

THIRD SESSION

1959 - 1960

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

THURSDAY, 3RD NOVEMBER, 1960.

PRESENT:

His Honour the Speaker, Sir Donald Jackson.

Ex-Officio Members

The Honourable the Chief Secretary, Major I.O. Smith, O.B.E. (Ag.)
The Honourable the Attorney-General, Mr. A.M.I. Austin, Q.C.
The Honourable the Financial Secretary, Mr. W.P.D'Andrade.

Ministers

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

Elected Members, Majority Party

Mr. S.M. Saffee
Mr. Ajodha Singh

Other Elected Members

Mr. W.O.R. Kendall
Mr. L.F.S. Burnham
Mr. S. Campbell
Mr. A.L. Jackson
Mr. Jai Narine Singh
Mr. F. Bowman

Nominated Members

Mr. R.B. Gajraj
Mr. R.C. Tello
Mr. R.E. Davis
Mr. A.M. Fredericks
Mr. H.J.M. Hubbard

Clerk of the Legislature - Mr. I. Crum Ewing.
Assistant Clerk of the Legislature - Mr. E.V. Viapree.

Absent:

Mr. E.B. Beharry - indisposed.
Mr. A.G. Tasker, O.B.E. - on leave.

The Clerk read prayers.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday, the 2nd of November, 1960, as printed and circulated, were taken as read and confirmed.

PAPERS LAID

By the Chief Secretary:

Report of the Trustees of the Mitchell Trust Fund for the year 1959, together with the Financial Statements and the Director of Audit's Certificate thereon.

(LEG. 42/53/3 III).

PUBLIC BUSINESSORDER OF THE DAYBILL - Second Reading.Item 1 - LOCAL AUTHORITIES (CONSTITUTION, ELECTION PROCEDURE AND FINANCIAL PROVISIONS) BILL, 1960 - Bill No. 17/1960.

Mr. Gajraj resumed and concluded his speech on the motion for the second reading of the BILL intituled AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE CONSTITUTION, ELECTION PROCEDURE AND FINANCIAL PROVISIONS OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND FOR PURPOSES CONNECTED THEREWITH.

After discussion, the question was put and the Bill was read a second time.

Council then resolved itself into Committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

In Committee

Clause 1 - Short Title - was passed as printed.

Clause 2 - Interpretation:

Bill referred to a Select Committee

On a motion by the Minister of Community Development and Education the Bill was referred to a Select Committee for consideration and report.

Council resumed.

Message received from Mr. E.B. Beharry.

The Speaker informed Members of the receipt of a message from Mr. Beharry intimating that he was indisposed and would therefore be unable to be present at that sitting of the Council.

BILL - Second and Third Readings.Item 2 - NEW AMSTERDAM TOWN COUNCIL (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1960 -
Bill No. 25/1960.

On a motion by the Minister of Community Development and Education seconded by the Minister of Communications and Works the BILL intituled AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE NEW AMSTERDAM TOWN COUNCIL ORDINANCE was read a second time.

Council then resolved itself into Committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

In Committee

Clause 1 - Short Title - was passed as printed.

Clause 2 - Mr. Burnham moved the following amendment:

Substitution of the words "one thousand" for the printed words "seven hundred" in the third line.

After discussion, the amendment was put and negatived on the following division:-

| <u>FOR</u> | <u>AGAINST</u> |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Mr. Bowman | Mr. Hubbard |
| Mr. Fredericks | Mr. Ajodha Singh |
| Mr. Davis | Mr. Saffee |
| Mr. Tello | Mr. Rai |
| Mr. Gajraj | Mr. Ram Karran |
| Mr. Jai Narine Singh | Mr. Benn |
| Mr. Jackson | Dr. Jagan |
| Mr. Campbell | The Financial Secretary |
| Mr. Burnham | The Attorney-General |
| Mr. Kendall | The Chief Secretary |
| <u>10</u> | <u>10</u> |

Clause 2 was then put and carried on the following division:-

| <u>FOR</u> | <u>AGAINST</u> | <u>DID NOT VOTE</u> |
|-------------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Mr. Hubbard | Mr. Bowman | Mr. Davis |
| Mr. Fredericks | | Mr. Campbell |
| Mr. Tello | | Mr. Kendall |
| Mr. Gajraj | | |
| Mr. Jai Narine Singh | | |
| Mr. Jackson | | |
| Mr. Burnham | | |
| Mr. Ajodha Singh | | |
| Mr. Saffee | | |
| Mr. Rai | | |
| Mr. Ram Karran | | |
| Mr. Benn | | |
| Dr. Jagan | | |
| The Financial Secretary | | |
| The Attorney-General | | |
| The Chief Secretary | | |
| <u>16</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>3</u> |

Council resumed.

Thereafter, on a motion by the Minister of Community Development and Education the Bill was read the third time and passed as printed.

Item 1 - LOCAL AUTHORITIES (CONSTITUTION, ELECTION PROCEDURE AND FINANCIAL PROVISIONS) BILL, 1960 - Bill No. 17/1960. APPOINTMENT OF SELECT COMMITTEE.

The Speaker announced the appointment of the following Members to comprise the Select Committee to consider and report on the Local Authorities (Constitution, Election Procedure and Financial Provisions) Bill, 1960:-

1. The Honourable B.S. Rai,
Minister of Community Development and Education - Chairman.
2. The Nominated Member - Mr. R.B. Gajraj.
3. The Member for New Amsterdam - Mr. W.O.R. Kendall.
4. The Member for Georgetown Central - Mr. L.F.S. Burnham.
5. The Member for Georgetown South - Mr. Jai Narine Singh.

The quorum was fixed at three.

ADJOURNMENT

At 4.54 p.m., on a motion by the Chief Secretary, the Council was adjourned to 2.00 p.m. on Friday, the 4th of November, 1960.

Confirmed,

Donald Jackson
Speaker.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS,
Georgetown.

4th November, 1960.