

BRITISH GUIANA

FIRST LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

FIRST SESSION

1954

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, 16TH DECEMBER, 1954.

PRESENT.

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

Ex Officio Members

The Honourable the Chief Secretary, Mr. T.C. Jerrom (Ag.)

The Honourable the Attorney General, Mr. F.W. Holder, Q.C.

The Honourable the Financial Secretary, Mr. W.O. Fraser, O.B.E.

Nominated Members of Executive Council

C.C.L. 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 R.C. Tello

Nominated Officials

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

Mr. J.I. Ramphal

Nominated Unofficials

Mr. W.A. Phang

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.)

Absent

The Honourable G.H. Smellie - on leave

The Honourable R.B. Gajraj

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

Mr. T. Lee

Mr. L.A. Luckhoo

Mr. W.A. Macnie, C.M.G., O.B.E. - on leave

The Speaker read prayers.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday, the 2nd of December, 1954, as printed and circulated, were taken as read and confirmed.

ANNOUNCEMENTSLeave of Absence

The Speaker announced that Lt. Col. Haywood had been granted leave from the 17th to the 1st of December, 1954.

Presentation of Budget Statement

The Financial Secretary intimated that he would move the second reading of the Appropriation Bill the following day, Friday, the 17th of December, 1954, when he would present his Budget Statement.

PRESENTATION OF REPORTS AND DOCUMENTS

The following document was laid on the table:

By the Financial Secretary:

Report of the Commissioner of Income Tax for the year 1953.

(F.S. IT. 8/53<sup>II</sup>).

GOVERNMENT NOTICESBILLS

The Financial Secretary gave notice of the introduction and first reading of the following bills:

- (i) A BILL intituled AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A DEVELOPMENT FUND FOR THE CARRYING OUT OF WORKS OF DEVELOPMENT IN THE COLONY.  
(Bill No. 57/1954 published 8.12.54).
- (ii) A BILL intituled AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE THAT ALL GOVERNMENT CURRENT NOTES WHICH ARE LEGAL TENDER IN THE ISLAND OF JAMAICA SHALL BE LEGAL TENDER FOR THE PAYMENT OF ANY AMOUNT IN BRITISH GUIANA.  
(Bill No. 58/1954 published 11.12.54).

The Member for Agriculture, Forests, Lands and Mines gave notice of the introduction and first reading of the following Bill:

- A BILL intituled AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE BRITISH GUIANA RICE PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION (SPECIAL PROVISIONS) ORDINANCE, 1953, WITH RESPECT TO THE TERMS OF OFFICE OF MEMBERS OF COMMITTEES OF DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS AND OF THE COUNCIL OF THE BRITISH GUIANA RICE PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION, AND FOR PURPOSES CONNECTED THEREWITH.  
(Bill No. 56/1954 published 4.12.54).

The Member for Local Government, Social Welfare and Co-operative Development gave notice of the introduction and first reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ORDINANCE TO VALIDATE THE ELECTION OF CERTAIN COUNCILLORS OF THE BUXTON AND FRIENDSHIP VILLAGE DISTRICT AND ALL PROCEEDINGS OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THAT DISTRICT IN WHICH THOSE COUNCILLORS HAVE ACTED, AND ALL ACTS DONE BY SUCH PERSONS AS COUNCILLORS OF THAT VILLAGE COUNCIL.

(Bill No. 55/1954 published 4.12.54).

### MOTIONS

The Member for Labour, Health and Housing gave notice of the following motions:

- (i) WHEREAS the Medical Practitioners (Temporary Registration) Ordinance, 1947 (No. 24) came into operation on the 26th of Jul , 1947;

AND WHEREAS section 5 of the said Ordinance provides that the Ordinance shall continue in force, up to and including the thirty-first day of December, nineteen hundred and fifty-one, but that the Legislative Council may, prior to the expiration of this Ordinance, by resolution (which resolution shall be published in the Gazette) declare that it shall continue in force for a further period of one year from the date of that expiration and may from time to time, prior to the expiration of that or any further continued operation, similarly declare that it shall continue for a further period of one year;

AND WHEREAS by the Medical Practitioners (Temporary Registration)(Extension) Ordinance, 1954 (No. 6), the Medical Practitioners (Temporary Registration) Ordinance, 1947, has been continued in force as though that Ordinance had been continued in force y resolution of the Legislative Council in accordance with the provisions of section 5 thereof for the period commencing on the 1st January, 1954, and ending on the 31st December, 1954;

AND WHEREAS it is desirable that the Medical Practitioners (Tempo ary Registration) Ordinance, 1947, should continue in operation for a further period:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Medical Practitioners (Temporary Registration) Ordinance, 1947 (No. 24), shall continue in force for a further period o one year from the 1st January, 1955.

(ii) WHEREAS the Rent Restriction Ordinance, 1941 (No. 23 of 1941) came into operation on the 8th day of November, 1941;

AND WHEREAS section 16 of the said Ordinance, as amended by section 17 of the Rent Restriction (Amendment) Ordinance, 1947 (No. 13 of 1947) provides that the Ordinance shall continue in force up to and including the 31st day of December, 1951, but that, prior to the expiration thereof, the Legislative Council may, by resolution published in the Gazette, declare that the said Ordinance shall continue in operation for a further period of one year;

AND WHEREAS by annual resolutions the said Ordinance was continued in operation during the years 1952 and 1953;

AND WHEREAS by the Rent Restriction (Continuance) Ordinance, 1954 (No. 1 of 1954) the Rent Restriction Ordinance, 1941 (No. 23 of 1941) was continued in force and deemed always to have continued in force as though that Ordinance as amended had been continued in force by Resolution of the Legislative Council in accordance with the provisions of section 16 of that Ordinance for the period commencing on the 1st January, 1954, and ending on the 31st December, 1954;

AND WHEREAS it is expedient that the said Ordinance be continued in operation for a further period of one year:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Rent Restriction Ordinance, 1941 (No. 23 of 1941) shall continue in force for a further period of one year up to and including the 31st December, 1955.

#### UNOFFICIAL NOTICES

Rev. Bobb gave notice of the following motions:

(i) WHEREAS all necessary steps should be taken to provide opportunities for more gainful employment;

AND WHEREAS there is a considerable number of actual and intending peasant livestock rearers who would welcome more remunerative schemes to expand the livestock industry;

AND WHEREAS such expansion will materially benefit the economy of the country:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this Honourable Council requests the Governor in Council to examine the possibilities of establishing on some suitable site on the East Coast of Demerara a Peasant Livestock Development Scheme.

(ii) WHEREAS more opportunities for gainful employment are urgently needed in the country at present;

AND WHEREAS the number of persons now not gainfully employed is likely to be substantially increased as a result of the regular stream of school-leavers;

AND WHEREAS certain concerns outside the country have signified their desire to invest capital which will accelerate the development of the country:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this Council respectfully recommends that the Governor in Council investigate the possibilities of establishing in the Colony a factory for the manufacture of paints and by-products; and, if such investigation is favourable, to approach the Trade Commissioners for the British West Indies, British Guiana and British Honduras in the United Kingdom and Canada with a view to their interesting persons or concerns in establishing such a factory in the Colony.

ORDER OF THE DAY  
GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

BILLS - First Reading.

POUNDS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1954 - Bill No. 54/1954.

At the request of the Chief Secretary the first reading of the following Bill was deferred.

A BILL intituled AN ORDINANCE FURTHER TO AMEND THE POUNDS ORDINANCE, WITH RESPECT TO THE PUBLICATION OF LISTS OF IMPOUNDED STRAYS.

DRAINAGE AND IRRIGATION (DECLARATION OF AREA AND VALIDATION OF ACTS) BILL, 1954 - Bill No. 53/1954.

On a motion by the Member for Agriculture, Forests, Lands and Mines, seconded by the Member for Labour, Health and Housing, the following Bill was read a first time:

A BILL intituled AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CERTAIN DRAINAGE AND IRRIGATION AREA, THE VALIDATION OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF CERTAIN WORKS AND FOR PURPOSES CONNECTED THEREWITH.



PRIVATE BILL

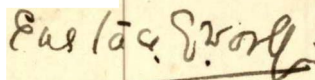
BRITISH GUIANA SANATAN DHARMA MAHA SABHA (INCORPORATION OF TRUSTEES) BILL, 1954 - Bill No. 45/1954.

On a motion by Mr. Sugrim Singh seconded by Mr. Correia the BILL intituled AN ORDINANCE TO INCORPORATE CERTAIN PERSONS AS TRUSTEES OF THE BODY KNOWN AS THE BRITISH GUIANA SANATAN DHARMA MAHA SABHA; TO VEST IN SUCH PERSONS CERTAIN PROPERTY; AND FOR PURPOSES CONNECTED WITH THE MATTERS AFORESAID was read a second time and was thereafter taken through its remaining stages and passed as printed.

ADJOURNMENT

At 2.22 p.m. the Speaker adjourned Council to Friday, the 17th of December, 1954, at 2.00 p.m.

Confirmed,



Speaker.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS,  
BRITISH GUIANA.

17th December, 1954.