

**REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS OF
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

**Douglas, Monday, 16th March 1998
at 10.00 a.m.**

Present:

The President (the Hon Sir Charles Kerruish OBE LLD (hc) CP), the Lord Bishop (the Rt Rev Noël Debroy Jones), the Attorney-General (Mr W J H Corlett), Hon C M Christian, Messrs J R Kniveton and E G Lowey, Hon E J Mann, Messrs J N Radcliffe and G H Waft, with Mr T A Bawden, Clerk of the Council.

The Lord Bishop took the prayers.

Apologies For Absence

The President: Hon. members, we have apologies for absence from the hon. Mr Delaney, who happily continues to make good progress from his recent illness.

Members Take Oath Of Office

The President: Now, this morning we are pleased to welcome to our Council proceedings His Honour the Deemster Cain, Clerk of the Rolls, accompanied by the Chief Registrar, Mr Curtis. The Deemster will administer the Oath of Allegiance and the Oath of a Member of the Legislative Council to the newly elected members. Learned Deemster, the Clerk will now introduce the new members to you.

The Clerk then introduced in turn Mrs Christian, Mr Kniveton and Mr Lowey, to each of whom the First Deemster administered the Oath of Allegiance and the Oath of a Member of the Legislative Council as follows:

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

I, ..., do swear by Almighty God that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second. So help me God.

OATH OF A MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

You shall well and truly serve as a Member of the Legislative Council of this Isle according to the Statute in that case made and provided.

You shall use your best endeavours to maintain the Laws and Customs of this Isle and shall justly and truly deliver your opinion and do right in all matters which shall be put unto you, without favour or affection, affinity or consanguinity, love or fear, reward or gain, or for any hope thereof, but in all things you shall deal uprightly and justly and do wrong to no man. So help you God.

Each new member, having taken the oaths, then signed the Liber Juramentorum, was presented with the Certificate of Election and a copy of the Standing Orders of the Legislative Council, and was conducted to his seat.

Deemster T W Cain: Mr President, the newly elected members are now fully qualified to take their seats as Members of the Legislative Council.

The President: Thank you, learned Deemster. The member yet to be elected for the remaining vacancy will be sworn in in chambers in due course, hon. members.

To our newly elected colleagues I extend the warmest of welcomes and wish them a happy and successful term of office. It is indeed pleasing to have Mrs Christian and Mr Lowey, with their undoubted ability, experience and enthusiasm, back in Council. And to our new colleague, Mr Kniveton, bringing to our ranks his proven ability, integrity and common sense, may I say, sir, Council will be the richer for your presence.

The Council you join today has, over the centuries of our long parliamentary experience, made and continues to make a significant contribution to the Island's well-being out of all proportion to the size of its membership. Using its acknowledged experience and unbiased judgement as a revising body while at the same time making an outstanding contribution to the Island's administration, it happily gives a balance which contributes to the successful operation of the tricameral parliamentary system which has served this Island so well. Perhaps too prone to hide its light under a bushel, a feature which can on occasion be used to disparage its role in Manx affairs, it remains the ultimate guardian of the people's interests and together you bring to this forum significant legislative experience, business acumen and a well-rounded understanding of the Island's needs.

Your colleagues here, who welcome you as I do, possess these attributes in full and I am convinced that the Legislative Council can be depended on to serve the interests of the Island in a manner in which you may all take pride.

Now, to all assembled I extend an invitation to you to join me in the Millennium Room for a morning coffee, and the adjournment, hon. members, will be to 10.30 tomorrow in Tynwald. Thank you very much.

The Council adjourned.

Corrigendum

Legislative Council , 27th January 1998:

Page C46, column 2, line 43, for **Mr Brown** please read **Mr Barton**.