

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 43rd Sitting of the Legislative Assembly of the Colony of British Guiana under the British Guiana (Constitution) Order in Council, 1961, held in the Chamber of the Legislature at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.

on

THURSDAY, 19TH JULY, 1962.

PRESENT:

His Honour the Speaker, Mr. R.B. Gajraj.

(a) Members of the Government

People's Progressive Party

(i) Ministers

Dr. the Honourable C.B. Jagan,
Premier and Minister of Development and Planning.
The Honourable B.H. Benn,
Minister of Natural Resources.
The Honourable Ram Karran,
Minister of Works and Hydraulics.
The Honourable R. Chandisingh,
Minister of Labour, Health and Housing.
Dr. the Honourable Charles Jacob, Jr.,
Minister of Finance.
Dr. the Honourable F.H.W. Ramsahoye,
Attorney-General.
The Honourable E.M.G. Wilson,
Minister of Communications.

(ii) Parliamentary Secretaries

Mr. G. Bowman, Parliamentary Secretary to the
Ministry of Natural Resources.
Mr. L.E.M. Mann, Parliamentary Secretary to the
Ministry of Finance.
Mr. S.M. Saffee, Parliamentary Secretary to the
Ministry of Works and Hydraulics.

(iii) Other Members

Mr. G.L. Robertson
Mr. M. Bhagwan
Mr. J.B. Caldeira
Mr. V. Downer
Mr. M. Hamid
Mr. D.C. Jagan
Mr. H. Lall
Mr. M. Shakoor

(b) Members Constituting the Minority

(i) People's National Congress

Mr. L.F.S. Burnham, Q.C.
Mr. W.O.R. Kendall, Deputy Speaker.
Mr. J. Carter
Mr. E.F. Correia
Mr. N.J. Bissember
Mr. W.A. Blair

Mr. R.S.S. Hugh
Mr. J.G. Joaquim
Mr. R.J. Jordan
Mr. C.A. Merriman
Mr. H.M.S. Wharton

(ii) United Force

Mr. P. d'Aguiar
Mr. R.E. Cheeks
Mr. E.E. Melville

Mr. B.S. Rai

Clerk of the Legislature - Mr. I. Crum Ewing.
Assistant Clerk of the Legislature - Mr. F.A. Narain (Ag.)

Absent:

Mr. S. Campbell - on leave.

PRAYERS

The Clerk read prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Leave

His Honour the Speaker announced that Mr. S. Campbell had been granted leave from the 19th to the 27th of July, 1962.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

By the Minister of Natural Resources:

Report of Directors and Statement of Accounts of the
British Guiana Rice Development Company, Limited,
for the year ended 31st August, 1961.
(Circulated).

QUESTIONS TO MINISTERS

Question No. 22

Mr. Burnham asked the Minister of Communications the following question:

QUESTION: When is it proposed to appoint a Traffic Manager, Transport and Harbours Department?

The Minister of Communications gave the following reply:

ANSWER: The filling of this post is under active consideration and it is expected that an appointment will be made in the near future.

Supplementary Questions were asked by Mr. Burnham.

Question No. 23

Mr. Burnham asked the Minister of Natural Resources the following question:

QUESTION: How long has there been a vacancy in the Headmistress-ship of Bishop's High School and when will that vacancy be filled?

.. /

The Minister of Natural Resources gave the following reply:

ANSWER: The post of Headmistress of Bishops' High School became vacant on the 30th June, 1962 on the expiration of the pre-retirement leave of Miss M.C. Harris. The post is now under offer to a Guianese candidate and it is hoped to fill it very shortly.

Supplementary Questions were asked by Mr. Burnham.

Question No. 24

Mr. Cheeks asked the Minister of Works and Hydraulics the following question:

QUESTION: Will the Honourable Minister of Works and Hydraulics state how many persons were employed on the construction of the Parika-Makouria road during the month of June, 1962? How many Guianese were employed in positions higher than labourer? What were the categories and what were the numbers in each category?

The Minister of Works and Hydraulics gave the following reply:

ANSWER: The number of persons employed in the construction of the Parika-Makouria Road as at 30th June, 1962, was 121. The number of Guianese employed in positions higher than that of labourer was 31. The categories, showing the number of persons employed in each case were as follows:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Number</u>
Carpenter - Class II	8
Electrician - Class I	1
Class II	2
Mechanic - Class I	1
Class II	
Welder - Class I	
Steelworker and Fixer -	
Class II	1
Dragline Operator	
Tractor Operator	3
Grader Operator	
Motorscraper Operator	
Loader Operator	1
Light Vehicles Driver	1
Heavy Vehicles Driver	2
Motor Boat Driver	2
Greaser	
Watchman	4
Checker	1
Clerk of Works	2
Dispenser	1
Foreman	1
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A Supplementary Question was asked by Mr. Cheeks.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

BILL - Committee and Third Reading.Item 1 - NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT SAVINGS LEVY BILL, 1962 -
Bill No. 16/1962 (L.A.)

On a motion by the Minister of Finance, Assembly resolved itself into a Committee to resume consideration of the BILL intituled AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE PROVISION FOR THE LEVY OF COMPULSORY SAVINGS TO BE UTILISED FOR WORKS OF DEVELOPMENT IN BRITISH GUIANA, AND FOR THE ISSUE OF BONDS THEREFOR, THE PAYMENT OF INTEREST THEREON AND OF PRIZES WITH RESPECT THERETO AND FOR THE REDEMPTION THEREOF, clause by clause.

In Committee

Clause 8 - (a) The Attorney-General withdrew his amendment moved at the previous meeting.

(b) Mr. Burnham's amendment moved at the previous meeting was put and negatived on the following division:

<u>FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>
Mr. Rai	Mr. Shakoor
Mr. Melville	Mr. Lal l
Mr. Cheeks	Mr. Jagan
Mr. d'Aguiar	Mr. Hamid
Mr. Wharton	Mr. Downer
Mr. Jordan	Mr. Caldeira
Mr. Joaquim	Mr. Bhagwan
Mr. Hugh	Mr. Robertson
Mr. Blair	Mr. Saffee
Mr. Bissember	Mr. Mann
Mr. Correia	Mr. Bowman
Mr. Carter	Mr. Wilson
Mr. Kendall	Dr. Ramsahoye
Mr. Burnham	Dr. Jacob
	Mr. Chandisingh
	Mr. Ram Karran
	Mr. Benn
	Dr. Jagan

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(c) Mr. d'Aguiar's amendment moved at the previous meeting was put and negatived on the following division:

<u>FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>
Mr. Rai	Mr. Shakoor
Mr. Melville	Mr. Lal l
Mr. Cheeks	Mr. Jagan
Mr. d'Aguiar	Mr. Hamid
Mr. Wharton	Mr. Downer
Mr. Merriman	Mr. Caldeira
Mr. Jordan	Mr. Bhagwan
Mr. Joaquim	Mr. Robertson
Mr. Hugh	Mr. Saffee
Mr. Blair	Mr. Mann
Mr. Bissember	Mr. Bowman
Mr. Correia	Mr. Wilson
Mr. Carter	Dr. Ramsahoye
Mr. Kendall	Dr. Jacob
Mr. Burnham	Mr. Chandisingh
	Mr. Ram Karran
	Mr. Benn
	Dr. Jagan

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(d) The following amendments moved by the Minister of Finance at the previous meeting were then put and carried:

(i) Substitution of a semi-colon for the fullstop at the end of paragraph (b) of subsection (1).

(ii) Insertion of a new paragraph (c) to subsection (1) as follows:

"(c) the income from dividends paid by a company out of income which is subject to the levy."

Clause 8 as amended was then put and carried on the following division:

FOR	AGAINST
Mr. Shakoor	Mr. Rai
Mr. Lall	Mr. Melville
Mr. Jagan	Mr. Cheeks
Mr. Hamid	Mr. d'Aguiar
Mr. Downer	Mr. Wharton
Mr. Caldeira	Mr. Merriman
Mr. Bhagwan	Mr. Jordan
Mr. Robertson	Mr. Joaquim
Mr. Saffee	Mr. Hugh
Mr. Mann	Mr. Blair
Mr. Bowman	Mr. Bissember
Mr. Wilson	Mr. Correia
Dr. Pamsahoye	Mr. Carter
Dr. Jacob	Mr. Kendall
Mr. Chandisingh	Mr. Burnham
Mr. Ram Karan	
Mr. Benn	
Dr. Jagan	

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Clause 9 - (a) Mr. Burnham moved the following amendment:

Substitution of "5%" for "10%" in subsections (1)(a)(i)(A), (1)(b)(i)(A) and (1)(b)(i)(B).

(b) The Minister of Finance moved the following amendment:

Substitution of the figures "3200" for the figures "700" in subsection (1)(a)(i)(B) and of the figures "6400" for the figures "1400" in subsection (1)(b)(i)(B).

After discussion, Mr. Burnham withdrew his amendment.

Suspension of Sitting

At 4.00 p.m. the sitting was suspended for tea.

Resumption of Sitting

At 4.35 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

Clause 9 - Mr. Burnham moved the following amendment:
(contd.)

Substitution of the words "body corporate" for the word "company" wherever it appeared.

.. / After

After discussion, Mr. Burnham's amendment was put and negatived on the following division:

FOR	<u>AGAINST</u>
Mr. Melville	Mr. Shakoor
Mr. Cheeks	Mr. Lall
Mr. d'Aguiar	Mr. Jagan
Mr. Wharton	Mr. Hamid
Mr. Merriman	Mr. Downer
Mr. Jordan	Mr. Caldeira
Mr. Joaquim	Mr. Bhagwan
Mr. Blair	Mr. Robertson
Mr. Bissember	Mr. Saffee
Mr. Correia	Mr. Mann
Mr. Carter	Mr. Bowman
Mr. Kendall	Mr. Wilson
Mr. Burnham	Dr. Ramsahoye
	Dr. Jacob
	Mr. Chandisingh
	Mr. Ram Karran
	Mr. Benn
	Dr. Jagan

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The amendment by the Minister of Finance was then put and carried.

Thereafter, Clause 9 as amended was put and carried.

Clauses 10 and 11 - were passed as printed.

Clause 12 - After discussion, Clause 12 was put and carried on the following division:

FOR	AGAINST
Mr. Shakoor	Mr. Melville
Mr. Lall	Mr. Cheeks
Mr. Jagan	Mr. d'Aguiar
Mr. Hamid	Mr. Wharton
Mr. Downer	Mr. Merriman
Mr. Caldeira	Mr. Jordan
Mr. Bhagwan	Mr. Joaquim
Mr. Robertson	Mr. Blair
Mr. Saffee	Mr. Bissember
Mr. Mann	Mr. Correia
Mr. Bowman	Mr. Carter
Mr. Wilson	Mr. Kendall
Dr. Ramsahoye	Mr. Burnham
Dr. Jacob	
Mr. Chandisingh	
Mr. Ram Karran	
Mr. Benn	
Dr. Jagan	

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Clause 13 - The Minister of Finance moved the following amendment which was put and carried:

Substitution of the words "enactment of this Ordinance" for the words "1st day of July, 1962," in the first and second lines of subsection (1).

Clause 13 as amended was then put and carried.

.. /

Clauses 14 and 15 - were passed as printed.

Clause 16 - To enable the Attorney-General to consider a point raised by Mr. Burnham, this Clause was deferred.

Clause 17 - The Minister of Finance moved the following amendment:

Deletion of the clause and the substitution thereof of the following:

"Repayment of amount paid in year of death or insolvency of individual or winding-up of company.

17(1) Upon the death of any individual or the winding-up of any company, the Commissioner shall repay as soon as may be practicable to the personal representative of such individual or the liquidator of such company any amount of the levy paid or deemed to have been paid by such individual or company during the year in which the death or winding-up respectively occurred.

(2) Where any individual has been adjudged insolvent the Commissioner shall pay as soon as may be practicable to the Official Receiver or other assignee of the property of the insolvent any amount of the levy paid or deemed to have been paid by the insolvent during the year in which and up to the time when he was adjudged insolvent."

After discussion, the amendment was put and carried.

Clauses 18 to 24 - were passed as printed.

Clause 25 - The Minister of Finance moved the following amendments:

Substitution of a colon for the fullstop at the end of subsection (7) and the insertion of the following proviso:

"Provided that Ordinary Savings Bonds held by any individual may be transferred by him to any public authority established after the enactment of this Ordinance to administer a contributory national pension, provident or insurance scheme and such bonds shall be accepted by such authority at their face value in payment of any contribution to the scheme payable by the holder of the bonds."

Suspension of Sitting

At 6.32 p.m. the sitting was suspended for dinner.

Resumption of Sitting

At 8.10 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

Clause 25
(contd.) The amendments by the Minister of Finance were then put and carried.

Thereafter, Clause 25 as amended was put and carried.

Clauses 26 and 27 - were passed as printed.

Clause 28 - The Minister of Finance moved the following amendments which were put and carried:

(i) Deletion of subsection (2) and the substitution therefor of the following:

"(2) Savings Bonds shall be redeemed upon the death, insolvency, or emigration from British Guiana, as the case may be, of the holder of any such bonds whenever that event occurs before the expiration of six years after the date of issue of any such bond:

Provided that in the case of insolvency such bonds shall be redeemable by the Official Receiver or other assignee of the property of the insolvent."

(ii) Insertion of the following after subsection (3):

"(4) Upon the winding-up of any company Savings Bonds held by such company shall be redeemable by the liquidator of the company whenever the winding-up occurs before the expiration of six years after the date of issue of any such bonds."

(iii) Re-numbering of subsection (4) as subsection (5).

Clause 28 as amended was then put and carried.

Clauses 29 and 30 - were passed as printed.

Clause 31 - The Attorney-General moved the following amendment which was put and carried:

Insertion of the words "in calculating the levy under" between the words "or" and "this" in the last line.

Clause 31 as amended was then put and carried.

Clause 32 - was passed as printed.

Clause 33 - The Minister of Finance moved the following amendment which was put and carried:

Insertion of the words "including regulations for the recovery of payments due prior to the enactment of this Ordinance" between the words "Ordinance" and "and" in the second line.

Clause 33 as amended was then put and carried.

Clause 16 - was then reconsidered.

The Attorney-General moved the following amendment which was put and carried:

Substitution of a semi-colon for the fullstop at the end of paragraph (b) and the insertion of the following as paragraph (c):

"(c) in respect of bonds which cannot be offset pursuant to the provisions of paragraph (b) of this section, be repaid by the redemption thereof."

Clause 16 as amended was then put and carried.

SCHEDULE - The Attorney-General moved the following amendment which was put and carried:

Substitution of the figures "45(2), (3)" for the figures "45" in the first column.

The Schedule as amended was then put and carried.

Assembly resumed.

Third Reading

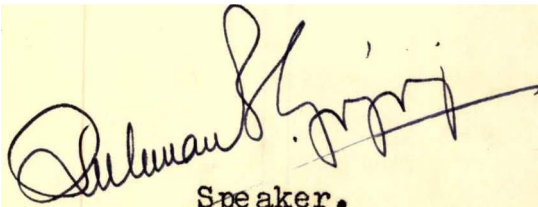
On a motion by the Minister of Finance the Bill was read the third time and passed as amended in Committee, on the following division:

FOR	<u>AGAINST</u>
Mr. Shakoor	Mr. Melville
Mr. Lall	Mr. Cheeks
Mr. Jagan	Mr. d'Aguiar
Mr. Hamid	Mr. Wharton
Mr. Downer	Mr. Merriman
Mr. Caldeira	Mr. Jordan
Mr. Bhagwan	Mr. Joaquim
Mr. Robertson	Mr. Blair
Mr. Saffee	Mr. Bissember
Mr. Mann	Mr. Correia
Mr. Bowman	Mr. Carter
Mr. Wilson	Mr. Kendall
Dr. Ramsahoye	
Dr. Jacob	
Mr. Chandisingh	
Mr. Ram Karran	
Mr. Benn	
Dr. Jagan	
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ADJOURNMENT

At 10.00 p.m. the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m. on Friday, the 20th of July, 1962.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS,
Georgetown.
20th July, 1962.



Speaker.