

SECOND SESSION

1958

MINUTES of the Proceedings of a Meeting of the Legislative Council of the Colony of British Guiana under the British Guiana (Constitution)(Temporary Provisions) Orders in Council, 1953 and 1956, held in the Chamber of the Legislature at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.

on

MONDAY, 22ND DECEMBER, 1958.

PRESENT:

His Honour the Speaker, Sir Donald Jackson.

Ex-Officio Members

The Honourable the Chief Secretary, Mr. M.S. Porcher (Ag.)
The Honourable the Financial Secretary, Mr. F.W. Essex.

Ministers

The Honourable Dr. C.B. Jagan,
Minister of Trade and Industry.
The Honourable B.H. Benn,
Minister of Community Development and Education.
The Honourable E.B. Beharry,
Minister of Natural Resources.
The Honourable Janet Jagan,
Minister of Labour, Health and Housing.
The Honourable Ram Karran,
Minister of Communications and Works.

Elected Members, Majority Party

Mr. S.M. Saffee
Mr. Ajodha Singh

Other Elected Members

Mr. S. Campbell
Mr. A.L. Jackson

Nominated Members

Mr. R.B. Gajraj
Mr. R.C. Tello
Mr. R.E. Davis
Mr. A.M. Fredericks
Mr. H.J.M. Hubbard
Mr. A.G. Tasker, O.B.E.

Clerk of the Legislature - Mr. E.V. Viapree (Ag.)
Assistant Clerk of the Legislature - Mr. F.A. Narain (Ag.)

Absent

The Honourable the Attorney-General, Mr. A.M.I. Austin, Q.C. -
Indisposed.
Mr. F. Bowman.
Mr. B.S. Rai - on leave.
Mr. W.O.R. Kendall.
Mr. L.F.S. Burnham.
Mr. Jai Narine Singh.

The Clerk read prayers.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday, the 9th of December, 1958, as printed and circulated, were taken as read and confirmed.

ANNOUNCEMENTSLeave

The Speaker announced that -

- (i) The Honourable the Attorney-General was indisposed and had asked to be excused from that meeting;
- (ii) Mr. B.S. Rai had been granted permission to be absent from that meeting.

PAPERS LAID(a) By the Chief Secretary:

- (i) Report of the Director of Audit on the Accounts of the Lethem Trade Store for the period 1st January, 1957 to 6th January, 1958.
(No. M 1/22 II).
- (ii) Report of the Director of Audit on the Accounts of the Imbaimadai Trade Store for the year ended 31st December, 1957.
(No. M 1/22 II).

(b) By the Financial Secretary:

- (i) Order in Council No. 71 of 1958 made under section 8 of the Customs Ordinance, Chapter 309, on the 24th day of November, 1958, and published in the Gazette on the 6th of December, 1958.
(F.S.C.Ex. 23/54 II)(Circulated).
- (ii) Report of the Meeting of the Finance Committee held on 12th September, 1958, covering the Supplementary Schedules of Expenditure for August, 1958 (Recurrent and Development).
(LEG. 14/1957)(Circulated).

In terms of Standing Order No. 42(7), the question that the Report be adopted was put and carried.

(c) By the Minister of Trade and Industry:

Report of the Rice Committee appointed by His Excellency the Governor on 2nd November, 1957.
(Circulated).

(d) By the Minister of Communications and Works:

Report of the Transport and Harbours Department for the year 1957.
(TH 122/4 V)(Circulated).

GOVERNMENT NOTICESMotions

(a) The Financial Secretary gave notice of the following motions:

(i) BE IT RESOLVED:

That this Council in terms of section 9 of the Customs Ordinance, Chapter 309, confirms Order in Council No. 71 of 1958, which was made on the 24th day of November, 1958, and published in the Gazette on the 6th of December, 1958.

(ii) BE IT RESOLVED:

That pending the passing of the 1959 Estimates, this Council approves of such expenditure for Recurrent and Development Expenditure in 1959 as may be required for the maintenance of existing services and the continuance of works in progress on the basis approved by this Council in the Annual and Supplementary Estimates for the year 1958.

(b) The Minister of Labour, Health and Housing gave notice of the following motions:

(i) WHEREAS the Medical Practitioners (Temporary Registration) Ordinance, Chapter 135, came into operation on the 26th July, 1947;

AND WHEREAS section 5 of the said Ordinance provides that the Ordinance shall continue in force, up to and including the 31st December, 1951, but that the Legislative Council may, prior to the expiration of the Ordinance, by resolution (which resolution shall be published in the Gazette) declare that the said Ordinance shall continue in force for a further period of one year from the date of that expiration and may from time to time, prior to the expiration of that or any further continued operation, similarly declare that it shall continue for a further period of one year;

AND WHEREAS by the Medical Practitioners (Temporary Registration)(Extension) Ordinance, 1954 (No. 6), the Medical Practitioners (Temporary Registration) Ordinance, Chapter 135, has been continued in force as though that Ordinance had been continued in force by resolution of the Legislative Council in accordance with the provisions of section 5 thereof for the period commencing on the 1st January, 1956, and ending on 31st December, 1956;

AND WHEREAS the Legislative Council have thereafter from time to time in accordance with the provisions of section 5 aforesaid by resolution declared that the Medical Practitioners (Temporary Registration) Ordinance shall continue in force;

AND WHEREAS the said Ordinance is due to expire on the 31st December, 1958;

../AND

AND WHEREAS it is desirable that the said Ordinance should continue in operation for a further period:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Medical Practitioners (Temporary Registration) Ordinance, Chapter 135, shall continue in force for a further period of one year from the 1st January, 1959.

- (ii) WHEREAS the Rent Restriction Ordinance, Chapter 186, came into operation on the 8th day of November, 1941;

AND WHEREAS section 33 of the said Ordinance, provides that the Ordinance shall continue in force up to and including the 31st day of December, 1951, but that, prior to the expiration thereof, the Legislative Council may, by Resolution published in the Gazette, declare that the said Ordinance shall continue in operation for a further period of one year;

AND WHEREAS the said Ordinance has been continued in operation until the 31st December, 1958;

AND WHEREAS it is considered expedient that the said Ordinance shall be continued in operation for a further period of one year:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Rent Restriction Ordinance, Chapter 186, shall continue in force for a further period of one year up to and including the 31st day of December, 1959.

PETITIONS

Prakash Life Assurance Company Bill.

In accordance with Standing Order No. 53 (4), the Clerk read a petition praying that permission be granted for the introduction by Mr. H.J.M. Hubbard, Nominated Member, of a BILL intituled AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE PROVISION FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PRAKASH LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

Thereafter, the question that the promoters be allowed to proceed was put and carried.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

- (a) The Minister of Community Development and Education gave notice of the introduction and first reading of the following Bill:

INDIAN LABOUR (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1958.
(Bill No. 34/1958 published 13.12.58).

- (b) The Minister of Labour, Health and Housing gave notice of the introduction and first reading of the following Bill:

ANTIBIOTICS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1958.
(Bill No. 33/1958 published 13.12.58).

- (c) The Minister of Communications and Works gave notice of the introduction and first reading of the following Bill:

NEW AMSTERDAM ELECTRIC LIGHTING ORDER (EXTENSION)
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 1958.
(Bill No. 32/1958 published 13.12.58).

Before the Order of the Day was proceeded with, Mr. Tello intimated that in terms of Standing Order No. 24, he proposed, at a later stage, to move the following motion:

WHEREAS section 6 of the Public Holidays Ordinance, Chapter 61, provides that the Governor in Council may by notification in the Gazette appoint any day to be observed as a public holiday in addition to or in substitution for any day mentioned in section 3 of the Ordinance:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this Council recommends to the Governor in Council that Saturday, the 27th of December, 1958, be declared a Public Holiday.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

ORDER OF THE DAY

BILLS - First Reading.

Item 1 - (a) INDIAN LABOUR (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1958 -
Bill No. 34/1958.

The BILL intituled AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE INDIAN LABOUR ORDINANCE was read the first time.

(b) ANTIBIOTICS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1958 -
Bill No. 33/1958.

The BILL intituled AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ANTIBIOTICS ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR CERTAIN EXEMPTIONS was read the first time.

(c) NEW AMSTERDAM ELECTRIC LIGHTING ORDER (EXTENSION)
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 1958 - Bill No. 32/1958.

The BILL intituled AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE NEW AMSTERDAM ELECTRIC LIGHTING ORDER (EXTENSION) ORDINANCE, 1957, was read the first time.

MOTION RECOMMENDING THAT SATURDAY, THE 27TH OF DECEMBER, 1958,
BE DECLARED A PUBLIC HOLIDAY.

Mr. Tello sought the assent of Members, in terms of Standing Order No. 24, to dispense with notice in order to enable him to proceed with the following motion:

WHEREAS section 6 of the Public Holidays Ordinance, Chapter 61, provides that the Governor in Council may by notification in the Gazette appoint any day to be observed as a public holiday in addition to or in substitution for any day mentioned in section 3 of the Ordinance:

../ BE IT RESOLVED:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this Council recommends to the Governor in Council that Saturday, the 27th of December, 1958, be declared a Public Holiday.

The question was put, and as the assent was not unanimous the motion was not taken.

YULETIDE GREETINGS

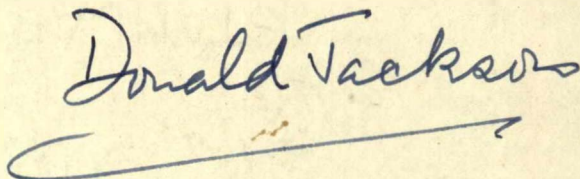
At this stage, Mr. Gajraj, on behalf of the Members of the Council, extended to the Speaker and his family best wishes for a Merry Christmas.

The Speaker thanked the Members and reciprocated the wishes.

ADJOURNMENT

At 3.17 p.m. Council was adjourned to 2.00 p.m. on Monday, the 29th of December, 1958.

Confirmed,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Donald Jackson". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a long, sweeping horizontal line.

Speaker.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS,
Georgetown.

29th December, 1958.