

FOURTH
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

—
FIRST SESSION

—
1947-1948

—
RESOLUTION No. XXVII.
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WHEREAS security of family life is the most important if not the only foundation on which a strong British Guiana can be built; and

WHEREAS it appears to be the policy of the Government of British Guiana to encourage the increase of the population;

AND WHEREAS -

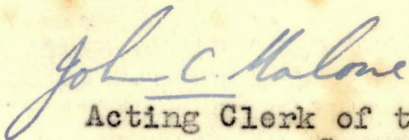
(i) The recently published statistics on cost of living show an overall rise to the extent of 93% on the figure for 1938 for urban working class families and 127% for East Indian families on sugar plantations;

(ii) Notwithstanding the recent increase in wages of lower income groups, and efforts to control prices, this great rise in the cost of living continues to devalue earnings to an alarming extent; and

(iii) Out of a population of 73,541 for Georgetown and 9,578 for New Amsterdam there are only 5,000 and 1,350 property owners respectively, the majority of breadwinners having consequently to rent houses in which to live, at rates currently out of proportion to their earnings;

BE IT RESOLVED that a Committee of this House be appointed forthwith (co-opting the Economic Adviser, the Commissioner of Labour, the Commissioner of Local Government and such other persons as are necessary) to consider the practicability of preparing a scheme for the payment of family allowances modelled generally on the Families Allowances Act of the United Kingdom but commensurate with the financial position and productive capacity of the Colony.

Passed by the Legislative Council this
2nd day of September, 1948.


Acting Clerk of the Legislative
Council.