East Africa Protectorate.

Summary of the Minutes of the Proceedings of the Legislative Council of East Africa.

Special Session. 1915.

March 9th, 1915.

Mairobi

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Minutes of the Proceedings of a Special Session of the Legislative Council, 1915.

Held at Nairobi on the 9th March, 1915.

The Council assembled on the 9th March, at 3 p.m., HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR (SIR H. CONWAY BELFIELD, K.C.M.G.) presiding.

Present :-

THE HON. THE CHIEF SECRETARY (C. C. BOWRING, C.M.G.),
THE HON. THE TREASURER (H. A. SMALLWOOD),
THE HON. THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (J. W. BARTH),
THE HON. THE ACTING MANAGER OF THE UGANDA RAILWAY (B. EASTWOOD),
THE HON. R. BARTON WRIGHT,
THE HON. W. A. M. SIM.

Absent :-

THE HON. A. C. MACDONALD,

THE HON. F. W. MAJOR, I.S.O. THE HON. C. W. HOBLEY, C.M.G.,

THE HON. J. AINSWORTH, C.M.G.

MINUTES OF MEETING.

THE HON. CHIEF SECRETARY moved that the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on the 18th, 19th, 21st, 22nd, and 23rd January, 1915, be taken as read and be confirmed.

THE HON. ATTORNEY GENERAL seconded.

The question was put and carried.

MESSAGE FROM H. M. THE KING.

THE PRESIDENT said that at the last Session of Council Hon. Members had passed a resolution, upon the motion of the Chief Secretary, expressive of the loyalty of Council and the community of the Protectorate to His Majesty The King Emperor. That resolution was telegraphed by him (His Excellency) to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and in reply thereto he had received the following despatch, dated 26th January:-

SIR,-I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your telegram of the 18th January conveying an expression of the loyalty of the Legislative Council of the East Africa Protectorate and of all His Majesty's subjects residing in the Protectorate and of all sections of the community enjoying His Majesty's protection. Your telegram has been laid before the King, and His Majesty has commanded me to express his appreciation of your message. -I have, etc.,-L. HARCOURT.

THE CROWN LANDS ORDINANCE, 1915.

THE HON. CHIEF SECRETARY laid on the Table a copy of the Bill intituled " An Ordinance to make further and better provision for regulating the leasing and other disposal of Crown Lands and for other purposes," amended as it had been left in Committee at last Session.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE FOR 1914-15.

THE HON. TREASURER proposed the following motion :-"That a Supplementary Estimate of £47,190 for the service of the year

1914-15 be approved." THE HON. CHIEF SECRETARY seconded.

The question was put and carried.

THE IMPERIAL LOANS ORDINANCE, 1915.

THE HON. TREASURER, in pursuance of notice given, introduced and moved the first reading of a Bill intituled "An Ordinance to make provision for borrowing the sum of £1,868,000 from the Imperial Treasury, and for the raising. appropriating, and applying the loan, and for the due repayment of the same as provided by the East African Protectorates (Loans) Act, 1914." He said that Hon. Members would be aware that two previous loans had already been granted by the Imperial Treasury for the development of the Protectorate. It had soon become evident that the growing interests of the Protectorate would not be met by the amount of those two loans. This had become so evident and clear to the Secretary of State that he (the Secretary of State) on his own motion addressed the Governor and asked what works could be advantageously initiated if further monies were forthcoming. The Governor, after consultation with the Director of Public Works and the Manager of the Railway, sent home a list of works which, after a few consultations between the Colonial Office and the Treasury, formed the Schedule to the Bill. The next step was that during the early part of last year a Bill had been introduced into the Imperial Parliament intituled "The East African Protectorates (Loans) Bill." The object of that Bill was to enable advances to be made from the Imperial Local Funds Account for the purpose of providing advances for the improvement of communications and trade facilities in the Protectorates of East Africa, Uganda, and Nyasaland. That Bill eventually became law. Among its provisions was one that advances could not be made to any Protectorate until the legislative authority of the Protectorate to which the advance was to be made had provided, to the satisfaction of the Secretary of State and the Treasury, for the raising, applying, and appropriation of the loan and for charging on the general revenues and assets of the Protectorate, with priority over any subsequent charges, the principal of the loan, and for payment of interest. The total amount to be advanced to the three Protectorates named was not to Before, therefore, any advance could be exceed, in the whole, £3,000,000. made, it was necessary to pass legislation empodying the conditions laid down in the Imperial Act, and the Bill which was now before Council, and for which he (the Hon. Treasurer) asked the first reading, had that object.

THE HON. CHIEF SECRETARY seconded, and the Bill was read a first time.

The Hon. Treasurer moved the suspension of Standing Orders in order that the Bill might be passed through its further stages.

THE HON. ATTORNEY GENERAL seconded.

The question was put and carried.

THE HON. TREASURER moved that the Bill be read a second time.

THE HON. CHIEF SECRETARY seconded.

The question was put and carried.

The Council resolved itself into a Committee of the whole Council, HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR presiding.

In Committee.

The Bill was read and considered clause by clause, and was adopted without amendment.

The Council resumed its Sitting.

The Hon. Treasurer moved that the Bill, without amendment, be reported to Council.

THE HON. CHIEF SECRETARY seconded.

The question was put and carried.

The Hon. Treasurer moved that the Bill be read a third time, and in doing so said he would like to be permitted to make a personal expression of satisfaction at being able to assist, before leaving the Protectorate, in passing into law a measure which he believed would have the greatest benefit to the Protectorate, and in which he personally would have the greatest interest.

THE HON. CHIEF SECRETARY seconded.

The question was put and carried, and the Bill was read a third time and passed.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council adjourned until such date as might be duly notified.