APPENDIX "C".

Rules for the Conduct of Business at Meetings of the Council of the Governor General of India for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations, under the provisions of the Act of Parliament 24 and 25 Victoria, Cap. 67 (The Indian Councils Act, 1861)

(As amended by the Governor General in Council at the Meeting held on the 17th December, 1862).

1. The word "Council", as used in these Rules, shall mean the Council of the Governor General of India assembled for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations.

The word "President", as used in these Rules, shall mean the Governor General; or, in his absence, the President nominated by the Governor General; or, in the absence of both the Governor General and President, the Senior Ordinary Member of Council present and presiding.

The word "Secretary," as used in these Rules, shall mean the Secretary to the Government of India in the Home Department.

2. The Council will ordinarily meet on Wednesday, at 11 A.M., and on any other day to which it may be from time to time adjourned.

3. An extraordinary Meeting of the Council may be called at any time by the President.

4. The President may adjourn, without any discussion or vote, any Meeting or business, whether there be a quorum present or not, to any future day, or to any part of the same day.

5. The President shall preserve order, and all points of order shall be decided by him, no discussion thereupon being allowed.

6. A Member desiring to make any observations on any subject before the Council shall address the President without rising from his Chair.

7. On all matters brought before the Council, after the Member who makes a motion has spoken, each Member consecutively, beginning with the Member on the left of the President, may make such observations as he thinks proper. After all the Members in turn have had an opportunity of speaking, any Member may, with the permission of the President, speak once by way of explanation or reply.

8. When, for the purpose of explanation during discussion, or for any other sufficient reason, any Member shall have occasion to ask a question of another Member on any measure then under the consideration of the Council, he shall ask the question through the President.

9. Any Member may speak at the request and on behalf of another Member who is unable to express himself in English language.

10. Communications on matters connected with any business before the Council may be addressed, either in the form of a petition to the Governor General in Council, or in a letter to the Secretary, and must in either case be sent to the Secretary. Ordinarily such communications will not be answered.

11. The Secretary will either cause such communications to be
printed, and send a copy for the use of each Member, or circulate them for the perusal of each Member.

12. Any Member may make a motion having reference to the business of the Council, and on every such motion the question, after being put by the President, shall be decided by a majority of votes. In case of a division, the votes shall be taken by the Secretary in consecutive order, beginning with the Member on the left of the President.

13. Any Member may ask for any papers or returns connected with any measure before the Council. The President shall determine either at the time, or at the Meeting of the Council next following, whether the papers or returns asked for can be given.

14. Any Member may move at a Meeting of the Council for leave to introduce a Bill in accordance with the provisions of Section 19 of the Indian Councils Act, provided that three days' previous notice of the title and subject of the Bill has been given to the Secretary. If the motion be carried in the affirmative, the Member shall send the Bill to the Secretary with a full Statement of Objects and Reasons, and any other papers which he may consider necessary.

15. The Secretary will forthwith cause the Bill, together with the Statement of Objects and Reason, to be printed, and will send a copy for the use of each Member. He will also cause the Bill and the Statement of Objects and Reasons to be translated into Hindostani for the use of the Members who are unacquainted with the English language.

16. No Bill shall be introduced until fourteen days after a copy of the Bill and the Statement of Objects and Reasons has been furnished to each Member.

17. On the day on which a Bill is introduced, or on any subsequent day to which the discussion is postponed, the principle of the Bill and its general provisions may be discussed. If the Council so decide, the Bill shall be referred to a Select Committee for report; and, together with the Statement of Objects and Reasons, shall be published in the English and Vernacular languages in the official Gazettes of such parts of India as are affected by the Bill.

18. The publication of a Bill may be suspended until it has been considered by the Select Committee and reported to the Council, if the Council, at the time of referring it to the Select Committee, shall so order.

19. The Governor General, if he see fit, may order the publication of a Bill together with the Statement of Objects and Reasons which accompanies it, although no motion may have been made for leave to introduce the Bill. In that case it shall not be necessary to move for leave to introduce the Bill; and if the Bill be afterwards introduced, it shall not be necessary to publish it again.

20. When three months have elapsed from the publication of a Bill in the Calcutta Gazette, or in any shorter period that the Council may order, the Select Committee to which the Bill may have been referred shall make a report thereon.

21. The Council may appoint a Select Committee to consider and

* Amended 28.2.68.
22. The Ordinary Member of the Council of the Governor General of India, who may be charged with the legislative business of the Government, shall be a Member of all Select Committees.

23. The Secretary shall cause the Reports of Select Committees to be printed, and shall send copies of such Reports for the use of each Member. He shall also cause the Reports to be translated into Hindoostani for the use of the Members who are unacquainted with the English language.

24. The Report of the Select Committee on a Bill shall be taken into consideration by the Council as soon as conveniently may be, but not until a week after the Report has been furnished to the Members.

25. Any Member wishing to propose an amendment affecting the principle of a Bill, as settled by the Select Committee, shall send the amendment to the Secretary at least three days before the Meeting of the Council at which the Bill is to be considered. The Secretary shall cause every such amendment to be printed, and shall send a copy for the information of each Member. He shall also cause every such amendment to be translated into Hindoostani for the use of the Members who are unacquainted with the English language.

26. If any amendment be proposed, of which notice has not been given, the President shall decide whether such amendment shall be considered by the Council at the Meeting at which it is proposed, or be deferred to the next following meeting.

27. Amendments shall ordinarily be considered in the order of the Sections to which they relate.

28. If no amendment be made by the Council in a Bill as settled by the Select Committee, the Bill may at once be passed, and sent to the Governor General for his assent. If any amendment be made, the Bill shall not be passed at the same Meeting, but shall be brought forward again at a future Meeting, and may then be passed with or without further amendment.

29. Any Member may move that a Bill which has been amended by the Council be re-published, and if the Council so decide, the President may order the Bill to be re-published for such period as he shall see fit.

30. When the Governor General has assented to a Bill, it shall be published in the official Gazettes, under the signature of the Secretary, as an Act of the Governor General of India in Council.

31. After the passing of a Bill, the Secretary shall revise and complete the marginal notes thereof.

32. Before each Meeting of the Council, the Secretary shall furnish each Member with a list of the business to be brought forward at such Meeting.

33. A Journal shall be kept, in which all the proceedings of the Council shall be fairly entered. The Journal shall be submitted after each Meeting to the President for his confirmation and signature, and when so signed shall be the record of the proceedings of the Council.

34. In addition to the other duties specially required by these rules, it shall be the duty of the Secretary,-
1st. - To take charge of all the Records of the Council.
2nd. - To keep the Books of the Council.
3rd. - To keep a Minute Book in which he shall enter, at the time, the proceedings of the Council in the order in which they occur, and the names of the Members present.
4th. - To superintend the printing of all papers ordered to be printed.
5th. - To make out weekly a list of all Select Committees sitting.
6th. - To assist the Council and all Committees in such manner as they may order.
7th. - To write all letters ordered by the Council, or the President of the Council, to be written.

35. All acts which the Secretary is required by these Rules to do may be done by an Under or Assistant Secretary. It shall be the special duty of the Assistant Secretary to explain papers to the Members of the Council who are unacquainted with the English language, and otherwise to assist them in such manner as they may require.

36. A Report of the proceedings of the Council at each of its Meetings, including an abstract of the observations of the Members, shall be prepared by the Secretary, and published as soon as possible after the Meeting.

37. Strangers may be admitted into the Council Chamber during the sittings of the Council on the order of the President. Application for orders of admission is to be made to the Secretary.

38. The President, on the motion of any Member, may direct at any time, during a sitting of the Council, that strangers withdraw.

39. Any paper relating to any measure before the Council may be published by order of the President of the Council. Copies of papers so published shall be delivered to some bookseller in Calcutta, who will engage to sell them at such rates as may be fixed by the Secretary.

40. The President, for sufficient reason, may suspend any of the foregoing Rules.