

BRITISH GUIANA

SECOND LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

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

WEDNESDAY, 20TH JANUARY, 1960.

PRESENT:

His Honour the Speaker, Sir Donald Jackson.

Ex-Officio Members

The Honourable the Chief Secretary, Mr. D.M. Hedges.
The Honourable the Attorney-General, Mr. A.M.I. Austin, Q.C.
The Honourable the Financial Secretary, Mr. F.W. Essex, C.M.G.

Ministers

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
Mr. A.G. Tasker, O.B.E.

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

Absent:

The Honourable Dr. C.B. Jagan,
Minister of Trade and Industry - on leave.
Mr. E.B. Beharry.

The Clerk read prayers.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday, the 19th of January, 1960, as printed and circulated, were taken as read and confirmed.

STATEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

Before the Order of the Day was proceeded with, His Honour the Speaker made the following statement:-

"It has been brought to my attention that at some stage during the debate yesterday exchanges were made sotto voce between a Member on his feet and one or more on the floor in the course of which disparaging personal remarks, neither dignified nor becoming were made or exchanged. I was sorely grieved to learn that Members of this Honourable Council would derogate from those scruples which should at least influence behaviour here. Repetition of such conduct will make the general trend of debate retrograde, bitterness and resentment will be fostered, and hurts, rather than heal will fester. I earnestly appeal to Members to eschew in the future such an attitude for it can only tend to lower the dignity of this Council and to imperil personal relationships neither of which is good for the country."

PUBLIC BUSINESSORDER OF THE DAYBILL - Second Reading.Item 1 - APPROPRIATION (1960) BILL, 1959 - Bill No. 36/1959.

Council resumed the debate on the motion for the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE THE SUPPLIES GRANTED IN THE CURRENT SESSION OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Mr. Burnham resumed his speech, and, on motions adopted by Council, was granted three extensions of half an hour each.

At 4.45 p.m. Mr. Burnham concluded his speech.

Suspension of Sitting

At 5.05 p.m. Mr. Jai Narine Singh was speaking to the motion when the sitting was suspended until 8.00 p.m.

Resumption of Sitting

The sitting was resumed at 8.00 p.m.

Mr. Jai Narine Singh concluded his speech.

Mr. Rai and Mr. Saffee spoke to the motion.

Mr. Benn was speaking when the hour fixed for the adjournment was reached.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10.00 p.m. the sitting was adjourned to 2.00 p.m. on Thursday, the 21st of January, 1960.

Confirmed,

Donald Jackson
Speaker.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS,
Georgetown.
21st January, 1960.