

Volume I
No. 1



Friday
11th September, 1959

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

DEWAN NEGARA (SENATE)

OFFICIAL REPORT

CONTENTS

Proclamation summoning Parliament [Col. 3]

**Election of the Yang di-Pertua Dewan Negara (President)
[Col. 4]**

Administration of Oaths [Col. 7]

FEDERATION OF MALAYA
DEWAN NEGARA (SENATE)
Official Report

First Session of the First Dewan Negara

Friday, 11th September, 1959
The House met at Ten o'clock a.m.

PRESENT:

- The Honourable DATO' HAJI ABDUL RAHMAN BIN MOHAMED YASIN, S.P.M.J., P.I.S. (Johore).
- „ the Minister of Justice, TUN LEONG YEW KOH, S.M.N. (Nominated).
- „ Dato' Orang Kaya Indera Maharajah Purba Jelai, WAN IBRAHIM BIN WAN TANJONG, J.M.N., P.J.K. (Pahang).
- „ MR. YAP KHEN VAN, A.M.N., J.P. (Pahang).
- „ ENCHE' ABDUL WAHAB BIN IDUS, P.J.K. (Negri Sembilan).
- „ DATO' LEE FOONG YEE, J.M.N., P.P.T., J.P. (Negri Sembilan).
- „ MR. CHAN KWONG HON, A.M.N., J.P. (Selangor).
- „ RAJA RASTAM SHAHROME BIN RAJA SAID TAUPHY (Selangor).
- „ ENCHE' WAN AHMAD BIN WAN DAUD, P.J.K., J.P. (Perlis).
- „ TUAN SYED BAHALDIN BIN SYED NOH, J.P. (Perlis).
- „ TUAN HAJI NIK MOHAMED ADEEB BIN HAJI NIK MOHAMED (Kelantan).
- „ ENCHE' AMALUDDIN BIN DARUS (Kelantan).
- „ ENCHE' DA ABDUL JALIL BIN HAJI AWANG (Trengganu).
- „ TUAN HAJI ABBAS BIN HAJI MOHAMED (Trengganu).
- „ ENCHE' AHMAD BIN SAID, A.M.N. (Perak).
- „ MR. YEOH KIAN TEIK (Perak).
- „ ENCHE' MOHAMED ZAHIR BIN HAJI ISMAIL (Kedah).
- „ TUAN SYED AHMAD BIN SYED MAHMUD SHAHABUDIN, J.M.N. (Kedah).
- „ DATO' SHEIKH ABU BAKAR BIN YAHYA, D.P.M.J., P.I.S., J.P. (Johore).
- „ MR. KOH KIM LENG (Malacca).
- „ ENCHE' MOHAMED SALLEH BIN MOHAMED ARIFF (Malacca).
- „ MR. CHEAH SENG KHIM, J.P. (Penang).
- „ ENCHE' HASHIM BIN AWANG, J.P. (Penang).
- „ DATO' G. SHELLEY, P.M.N., J.P. (Nominated).
- „ ENCHE' A. M. ABU BAKAR, J.M.N. (Nominated).
- „ ENSKU MUHSEIN BIN ABDUL KADIR, J.M.N., P.J.K. (Nominated).
- „ MR. T. H. TAN, J.M.N. (Nominated).

- The Honourable Mr. S. P. S. NATHAN (Nominated).
- .. MR. S. ●. K. UBAlDULLA (Nominated).
- .. MR. CHOO KOK LEONG (Nominated).
- .. MR. J. E. S. CRAWFORD, J.M.N., J.P. (Nominated).
- .. MR. LIM HEE HONG, A.M.N. (Nominated).
- .. TOK PANGKU PANDA꤁ HAMID BIN PUTEH JALI, P.J.K. (Nominated).
- .. DATO' E. E. C. THURAlSINGHAM, D.P.M.J., J.P. (Nominated).
- .. ENCHE' ABDUL HAMID BIN MAHMUD, J.M.N. (Nominated).
- .. NIK HASSAN BIN HAJI NIK YAHYA, J.M.N. (Nominated).
- .. DATO' DR. CHEAH TOON LOK, J.M.N., J.P., Dato' Maha Kurnia (Nominated).

OPENING OF THE PARLIAMENT

The Dewan Negara met at 10 a.m. pursuant to the Proclamation of His Majesty the Yang di-Pertuan Agong.

The Clerk read the Proclamation:

"PROCLAMATION

by

His Majesty the Yang di-Pertuan Agong, By the Grace of God of the States and Territories of the Federation Supreme Head

Whereas it is provided by Clause (1) of Article 55 of the Constitution of the Federation that We shall from time to time summon Parliament:

Now therefore We, Tuanku Abdul Rahman ibni Al-Marhum Tuanku Muhammad by the Grace of God of the States and territories of the Federation Yang di-Pertuan Agong in exercise of the powers conferred on Us as aforesaid Do Hereby summon Parliament and appoint the eleventh day of September, 1959, at the hour of Ten in the forenoon as the date and time for the First Meeting of the First Session of the First Parliament of the Federation, to be held in the Tunku Abdul Rahman Hall in Our Federal capital in Kuala Lumpur.

Given at Our Istana Negara in Our Federal capital of Kuala Lumpur this 27th day of August, 1959."

ELECTION OF THE YANG DI-PERTUA DEWAN NEGARA (PRESIDENT)

Tun Leong Yew Koh stood up, and addressing himself to the Clerk of the Senate (who standing up, pointed to him and then sat down) said: I propose that the Honourable Dato' Haji Abdul Rahman bin Mohamed Yasin do take the Chair of this House as President.

Mr. T. H. Tan: Sir, I second the proposal that the Honourable Dato' Haji Abdul Rahman bin Mohamed Yasin do take the Chair of this House as President.

Whereupon the Honourable Dato' Haji Abdul Rahman bin Mohamed Yasin was conducted to the Chair by the Honourable Tun Leong Yew Koh and Mr. T. H. Tan. (Applause).

(The President sat down in the Chair).

Tun Leong Yew Koh (*Translated from Malay*): Mr. President, Sir, I extend to you my most sincere congratulations on your election as the President of this Senate. By electing you to the Chair of the House, the Senate has bestowed on you the highest honour that it can bestow on any of its Members and in your instance this honour is all the more exalted because this is the First Senate established under the Constitution of our newly independent country.

Sir, the task that you have to shoulder as the first President of the Senate will, without doubt, abound

with difficulties but I am confident that, with your wide experience and sound judgment, you will be able to overcome any difficulty that may be encountered. My hope is that all Honourable Members of this Senate, whatever be their political views, will work in co-operation with you, Sir, so that nothing but good order and sound deliberation will prevail in any business that has to be carried out in this Senate.

To conclude, Sir, I would like to express my sincere wish that God will bless you with good health and good luck to carry you through with your onerous duty. (*Applause*).

Mr. T. H. Tan: Mr. President, Sir, I beg leave to speak in English. It gives me great pleasure, which I am sure is shared by the other Honourable Members of this House, to welcome you as the first President of the first Senate of the independent Federation of Malaya.

We are singularly fortunate in having you as President, because you bring to this high office an unrivalled wealth of experience gained not only in Johore but also in the public life of our country. (*Applause*). Your advice and guidance will stand us in good stead and will go a long way towards easing our work in the years ahead. With your help I feel sure that this House will live up to the confidence reposed in us by our beloved Sovereign, His Majesty the Yang di-Pertuan Agong.

As far as I know, Sir, it is unique in the annals of parliamentary history for the Upper House of a bicameral Legislature to have as its President the illustrious father of two illustrious serving Ministers. (*Applause*).

Sir, we salute you and welcome you as the President of the Senate. (*Applause*).

Nik Hassan (*Translated from Malay*): Mr. President, Sir, and Honourable Members, I would like to congratulate you on your election as President of the Senate. This is the first Assembly established after this country has achieved independence and freedom from colonialism. I am sure that in this Chamber we will co-operate to the utmost with you, Sir, and will serve the country, our people and our religion.

That is all, Sir, I have to say and in conclusion I wish to offer you my heartiest congratulations once again on your election as President of this House.

Enche' Ahmad (*Translated from Malay*): Mr. President and Honourable Members, I take this opportunity to offer you my congratulations on your election as President of this House, I am sure, with your experience and wisdom, you will be able to guide the proceedings of this House in a firm and proper manner at all times. That is all I wish to say. Thank you. (*Applause*).

Dato' E. E. C. Thuraisingham: Mr. President, Sir, it might be appropriate for me to welcome you, Sir, to this high office. In fact I had sent in my nomination for this Presidency of the Senate early yesterday morning, but I am glad that the members of the Alliance Government thought similarly and have proposed and seconded your elevation to this high position. I mention this fact not only because the Government, Sir, but almost everyone in this country regard you with the highest esteem and they are prepared unanimously to support your nomination for this high office. I have had the privilege of being your friend, Sir, for the last 40 years and I can tell my colleagues in the Senate that no finer man could have been chosen as President of the first Senate. (*Applause*).

The President (*Translated from Malay*): The Honourable Tun Leong Yew Koh, Mr. T. H. Tan, Enche' Nik Hassan, Enche' Ahmad, Dato' Thuraisingham and Honourable Members, I most sincerely would like to express my very grateful thanks to you for being pleased to repose confidence in me by electing me to this Chair, the duties of which must surely be onerous. I thank you very much for your congratulations and expressions of goodwill.

I am most grateful for the kind sentiments you have expressed. In taking the Chair of this Senate, I wish to express a hope that the Almighty will endow me with tolerance so that with forbearance towards Honourable Members the smooth conduct of business in the Senate will be assured. I

pray to the Almighty for success in carrying out my duties and I also appeal to the Almighty that we, Members of this Senate, may have His guidance.

For my part, I am to give an assurance that I will shoulder my responsibility to the best of my ability and I am confident that with your wisdom and co-operation the dignity and good name of the Senate will be preserved. (*Applause*).

ADMINISTRATION OF OATHS

The President (*Translated from Malay*): Honourable Members, I would like to inform you that the next thing to be done is, in conformity with Article 59 of the Constitution, to take and subscribe the Oath required by law.

The President and Members took and subscribed the Oath or made Affirmations commencing with the President and in the order as arranged:

- Dato' Haji Abdul Rahman bin Mohamed Yasin, S.P.M.J., P.I.S. (Johore).
 The Minister of Justice, Tun Leong Yew Koh, S.M.N. (Nominated).
 Dato' Orang Kaya Indera Maharajah Purba Jelai, Wan Ibrahim bin Wan Tanjong, J.M.N., P.J.K. (Pahang).
 Mr. Yap Khen Van, A.M.N., J.P. (Pahang).
 Enche' Abdul Wahab bin Idus, P.J.K. (Negri Sembilan).
 Dato' Lee Foong Yee, J.M.N., P.P.T., J.P. (Negri Sembilan).
 Mr. Chan Kwong Hon, A.M.N., J.P. (Selangor).
 Raja Rastam Shahrome bin Raja Said Tauphy (Selangor).
 Enche' Wan Ahmad bin Wan Daud, P.J.K., J.P. (Perlis).
 Tuan Syed Bahaldin bin Syed Noh, J.P. (Perlis).
 Tuan Haji Nik Mohamed Adee bin Haji Nik Mohamed (Kelantan).
 Enche' Amaluddin bin Darus (Kelantan).
 Enche' Da Abdul Jalil bin Haji Awang (Trengganu).
 Tuan Haji Abbas bin Haji Mohamed (Trengganu).
 Enche' Ahmad bin Said, A.M.N. (Perak).

- Mr. Yeoh Kian Teik (Perak).
 Enche' Mohamed Zahir bin Haji Ismail (Kedah).
 Tuan Syed Ahmad bin Syed Mahmud Shahabudin, J.M.N. (Kedah).
 Dato' Sheikh Abu Bakar bin Yahya, D.P.M.J., P.I.S., J.P. (Johore).
 Mr. Koh Kim Leng (Malacca).
 Enche' Mohamed Salleh bin Mohamed Ariff (Malacca).
 Mr. Cheah Seng Khim, J.P. (Penang).
 Enche' Hashim bin Awang, J.P. (Penang).
 Dato' G. Shelley, P.M.N., J.P. (Nominated).
 Enche' A. M. Abu Bakar, J.M.N. (Nominated).
 Engku Muhsein bin Abdul Kadir, J.M.N., P.J.K. (Nominated).
 Mr. T. H. Tan, J.M.N. (Nominated).
 Mr. S. P. S. Nathan (Nominated).
 Mr. S. O. K. Ubaidulla (Nominated).
 Mr. Choo Kok Leong (Nominated).
 Mr. J. E. S. Crawford, J.M.N., J.P. (Nominated).
 Mr. Lim Hee Hong, A.M.N. (Nominated).
 Tok Pangku Pandak Hamid bin Puteh Jali, P.J.K. (Nominated).
 Dato' E. E. C. Thuraisingham, D.P.M.J., J.P. (Nominated).
 Enche' Abdul Hamid bin Mahmud, J.M.N. (Nominated).
 Nik Hassan bin Haji Yahya, J.M.N. (Nominated).
 Dato' Dr. Cheah Toon Lok, J.M.N., J.P., Dato' Maha Kurnia (Nominated).

The President (*Translated from Malay*): Honourable Members, you have all taken the Oath. I am to inform this Senate that it is His Majesty's pleasure that, upon the Members of both Houses of Parliament having been sworn, the causes of the summoning of Parliament will be declared. It is therefore His Majesty's pleasure that you, Honourable Members of the Senate, repair to the Chamber of the House of Representatives at the hour of 10 a.m. to-morrow, there to hear the Declaration of His Majesty of the causes of summoning Parliament, and thereafter to meet again in this Chamber upon the expiration of forty-five minutes next following the conclusion of such proceedings.

Senate adjourned at 10.58 a.m.