



PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

DEWAN RA'AYAT
(HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES)

OFFICIAL REPORT

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Mr Chairman: I know that very well. I have just informed the House that he has not moved any amendment at all on any clause of this Bill. What he is trying to do is to request you to move an amendment yourself. If you do not want to

Tuan Haji Abdul Hamid Khan: I will not move any amendment.

Enche' Tan Phock Kin: May I get a clarification, Sir? The Minister has said that he is not going to move an amendment. May we know the reason why?

Tuan Haji Abdul Hamid Khan: I am not bound to do so.

Clauses 1 to 5 inclusive ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Bill reported without amendment: read the third time and passed.

THE CENTRAL BANK OF MALAYA (AMENDMENT) BILL

Second Reading

Enche' Tan Siew Sin: Mr Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that a Bill intituled "an Act to amend the Central Bank of Malaya Ordinance, 1958", be read a second time.

Bank Negara will become the Central Bank of Malaysia and, as the principal financial agent for the Federal Government, I feel that it is desirable for the Bank to have borrowing powers in order to enable it to fulfil its proper functions. The borrowing powers proposed are unrestricted, as it is necessary to ensure that the powers are adequate to meet the varying circumstances in which loans may need to be raised in the future. Furthermore, the Bank will normally be acting on behalf of the Federal Government in the exercise of these borrowing powers, and close liaison between the Bank and the Treasury is ensured by the fact that the Secretary to the Treasury is a member of the Board of the Bank.

Honourable Members may consider that, in the circumstances, it would be preferable for the Government itself to raise the loans required, particularly foreign loans. The Federation's own experience in the matter of raising

foreign loans has been that certain lenders, in particular banks in foreign countries, sometimes prefer to make loans to the Central Bank rather than to the Government of another country. Secondly, it is not uncommon for Central Banks to arrange lines of credit between themselves thus providing a valuable means of augmenting the foreign exchange available to their respective countries. I consider, therefore, that the borrowing powers proposed for Bank Negara will provide a useful means whereby the foreign exchange available to Malaysia could be increased, should this prove to be desirable at any time.

Sir, I beg to move.

The Minister of Transport (Dato' Haji Sardon bin Haji Jubir): Sir, I beg to second the motion.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole House.

House immediately resolved itself into a Committee on the Bill.

Bill considered in Committee.

(Mr Speaker *in the Chair*)

Clauses 1 and 2 ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Bill reported without amendment: read the third time and passed.

THE MERCHANT SHIPPING (AMENDMENT) BILL

Second Reading

Dato' Haji Sardon bin Haji Jubir: Mr Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that a Bill intituled, "an Act to amend the Merchant Shipping Ordinance, 1952", be read a second time.

Sir, in March, 1960, a meeting was held in Labuan which was attended by the Directors of Marine of British North Borneo, Sarawak, Brunei, Singapore and the Federation of Malaya. The meeting among other things agreed that there should be a unification of trade limits and manning scales. Consequent upon this agreement, the Borneo territories and

Singapore have already made the necessary amendments to their regulations.

Clause 2 of the Bill provides new definitions of "certificated officer", "home-trade voyage", and "local-trade voyage".

Clause 3 of the Bill will discontinue the existing provision whereby a foreign-going ship under 100 tons is required to have at least one mate of foreign-going ship or a first-class gunner besides the master. At present, there are different requirements for officers in respect of a home-trade ship of under and over 100 tons. But with this amendment there will be uniformity in the manning scales in respect of every home-trade ship when going to sea from any place in the Federation, irrespective of the tonnage; that is, the ship will be manned by duly certificated officers, namely, master of home-trade ship, mate of home-trade ship, second-class engineer and first-class engine driver.

Clause 3 of the Bill would also permit duly certificated officers to man a local-trade ship of under and over 1,000 gross tons; under or over 1,000 brake horse-power, if it is motor ship; over 25 tons but under 100 gross tons if it is a mechanically-propelled ship which plies within 30 miles of a port; and under 25 gross tons in respect of a mechanically-propelled ship plying within the Federation's territorial waters.

Clause 4 of the Bill provides that a mechanically-propelled vessel of over 1 gross ton but less than 25 gross tons, plying at any port within the Federation for any purpose of trade or business be manned by a steersman and if the vessel exceeds 25 gross tons, there must also be a steersman and a third-class engine driver.

Sir, with these amendments, our local men who are duly certificated will be able to handle bigger ships and thus providing similar opportunities with those given in the Bornean territories and Singapore. My Ministry has received requests from local marine unions for the implementation of the agreement reached in Labuan. The

amendments could have been made much earlier but unfortunately due to more urgent and unforeseen matters they could not be finalised at an earlier date. The amendments are of a technical nature and opportunity has also been taken to effect some minor amendments as mentioned in the schedule to the Bill. They are now urgently required and cannot be put off for inclusion in the new legislation relating to merchant shipping applicable to all the Malaysian territories which will have to be introduced after the establishment of Malaysia. The reason is that the new legislation is not likely to be promulgated for quite some time. There will also be consequential amendments to the Subsidiary Legislation in respect of the examination for Certificates of Competency and Efficiency Rules.

Sir, I beg to move.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill accordingly read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole House.

House immediately resolved itself into a Committee on the Bill.

Bill considered in Committee.

(Mr Speaker *in the Chair*)

Clauses 1 to 6 inclusive ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Schedule ordered to stand part of the Bill.

Bill reported without amendment: read the third time and passed.

THE SERVICE LANDS BILL

Second Reading

The Deputy Prime Minister (Tun Haji Abdul Razak): Mr Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that a Bill intituled, "an Act to make provision for the ejection of persons unlawfully occupying any land used or to be used for the purposes of any Federation forces and to incorporate the United Kingdom Services' Lands Board" be read a second time.

Sir, Clause 2 of the Bill sets out the procedure for the removal of unlawful occupants of lands used or to