

Price : £2.25

THE STATES assembled on Tuesday,
10th December 1996 at 9.30 a.m. under
the Presidency of the Bailiff,
Sir Philip Bailhache

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor,
General Sir Michael Wilkes, K.C.B., C.B.E,
was present.

All members were present with the exception of -

Senator Stuart Syvret - suspended
Henry George Coutanche, Deputy of St.
Lawrence - out of the Island
Derek Ryder Maltwood, Deputy of St. Mary -
ill
Gary Matthews, Deputy of St. Brelade - ill.

Prayers

Subordinate legislation tabled

The following enactment was laid before the
States, namely -

Motor Vehicles (Construction and
Use) (Amendment No. 36) (Jersey) Order
1996. R & O 9028

Matters presented

The following matters were presented to the
States -

1. Trade and Industry Sub-
Committee: report on trading prospects
and diversification - R.C.37/96.
Presented by the Finance and
Economics Committee.
THE STATES ordered that the said report

be printed and distributed.

2. International Conventions and Agreements: progress report for the period ended 30th September 1996 - R.C.38/96.
Presented by the Policy and Resources Committee.
THE STATES ordered that the said report be printed and distributed.
3. Property Management Office: Five year review 1992-1996.
Presented by the Planning and Environment Committee.
4. Draft Transfer of Functions (Industrial Relations Committee) (Jersey) Act 199 - comments.
Presented by the Establishment Committee.
5. Broadcasting House, St. Helier: lease of office accommodation - comments.
Presented by the Finance and Economics Committee.

Matters lodged

The following matters were lodged ``au Greffe" -

1. Draft Boats and Surf-Riding (Control) (Amendment No. 15) (Jersey) Regulations 199 - P.231/96.
Presented by the Harbours and Airport Committee.
2. Draft Telecommunications (Amendment No. 2) (Jersey) Law 199 - P.232/96.
Presented by the Telecommunications Board.
3. Draft Radio Equipment (Jersey) Law 199 - P.233/96.
Presented by the Telecommunications Board.
4. Property Management Office: change of name - P.234/96.
Presented by the Planning and Environment Committee.
5. Draft Prison (Amendment No. 4) (Jersey) Law 199 - P.235/96.
Presented by the Prison Board.

6. Draft Criminal Justice (Jersey)
Law 199 - P.236/96.
Presented by the Prison Board.
7. Draft Criminal Justice
(Compensation Orders) (Amendment)
(Jersey) Law 199 - P.237/96.
Presented by the Prison
Board.
8. Jubilee Sailing Trust (Jersey
Branch): grant for sail training
ship - P.239/96.
Presented by the Finance and
Economics Committee.

Arrangement of public business for the present meeting

Bellozanne Valley, St. Helier: policy for purchase of properties - P.224/96. Deferred.

THE STATES acceded to the request of the President of the Planning and Environment Committee that consideration of the proposition regarding the purchase of properties in Bellozanne Valley, St. Helier (lodged 'au Greffe' on 19th November 1996) be deferred from the present meeting.

The President of the Prison Board withdrew the following projets, having lodged revised Bills at the present meeting (P.235/96, P.236/96 and P.237/96) -

Draft Prison (Amendment No. 4) (Jersey) Law 199 . P.159/96.
Lodged : 8th October 1996.
Prison Board.

Draft Criminal Justice (Amendment No. 2) (Jersey) Law 199 . P.160/96.
Lodged : 8th October 1996.
Prison Board.

Culling of gulls: petition and proposition.
P.238/96

Senator Nigel Lewis Quérée presented to the States a petition to support a public campaign to reduce the number of gulls in the town area and that, only after due consideration of the impact of that campaign should the States consider the culling of gulls.

The States referred the said petition to the Agriculture and Fisheries Committee and lodged ``au Greffe" a proposition of Senator Qu  r  e to the effect that the prayer of the petition be granted.

Access to rating information by The Jersey New Waterworks Company Limited - questions and answers (Tape No. 374)

Deputy Philip Rondel of St. John asked the Conn  table of St. Clement the following questions -

``On 19th November 1996 the Conn  table stated that rateable values are used for other purposes and an example was given of the Jersey New Waterworks Company using this information to assess water rates.

1. Would the Conn  table advise members whether the Company has access to parish records to assist the Company in fixing water rates?
2. If the answer is `yes', would the Conn  table advise members whether these records are openly available in every parish and, if so, for how long these records have been available and who is entitled to access to the records?"

The Conn  table of St. Clement replied as follows -

- ``1. Article 12 of the Parish Rate (Administration) (Jersey) Law, 1946, as amended, requires the preparation of a list (referred to as the draft list) showing the names of the owners and the occupiers of all land within the parish or district, the designation of the land, the rental value thereof and the rateable value thereof as assessed and computed in accordance with the provisions of that Article. Article 13 of the Law specifies the availability for inspection of the draft list and that notice of such shall be given to the owners and the occupiers of all land specified in the said list.

Article 21 of the Law requires the Constable to print a summary of the rate list. Article 27 of the Law states that any ratepayer (being a ratepayer

in the parish to which the rate list relates) may at all reasonable times, without payment, inspect and take copies of and extracts from any rate list provided that the Article shall not apply in the case of any rate list more than three years old. The term ratepayer in Article 27 includes an occupier who pays a rent inclusive of rates and also includes any person authorised by a ratepayer to act on his behalf under this Article.

As the Jersey New Waterworks Company Limited is a ratepayer in all twelve parishes of Jersey it follows that the Company is entitled to access to both the draft lists and printed lists of each parish. I understand that the Company has used these records to assist in fixing water rates but I am unable to answer any other queries with regard to the Company's practice in this area.

2. The answer to the first question is 'yes' as the Jersey New Waterworks Company Limited is a ratepayer in every parish and therefore, by Law, is entitled to inspect both the draft rate list and the printed rate list. The draft list is available for inspection, without payment, for a period of not less than two hours on each of seven consecutive days (Saturday and Sunday excluded). The rate list may be inspected by any ratepayer (being a ratepayer in the parish to which the rate list relates including an occupier who pays a rent inclusive of rates and also any person authorised by a ratepayer to act on his behalf under Article 27) at all reasonable times provided that the rate list is not more than three years old.

However, the rate list is regarded as a public document and is, in practice, available for inspection by any member of the public at the Parish Halls. Indeed, the Public Library keeps copies of rate lists for all parishes within the Reference Library and these are open to inspection at any time. The records in the Reference Library date back to the last century."

The President of the Finance and Economics Committee made a statement in the following terms -

“On 15th March 1994, the States appointed Jurat Blampied O.B.E., as Chairman of the Audit Commission for a period of three years. Last week my Committee received notification of Jurat Blampied's wish to retire from the post on 18th December 1996.

When Jurat Blampied was asked to allow his name to be put forward as Chairman of the Audit commission in 1994 he indicated, at the time, that he only felt able to serve for two years before he retired. We are indeed fortunate that he has continued to serve for nearly the full three year term.

Jurat Blampied did not face an easy task in 1994. Whilst the appointment of the Audit Commission received the support of the States members, it had to be made to work. His first task was to find six independent members to work with him on the Commission, and it is testimony to his powers of persuasion that the first six people he approached agreed to be appointed. I feel sure that Jurat Blampied would wish me to express our thanks to the Commission members for the help and support they have given to him.

The Commission was given the responsibility to develop a programme of value for money reviews. Jurat Blampied recognised that the agencies already engaged in this work needed his support and co-ordination. As a result of his quiet diplomacy we now have established a forum where the Chairman of the Audit Commission regularly meets with nine Chairmen of the Audit Committees, and for the first time in 1997 a fully co-ordinated, wide-ranging programme of value for money reviews will be carried out, the results of which my Committee awaits with interest.

Jurat Blampied has given the Commission, through his hard work, thoroughness and commitment, the impetus to succeed as the major independent review agency of the States. Six major reports have already been produced by the Commission, and Jurat Blampied's guiding hand may be detected in them all.

My Committee and I wish to take this opportunity to acknowledge Jurat Blampied's contribution, so freely given, and the

dedication he has shown in his rôle as Audit Commission Chairman. I feel sure that States members would also wish to add their thanks.

Finally, in accordance with the terms of reference agreed by the States, the members of the Committee has appointed Mr. John Averty to sit as Chairman for the remaining term of office. My Committee is delighted that Mr. Averty has agreed to take on the Chairmanship and extends its best wishes to him. The Committee will return to the States in March next year with a report and proposition for the appointment of the Audit Commission Chairman for a further term of three years."

Discussions with the Home Office on nuclear matters - statement

The President of the Policy and Resources Committee made a statement in the following terms -

``Following a meeting held at the Home Office on Friday, 5th January 1996, at the request of the Insular Authorities, I made a statement to the House in which I referred to a number of areas where further information was required and further action needed to be taken, and I told members that I would keep the House informed of further progress on these matters. The Insular Authorities have obtained answers to many of the points raised at the meeting on 5th January and at a meeting held at the Home Office on Friday 29th November 1996 the opportunity was taken to discuss certain outstanding issues with the relevant officials of Her Majesty's Government.

The Jersey delegation attending the meeting, which was also attended by representatives of Guernsey, Sark, Alderney and the Isle of Man, was comprised of myself, Senator Horsfall, Senator Quéée and Senator Rothwell, the Environmental Adviser, the Chief Adviser and the Greffier of the States.

The issues addressed at the meeting included -

1. Monitoring

The Insular Authorities' investigations since the meeting on 5th January have indicated that containers still lie on the sea bed at the Hurd Deep. The

radiological risk is considered to be very low even if containers that are still intact should eventually release their contents. However, in the light of the evidence obtained by the Insular Authorities through their inspection of records held at the offices of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority at Harwell, and also at the Public Records Office, it is considered by the Insular Authorities that increased monitoring of the area should take place.

The representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries who attended the meeting agreed to undertake further analysis of the information to ascertain the radiological content of the concrete containers, and to ascertain the extent to which more monitoring on a regular basis than that presently carried out would be justified.

There was also agreement that action should be taken to establish actual, as opposed to theoretical, critical pathways through radiological monitoring to be undertaken in the Islands. Officials of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries informed the Insular Authorities that they were presently considering the possible inclusion of such monitoring in their 1997 programme, and in response to the views of the Insular Authorities that monitoring in the Islands should have a high priority, agreed to let the Insular Authorities know of their decision on when to undertake the Channel Islands survey by the end of January 1997. The work would be undertaken on a shared cost basis.

2. Sea transport

The Insular Authorities discussed with officials of the Department of Transport, the Department of Trade and Industry and British Nuclear Fuels Limited the transport of nuclear materials to and from the Cherbourg Peninsula. It was agreed that the Islands should have the same advance information in confidence about the route and date of departure of the ships carrying nuclear materials as it is planned should be given to countries along the route that the ships will take between France and Japan.

3. Future developments on the Cotentin Peninsula

The Insular Authorities have been informed that the following works are to be carried out at Cap de la Hague -

- (i) enlargement of a compacting plant which compresses drums of low level radioactive waste;
- (ii) modernisation of primary separation equipment. The present equipment in use at La Hague is about 25 years old and COGEMA are looking to up-date it.

Neither of these works involve any expansion of the nuclear processing plant itself nor will result in an increase in output. Earlier this year the French Authorities assured Her Majesty's Government that there were no plans to expand the nuclear power station on the Cotentin peninsula.

4. Compensation claims

The Insular Authorities discussed with officials of the Department of Trade and Industry and of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office what steps could be taken to improve the position of the Islands if in the future it should be necessary to claim compensation from the French Authorities for the direct and indirect effects of any nuclear incident on the Cotentin Peninsula. It was agreed that the Department of Trade and Industry and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office would join together in approaching the French Authorities to see whether, given the special circumstances of the Island, they would accept in principle that the limits of compensation provided for under the International Conventions on nuclear liability, to which the United Kingdom and France are a party, could be augmented by direct assistance.

The Policy and Resources Committee will present a full report to the States, on these and related matters, in the new year."

The President of the Industrial Relations Committee made a statement in the following terms -

“Members will recall that Deputy Dorey, on Tuesday 19th November 1996, lodged ‘au Greffe’ the Minimum Wage (P.154/96): Amendments, in what my Committee can only describe as yet another delaying tactic calculated to prevent this issue from being debated openly in the States. It saddens me to have to inform the House that, given the history attached to the attempts to bring a meaningful report and proposition to the States on the introduction of a minimum wage, my Committee did not consider it satisfactory to debate this matter at the final meeting of this Assembly as presently constituted.

I believe that I should explain to the Assembly why my Committee has taken this decision. The present Committee took office in December, 1993, in the full knowledge that the previous Committee had done very little to promote good industrial relations in the Island, either from the point of view of employers or employees. I knew that our work would sometimes have to be controversial and that this would deter some members from sitting on the Committee. Nevertheless I put together a good Committee, including Deputy Breckon as Vice President, Senator Shenton, Connétable Amy, Connétable Le Feuvre, Deputy Nicholls and Deputy Wavell. Connétable Le Feuvre and Deputy Wavell subsequently left the Committee because of pressure of work on other Committees but also, I believe, because of the frustration we all felt as a result of the lack of manpower resources made available to us. I was unable to find suitable replacements.

During the course of 1994, the Committee sought the support of the Establishment and Finance and Economics Committees for additional manpower and the associated finance to assist in the preparation of its Strategic Plan and to advise on policy matters. The Committee decided in January, 1995, to lodge a report and proposition concerning an additional officer. The Establishment Committee, on 16th February, 1995, decided not to support this proposal and recommended the Committee to follow agreed procedures and to register a request for assessment against other additional expenditure requests for 1996. On 20th

February, 1995 the Finance and Economics Committee decided not to support the proposal until the Committee had resolved the appointment difficulties with the Establishment Committee. Eventually, on 23rd May, 1995, the Establishment Committee authorised the secondment of an officer to the Committee for three months from 3rd July, about half way through our term of office. This officer was followed by another seconded officer from October 1995 until the end of January 1996. The third seconded officer started on 1st March and has been able to stay with the Committee since then.

The Committee has been grateful for the calibre of officer provided on secondment and the commitment that they have demonstrated in difficult circumstances. Members should be aware of the complex and sensitive nature of the work undertaken by the Committee and will readily understand that each of the three officers needed time to become familiar with the detail of the work already in hand and also to take on board the growing demand for additional work on employment protection matters. I take this opportunity to thank them on behalf of the Committee.

I must also thank the members of the Industrial Relations Committee Consultative Group, representing the Chamber of Commerce, the Institute of Directors, the Small Business Association, the Transport and General Workers Union, the Institute of Personnel and Development and the Citizens Advice Bureau whose hard work and dedication have been tremendously encouraging and supportive, particularly in the field of employment protection. Members of the Consultative Group have expressed publicly their appreciation of the Committee's constructive and innovative approach towards consultation.

A notable success of this partnership between the States and the private sector has been the Employers Survey. A questionnaire was sent to all Jersey employers and the results, which were analysed by the seconded officer, were presented to the Committee through a Working Group of the Consultative Group, chaired by Mr. Brian Le Marquand, to whom we are particularly indebted. This survey provided even more information than the Committee had hoped for and demonstrated very clearly indeed that a great deal of

work needed to be done.

It is to the credit of the Committee, the Consultative Group and the seconded officers that an amendment of the Terms of Employment (Jersey) Regulations is on the Order Paper for this meeting and also that three further amendments to individual pieces of legislation have been included in the Legislation Programme for 1997. In achieving this, the Committee has fulfilled the majority of obligations placed upon it following approval of the 1995 Strategic Policy Review. An excellent start has also been made on essential employment protection issues including unfair dismissal, maternity rights and equal pay for equal work. However, there are two areas where the Committee feels completely let down by other Committees.

The first is in the area of equal opportunities. The States confirmed on 12th April 1994, that the Committee should be given responsibility for the promotion of equal opportunities for all persons in all areas of Jersey economic life but, as I have said earlier, the Committee had no manpower resource at this time to undertake the work. Despite this, the Equal Opportunities Ten Point Plan has been distributed widely, as has the Guide to Maternity Entitlement and the information on dealing with sexual harassment in the workplace. However, the Committee found itself in a dilemma in that it had a partial brief concerning equal opportunities and limited resources. Nevertheless, the Committee decided to ask the States to extend its terms of reference but first agreed to seek the views of the Policy and Resources Committee. That Committee, in January 1996, simply did not want to support this proposal because of the impending review of the Committee structure. The Committee therefore tried another way of getting something done. It drafted a proposition asking the States to nominate a Committee or other body to have main responsibility for equal opportunities but the Policy and Resources Committee, once again, decided that it would look at this when reviewing the Committee structure. Members will recall that it was the declared intention for the Policy and Resources Committee to produce this review by June 1996.

In the event, the review was not produced until September and Policy and Resources

decided, wrongly in my Committee's opinion, to allocate equal opportunities to the proposed new Civil Affairs Committee, which does not yet exist and which has no resources allocated to it for this purpose. It is therefore difficult to see how anything tangible will be achieved in this area within a reasonable timescale.

This brings me to the issue of a minimum wage. The previous Industrial Relations Committee was asked early in 1993 to report on Senator Shenton's report and proposition on this matter. It did nothing. On the other hand, the Finance and Economics Committee presented their comments towards the end of 1993 in a weak and inconclusive report in which the "verdict" at the end of nineteen pages of text is contained in the statement - "the conclusion to be drawn from this report is that the case for a statutory minimum wage is not proven". Having examined that report in detail, I have to say that this finding is based on consultation with ten bodies, of which seven were employers representatives. The other three were the Citizens Advice Bureau, the Transport and General Workers Union and the Jersey Trades Council. Perhaps not surprisingly, the last three of these supported the introduction of a minimum wage. Of the seven employers representatives, five were against the principle whilst the Jersey Electrical Contractors Association had "little difficulty generally with the proposal" and the Hotel and Guest House Association actually agreed with the concept of a minimum wage but felt that £3.50 an hour was excessive in view of its minimum negotiated wage at the time of £2.62 an hour.

Given the fact that the views of these organisations were well known, and had indeed been published, and in the light of the subsequent full involvement of the Committee's Consultative Group, I am sure that Members will now understand why my Committee has felt that it was in a strong position to bring a proposition to the States for the introduction of a statutory minimum wage. It is for this reason that my Committee has taken issue with the Policy and Resources Committee and the Finance and Economics Committee in particular when they have pronounced that there has been insufficient consultation.

I must set the record straight as far as

two particular organisations are concerned; namely, the Jersey Farmers Union and the Jersey Hotel and Guest House Association. Despite allegations to the contrary, my Committee met representatives of both of these organisations on the afternoon of 11th January, 1996. Their views had not changed a great deal since the Finance and Economics Committee had consulted them, except that the Hotel and Guest House Association now no longer even agreed the principle. Their position was therefore clear and further consultation in the absence of States agreement to the principle concerned would have been pointless. We have consulted widely. It is apparent that other Committees who have commented adversely on our proposition have not themselves even tried to establish the need for a minimum wage.

Whilst it would be naive in the extreme to expect the employers organisations named above to welcome a minimum wage in Jersey, we know that certain individuals who represent the vast majority of good employers agree to the principle on a personal basis and, indeed, they actually offer attractive rates of pay as a matter of good business practice and to secure good quality staff.

The Employment and Social Security Department, in February this year, produced evidence from their own records which the Industrial Relations Committee interprets as showing that 12,408 jobs were paid at a rate equivalent to less than £3.46 an hour. Of these, 5,612 jobs (45 per cent) were full time. The Employment and Social Security Committee referred to these figures in its comments on the report and proposition published just prior to the intended debate on 19th November. That Committee restricted its conclusion to a report that "there is insufficient information available to reasonably assess the impact of the Industrial Relations Committees minimum wage proposals on the Committees area of responsibility." The Committee also stated that it believed "it would be reasonable for the States to set some minimum wage or total remuneration targets.....".

Not one States Committee has openly given its support to the principle of a minimum wage. Neither has any Committee openly opposed it. The closest thing to support has been the Policy and Resources Committee

agreeing the principle of a fair day's pay for a fair day's work and the Employment and Social Security Committee stating that it fully respects the social objectives behind the proposition and believes that all good employers see the benefits of not only paying staff fairly for their work but also providing good working conditions and treating staff well in all respects.

However, despite efforts on behalf of my Committee to clarify the stance of the Policy and Resources Committee, it has steadfastly stopped short of supporting the introduction of a minimum wage and has not defined what it means by a fair day's pay for a fair day's work.

I wrote to the President of the Policy and Resources Committee on 21st November to express my Committee's frustration and to ask for a categorical statement about its position with regard to my Committee's proposition on the principle of the introduction of a minimum wage. There has been no reply as at today, 10th December 1996.

I should emphasise that the introduction of a minimum wage is only one of a number of issues on which my Committee has been working. Public opinion has shown clearly that the people of Jersey recognise the urgent need for employment protection measures. Our own Consultative Group is fully behind the Committee on issues such as unfair dismissal and members of that Group share the frustration at delays that have been caused by factors beyond the control of the Committee. Members of the Group have stated clearly their earnest hope that the consultative process will be maintained in the future.

The Industrial Relations Committee has consistently made it clear to all concerned that it has supported the principle of the transfer of its functions to the Employment and Social Security Committee, but this support has been on the strict understanding that the momentum behind the work that it has started will be maintained, and hopefully enhanced. However, the Committee and the Consultative Group have become alarmed at the lack of commitment shown at political level by the Policy and Resources and Employment and Social Security Committees. Furthermore, the Policy and Resources Committee has decided that it is unable to provide the requested assurances about the future

prioritisation of the Industrial Relations Committee's work if this is transferred to the Employment and Social Security Committee.

No attempt has been made by the Policy and Resources Committee to provide the States with the comprehensive information required as a result of Deputy Duhamel's successful amendment (P.134/96) to its report and proposition (P.107/96) on the reorganisation of Committees of the States. Nor has there been any proper consultation. For these reasons, therefore, the Industrial Relations Committee has decided that it is not able to support the transfer of functions at present. It fully supports the principle that more could be achieved if its responsibilities were to be incorporated within a larger framework but remains to be convinced that there is currently sufficient evidence to proceed. It would therefore expect the Task Force to include this matter within its programme of work.

Finally, to put my Committee's approach towards its programme of work into true perspective, and to rebut the allegations made by various Committees and Members about lack of research and detailed thought it has given to the minimum wage issue, I will quote from paragraph 6 of the Policy and Resources Committee's report on the reorganisation of Committees of the States (P.107/96), which accurately reflects my Committee's stance -

'The Committee in putting forward the following proposals is seeking the in principle approval of the States. The Committee recognises that there will be a number of questions in States members' minds on detailed aspects of the changes the Committee has put forward. The Committee is of the view, however, that the right course of action is to determine first whether the proposals are acceptable in principle and then to tackle the detail of the working arrangements, the supporting administrative structure required, etc. To tackle the detail before seeking States approval in principle would in the view of the Committee involve politicians and officers in considerable work on the detail of proposals that the States at the end of the day might not accept.'

This is precisely what the Industrial Relations Committee has tried to do."

Channel House, Green Street, St. Helier: lease of second floor - P.240/96

THE STATES commenced consideration of a proposition of the Telecommunications Board regarding the lease of second floor space and car parking spaces at Channel House, Green Street, St. Helier. After discussion, and on the proposition of Deputy Philip John Rondel of St. John, the proposition was lodged ``au Greffe".

Occupation and Liberation Committee: disbandment

THE STATES, adopting a proposition of the Policy and Resources Committee, rescinded their Act dated 28th June 1988 constituting the Occupation and Liberation Committee.

Draft Transfer of Functions (Industrial Relations Committee) (Jersey) Act 1996 - P.241/96

THE STATES commenced consideration of the draft Transfer of Functions (Industrial Relations Committee) (Jersey) Act 1996. After discussion, and on the proposition of Senator Corrie Stein, the proposition was lodged ``au Greffe".

Draft Amendment (No. 18) of the Standing Orders of the States of Jersey P.242/96

THE STATES commenced consideration of the draft Amendment (No. 18) of the Standing Orders of the States of Jersey. After discussion, and on the proposition of Senator Richard Joseph Shenton, the proposition was lodged ``au Greffe".

Draft Amendment (No. 19) of the Standing Orders of the States of Jersey - P.243/96

THE STATES commenced consideration of the draft Amendment (No. 19) of the Standing Orders of the States of Jersey. After discussion, and on the proposition of Senator Richard Joseph Shenton, the proposition was lodged ``au Greffe".

Health and Safety at Work (Amendment No. 2) (Jersey) Law 199 - P.173/96

THE STATES, subject to the sanction of Her Most Excellent Majesty in Council, adopted a Law

entitled the Health and Safety at Work
(Amendment No. 2) (Jersey) Law 199 .

Terms of Employment (Amendment) (Jersey)
Regulations 1996 - P.209/96

THE STATES, by virtue and in exercise of the
powers conferred upon them by the Order in
Council of the fourteenth day of April 1884,
made Regulations entitled the Terms of
Employment (Amendment) (Jersey) Regulations
1996.

30 and 32 Seaton Place, St. Helier: purchase -
P.210/96

THE STATES, adopting a proposition of the
Planning and Environment Committee -

- (a) authorised the purchase, on behalf of
the public, from Miss Mary Fitzsimons,
of the property known as No. 30 Seaton
Place, St. Helier, for the sum of
£55,000 and the house and garden known
as No. 32 Seaton Place, St. Helier, for
the sum of £105,000 (as shown on
drawing No. 533/1), with each party
being responsible for its own legal
fees;
- (b) authorised the Greffier of the States
to sign the said drawing on behalf of
the States;
- (c) authorised the Attorney General and the
Greffier of the States to pass, on
behalf of the public, such contracts as
it might be found necessary to pass in
connection with the purchase of the
said properties and any interests
therein; and
- (d) authorised the payment or discharge of
the expenses to be incurred in
connection with the acquisition of the
said properties and all interests
therein from the Planning and
Environment Committee's capital vote of
credit "Acquisition of Land - Major
Reserve" (Vote No. C0904).

Fields 89 and 90, St. Brelade: transfer of
administration -
P. 217/96

THE STATES, adopting a proposition of the
Planning and Environment Committee -

- (a) authorised the transfer of administration of Field 89 and part of Field 90, St. Brelade, as shown on drawing No. 537/1, from the Planning and Environment Committee to the Sport, Leisure and Recreation Committee;
- (b) authorised the Greffier of the States to sign the said drawing on behalf of the States.

Elizabeth Castle and Mont Orgueil Castle:
cession of usufruct - P.218/96

THE STATES, adopting a proposition of the Public Services Committee -

- (a) approved the transfer to the Jersey Heritage Trust by Deed of Cession of the perpetual usufruct of Elizabeth Castle and Mont Orgueil Castle, with effect from 1st January 1997;
- (b) authorised the Greffier of the States and the Attorney General to pass the necessary Deed of Cession before the Royal Court.

Jersey Amateur Dramatic Club: further loan -
P.222/96

THE STATES, adopting a proposition of the Finance and Economics Committee, referred to their Act dated 22nd June 1993 in which they had approved a loan of £100,000 to the Jersey Amateur Dramatic Club to assist with the purchase of a disused agricultural outbuilding at La Hougue Bie, St. Saviour, and -

- (i) approved an additional loan of £60,000 to the Jersey Amateur Dramatic Club to assist with the completion of the conversion of the outbuilding;
- (ii) that the two loans be aggregated and repaid over a period not exceeding 20 years from the first year following that on which the Club resumed its productions at the refurbished Opera House in Gloucester Street, St. Helier, at a rate of interest of five per cent a year, in instalments to be agreed by the Finance and Economics Committee, and to

authorise the Committee to vary the period of the loan by accepting premature repayments from the Club, either in part or in whole, or extending the repayment period, if it appeared to the Committee to be appropriate to do so;

- (iii) that interest on the loan should be waived until one year after the Club had been able to recommence productions at the refurbished Opera House;
- (iv) that the loan be registered against the property which was to be kept in good material order.

Field 89, St. Mary: transfer of administration - P.223/96

THE STATES, adopting a proposition of the Agriculture and Fisheries Committee -

- (a) authorised the transfer of administration of an area of 1.14 vergées of land forming part of Field 89, La Rue de Crabbé, St. Mary, as shown on drawing No. 2/96, from the Agriculture and Fisheries Committee to the Sport, Leisure and Recreation Committee; and
- (b) authorised the Greffier of the States to sign the said drawing on behalf of the States.

Teachers' Superannuation (Amendment) (Jersey) Law 1996 (Appointed Day) Act 1996 - P.228/96

THE STATES, in pursuance of Article 3 of the Teachers' Superannuation (Amendment) (Jersey) Law 1996, made an Act entitled Teachers' Superannuation (Amendment) (Jersey) Law 1996 (Appointed Day) Act 1996.

Broadcasting House, St. Helier: lease of office accommodation - P.229/96

THE STATES, adopting a proposition of the Defence Committee -

- (a) approved the sub-lease by the public from the British Broadcasting Corporation of the 3rd floor office accommodation at Broadcasting House,

Rouge Bouillon, St. Helier, to provide additional office accommodation for the Law Officers' Department and the States of Jersey Police in connexion with criminal investigations regarding an alleged foreign exchange fraud, for a period of one year, with an option to extend for a further six months, with effect from 1st January 1997 or upon the signing of the lease, whichever was more practicable, at a fixed rental of £25,420 a year;

(b) authorised the Greffier of the States to sign the said lease.

Suspension of Standing Order No. 18

THE STATES, adopting a proposition of the Planning and Environment Committee, agreed to suspend Standing Order No. 18 to allow the proposition of that Committee proposing a licence of office accommodation at Westaway Chambers, 39 Don Street, St. Helier, to be considered at the present meeting.

Westaway Chambers, 39 Don Street, St. Helier:
licence of office accommodation.

THE STATES, adopting a proposition of the Planning and Environment Committee -

(a) approved the occupation by the public of the Island on a licence basis from Don Investments Limited of the first and third floors of Westaway Chambers, 39 Don Street, St Helier, for the purpose of accommodating the staff of the Judicial Greffe and Probation and After-Care Service Community Services Section for a period of one year and nine months from 1st January 1997 expiring on 29th September 1998, at an annual licence fee of £71,700 (representing a rate of £12.50 a square foot for the first floor offices and £11.50 a square foot for the third floor offices) inclusive of the cost of building insurance, lift maintenance, foncier rates, lighting, heating, cleaning and maintenance of the communal areas and the maintenance of the fire alarm system, the licence fee not to be subject to any reviews and to commence on 25th March 1997;

(b) authorised the Greffier of the States to sign the licence;

(c) authorised the Treasurer of the States to pay the licence fee as it fell due.

Jersey College for Girls entrance examination results. Statement

The President of the Education Committee made an oral statement about the concern that the results of the entrance examination for the Jersey College for Girls (JCG) for the following September were being withheld until the end of January. The Committee, as previously constituted, had decided to increase the form entry into the JCG, similar to that of Victoria College in the interests of equality of opportunity. The decision had been made in the belief that the new JCG at Mont Millais would open in September 1998. In spite of a series of delays, it was still hoped to commence work on the site in mid-summer 1997 which would allow the new school to open in September 1999. The school at Rouge Bouillon would not be able to accommodate the new projected number for the JCG forms entry. It had been hoped that the debate on the relocation of the JCG would have taken place on 10th December 1996. However it was likely to be debated on 21st January 1997 and it would then be known how many girls could be taken in next year. The Governors had decided that it was best to withhold all the results until that debate had taken place.

The President of the Education Committee indicated that his Committee supported the decision of the Governors and congratulated Mrs. Kennett, the Principal, and the Governors for a very responsible reaction to the misleading information being circulated about the new school.

Retiring Members

The Bailiff conveyed the best wishes of the Assembly to the members who would not be returning to the States in the next Session and, on behalf of the Island, thanked them for their service.

The members replied in turn.

THE STATES rose at 12.45 p.m.

Greffier of the States.