

BELIZE

No. 7/1/4

THE SENATE

Tuesday, 3 February 1981

10:30 a.m.

PRESENT:

The President, the Honourable Mr. W.E. Coffin
The Vice-President, the Honourable Mr. G. Ramos
Senator, the Honourable Mr. C.L.B. Rogers, Minister
of Home Affairs
Senator, the Honourable Mr. A. Fuller
Senator, the Honourable Mr. J. Chun IV
Senator, the Honourable Mr. H. Lewis
Senator, the Honourable Mr. M. Esquivel
Senator, the Honourable Mrs. E. Searle

ABSENT:

Senator, the Honourable Mr. E. Aragon

MR. PRESIDENT in the Chair.

PRAYERS read by Mr. President.

BILLS BROUGHT FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SENATOR C.L.B. ROGERS (Minister of Home Affairs):
Mr. President, I rise to signify my willingness to take
charge of a Bill for an Ordinance to amend the Dangerous
Drugs Ordinance, Chapter 85 of the Laws of Belize.

I also rise to signify my willingness to take charge
of a Bill for an Ordinance to provide for the incorporation
of the Iglesia Universal Cristiana (Belize).

I signify my willingness also to take charge of a
Bill for an Ordinance to provide for the incorporation of
the Belize Evangelical Mennonite Church.

I signify my willingness to take charge of a Bill for
an Ordinance to provide for the incorporation of the New
Apostolic Church (Belize).

MR. PRESIDENT: Honourable Senators, the Question is
that the Bills be taken through all their stages forthwith.

All those in favour, kindly say aye; those against,
kindly say no. I think the ayes have it.

PAPERS

SENATOR C.L.B. ROGERS (Minister of Home Affairs):
Mr. President, I rise to lay on the Table, Sessional Paper
No. 15/1/4 - Belize City (Rates)(Amendment) By-Laws, 1980.

With your permission, I would also like to lay on the
Table, Sessional Paper No. 16/1/4 - Social Security (Registra-
tion of Employers and Employed Persons) Regulations, 1980.

2/I rise to.....

I rise to lay on the Table, Sessional Paper No. 17/1/4 - Social Security (Collection of Contributions) Regulations, 1980.

I would also like to lay on the Table, Sessional Paper No. 18/1/4 - Social Security (Claims and Payments) Regulations, 1980.

Also, to lay on the Table, Sessional Paper No. 19/1/4 - Social Security (Benefit) Regulations, 1980.

I rise to lay on the Table, also, Mr. President, Sessional Paper No. 20/1/4 - Social Security (Determination of Claims and Questions) Regulations, 1980.

Also, to lay on the Table, Sessional Paper No. 21/1/4 - Social Security (Insurance Stamps) Regulations, 1980.

And to lay on the Table, Sessional Paper No. 22/1/4 - Social Security (Contributions) Regulations, 1980.

And to lay on the Table, Sessional Paper No. 23/1/4 - Social Security (Financial and Accounting) Regulations, 1980.

Also, to lay on the Table, Sessional Paper No. 24/1/4 - Social Security (Classification) Regulations, 1980.

To lay on the Table, Sessional Paper No. 25/1/4 - Social Security (Voluntary Contributors and Persons Abroad) Regulations, 1980.

And to lay on the Table, also, Sessional Paper No. 26/1/4 - White Paper - Proposed Terms of a Constitution for the Independent Belize.

MR. PRESIDENT: Honourable Senators, those Papers are ordered to lie on the Table.

MOTIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OR SITTINGS OF THE SENATE

SENATOR C.L.B. ROGERS (Minister of Home Affairs): Mr. President, I move that at its rising today, this Senate adjourns to a date to be fixed by the President.

MR. PRESIDENT: Honourable Senators, the Question is that at its rising today, the Senate adjourns to a date to be fixed by the President.

All those in favour, kindly say aye; those against, kindly say no. I think the ayes have it.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

A. Government Business

MOTIONS

1. Loan to the Government of Belize - Caribbean Development Bank

SENATOR C.L.B. ROGERS (Minister of Home Affairs): Mr. President, I rise to move the Motion standing under my name -

"WHEREAS under the provisions of Section 3 of the Loans (Caribbean Development Bank) Ordinance, 1971 (No. 26 of 1971) the Government may, in such

2/manner and on.....

manner and on such terms and subject to such conditions as may be agreed between the Government and the Bank from time to time borrow such sums as may be required by the Government.

AND WHEREAS the Caribbean Development Bank has now agreed to lend the additional sum of U.S. \$5,000,000 (United States dollars five million) to the Government for the purpose of financing the expansion programme of the Belize Electricity System in the Belize City/Ladyville area.

BE IT RESOLVED that this Senate approves a loan of US\$2,500,000 from the Bank's Special Funds Resources and U.S. \$2,500,000 from the Bank's Ordinary Capital Resources to the Government for the purpose stated above on Caribbean Development Bank's standard terms and conditions and on the " terms and conditions stated in the Motion.

I signify the Governor's recommendation.

SENATOR M. ESQUIVEL: Mr. President, the Opposition realizes that there is great need for this Motion to be passed, given the sorry state of affairs of electricity in the Belize City area. However, I feel that it is euphemistic, Mr. President, to call it an expansion programme, because in reality what it is is a correction programme for faults which have developed from the very inception of the Ladyville power station. That power station and the transmission complex that goes with it is not yet ten years old.

The Belize Electricity Board has borrowed and spent something in the neighbourhood of \$30 million for the construction of the Ladyville plant, for the transmission of electricity from Ladyville to Belize City; and after this expenditure, we learn, less than ten years later, that the whole system is inadequate, that the entire transmission system has to be taken down and replaced because the wiring was not adequate for the load; that the plants which were put in at Ladyville are breaking down and non-functional, so that we now need to buy two new plants.

We find it a difficult pill to swallow that the people of this country - and it is they and no one else who will have to pay back this money - have been asked to pay \$30 million and have nothing to show for it; so that, today, we are asking them to pay another ten. Mr. President, in interest charges alone this will amount to over \$3 million a year out of the taxpayers' pockets. And no taxpayer minds paying taxes when he knows that his taxes are being used for his benefits, and where he can see progress and benefit arising from the expenditure of his money. But when he must suffer blackouts, night after night; week after week; month after month; year after year, since 1974, Mr. President, and still he is being asked to come up with \$30 million in the first instance, and now another \$10 million in the hope of correcting the situation, it is not surprising if he becomes frustrated and bitter.

I would have thought that somewhere along the line, a Commission of Enquiry should have been appointed to discover just what it is that is going on; we cannot keep paying and paying and paying and not seeing the results.

4/To tell me.....

To tell me that the transmission system from Ladyville to Belize City is inadequate a few short years after its installation, Mr. President, is really a frustrating thing, and I think the people who are expected to pay for this have a right to find out why has this taken place. What has gone on? Because it is certainly not in the normal course of events that these things should take place. Our people are asked to suffer - progress brings problems; we don't mind that, Mr. President, but all we can see are the problems and very little progress. And I think this House and the National Assembly and the Government owe it to the people of this country to come clean and let them know just what is the situation, because something which has not been mentioned in the terms as set out in the Order Paper, is, as I understand it, the fact that electricity rates would have to be raised in order to pay this money because the Board is broke, it is making a loss; the Government has waived the payment of interest for the past several years, and as I mentioned earlier, the interest now would seem to be in excess of \$3 million a year, the interest alone. This, I believe, is at least 25% of the Board's total revenue which might not be so bad if it were making a profit, but since it is making a loss, it should be obvious to anyone that no bank is going to lend a losing proposition money. And I think we have a right to know what is it going to cost, in addition to our taxes, on our light bill, in order to replace this money.

Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR G. RAMOS: Mr. President, I rise to support the Motion presented by the Minister responsible for Government Business in the Senate. It is evident that over the past ten years there has been tremendous expansion in the Belize City and Ladyville areas, and with this expansion it is necessary to increase the supply of electricity. Consequently, I see nothing wrong in getting a loan to expand electricity in Belize City.

SENATOR C.L.B. ROGERS (Minister of Home Affairs): Mr. President, we have listened to the noble Senator on the other side and would like to correct some of the misleading impressions of statement that the Senator made.

The fact is, Members of the Senate, Mr. President, that the Belize City system is now covering a wider area: the total community of Ladyville, all the way to Burrell Boom, you come back down to the communities, back into Belize City, go over the Belcan Bridge, you get back on the Western Highway, and the Government has electrified the whole place going to Hattievville. The system is responsible for that wide area: Burrell Boom, Hattievville, New Hattievville, Belize City; and if the transfer of these technologies when they send their machiner over, we recalled, we have seen that the manufacturer is to blame. Some of them cause a lot of accident: defective, difficult to even get your warranty guarantee on it. As I understand it, and I am not pretending to know the technical parts of it, that the plant came to Belize with a defect which showed up in it some time after; our people still have to learn the technology to maintain these equipment properly, particularly the sophisticated equipment. A revolution has been going on in the production of energy for electricity. After 1973 when the steep increase in the petroleum and the diesel for the production for our

5/energy here, something.....

energy here, something happened; it happened with the very fuel that was being used and the increase in rates are not linked to the revolution of the motor itself, it is a growing and rising cost. Every time you hear about the rise in petroleum and in the products from petroleum. You can imagine when you hear that a barrel is raised by \$2, it is bound to go up at the pumps. So the Senator hedges his bet quite cannily to say that there would be a rise, not for the purpose of the loan; if there is, it is not for the purpose of the loan, it is because of the increase in petroleum products. Because the maintenance that has to go with these things calls for shedding; they must shed their load in order for the motor to cool so that they can get into the motor.

I understand there is a bolt that walks back all the time and they have to get to it, stop it and to put on the correct nut to bring it back - pure and simple.

To pretend otherwise that this country has not made great leaps forward in the field of electrifying the country, is to ignore the facts.

Again, in this system from Belmopan all the way to the border, to give the people in the rural areas electricity, that is the object of this, and to expand the - what we are concerned with with this Motion is to get this money to expand that very system; that is the population continues to grow, there are new housing areas, there are new industries that demand ever increasing production of energy.

I commend the passage of this Motion in order to continue the progress and to correct what is wrong with the electricity system.

MR. PRESIDENT: Honourable Senators, the Question is - BE IT RESOLVED that this Senate approves a loan of US\$2,500,000 from the Bank's Special Funds Resources and U.S.\$2,500,000 from the Bank's Ordinary Capital Resources to the Government for the purpose stated above on Caribbean Development Bank's standard terms and conditions and on the terms and conditions as set out in the Order Paper.

All those in favour, kindly say aye; those against, kindly say no. I think the ayes have it.

2. White Paper on the Proposed Terms of a Constitution for the Independent Belize

SENATOR C.L.B. ROGERS (Minister of Home Affairs): Mr. President, Members of the Senate, earlier I laid on the Table of this Honourable Senate a White Paper containing Government's proposal for the new Constitution of Belize on our attainment of independence.

Members of the Senate, it is the intention of the Government of Belize to agree with the Government of the United Kingdom within the next few weeks a date for a Constitutional Conference. This Conference will prepare for the independence of Belize to take place before the end of this year.

6/The Belize delegation.....

The Belize delegation to this Conference will include members from both the Government and the Opposition. This is the will of the majority of our Belizean people who have given the People's United Party the mandate to lead Belize to a safe and secure independence with all our territory. The attainment of our goal of independence also has the backing of the international community. Members will recall that only a few months ago the United Nations by a vote of one hundred and thirty-nine to none against declared that Belize should become an independent nation before the conclusion of the next Session of the General Assembly and called upon the United Kingdom to convene a Constitutional Conference to prepare for the independence of Belize. This position was endorsed a few weeks later by the General Assembly of the Organization of American States. The independence of Belize will be a safe and secure independence. The United Kingdom Government has assured the Government of Belize that it will see us safely through independence. The details of the defence arrangements will be more clearly defined and finalised between the two Governments and shall be made known to the people in ample time.

The White Paper now before this Honourable Senate contains an outline of Government's proposals for the Constitution of the Independent Nation of Belize. There were many approaches available to Government. Government could have awaited proposals from the people and used these to form the basis of the constitution without any guidance from Government. This, however, would not have been the most helpful approach and would have been tantamount to the abdication of Government's responsibility and duty to lead the people. Government, therefore, elected to put forward its views to the people.

The Constitution of Belize is a Constitution for all the people of Belize. If it is to work effectively, it must win as wide acceptance as possible. It is, therefore, the hope of the Government that the people of Belize will feel duty free to comment on these proposals and to add their own views. I am sure that all responsible citizens, groups and organizations will recognize the importance of this document and make every effort to come forward with their own views.

I propose later on to move the Motion to create a machinery to make this possible.

Mr. President, no one can accuse us of rushing into independence since we have been negotiating for nineteen years and working a difficult constitution for seventeen years of self-government. This constitution gave more responsibility than authority to the people's government; but the unusually long period between self-government and independence has familiarised us with a Parliamentary system of Government which we have learn to use. Government has, therefore, selected the monarchical system of Government as the initial constitutional move on attaining independence. The future may justify alterations, when and where the circumstances warrant.

Government's proposals are based on the principle of retaining those institutions which have served us well and redesigning those which have not. They also take into account those changes necessary to give full sovereignty. Thus, we propose that there should be no fundamental change in the Legislature, the Judiciary and the financial system.

7/Some areas of.....

Some areas of executive authority have been redesigned, and provisions are made to protect the rights of the Public Service in the context of independence.

The document before you, Honourable Members of this Senate, reflects Government's overriding commitment to the principles of social justice, human rights and the preservation of fundamental freedoms. It reflects our faith in a democratic society in which the Government is freely elected on the basis of universal adult suffrage. It reinforces our view that people and institutions remain free only when freedom is founded upon respect for moral and spiritual values and upon the rule of law. It fulfills our commitment to the preservation of the right of the individual to the ownership of private property. Mr. President and Honourable Members, it is a commitment of the new and progressive Belizean revolution to lead Belize to a safe and secure independence with all our territory intact. The presentation of Government's proposal for a Constitution for independence is another step in our fulfillment of that commitment.

Mr. President, I now move the Motion -

"THE SENATE -

NOTING the Government White Paper on the Proposed Terms of a Constitution for the Independent Belize laid on the Table of this Honourable Senate today;

RECOGNIZING the importance of so basic and fundamental a document to the lives of all Belizeans and the society in which they shall live;

INTENDING that the National Assembly shall offer full opportunity for all Belizeans freely to express their wishes upon the Constitutional proposals of the Government;

DECLARES that the White Paper on the Proposed Terms of a Constitution for the Independent Belize shall be referred to a Joint Select Committee comprising six members of the House of Representatives and three members of the Senate to be appointed in accordance with Standing Orders by the Honourable Speaker and the Honourable President, respectively, for its consideration, examination and report;

AND DIRECTS the Joint Select Committee to canvass the opinions of the Belizean people before presenting its final report to the National Assembly."

SENATOR M. ESQUIVEL: Mr. President, just a few comments on the Motion.

In introducing the Motion the Honourable Minister pointed out that if this Proposed Constitution is to work, it should have as wide acceptance of the Belizean people as is possible. I should, therefore, assume that the Honourable Minister and the Government would also accept that if independence is to work, it should have as wide as

8/possible a support.....

possible a support of the Belizean people, and it seems to me inconsistent, therefore, that the Government is now saying it would like to canvass the opinion of all the people of this country to hear their views on an Independence Constitution, when it is unwilling to canvass the opinion of the people and to hear their views on independence at this time.

Let it not be misunderstood, Mr. President, that the Opposition is opposed to independence. We have made it very clear in all our Manifestos, as well as in our public statements that the Opposition is committed to the principle of independence for Belize. It is a perfectly natural and desirable thing for any people; however, at the same time the Opposition is committed to the welfare and security of the people, and it is for that reason that we have our reservations. That I would have thought that the Government would have felt that if it is stepping into the dark, which going into independence always is, and there is nothing wrong with that, we always have to face new situations and explore unknown areas; but it is one thing to step in the dark in full confidence that what one sees in the day should be what is there at night and another thing to have a neighbour threatening to dig a pit in front of your front door and for you to fail to do something about that before stepping out into the dark, I believe is irresponsible. And if one is to take one's family along then surely one's family should be allowed to express their views on that matter. So, it seems to me that this decision has been basically a Cabinet's decision with the support of the ruling party, and it is claimed that because of the results of the last General Elections, the people no longer are to be allowed to express their views on the matter.

I do not think that is fair, Mr. President, I think the people are being asked not simply to go into independence, but to lay their security on the line, a security threatened by a very unreasonable, intransigent, militaristic Government on the other side of the border. And there is nothing wrong in asking a nation's people to lay their security on the line, but when we do so, we should have their consent, Mr. President.

Thank you very much.

SENATOR G. RAMOS: Mr. President, I rise to support the Motion presented by the Honourable Minister responsible for Government Business in the Senate.

The Motion before the Senate, Mr. President, which clearly directs the Joint Select Committee of the National Assembly to canvass the opinions of the Belizean people, demonstrates in my mind the importance Government attaches to the fundamental human rights of the Belizean society. It is my hope, Mr. President, that this Honourable Senate is in unison and also recognizes the importance of such a constitutional measure.

I wish to commend, Mr. President, the Honourable Minister responsible for Government Business for presenting such a vital and historical Motion to the Honourable Senate.

Thank you.

SENATOR H. LEWIS: Mr. President, I rise to support the Motion on the Proposed Terms of a Constitution for the Independent Belize.

9/Mr. President.....

Mr. President, on the night of the 2nd of February of this year, a representative gathering of members of the People's United Party, Toledo South Division, assembled at the office of the Senator who gave his explanation and approval to the attainment of independence for Belize. It is the view of that assembled body of forty persons that independence will create a better way of life for all Belizeans, regardless of race, creed or colour.

Mr. President, personally and on my own account, the Government of the People's United Party and the Party itself, as a distinct entity, has been fighting and clamouring for the independence of Belize because it believes, as canvassed through peoples opinions, that independence will bring a better way of life for all of us Belizeans. It is my understanding that the Joint Select Committee is going to canvass the opinions of the Belizean people to express their views as to what type of Constitution they prefer.

I will not belabour any point expressed by our friend from the other side, the Senator, but the very fact that the Joint Select Committee, to my understanding, will be travelling throughout the country to get the peoples opinions, is a clear indication that the people are not going to be left in the dark.

Mr. President, I am confident that since the last fifteen years or so that we have attained self-government, the Government of Belize has acquired a certain amount of expertise which makes it possible for us to go into independence with very little difficulties, as I see it. And I, therefore, wish to support the Motion before us.

SENATOR A. FULLER: Mr. President, Honourable Senators, I certainly rise to support our Leader for Government Business on this Motion. As I see it, all provisions have been made for all Belizeans to be given an opportunity to come back with some feedback or some comments. As my colleague said earlier, there is enough expertise built up over the years in our Government to take forward whatever the final recommendations on the terms and conditions for the Constitution of the Independent Belize. And I have faith, along with my other colleagues, that this will be a good thing for Belize and all Belizeans. And I rise, whole-heartedly, to support the Motion.

SENATOR C.L.B. ROGERS (Minister of Home Affairs): Indeed, Mr. President, Members of the Senate, we are seeking the widest possible acceptance of our proposed constitution and of our independence. We are seeking the widest possible acceptance. But, Mr. President, we would be naive if we believe that it would be so wide that it would include everyone.

If we studied history, we see that in all cases of decolonizing and proceeding to independence it has never been a total or unanimous decision to proceed to independence. We take a good example of the Americans proceeding to independence in the American Revolution where they had to fight, and even though they had to fight, they didn't have all on their side; in fact, there are some historians who said there was a minority and they would have hung Washington and those who signed the Declaration of Independence. So, we have, if we look at history, we can see that not all, we can't get unanimity, but we do get those who freedom beats in their breast, those who see the danger of delaying. This is a world, today Mr. President, that there are only two processes of

10/decolonization either.....

decolonization either you become an independent entity or you get swallowed in some kind of federation or incorporated by some more powerful neighbour. The country of Guyana had the same problem; and, in fact, I might say, has this same problem. They had to proceed to independence in spite of a territorial dispute with a far larger neighbour. In fact, one of the reasons why Guyana supports the independence of Belize and for its territorial integrity, is because it believes that Belize, if it surrenders one piece of land would have set the precedence; and many other countries. We hear of the dispute with Peru and Equador; we hear of the ceasefire by the Organization of American States. But countries have to become independent, particularly in our case, in order to save itself; in order that it becomes an independent being, a reality, set up its embassies, in order to look out for itself, because there is no sort of patrimony; you can't get this thing going on; and we see what is happening if the United Kingdom dismantle; some people think they will stay forever; they won't. The quicker you get your own independence, make your own arrangements the more secure you are; the more secure you are. So that independence in our case is part of our security. Independence in our case, is making firm and effective that Belize is a reality, an independent country, with its own flag. Its diplomats must use their brains to guarantee the security of Belize. The longer we remain a Colony, the greater the hopes of those who covet our land; they have a chance of recovering it, the longer it remains a part of a territory of another country, a Metropolitan Country; and they can take their case and say, "our dispute is with the English and we want our land before Belize gets its independence."

There are Belizeans - and I don't believe that they are traitorous, I don't believe that. I believe that they are genuinely misguided from fear; that they really think leave it to Guatemala to give up its own claim and then we will be secured. Guatemala, knowing that She has the power then: if I don't give up my claim, they will remain a Colony forever; it would never happen; we are giving Guatemala the veto that it wants.

Mr. President, I quoted in my speech too that we do have representative parliamentary democracy in this country. The Representatives speak for those they represent. That is the Parliamentary System. The Parliamentary System after an election you speak for those you represent. It's not a system like the Swiss with the Cantons and you go for referendum, as they call it, to every question; the Representative of the people speak.

And there is in our history too - you study history, you learn a lot of things - where the Baymen of Belize had to take a decision whether they would stand or fight on that historic day that we always celebrate, September 10; not all of them wanted to stay, Mr. President. Again, you never get unanimity; but a majority said we will stay and that's why we have a Belize today, because a few brave ones decided that they would stay. I think that the reason why we will have an independent Belize is also because in this case, thank God, its a majority decided that they want to be independent.

MR. PRESIDENT: Honourable Senators, the Motion before us is -

THE SENATE -

NOTING the Government White Paper on the Proposed Terms of a Constitution for the Independent Belize laid on the Table of this Honourable Senate Today:

11/ RECOGNIZING.....

RECOGNIZING the importance of so basic and fundamental a document to the lives of all Belizeans and the society in which they shall live;

INTENDING that the National Assembly shall offer full opportunity for all Belizeans freely to express their wishes upon the Constitutional proposals of the Government;

DECLARES that the White Paper on the Proposed Terms of a Constitution for the Independent Belize shall be referred to a Joint Select Committee comprising six members of the House of Representatives and three members of the Senate to be appointed in accordance with Standing Orders by the Honourable Speaker and the Honourable President, respectively, for its consideration, examination and report;

AND DIRECTS the Joint Select Committee to canvass the opinions of the Belizean people before presenting its final report to the National Assembly.

Honourable Senators, with your concurrence, of course, I would like to proceed with the nomination of members of that Committee. I, therefore, appoint the Honourable C.L.B. Rogers, Minister of Home Affairs, the Honourable G. Ramos and the Honourable M. Esquivel and direct that the first meeting of the Committee commence at 11:30 this morning in the Committee Room.

SENATOR M. ESQUIVEL: Mr. President, I should have thought there would have been a vote on the last Motion; but in addition to that, I would like to decline your nomination.

MR. PRESIDENT: Well, the Honourable Esquivel has declined.

All those in favour of the Motion, kindly say aye; then I guess there is none against. The Motion is carried.

SENATOR C.L.B. ROGERS: Mr. President, perhaps we ought to make it clear. You have named a Committee. The Committee is named. The Senator certainly can decline for the records, but that is the Committee.

II BILLS FOR SECOND READING

1. Dangerous Drugs (Amendment) Bill, 1981

SENATOR C.L.B. ROGERS (Minister of Home Affairs): I rise to move the Second Reading of a Bill for an Ordinance to amend the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance, Chapter 85 of the Laws of Belize.

Mr. President, this Bill is to meet what we observe as a growing need to increase the penalty and to include in our list of Dangerous Drugs some drugs that before were not included.

The world is proceeding in good and bad and we have to provide to seizure of the vessels that are found carrying these dangerous drugs; and this Bill provides for increased penalties and seizure of the aircrafts or whatever vessel they may be found in.

12/I move the.....

I move the Second Reading.

MR. PRESIDENT: Honourable Senators, the Question is that a Bill for an Ordinance to amend the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance, Chapter 85 of the Laws of Belize be read a Second Time.

All those in favour, kindly say aye; those against, kindly say no. I think the ayes have it.

Bill read a Second Time and, pursuant to Standing Order, committed to a Committee of the Whole Senate.

2. Iglesia Universal Cristiana (Belize) Bill, 1980

SENATOR C.L.B. ROGERS (Minister of Home Affairs): I move, Mr. President, the Second Reading of a Bill for an Ordinance to provide for the incorporation of the Iglesia Universal Cristiana.

MR. PRESIDENT: Honourable Senators, the Question is that a Bill for an Ordinance to provide for the incorporation of the Iglesia Universal Cristiana be read a Second Time.

All those in favour, kindly say aye; those against, kindly say no. I think the ayes have it.

Bill read a Second Time and, pursuant to Standing Orders, committed to a Committee of the Whole Senate.

3. Belize Evangelical Mennonite Church Bill, 1980

SENATOR C.L.B. ROGERS (Minister of Home Affairs): I move, Mr. President, the Second Reading of a Bill for an Ordinance to provide for the incorporation of the Belize Evangelical Mennonite Church.

MR. PRESIDENT: Honourable Senators, the Question is that a Bill for an Ordinance to provide for the incorporation of the Belize Evangelical Mennonite Church be read a Second Time.

All those in favour, kindly say aye; those against, kindly say no. I think the ayes have it.

Bill read a Second Time and, pursuant to Standing Order, committed to a Committee of the Whole Senate.

4. New Apostolic Church (Belize) Bill, 1980

SENATOR C.L.B. ROGERS (Minister of Home Affairs): I move, Mr. President, the Second Reading of a Bill for an Ordinance to provide for the incorporation of the New Apostolic Church (Belize).

MR. PRESIDENT: Honourable Senators, the Question is that a Bill for an Ordinance to provide for the incorporation of the New Apostolic Church (Belize) be read a Second Time.

All those in favour, kindly say aye; those against, kindly say no. I think the ayes have it.

Bill read a Second Time and, pursuant to Standing Order, committed to a Committee of the Whole Senate.

13/ (In the Committee).....

[In the Committee]

MR. PRESIDENT in the Chair.

1. Dangerous Drugs (Amendment) Bill, 1981

Clauses 1 to 10 agreed to.

Bill to be reported back to the Senate without amendment.

2. Iglesia Universal Cristiana (Belize) Bill, 1980

Clauses 1 to 8 agreed to.

Bill to be reported back to the Senate without amendment.

3. Belize Evangelical Mennonite Church Bill, 1980

Clauses 1 to 8 agreed to.

Bill to be reported back to the Senate without amendment.

4. New Apostolic Church (Belize) Bill, 1980

Clauses 1 to 8 agreed to.

Bill to be reported back to the Senate without amendment.

MR. PRESIDENT resumed the Chair.

SENATOR C.L.B. ROGERS (Minister of Home Affairs):
Mr. President, I rise to report that the Bill entitled "Dangerous Drugs (Amendment) Bill, 1981" was considered by the Committee of the Whole Senate and passed without amendment.

I now move that the Bill be read a Third Time.

MR. PRESIDENT: Honourable Senators, the Question is that a Bill for an Ordinance to amend the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance, Chapter 85 of the Laws of Belize be read a Third Time.

All those in favour, kindly say aye; those against, kindly say no. I think the ayes have it.

Bill read a Third Time.

SENATOR C.L.B. ROGERS (Minister of Home Affairs):
Mr. President, I rise to report that the Bill entitled "Iglesia Universal Cristiana (Belize) Bill, 1980" was considered by the Committee of the Whole Senate and passed without amendment.

I now move the Third Reading of the Bill.

MR. PRESIDENT: Honourable Senators, the Question is that a Bill for an Ordinance to provide for the incorporation of the Iglesia Universal Cristiana be read a Third Time.

All those in favour, kindly say aye; those against, kindly say no. I think the ayes have it.

14 /BILL read.....

