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BRITISH HONDURAS
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

RULES

BRITISH HONDURAS

FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WAR

TRINIDAD

British Honduras Chamber of Commerce

Established 15th. February, 1918

Office: Clarion Building, 17 Regent Street, Belize

P. O. Box 91.

Cable Address: Commerce Belize.

Telephone 191.

President:

Hon. G. E. Grabham, M. L. C.,
Manager The Belize Estate & Produce Company Limited.

Vice-Presidents:

Hon. S. Cuthbert, M. L. C.,
Messrs. Cuthbert Bros.

Capt. H. Melhado
Messrs. C. Melhado & Sons

Hon. Treasurer:

A. N. Easton, Esq.

Secretary:

P. Stanley Woods

Members of the Council:

C. R. Beattie, Esq.,
Mgr. The Royal Bank of Canada

Capt. J. J. Franco,
Messrs. Woods, Slack & Franco,
Solicitors

Hon. E. A. H. Schofield, M. L. C.,
Corozal

Hon. L. R. Grant, M. L. C.,
Messrs. John Harley & Co.

John McArthur, Esq.,
Planter, Stann Creek

Major Fraser,
Messrs. James Brodie & Co., Ltd.

T. T. Watrous Esq.,
Planter, Punta Gorda

F. R. Dragten, Esq.,
Barrister-at-Law

F. E. Starkey, Esq.,
Victoria Falls Co.

A. R. Bishop, Esq.,
Agent United Fruit Co.

Membership open to firms and individuals, both within the Colony and abroad.

Correspondence invited.

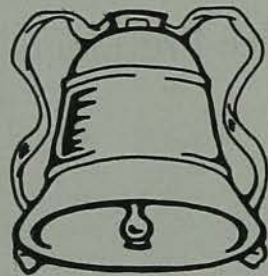
All communications should be addressed to the Secretary.

BRITISH HONDURAS

FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WAR

TRINIDAD

BRITISH MUSEUM



THE BRITISH HONDURAS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

RULES

Adopted at a Meeting held on February 15th. 1918.

Name

1. The name of the Association is THE BRITISH HONDURAS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Objects

2. The objects for which the Chamber is established are :—
 - A. To promote and protect the trade, commerce, products and manufactures of British Honduras.
 - B. To promote and protect local, intercolonial and foreign trade.
 - C. To discuss and consider questions concerning and affecting such trade, commerce, products and manufactures.
 - D. To promote, approve, or oppose legislation and other matters affecting such trade, commerce, products and manufactures.
 - E. To undertake by arbitration the settlement of disputes arising out of trade, commerce, products and manufactures.
 - F. To acquire by purchase, taking on lease or otherwise land and buildings and all other property, real and personal, which the Chamber for the purposes thereof may from time to time think proper to acquire and which may lawfully be held by it, and to re-sell, underlet, surrender, turn to account or dispose of such property or any part thereof.
 - G. To erect buildings for the purposes of the Chamber and to add to any such buildings, and to do and carry out all such repairs, decorations, alterations, and improvements as may be deemed from time to time necessary or desirable.
 - H. To borrow any moneys required for the purposes of the Chamber upon such terms and on such securities as may be determined, and for that purpose to mortgage, charge or encumber all or any of the property of the Chamber.
 - I. To invest moneys which the Chamber may not immediately require in such manner as may from time to time be determined.
 - J. To do all such other lawful things as are incidental to the attainment of the above objects.

FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WAR

TRINIDAD

Election of Members

3. (a) Candidates for admission to the Ordinary Membership of this Chamber of Commerce, must be proposed by one Member and seconded by another at any Ordinary Meeting of the Council, and shall be balloted for at the next meeting of the Council, such elections to be confirmed by the Members at the first General Meeting of the Chamber thereafter. Voting for membership shall be by ballot, one black ball in five shall exclude any candidate from election.

(b) Candidates for Honorary Membership of the Chamber shall be proposed and seconded as hereinbefore provided, but they shall be elected at a General Meeting of the Chamber only, and by the unanimous vote of the Ordinary Members present thereat. Honorary Members shall not be required to pay any entrance fee nor subscriptions, nor shall they be liable to contribute to the assets of the Chamber, in the event of its being wound up. They shall have the right of attending meetings of the Chamber, and speaking, but not voting thereat, nor shall they be eligible to serve as Members of the Council.

(c) The words "Member" or "Members" occurring elsewhere in these Rules or Bye-Laws shall mean Ordinary Members only, and not Honorary Members.

Entrance Fee and Subscriptions

4. The Entrance Fee to be paid by all Members shall be \$10. The annual subscription for Resident Members shall be \$20., if paid in advance, or \$24. if paid by monthly instalments of \$2. The annual subscription for Members non-resident in the Colony and for Members residing outside a radius of ten miles of the town of Belize shall be \$10. payable in advance. Members of firms and others paying \$30. shall have the right of substitution, but only one vote. Such substitution shall refer to a partner or attorney of the absentee Member only. Subscriptions, whether paid annually or monthly, must be paid in advance. Candidates elected in compliance with the provisions of the preceding Rule, must prepay their Entrance Fee and Subscription, otherwise their names cannot be entered in the Roll of Membership.

5. No Member shall be entitled to vote or exercise any privilege of membership whose subscription is in arrears.

Officers.

6. There shall be a President, two Vice-Presidents, a Treasurer and a Secretary of the Chamber.

The Council

7. There shall be a Council of the Chamber, which shall consist of the President, the two Vice-Presidents, the Treasurer, the Secretary and ten other Members of the Chamber, of which last named number not more than five nor less than three shall be out of town Members.

8. (1) Subject to the general control and direction of the Chamber in General Meeting, the Council shall have entire management of the business of the Chamber.

(2) The Council shall have the management of the income, funds and property, if any, of the Chamber, and may appoint and dismiss at their pleasure all salaried Officers and servants, as they may think fit, and may, subject to the provisions of the Rules and Bye-Laws of the Chamber, do all such things as may appear to them necessary and expedient for carrying out the objects for which the Chamber is established.

9. The Council shall prepare and present to the Chamber, at its Annual General Meeting, a report of the proceedings of the past year, together with a statement of the receipts and expenditure during that period, and a statement of its financial position.

10. No Member of the Chamber shall be eligible for election to the Council unless he be a British born subject. The membership of any alien Member of the Chamber whose country shall be at war with Great Britain shall *IPSO FACTO* cease.

11. The Chamber shall have power from time to time to make, and when made, to alter, amend, or repeal, Rules and Bye-Laws for the regulation of its proceedings, for the admission and expulsion of Members, for fixing the number and functions of Officers of the Chamber and their mode of election, and generally for the management of its business and the carrying out of the objects for which it is established.

12. This Chamber being instituted solely for commercial purposes, and comprising among its members persons of all political opinions; all questions of party politics, general or local, are excluded.

13. The General Chamber may divide itself into Trade Sections, and each Section may elect one or more representatives to the Council, provided that at no time shall the Council exceed fifteen in number.

14. The Council shall have power to examine and try charges of misconduct in business matters preferred against a Member of the Chamber, when made to the President in writing by a Member of the Chamber, and if the person against whom such charges are made shall be found guilty of a violation of these Rules or the Bye-Laws for the regulation of this Chamber of Commerce, of a breach of contract, of false or fictitious reports of sales or purchases, of wilfully interfering with the collection of reports of the movements of commodities, of failure to comply with any award of the Committees of Arbitration or Appeal; or of any act contrary to the spirit which should govern all commercial transactions, the Council, by a majority vote of the whole Council, may cause him to be publicly reprimanded, and may suspend him from membership indefinitely, or for a definite time or may expel him from membership.

Meetings

15. The Annual General Meeting of the Chamber shall be held in the month of February in every year, and if necessary, may be adjourned from time to time, for the following purposes, or any of them, namely :-

- (1) To receive from the Council and to consider the report of the proceedings of the past year;
- (2) To elect Officers and Members of the Council in place of those retiring.
- (3) To make new Rules and Bye-Laws; or to alter, amend, or repeal any existing Rules and Bye-Laws; and
- (4) To consider any other matters coming within the scope of the objects for which the Chamber is established.

16. (1) Other General Meetings of the Chamber may be held as often as may be determined by the Chamber at its Annual General meeting.

(2) A Special General Meeting may at any time be called by the President, or in his absence, by one of the Vice-Presidents.

(3) A Special General Meeting shall be convened by the Secretary on a requisition in writing signed by any three Members of the Council, or by any five Members of the Chamber.

17. There shall be Quarterly Ordinary Meetings of the Chamber, to be held on days to be fixed by the Council, in the months of February, May, August and November, notice of such Meetings being given seven clear days previously.

18. Notice of Special Meetings stating the objects, shall be given at least fourteen days previously.

19. All Meetings of the Chamber shall be convened by circular to the Members. In the absence of the President, and Vice-Presidents, the Meeting shall elect its own Chairman. The Chairman as well as the President shall have a second or casting vote.

A quorum shall consist of nine members, of whom at least three shall not be Members of the Council.

20. At any General or Special Meeting of the Chamber, the majority of the Members then present may authorize, or any ten Members in writing within seven days, may demand a poll of the Chamber on any Resolution passed at such Meeting, and thereupon voting papers shall be sent out to each Member, and the final decision of the Chamber taken accordingly.

21. Any member of the Chamber wishing to propose a motion at the Quarterly or other Meetings, on any subject or matter not included in the business coming up for confirmation, shall give notice in writing to the Secretary setting forth the terms of his motion, at least seven days prior to the day of Meeting at which it is intended to introduce such motion, and a copy of such notice of motion shall be forwarded by circular to each Member.

Provided always that any Member may at such Meeting, propose any motion without previous notice with the sanction of the majority of the Members present, and which in the opinion of the President of the Chamber, is in accordance with the Rules.

22 At each Annual General Meeting of the Chamber, commencing with the Annual General Meeting to be held in the month of February 1919, the five elected Members of the Council who have been longest in office, shall go out of office, and five new Members shall be elected by open voting in manner hereinafter mentioned. Members retiring by rotation shall be eligible for re-election.

Elections

23. The election of new Members of the Council shall be conducted as follows - that is to say - Any Member of the Chamber shall have the right of nominating one or more Members either by letter addressed to the Secretary, or *VIVA VOCE*, at the Annual General Meeting, and these being duly seconded, the Chamber shall proceed to vote, unless the number so proposed shall exceed the number of vacancies. In this case the Meeting shall be adjourned for fourteen days, and a list of the names proposed, with those of their movers and seconders shall be sent to each Member of the Chamber, to be returned by him to the Secretary at least one day before the adjourned Meeting, with his signature opposite to the names for which he votes. Each Member may vote for as many candidates as there are vacancies to be filled, and no more; but he shall not give more than one vote to any candidate.

The Meeting shall, before its adjournment, appoint three Members to assist the Chairman in counting the votes, and the Members who shall be found to have received the greatest number of votes shall be declared elected. In case of equality the Chairman shall give a casting vote.

24. Should an elected Member be absent from all consecutive Meetings of the Council for the space of two months, the Council shall have the power to declare the seat vacant. Any vacancy in the elected Members of the Council, whether arising from death, resignation or non-attendance as aforesaid, between the Annual General Meetings, may be filled up by the Council at the next meeting following that at which the vacancy is declared, and the term of office of each member so elected shall be for the unexpired period of the Member whose place he shall supply. The Council shall have full power to act notwithstanding any vacancy shall not have been filled up.

Meetings of the Council

25. The Council shall, at the first Meeting after the Annual General Meeting, elect by ballot out of its own body a President, two Vice-Presidents, a Treasurer and a Secretary, to be elected for one year, but to be eligible for re-election.

26. Special Meetings of the Council may be convened by the President, one of the Vice-Presidents, or three Members of the Council, notice of such Meetings, stating the objects, being given by the Secretary by circular issued seven days previously.

Appointment of Committees

27. The Council shall from time to time appoint such Committees as may be necessary, and shall have the power to associate with these Committees any Member or Members of the Chamber, with full privilege to act and vote on those Committees.

Offices

28. The Council shall have the power to take Offices for the use of the Chamber.

Records

29. Correct Minutes of the proceedings of the Chamber, and of the Council, shall be kept in suitable books, which shall be open to the inspection of Members of the Chamber at all convenient times.

Accounts.

30. The Treasurer's Account of receipts and disbursements to be presented at the Annual General Meetings, shall be duly audited by one or two Members of the Chamber appointed by the Council.

Settlement of Commercial Questions and Disputes

31. The Chamber may undertake through its Council, or a Committee appointed for the purpose, the settlement of disputes arising out of commercial transactions, under such regulations as the Council shall direct by its Bye-Laws.

Notices

32. A notice may be served by the Chamber upon any Member either personally, or by sending it through the post in a prepaid letter addressed to such Member at his registered address.

33. Any notice sent by post shall be deemed to have been served at the time when the letter containing the same would be delivered in the ordinary course of the post; and in proving such service, it shall be sufficient to prove that the letter containing the notice was properly addressed and put into the Post Office.

Income and Property

34. The Income and Property of the Chamber whensoever derived vested in the Council for the time being shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the Chamber as set forth in Rule 2, and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise howsoever, by way of profit to the Members of the Chamber.

Provided that nothing herein shall prevent the payment in good faith, of reasonable and proper remuneration to any Officer or servant of the Chamber, or to any Member of the Chamber in return for any services actually rendered to the Chamber, nor prevent the payment of interest, at a rate not exceeding Ten per centum, on money lent, or reasonable and proper rent for premises demised or let by any Member of the Chamber.

35. (1) In the event of the Chamber being wound up, every person who is a Member at the time of the winding up, or has ceased to be a Member within twelve months preceding the winding up, shall be liable to contribute to the assets of the Chamber, for payment of the debts and liabilities of the Chamber contracted before the time at which he ceased to be a Member, and of the costs, charges and expenses of the winding up, and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributories amongst themselves, such amount, not exceeding Twenty-five (\$25) Dollars, as may be required for the said purposes or any of them, or in case of his liability becoming unlimited as hereafter in this section provided, such other amount as may be required as aforesaid.

(2) In the event of the Chamber acting in contravention of the last preceding section, the liability of every Member of the Council shall be unlimited, and the liability of every Member of the Chamber who has received any such dividend, bonus, or other profit as aforesaid shall likewise be unlimited.

BYE-LAWS

1. A meeting of the Council shall be held within two weeks after the Annual General Meeting for the election of Officers and for the appointment of Committees.

2. The meetings of the Council shall be held on the third Wednesday of each month, or on such other days as the Council may fix, notice of such other meetings to be given by circular stating the business, at least three days previously.

3. The Chair shall be taken by the President: in his absence by one of the Vice-Presidents; or, in their absence by one of the Members of the Council duly moved thereto.

4. If a quorum, consisting of three members, be not present within ten minutes past the time fixed for the meeting of the Council, the members present may adjourn the meeting.

5. The record of the proceedings of every meeting shall be read over and confirmed at the next ensuing meeting.

6. No business of which notice has not been duly given in the circulars shall be transacted at any meeting of the Council without the approval of the majority of the Council present.

7. The number of votes on all divisions in the Council shall be recorded in the Minutes.

8. The Minutes of the Council, and of its Committees shall, until signed, be open to the inspection of members of the Council only.

9. The offices of the Chamber shall be open at such times as the Council may from time to time direct, due notice of which shall be given.

10. The business of the Annual Meetings shall be proceeded with in the following order:—

1. Circular convening the Meeting to be read.
2. Report and Accounts of the Council.
3. Election of Members of the Council.
4. General Business.

11. The Chairman of each Committee shall bring up the reports and recommendations of his Committee for consideration and adoption at the monthly or other meetings of the Council.

12. Each Committee, on its appointment, shall elect a Chairman. The Secretary shall ex-officio be the secretary to all Committees.

13. The President and Vice-Presidents shall ex-officio be members of all Committees, and shall, together with the Chairman, have power to invite members and non-members of the Chamber to attend meetings of the Committees, but not to vote at them.

14. Committees shall have the power to request the attendance of members or non-members to give evidence.

15. The President, or one of the Vice-Presidents, shall have power, on behalf of the Council, to refer to the Committees all communications requiring consideration.

16. Members of Committees shall continue their functions until the re-appointment of those Committees.

17. The President shall have the power to invite visitors to the Colony to the Meetings of the Chamber.

18. Reporters may be admitted to the meetings of the Chamber, to take notes of the proceedings.

19. All money received by the Chamber or its Officers shall be paid into the credit of the Chamber at The Royal Bank of Canada, and all payments exceeding \$10 shall be made by cheque which shall be signed by the Treasurer and President, or one of the Vice-Presidents or the Secretary.

20. The Council for the purpose of the due enforcement of Rule 10, may, at any time call upon any member of the Council to produce evidence, satisfactory to the Council, that he is a British born subject, or, may call upon any member of the Chamber to give evidence of his nationality to the satisfaction of the Council.

21. All Books, Documents, Records and Papers shall be in charge of the Secretary, and kept at the offices of the Chamber, and not be removed without the permission of a member of the Council.

22. There shall be a book kept in the reading room of the Chamber in which members may enter, for the consideration of the Council, any suggestions or complaints they may wish to make as to the management of the affairs of the Chamber.

23. The names of all Candidates put up for membership, together with those of their proposers and seconders shall be posted on the Notice Board from the date of such proposal until the date of Meeting of the Council at which they are to be balloted for, and, if elected, by the Council, such notice shall remain posted until the Meeting of the Chamber at which such election is to be confirmed.

List of Members

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NAME	ADDRESS
Alliance Assurance Co., Ltd.	London
Anderson, H. D.	Belize
Ayuso, Gregorio	Guinea Grass
Beattie, Chas. R.	Belize
Belize Estate & Produce Co., Ltd.	"
Bishop, Alfred R.	"
Blanco, B. C. O.	Stann Creek
Bourne, W. N.	Punta Gorda
Bowman, W. A. J.	Stann Creek
Bradley, A. F.	Belize
Bradley, John A.	Northern River
Braithwaite, S.	Seven Hills
Bryant, V. L.	Belize
Burgos, A.	"
Carrillo & Sons, J. E.	"
Craik, Jas.	"
Cuthbert, Sydney	"
Dragten, Frans R.	"
Easton, Alfred N.	"
Evans, D. B.	"
Foote, Fk.	"
Franco, J. J.	"
Franklin, E. W. L.	"
Fraser, Duncan	"
Gaynair, Michael A.	"
Grabham, G. E.	"
Grant, L. R.	"
Hofius, Ernest J.	"
Heitler, H.	"
Habet & Sabala	El Cayo
Hofius & Hildebrandt	Belize
Hood, Walter	"
Johnston, Eddie E.	"
Jones, Edwin	Vancouver B. C.
Krug & Co.	Belize
Kuylen, Val.	Stann Creek
Lester, Jos. S.	Punta Gorda
Lewis, R.	Belize
Lind, W. A.	"

FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WAR

TRINIDAD

NAME	ADDRESS
Lizarraga, Cornelio	Corozal
McArthur, John	Stann Creek
Makla Bros.	Belize
Melhado & Sons, C.	"
Meyer & Co.	"
Morlan, A. E.	"
Morter, I. E.	"
Mutrie, Arthur & Currie	"
Parham, W. H.	"
Parsons & Heron	Guinea Grass
Pearce, H. W.	Belize
Perdomo Bros.	"
Perez, Eulogio	Corozal
Plummer, J. E.	Belize
Price, H. T.	"
Price, Wm. C.	"
Quijano, V. Rendon	"
Ramirez, R. B.	Corozal
Rice, A.	Belize
Romero, M.	Corozal
Rosado, J. R.	"
Ross, Fred. W.	Belize
Schnarr, Henry S.	"
Schofield, E. A. H.	Corozal
Scrutton Sons & Co. Ltd.	London
Smith, W. Thos.	Sittee River
Stansbury, Horace	Belize
Starkey, Fred. E.	"
Stuart, W. C. F.	"
Usher, A. R.	"
Vernon, Chris. W.	"
Vernon, S. B.	Punta Groda
Vine, A. E.	Stann Creek
Watrous, T. T.	Punta Gorda
Wells, E. H.	Monkey River
Williamson, Arthur D. P.	Belize
Winter, A. R.	"
Woods, P. Stanley	"
Wm. Wrigley Junr. Coy.	Chicago