).
The Honourable G.A.C. Farnum, O.B.E.
(Member for Local Government, Social Welfare and Co-operative Development).
The Honourable R.B. Gajraj
The Honourable R.C. Tello.

Nominated Official

Mr. J.I. Ramphal

Nominated Unofficials

Mr. L.A. Luckhoo, Q.C.
Mr. C.A. Carter
Mr. E.F. Correia
Rev. D.C.J. Bobb
Mr. H. Ranaman
Miss Gertie H. Collins
Mrs. Esther E. Dey
Dr. H.A. Fraser
Mr. R.B. Nallal
Mr. Sugrim Singh

Clerk of the Legislature - Mr. I. Crum Ewing.
Assistant Clerk of the Legislature - Mr. B.M. Viapree(Ag.)

Absent

The Honourable P.A. Cummings
(Member for Labour, Health and Housing) - on leave.
Mr. T. Lee - on leave.
Mr. W.A. Phang - on leave.
Mr. W.T. Lord, I.S.O. - on leave.

Prayers were read by the Most Reverend Dr. A.J. Knight,
C.M.G., Archbishop of the West Indies.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday, the 10th of April, 1957, as printed and circulated, were taken as read and confirmed.

At this stage the Speaker suspended the sitting for a short while in order to receive His Excellency the Governor who was coming to the Council to present awards to persons who had been honoured by Her Majesty the Queen.

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

At 2.15 p.m. His Excellency the Governor, accompanied by the Speaker, entered the Chamber and made the following presentations:-

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|-------|------------------------------|---|---|
| (i) | Mr. C.L. Kranenburg, O.B.E. | - | The Insignia appertaining to the Award of an Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire. |
| (ii) | Mr. G.A. Phillips, M.B.E. | - | The Insignia appertaining to the Award of a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire. |
| (iii) | Mr. L.B. Thompson, M.B.E. | - | The Insignia appertaining to the Award of a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire. |
| (iv) | Mr. C.P.B. Melbourne, M.B.E. | - | The Insignia appertaining to the Award of a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire. |
| (v) | Mr. J.A. Bradford, B.E.M. | - | British Empire Medal. |
| (vi) | Mr. C.A.N. Persaud | | Imperial Service Medal. |

AU REVOIR TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR

Revd. Bobb, on behalf of the Council, took the opportunity to say au revoir to His Excellency the Governor who was due to leave the Colony on the 19th instant on vacation, and expressed the hope that he would return further encouraged and renewed in vigour to give the Colony the benefit of his wide experience.

../ His Excellency

His Excellency thanked members for their kind wishes and withdrew from the Chamber.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

The Speaker announced that on conclusion of consideration of the Moneylenders Bill, it was proposed to adjourn Council to Wednesday, the 17th of April, 1957.

PAPERS LAID

(i) By the Chief Secretary:

Sessional Paper No. 6/1957 - Superannuation Benefits to Non-Pensionable Government Employees. (Circulated).

(ii) By the Financial Secretary:

(a) Report of the Director of Audit, British Guiana, on the audit of the Accounts of the Colony of British Guiana for the year ended 31st December, 1955.

(b) Minutes of Meetings of Finance Committee held on 3rd and 4th December, 1956.

(iii) By the Member for Local Government, Social Welfare and Co-operative Development:

Report on the Needs of the Youth of the more populated Coastal Areas of British Guiana by Pearl Jephcott, M.A., Senior Research Assistant, London School of Economics (University of London) together with Sessional Paper No. 7/1957 thereon. (SW 55/2/3)(Circulated).

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Motion

By the Chief Secretary:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That, with reference to Legislative Council Resolution No. LII of the 6th July, 1951, approving the payment of allowances and gratuities to non-pensionable Government employees, this Council approves of the gratuities and allowances being calculated in accordance with the amendments to the existing rules proposed in Sessional Paper No. 6 of 1957 presented to Council by the Honourable Chief Secretary, and undertakes to provide the necessary funds for this purpose.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

The Financial Secretary gave notice of the introduction and first reading of the following Bill:

WIDOWS AND ORPHANS PENSION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1957.
(Bill No. 11/1957 to be published on 13.4.57).

PUBLIC BUSINESS

ORDER OF THE DAY

BILL - First Reading

Item 1 - WIDOWS AND ORPHANS PENSION (AMENDMENT) BILL
1957 - Bill No. 11 1957.

The BILL intituled AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE WIDOWS AND ORPHANS PENSION ORDINANCE BY MAKING PROVISION FOR THE INCREASE OF PENSIONS REGISTERED ON THE THIRTY-FIRST DAY OF DECEMBER, NINETEEN HUNDRED AND FIFTY-THREE was read a first time.

BILL - Committee.

Item 2 - MONEYLENDERS BILL, 1956 - Bill No. 11/1956.

Council resolved itself into a Committee to resume consideration of the BILL intituled AN ORDINANCE TO CONSOLIDATE AND AMEND THE LAW RELATING TO MONEYLENDERS clause by clause.

In Committee

Clause 9 - was re-committed and amended as under and passed:

- (i) The Clause was re-numbered as sub-clause (1); and
- (ii) The following new sub-clause (2) was inserted:

"(2) Any person aggrieved by the refusal of a magistrate to give consent may appeal to the Full Court in the manner provided by the Summary Jurisdiction
Cap.17 (Appeals) Ordinance."

Clauses 17 to 19 - were passed as printed.

Clause 20 - was passed with the following amendments:

- (i) sub-clause (2) was deleted; and
- (ii) sub-clauses (3), (4) and (5) were re-numbered as (2), (3) and (4), respectively.

Clauses 21 to 25 - were passed as printed.

Clause 26

(A) The Financial Secretary moved the following amendments:

(i) Sub-clause (1):

Cap.328 The insertion of the words "who is qualified to be appointed as an auditor under subsection (8) of section 109 of the Companies Ordinance or by a person" between the words "auditor" and "approved" in the penultimate line.

(ii) Sub-clause (2):

The substitution for the words "previous year" at the end thereof of the words "preceding period of twelve months ending on the thirtieth day of September of the year during which the books have been audited".

(iii) Sub-clause (3):

The deletion of sub-clause (3) and the substitution therefor of the following:

"(3) A moneylender's licence shall not be granted except on the production of the auditor's certificate required by subsection (2) of this section in respect of the preceding period of twelve months therein specified."

(iv) Sub-clause (4):

The deletion of this sub-clause.

(B) Mr. Carter moved the insertion of the words "or part thereof" between the words "months" and "ending" in the amendment proposed by the Financial Secretary to sub-clause (2).

After discussion, sub-clause (1) was amended as proposed by the Financial Secretary and passed.

Sub-clause (4) was deleted.

Further consideration of the Clause was deferred.

Clauses 27 to 29 were passed as printed.

Clause 14 was re-committed and passed with the following amendment:

The substitution of the words and figures "the proviso to section 13" for the words and figures "section 12" in the fifth line.

Clause 12 - was re-committed and on a motion by Mr. Correia the new paragraph (a) of sub-clause (1) was amended as under and passed:

Substituted - t e words "twelve per centum" for the words "ten per centum".

Further consideration of the Bill was deferred to the next meeting.

Council resumed.

MOTION

Item 3 - MOTION RE SESSIONAL PAPER NO. 1/1956 -
LAND TENURE AND REGISTRATION OF TITLES.

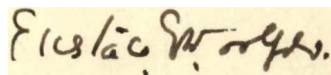
With the consent of Council, this item was withdrawn by the Member for Agriculture, Forests, Lands and Mines.

With the consent of Council, items 4,5 and 6 on the Order Paper were deferred to the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

At 4.00 p.m. the Speaker adjourned Council to 2.00 p.m. on Wednesday, the 17th of April, 1957.

Confirmed,



Speaker.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS,
British Guiana.

17th April, 1957.