

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

THURSDAY, 12TH FEBRUARY, 1959.

PRESENT:

His Honour the Speaker, Sir Donald Jackson.

Ex-Officio Members

The Honourable the Chief Secretary, Mr. M.S. Porcher (Ag.)
The Honourable the Attorney-General, Mr. A.M.I. Austin, Q.C.
The Honourable the Financial Secretary, Mr. F.W. Essex.

Ministers

The Honourable Dr. C.B. Jagan,
Minister of Trade and Industry.
The Honourable B.H. Benn,
Minister of Community Development and Education.
The Honourable E.B. Beharry,
Minister of Natural Resources.
The Honourable Janet Jagan,
Minister of Labour, Health and Housing.
The Honourable Ram Karran,
Minister of Communications and Works.

Elected Members, Majority Party

Mr. F. Bowman
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

Nominated Members

Mr. R.B. Gajraj
Mr. R.C. Tello
Mr. R.E. Davis
Mr. A.M. Fredericks
Mr. H.J.M. Hubbard

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

Absent:

Mr. B.S. Rai - on leave.
Mr. A.G. Tasker, O.B.E. - on leave.

The Clerk read prayers.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday, the 11th of February, 1959, as printed and circulated, were taken as read and confirmed.

PAPERS LAID

By the Financial Secretary:

Order in Council No. 6 of 1959 made under section 8 of the Customs Ordinance, Chapter 309, on the 24th day of January, 1959, and published in the Gazette on the 7th of February, 1959.

(F.S.G. 334/58⁽¹⁾).

GOVERNMENT NOTICESMotion

The Financial Secretary gave notice of the following motion:-

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this Council in terms of section 9 of the Customs Ordinance, Chapter 309, confirms Order in Council No. 6 of 1959, which was made on the 24th day of January, 1959, and published in the Gazette of the 7th of February, 1959.

PETITIONS

Mr. Tello, on behalf of R. Melville and others, presented a petition praying that the proposed increase in the excise duty on beer should not be approved by the Legislative Council, and moved that it be read.

Accordingly, the petition was read.

Notice to extend the Sitting.

Before the Order of the Day was proceeded with, the Chief Secretary intimated that he proposed, at a later stage, to move that the sitting be continued until 7.00 p.m.

PUBLIC BUSINESSORDER OF THE DAY

BILL - Second Reading and Committee.

Item 1 - APPROPRIATION BILL, 1959 - Bill No. 37/1958.

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. Campbell concluded his speech.

../ Thereafter

Thereafter, Mr. Davis and Mr. Fredericks spoke to the motion.

As no other Member wished to speak, the question that the Bill be read a second time was put and carried.

The Bill was read a second time.

Council then resolved itself into a Committee to consider the Bill clause by clause, together with the Report of the Finance Committee on its consideration of the Draft Estimates for 1959.

In Committee

Clause 1 - Short Title - passed as printed.

Clause 2 - Deferred.

SCHEDULE - Committee considered the Heads in the 1959 Draft Estimates together with the recommendations of the Finance Committee as set out in its Report which was tabled in Council on Wednesday, the 11th of February, 1959, and passed the Heads as under:-

<u>HEAD</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1. GOVERNOR passed at ..	\$18,478
1A. GOVERNOR'S SECRETARIAT .. passed at ..	\$42,900
2. LEGISLATURE .. was passed with the recommendation of the Finance Committee at ..	\$45,654
3. AGRICULTURE.	

Mr. Gajraj moved the reduction of the Head by \$1:-

After certain Members had spoken, the Financial Secretary, at 5.00 p.m., moved that Council resume.

Council resumed.

Thereafter, the Chief Secretary, as intimated earlier, moved that the sitting should continue until 7.00 p.m.

After discussion, the motion was withdrawn.

Members agreed, however, that the next day's sitting should continue to 7.00 p.m. with a short tea interval at 4.30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

At 5.25 p.m. the Speaker adjourned Council to 2.00 p.m. on Friday, the 13th of February, 1959.

Confirmed,

Donald Jackson
Speaker.