

FIRST SESSION

1957 - 1958

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

FRIDAY, 30TH MAY, 1958.

PRESENT:

The Deputy Speaker - Mr. R.B. Gajraj - in the Chair.

Ex-Officio Members

The Honourable the Chief Secretary, Mr. F.D. Jakeway, C.M.G., O.B.E.

The Honourable the Attorney-General, Mr. A.M.I. Austin, Q.C.

The Honourable the Financial Secretary, Mr. W.P. D'Andrade (Ag.)

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. B.S. Rai

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.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:

His Honour the Speaker, Sir Donald Jackson - 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 Thursday, the 29th of May, 1958, as printed and circulated, were taken as read and confirmed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Meeting of the Finance Committee.

The Deputy Speaker reminded Members that a meeting of the Finance Committee would be held at the conclusion of the sitting.

PUBLIC BUSINESS  
ORDER OF THE DAY.

BILL - Second Reading and Committee.

Item 1 - RENT RESTRICTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1958 - Bill No. 14/1958.

The Minister of Labour, Health and Housing moved and the Minister of Community Development and Education seconded that the BILL intituled AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE RENT RESTRICTION ORDINANCE be read a second time.

After discussion, the question was put and Council divided and voted thereon as follows:-

<u>FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>	<u>DID NOT VOTE</u>
Mr. Hubbard	Mr. Jai Narine Singh	Mr. Deputy Speaker.
Mr. Fredericks		
Mr. Davis		
Mr. Tello		
Mr. Jackson		
Mr. Campbell		
Mr. Burnham		
Mr. Kendall		
Mr. Ajodha Singh		
Mr. Saffee		
Mr. Rai		
Mr. Bowman		
Mr. Ram Karran		
Mrs. Jagan		
Mr. Beharry		
Mr. Benn		
Dr. Jagan		
The Financial Secretary		
The Attorney-General		
The Chief Secretary.		

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Motion affirmed.

The Bill was then read a second time.

On a motion by the Minister of Labour, Health and Housing, Council resolved itself into a Committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

In Committee

Clause 1 - Short Title - was passed as printed.

In Committee (contd.)

Clause 2 - The Minister of Labour, Health and Housing moved the deletion of the printed Clause 2, and the substitution of the following therefor:-

"2. (1) Subsection (4) of section 20 of the Principal Ordinance is hereby repealed.

(2) Where an agreement in respect of a tenancy for a period of five years or upwards has been made before the enactment of this Ordinance and the agreement includes a provision requiring the payment of any fine, premium, or other like sum, or the giving of any consideration in addition to the rent which could lawfully have been required prior to the enactment of this Ordinance, such provision shall cease to have effect."

Mr. Fredericks moved the following amendment to the new clause proposed by the Minister:-

Deletion of subsection (1) and substitution therefor of the following:-

'2. (1) Subsection (4) of section 20 of the Principal Ordinance is amended by the deletion of the full stop at the end of the subsection and the addition of the following words "in excess of seven hundred and twenty dollars per annum." '

In order to afford the Attorney-General an opportunity of considering certain points raised by Mr. Burnham and the amendment moved by Mr. Fredericks, the Minister of Labour, Health and Housing moved that the Chairman do report progress and ask leave to sit again.

The question was put and carried.

Council resumed.

MOTIONSItem 2 - MOTION CONCERNING CENTENARY EXHIBITIONS.

On a motion by the Minister of Community Development and Education (Mr. Benn) seconded by the Minister of Natural Resources, (Mr. Beharry), Council adopted the following Resolution:-

RESOLVED, That this Council varies the terms of Resolution No. XI of 1932 passed by the Legislative Council on the 24th of March 1933 to enable Centenary Exhibitions to be tenable at any Government or aided Secondary School and for fees not exceeding \$30.00 per term for a school year of three terms to be paid with respect to each exhibitor.

Item 3 - MR. BURNHAM'S MOTION CONCERNING AID TO PRIVATE SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

Council resumed the debate on the following motion:-

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this Council recommends to Government that the policy with respect to aid to Private Secondary Schools be reviewed immediately.

After certain Members had spoken, the question was put and Council divided and voted thereon as follows:-

<u>FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>	<u>DID NOT VOTE</u>
Mr. Fredericks	Mr. Hubbard	Mr. Deputy Speaker.
Mr. Davis	Mr. Ajodha Singh	
Mr. Tello	Mr. Rai	
Mr. Jai Narine Singh	Mr. Bowman	
Mr. Jackson	Mr. Ram Karran	
Mr. Campbell	Mrs. Jagan	
Mr. Burnham	Mr. Beharry	
Mr. Kendall	Mr. Benn	
	Dr. Jagan	
	The Financial Secretary	
	The Attorney-General	
	The Chief Secretary	
<u>8</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>1</u>

Motion negatived.

The hour of adjournment having been reached, Mr. Burnham moved in terms of Standing Order 5 (5) that the sitting be continued to enable Council to complete the remaining business on the Order Paper. It was pointed out that the remaining item on the Order Paper was not a matter of urgency and after discussion it was agreed to adjourn to Wednesday, 4th June.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Accordingly at 5.10 p.m. the Deputy Speaker adjourned Council to 2.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 4th June.

Confirmed,

*Donald Jackson*  
 Speaker.