

BRITISH GUIANA

FIRST LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

FIRST SESSION

1954 - 1955

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

AT 2.00 P.M.

on  
THURSDAY, 31ST MARCH, 1955.

PRESENT:

His Honour the Speaker, Sir Eustace Gordon Woolford, O.B.E., Q.C.

Ex-Officio Members

The Honourable the Chief Secretary, Mr. F.D. Jakeway, O.B.E.  
The Honourable the Attorney General, Mr. F.W. Holder, C.M.G., Q.C.  
The Honourable the Financial Secretary, Mr. W.O. Fraser, O.B.E.

Nominated Members of Executive Council

The Honourable Sir Frank McDavid, C.M.G., C.B.E.  
(Member for Agriculture, Forests, Lands and Mines).  
The Honourable P.A. Cummings  
(Member for Labour, Health and Housing).  
The Honourable W.O.R. Kendall  
(Member for Communications and Works).  
The Honourable G.A.C. Farnum, O.B.E.  
(Member for Local Government, Social Welfare and  
Co-operative Development).  
The Honourable G.H. Smellie  
The Honourable R.B. Gajraj  
The Honourable R.C. Tello

Deputy Speaker

Mr. W.J. Raatgever, C.B.E.

Nominated Officials

Mr. W.T. Lord, I.S.O.  
Mr. J.I. Ramphal.

Nominated Unofficials

Mr. T. Lee  
Mr. W.A. Phang  
Mr. L.A. Luckhoo, Q.C.  
Mr. W.A. Macnie, C.M.G., O.B.E.  
Mr. C.A. Carter  
Mr. E.F. Correia  
Rev. D.C.J. Bobb  
Mr. H. Rahaman  
Miss Gertie H. Collins  
Mrs. Esther E. Dey  
Dr. H.A. Fraser  
Lt. Col. E.J. Haywood, M.B.E., T.D.  
Mr. R.B. Jailal  
Mr. Sugrim Singh

Clerk of the Legislature - Mr. I. Crum Ewing.

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

The Speaker read prayers.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday, the 29th of March, 1955, as printed and circulated, were taken as read and confirmed.

PRESENTATION OF REPORTS AND DOCUMENTS

The following document was laid on the table:-

By the Attorney General on behalf of the Chief Secretary:

The Second Report of the Public Service Commission for the period 1st January, 1954 - 31st December, 1954.

ORDER OF THE DAY  
GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

BILLS

PENSIONS (AMENDMENT No. 2) BILL, 1955 - Bill No. 15/1955.

On a motion by the Attorney General seconded by Mr. Gajraj the BILL intituled AN ORDINANCE FURTHER TO AMEND THE PENSIONS ORDINANCE, 1933, was read a first time.

ITEMS 2 to 6.

With the consent of Council consideration of Items 2 to 6 in the Order of the Day was deferred.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

MOTION BY REV. BOBB CONCERNING "FEDERATION".

Council resumed the debate on the following motion:-

That this Council, having noted the steps which are being taken by other Caribbean Governments and by Her Majesty's Government towards the creation of a British Caribbean Federation and the statement of the Secretary of State for the Colonies in Parliament to the effect that the constitutional instruments will provide that British Guiana and other territories which might care to do so will be quite free to join the Federation, is of the opinion that British Guiana should join the Federation and that the question of this country's participation therein should be re-examined.

This Council further prays His Excellency the Governor to take such steps as he may deem fit to keep British Guiana in close touch with the action now proceeding towards the setting up of the Federation and to ascertain the state of public opinion in this country towards participation in the Federation.

.. / Mr. Jailal

Mr. Jailal concluded his speech.

He was followed by Mr. Carter and Lt. Col. Haywood.

The Attorney General, Mr. F.W. Holder, C.M.G., Q.C. was speaking to the motion when the hour of adjournment was reached.

ADJOURNMENT

At 5.00 p.m. the Speaker adjourned Council to 2.00 p.m. on Friday, the 1st of April, 1955.

Confirmed,

A rectangular stamp containing a handwritten signature in dark ink. The signature appears to be 'Eustace J. ...' with a horizontal line underneath.

Speaker.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS,  
British Guiana.

1st April, 1955.