

BRITISH GUIANA

FIRST LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

—
FIRST SESSION
—

1961 - 1962
—

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 28th 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

WEDNESDAY, 25TH APRIL, 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 B.S. Rai,
Minister of Home Affairs.
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 Works and Hydraulics.

(iii) Other Members

Mr. S.M. Saffee
Mr. G.L. Robertson
Mr. M. Bhagwan
Mr. J.B. Caldeira
Mr. V. Downer
Mr. M. Hamid
Mr. D.C. Jagan
Mr. H. Iall
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

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

Absent:

Mr. S. Campbell - on leave.

PRAYERS

The Clerk read prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

Departure of the Speaker on Parliamentary Course in the United Kingdom.

His Honour the Speaker informed Members that he would be leaving the Colony the next day, Thursday, 26th April, to attend a Parliamentary Course in London, and that the Deputy Speaker (Mr. Kendall) would preside during his absence, commencing that day after the tea interval.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

By the Minister of Natural Resources:

Report of the British Guiana Rice Marketing Board
 for the period 1st October, 1960 to 30th
 September, 1961.

(T.I. 5/1/19^{II})(Circulated).

PUBLIC BUSINESS

In Committee of Supply

APPROPRIATION BILL, 1962 - L.A. Bill No. 4/1962.

Consideration of DRAFT ESTIMATES, 1962, resumed.

HEAD

AMOUNT

31. MEDICAL - HOSPITALS AND
 DISPENSARIES .. \$4,913,522:

Committee of Supply resumed consideration
 of HEAD 31 - MEDICAL - HOSPITALS AND
 DISPENSARIES.

HEADAMOUNT

After discussion, Committee of Supply approved the insertion of sub-head 30. Purchase of Equipment .. \$3,400: which the Minister of Finance had moved at the previous sitting on Tuesday, 24th April.

Thereafter, the Head was increased by \$3,400: and passed at \$4,916,922:

35. LABOUR .. \$205,653:

On a motion by the Minister of Finance:

(i) the following sub-head was inserted:

9. Recruitment of Domestic Servants for Canada .. \$6,000:

(ii) PERSONAL EMOLUMENTS was re-numbered as sub-head 10 instead of 8, as printed.

(iii) Transport and Travelling and Miscellaneous (under OTHER CHARGES) were re-numbered as sub-heads 11 and 12 respectively, instead of 9 and 10 as printed.

Expression of Good Wishes to the Speaker

Before the sitting was suspended for tea, the Minister of Natural Resources (the Honourable B.H. Benn), on behalf of the Government and other Members, expressed good wishes to His Honour the Speaker (Mr. R.B. Gajraj) on his departure to attend a Parliamentary Course in London, and assured the Deputy Speaker (Mr. W.O.R. Kendall) of the fullest co-operation of Members while he occupied the Chair.

His Honour the Speaker thanked Members for their good wishes and expressed the view that Members would find in Mr. Kendall a very capable Speaker.

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.

HEADAMOUNT

35. LABOUR .. \$205,653:

Committee of Supply resumed consideration of HEAD 35. LABOUR.

After further discussion, the Head was increased by \$6,000: and passed at .. \$ 211,653:

HEADAMOUNT

39. FINANCE - CENTRAL REGISTRY .. \$34,966:

On a motion by the Minister of Finance, Committee of Supply approved the following amendments:

- (a) Items (1) to (5) of PERSONAL EMOLUMENTS, Fixed Establishment were re-numbered (2) to (6), respectively.
- (b) The number "18" was substituted for the number "19" in the Establishment for 1962 of item(2) - Clerical Establishment, as re-numbered.
- (c) A new item (1) was inserted as under:
- 1 Senior Woman Secretary .. \$1:

HEAD 39 - FINANCE - CENTRAL REGISTRY
was increased by \$1: and passed at .. \$ 34,967:

44. MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT .. \$4,346,509:

The Minister of Finance moved the following amendments:

Sub-head 1 - item (10):

- (i) Substitution of the figure 1 for the figure 2 in the Establishment for 1962; and
- (ii) Substitution of the figures \$3,840: for the figures \$6,888: in the provision.

Sub-head 1 - item (20):

Substitution of the words "Assistant Chief Education Officers" for the words "Senior Education Officers".

Sub-head 1 - items (21) and (22):

- (i) Deletion of items (21) and (22);
- (ii) Insertion of the following item 21:
13 Education Officers .. \$59,916:
5 on A4:
8 on A8:
- (iii) Re-numbering of subsequent items.

Sub-head 1 - item (31):

Deletion of item (31) and substitution of the following therefor:

3 Assistant Chief Social Development Officers .. \$18,720:

Sub-head 1 - item (32):

Deletion of item (32) and substitution of the following therefor:

4 Regional Social Development Officers .. \$18,240:

HEADAMOUNTSub-head 1 - item (33):

Deletion of item (33) and substitution
of the following therefor:

6 Specialist Social Development
Officers .. \$29,856:

Sub-head 1 - item (34):

Deletion of item (34) and substitution
of the following therefor:

70 District Social Development
Officers .. \$185,972:

Sub-head 1 - new items (38) and (39):

Insertion of the following new items (38)
and (39):

Item(38): Temporary Clerical Assistance .. \$1:

Item(39): Acting Allowances \$1:

Sub-head 18:

(i) Decrease in provision from \$103,200 to
\$64,728:

(ii) Reduction in the number of workers from
88 to 50.

Sub-head 25:

Substitution of the figures "10,000" for the
figures "225,000" in the provision for 1962.

Suspension of Sitting

At 6.30 p.m. Committee of Supply was still considering HEAD 44 - MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT when the sitting was suspended for dinner.

Resumption of Sitting

At 8.05 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

HEADAMOUNT

44. MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT.

After some further discussion, the amendments proposed by the Minister of Finance were approved.

Thereafter, Head 44 was decreased by
\$220,402: and passed at \$4,126,107:

45. MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT -
SCHOOLS, INSTITUTIONS AND MISCELLANEOUS ..
\$8,327,058:

The Minister of Finance moved the following amendments:

HEADAMOUNT(i) Sub-head 31 - item (3) 16 Lecturers:

Substitution of "18 Lecturers ..
\$88,373:" for "16 Lecturers ..
\$80,981:".

(ii) Sub-head 53(a):

Insertion of a new sub-head 53(a) to
provide for the payment of a Personal
Allowance to Mr. C.A. Yansen for
11 months at \$720: per annum .. \$660:

(iii) Sub-head 82 - item (2) 3 Masters or
Mistresses:

Substitution of "4 Masters or Mistresses
.. \$12,448: for "3 Masters or
Mistresses .. \$9,400:".

Assembly resumed.

ADJOURNMENT

Committee of Supply was still considering HEAD 45 -
 MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT - SCHOOLS,
 INSTITUTIONS AND MISCELLANEOUS, when at 10.05 p.m., the
 sitting was adjourned to 2.00 p.m. on Thursday, 26th April,
 1962.

Confirmed,


 Deputy Speaker.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS,
 Georgetown.

26th April, 1962.