

THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT).

SESSION 1946—1948

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

21st January, 1947

Pursuant to adjournment, the House of Assembly met at 12 o'clock noon to-day.

Present:

His Honour Mr. G. B. EVELYN (*Speaker*), His Honour Mr. J. E. T. BRANCKER, (*Deputy Speaker*), Mr. J. T. C. RAMSAY (*Chairman of Committees*), Dr. J. A. LeV. WILSON, Messrs. M. E. COX, D. A. FOSTER, H. W. SPRINGER, M.A., H. D. BLACKMAN, H. A. DOWDING, V. C. GALE, S. A. WALCOTT, G. H. ADAMS, B.A., J. H. WILKINSON, O.B.E., and E. D. MOTTLEY.

Prayers are read.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER: The Minutes of the last meeting have been printed but as they are circulated only this morning, I do not propose to confirm them to-day.

Mr. CRAWFORD enters the House and takes his seat.

DOCUMENTS

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that I have received from the Barbados Electric Supply Corporation, Ltd., a copy of their Report and Statement of Accounts to the 30th June, 1946.

PAPERS LAID

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker,—I have the honour to lay on the table of the House the following Papers:—

Message No. 3/1947 from His Excellency the Acting Governor referring to the Address from the Honourable the House of Assembly dated the 10th December, 1946, on the subject of emigration, and informing the Honourable House that he is investigating, both directly and through the Secretary of State for the Colonies, the possibility of schemes of emigration to the countries mentioned in the Address and to other countries in Central and South America.

Message No. 4/1947 from His Excellency the Acting Governor informing the Honourable the House of Assembly that he has received information from the Secretary of State for the Colonies that Sir Hilary Blood, K.C.M.G., Governor and Commander-in-Chief Designate, is expected to sail from the United Kingdom for Barbados in the "Eros" on or about January 27th.

Message No. 5/1947 from His Excellency the Acting Governor informing the Honourable the House of Assembly that he has been informed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies that the general rise over the past few years in the cost of living and the universal tendency for salaries and wages to increase have made it necessary for him to undertake a general review of the emoluments of Colonial Governors, including the official salary and allowances of the Governor of Barbados.

Message No. 6/1947 from H. E. the Acting Governor informing the Honourable the House of Assembly that he has been informed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies that, in accordance with a recommendation made by the Conference on Trade matters which was held in Barbados last May, His Majesty's Government in the U. K. has invited an Advisory West Indian Mission composed of five members to visit London shortly in connection with the forthcoming International Conference on Trade and Employment which it is expected will be held in the Spring of this year.

Statement of the expenditure of the Housing Board to the 30th of June, 1946.

Messrs. GARNER, LEWIS, and HAYNES enter the House during the laying of the abovementioned Papers and take their seats.

PETITIONS

Mr. HAYNES: Mr. Speaker, I beg to present a petition from the Vestry of St. Andrew praying this House to grant them permission to raise a loan not exceeding £1,000 for the purpose of repairing the Parish Church of St. Andrew. As far as I can see, the petition is respectfully worded and I ask that it be taken as read.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker,—I beg to present a petition from the Vestry of the Parish of St. Michael praying this House to grant them per-

mission to raise a loan not exceeding £8,000 to acquire premises and renovate them with the view of establishing a Home for destitute children in the Parish. The petition is respectfully worded and I ask that it be taken as read.

Mr. MAPP enters the House and takes his seat.

NOTICES.

Government Notices are given as follows:—

Mr. ADAMS: Resolution that with effect from the 1st April, 1946, and until the 31st March, 1948, a cost of living allowance be paid to

(a) officers in the full time service of the Government who receive their salaries from the Public Treasury.

(b) officers who retired from the full time service of the Government at any time between the 1st of April, 1946, and the date of the passing of this Resolution in circumstances rendering them eligible for the grant of a pension or gratuity, and

(c) officers who were transferred from the full time service of the Crown in this Island to the full time service of the Crown elsewhere between the 1st April, 1946, and the date of the passing of this Resolution

at the rates, and subject to the terms, conditions and exceptions, set out in the Schedule to the resolution.

Mr. ADAMS: Resolution to place the sum of £19,582 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to supplement the amounts provided under the various Heads of the Estimates of Expenditure for the year 1946—47 to provide for increases in pay for the members of the staffs of the several Government Departments and Institutions mentioned in the Schedule attached to the Resolution for the period from the 1st April, 1946, to the 31st March, 1947.

Mr. SPRINGER: Resolution to place the sum of £1,755 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to meet this Colony's contribution to the University College of the West Indies in respect of the years 1946 and 1947.

Mr. BLACKMAN: Resolution to approve the attached plan marked "A" showing the route along which the British Union Oil Company Limited propose to lay mains or pipes, in accordance with the provisions of section 4 of the British Union Oil Company Gas (Facilities for Development) Act, 1941.

Mr. ADAMS: Of my intention to move the House into Committee of Supply at its next meeting to consider the many Resolutions of which notice has just been given.

Other notices are as follows:—

Mr. COX: Of the following Address:—

The House of Assembly

To

His Excellency The Governor

The House respectfully request Your Excellency to take immediate steps to negotiate with the owner or owners or attorney of the "Bay Estate" with the view of purchasing same.

Also of my intention to ask leave of the House later in the day to move the passing of this Address.

Mr. BRANCKER: Of the following Address:—

The House of Assembly

To

His Excellency The Governor

The House of Assembly note that the Secretary of State for the Colonies has decided to send a

Commission to British Guiana and British Honduras to explore the possibilities of immigration from over-populated British colonies to those countries.

2. The House, whilst welcoming the abovementioned announcement, are of the opinion that such a Commission should include a certain number of British West Indians, amongst the latter being at least one Barbadian member.

3. The House desire that the views expressed in paragraph 2 (above) be conveyed by His Excellency the Governor to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies with the compliments of the House.

Mr. HAYNES: A Bill to authorize the Vestry of St. Andrew to raise a loan not exceeding £1,000 to repair the roof of the Parish Church of the said parish.

Mr. MOTTLEY: A Bill to authorize the Vestry of St. Michael to raise a loan of not more than £8,000 to purchase a place to found a Home for destitute and orphan children.

Mr. BRANCKER: Of my intention to ask the leave of the House later in the day to move the passing of the Address of which I just gave notice.

PETITION WITHDRAWN AND ORDER REMOVED

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker,—I beg to withdraw the petition which I presented on the last occasion in connection with Order No. 69 which stands in my name under Private Members' Business as follows:— Second reading of a Bill to authorize the Vestry of the parish of St. Michael to raise a loan to enable them to purchase a property which adjoins the Parochial Buildings, Cheapside, Bridgetown, for parochial purposes. I am also asking leave to withdraw that Bill.

Mr. SPEAKER: Is the honourable member withdrawing the petition which he presented on the last occasion?

Mr. MOTTLEY: Yes, Mr. Speaker, and the Bill which is now Order 69 under Private Members' Business.

Mr. SPEAKER: The honourable senior member for the City is asking leave to withdraw the petition which he presented on the last occasion. If there is no objection, the honourable member will be granted the leave asked for. (After a pause). There being no objection, that petition is withdrawn and Order 69 under Private Members' Business will be removed from the Order Paper.

APPLICATION TO PRESENT PETITION REFUSED

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker,—I am now asking leave to present a new petition in respect of the same subject, namely, the granting of permission to the Vestry of St. Michael to raise a loan to enable them to purchase a property which adjoins the Parochial Buildings, Cheapside, Bridgetown, for parochial purposes.

Mr. SPEAKER: The honourable member was granted leave to withdraw the petition which he presented at the last meeting in connection with that subject but this petition will have to be presented at the next meeting of the House.

Mr. MOTTLEY: They are two separate and distinct petitions, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: I know. You presented at the last meeting of the House a petition which was not in order. I told you that you would have to

withdraw it and you did not do so in time to be able to present this petition to-day; therefore, the petition which you want to present to-day will have to be presented at the next meeting of the House.

Mr. WARD enters the House and takes his seat.

SELECT COMMITTEE'S REPORT

Mr. WILKINSON: Mr. Speaker,—I beg to hand in the Report of the Select Committee appointed to draft a Reply to His Excellency's Message No. 2/1947 relating to an Agreement with the British Union Oil Co., Ltd., for the supply of natural gas to the Belle Pumping Station.

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME

On the motion of Mr. HAYNES, seconded by Mr. DOWDING, a Bill to authorize the Vestry of St. Andrew to raise a loan not exceeding £1,000 to repair the Parish Church is read a first time.

On the motion of Mr. MOTTLEY, seconded by Mr. GARNER, a Bill to authorize the Vestry of St. Michael to raise a loan not exceeding £8,000 to purchase premises and renovate them with the view of establishing a Home for destitute children of the parish is read a first time.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MR. LEWIS

Mr. LEWIS applies for and is granted two weeks' leave of absence from his duties as a member of the House from the 23rd January, 1947.

NEWSPAPER PUBLICATION OF DEBATES

Mr. LEWIS: Mr. Speaker,—Before you proceed to call the Orders of the day I would like to call your attention and the attention of the members of this House to what I consider to be a matter of some importance,—something which, I hope, this action of mine will tend to correct and will be taken in the right spirit. I refer to the reporting by newspapers of the proceedings of this House. I say, Sir, that the manner in which the debates are reported by them does no credit to the newspapers themselves nor to honourable members and I hope, Sir, that this warning from me will have the salutary effect of making the newspaper editors take a greater interest and the young men whom they send here aim at greater efficiency. The members of this House, with the newspaper reporting at its present standard, are made to look ridiculous, not only to their constituents but to the outside world. I say that, Sir, with no intention at all of muzzling the Press. They are at liberty to take the printed official debates and re-print them but I do insist that those persons who come here to report to the proceedings should aim at a higher degree of proficiency and accuracy in the reporting of these proceedings. I shall say no more, Sir, at this juncture.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Mr. SPEAKER: The first Order is to resume Committee of Supply to consider the grant of sums of money for the service of the Government.

Mr. SPEAKER leaves the Chair and the House goes into Committee of Supply, Mr. RAMSAY being in the Chair.

EMPLOYING A FEMALE PROBATION OFFICER

Mr. SPRINGER: Mr. Chairman,—The first Resolution is for the sum of £55 to be placed at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to meet the cost of employing a female Probation Officer at a salary at the rate of £100 per annum from the 1st January to the 31st March 1947, and to grant her a travelling allowance at the rate of £120 per annum during the same period. The addendum is fairly full and explains the matter. The law requires that where a woman or girl is placed under the supervision of a Probation Officer, the Probation Officer shall be a woman and it gives the Governor power to appoint such number of Probation Officers as he may consider expedient. Up to now, there is only one Probation Officer—a man. In practice, the Magistrates have been employing the services of the Probation Officer's wife to take charge of female persons who are put on probation but her position is neither regular nor is it fair to her and the magistrates are very reluctant to continue doing it. Accordingly we are asked to agree to this Resolution, in order that the lady in question will be put on a proper legal footing. Her appointment will last for as long as that of her husband which, this House will remember, Sir, was from the beginning a temporary appointment. It has always been, I understand, the intention of the Government to have local persons trained to succeed Mr. Brooks and the Social Welfare Officer is charged with the duty of drawing up and presenting a scheme for the selection of local candidates and for their training. And the House will be addressed in due course on that subject. It is intended, if this Resolution is passed, that provision will be made in the Estimates for 1947-48 for the post which is about to be created. I have much pleasure in moving that this Resolution do now pass.

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to second that.

Mr. COX: Mr. Chairman,—I should like to say that while I appreciate the statement in paragraph 4 of the addendum to the effect that this appointment is temporary and that the Social Welfare Officer is drawing up a scheme for the selection of local candidates to be trained yet I regret very much that it has taken so long to formulate such a scheme. Honourable members will remember that this Act was passed by this House since 1945 and they will also remember that at that time, they expressed the hope that the Government would see fit to send some local persons to be trained to undertake this work. I think, Sir, that it is high time that something should be done in the interest of these people, especially having regard to the fact that unemployment exists in our midst and realising that the individuals who are likely to carry on this work until other persons are trained to undertake it are people who are very busy, have many other things to do and as a matter of fact draw incomes from other sources. I feel that the Government should take immediate steps and do all that lies in its power to have local people trained for this work and thus relieve the unemployment situation that exists to-day.

Mr. LEWIS: Mr. Chairman,—I sympathise with the Government in the position in which it finds itself in respect of this particular arrangement but I would just like to remind honourable members that sometime ago the male Probation Officer came up for discussion in this House in reference to travelling allowance and it was pointed

out to the Government at that time that they had ample time to amend the Travelling Allowance Act, so that this officer could be included. I am definitely against this lump sum payment of travelling allowance to officers. It is not the best system and it is not the right thing to have two methods of granting travelling allowance operating. I think the Government should pay more attention to that. We have the situation arising here of a salary at the rate of £100 per annum and travelling allowance in a lump sum of £120 per annum. I wonder if it is only since the passing of the 1945 Act that the Government has had to put a female offender in the charge of the Probation Officer! Has it happened before? From the wording of the addendum it would seem as if the Government found itself in the situation that never before the passing of the Probation Offenders Act had they a female offender. I am going to vote for this Resolution because I realize it is a difficult problem. It is fortuitous that we have the Probation Officer's wife willing—and I presume capable—to undertake this work. I am voting for it on that score and I hope the time will not be far distant when these officers are included in the schedule of the Travelling Allowance Act and be paid for the amount of travelling they do. As an alternative, if the Government wants to help its officers, it can adopt the system which is in practice in other colonies, that is, assist their officers who have travelling to do, to acquire vehicles but these lump sum payments do not meet with my approval.

Mr. WILKINSON: Mr. Chairman,—The last speaker caught your eye before me and so has said what I wanted to say. I am not going to repeat what he said but I should like to say that I agree with him that these lump sum payments as travelling allowances are not satisfactory. I appreciate that a scheme is being drawn up and that it is impossible at the present moment to put this lady in the schedule of the Travelling Allowance Act but I do hope that that scheme will become a reality in the near future and the female Probation Officer will be included in the schedule.

The question that this Resolution do now pass is put and resolved in the affirmative without division. Mr. SMITH enters the House and takes his seat.

GRATUITY AND ANNUITY TO MR. F. H. GIBBONS.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman,—The next Resolution is for the payment of a gratuity of £326. 18. 7 and an annuity at the rate of £98. 1. 7, payable in equal monthly instalments from the 8th of September, 1946, to Mr. F. H. Gibbons, formerly Government Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Honourable members will see from the addendum the facts relative to Mr. Gibbons's work with the Commissioners of Health of St. Michael and later with a special Sanitary Inspecting Organization which was created by the Board of Health when the malaria epidemic broke out in 1921. Prior to the passing of the Civil Establishment (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1944, (1944—26), Mr. Gibbons was not eligible for a pension in respect of his services with the Sanitary Inspecting Organization and although there are occasions when service with parochial authorities is not counted for the purpose of a pension, yet the Government felt that in the case of Mr. Gibbons who has been a most outstanding officer, his period of service with the Commissioners of Health of St. Michael should be added to that with

the Government and the gratuity and annuity have been fixed on that basis. In moving that this Resolution do now pass, I have very much pleasure indeed in paying a tribute to Mr. Gibbons while he is still alive by saying what an estimable officer the Government considers him to be. One misfortune which he has been suffering since his retirement is that he has been waiting on this money and, therefore, it will be an added pleasure if we pass this Resolution speedily.

Mr. COX: I beg to second the motion.

Mr. WILKINSON: Mr. Chairman,—I rise to support the passing of this Resolution. I just want to publicly express my appreciation of the work which has been done by Mr. Gibbons. I have had the good fortune to come into contact with him and I think he is one of the finest officers I have ever met.

The question that this Resolution do now pass is put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

GRANTS TO HIGHWAY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. GEORGE AND ST. JOHN.

Mr. BLACKMAN: Mr. Chairman,—The next Resolution is for the sum of £875 to be placed at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to make a grant of £375 to the Commissioners of Highways of the parish of St. George to repair damage to certain roads and guard walls caused by flood water, and to make a grant of £500 to the Commissioners of Highways of the parish of St. John to repair the Newcastle Hill which is badly in need of repair. The Newcastle Hill was offered to the Director of Highways and Transport to be repaired but he is not prepared to take it over yet. He has estimated the cost of repairs at £3,000 and the Commissioners of Highways of St. John have asked for £500 this year. I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Mr. DOWDING: I beg to second that.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman,—I am very glad to see that the Government has taken such quick action in the matter of repairing the Newcastle Hill. I now begin to believe that this Government is working as it should (Smiles.)

Dr. WILSON: Mr. Chairman,—I am totally in agreement with this Resolution which is sponsored by a member of the Government. So far as the expenditure of the £500 for the repair of the Newcastle Hill is concerned, I am asking that labour from the parish of St. John be employed by the Government, otherwise it will be a hardship on those people in St. John who are accustomed to work on the roads and who have been out of work since last August if they are not given some employment now that an opportunity presents itself. I would like also to remind the Government that there is a guard wall around the curve in this very road; it is broken in some parts and I shall be glad if this wall is repaired at the same time the road is being done.

The question that this Resolution do now pass is put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

On the motion of Mr. ADAMS, seconded by Mr. Cox, the Chairman reports the passing of three Resolutions in Committee of Supply.

The House resumes and on the motions of Mr. ADAMS, seconded by Mr. BLACKMAN in each case, the Resolutions are read a first time and a second time and are agreed to.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION REGULATIONS

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order is to resume Committee on the motion for the passing of the following Resolution:—

Resolution to approve the Regulations made by the Governor-in-Executive Committee under Section 37 of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1943.

Mr. SPEAKER: leaves the Chair and the House resumes Committee on the Regulations, Mr. RAMSAY being in the Chair.

Regulations 50 to 52 inclusive are read and agreed to.

Regulation 53. Every insurer by whom a policy is issued shall furnish the Judge with particulars in respect of any policy issued, within 7 days of the issue of such policy as in Form Z.

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to move that that be Regulation 53 of these Regulations.

Mr. BLACKMAN: I beg to second that.

Mr. WILKINSON: Does that mean that every time a policy is taken out, the insurer has to notify the Judge within seven days after the issue of such policy? It seems to me that that will be a very laborious undertaking. I would like to know if that is the practice in Trinidad and if it is, whether it is working satisfactorily because I believe that this is a copy of the Trinidad Regulations.

Mr. ADAMS: I have no information on the subject but doubtless if the Companies were finding it unduly onerous they would have made some representation to the Government and I have heard of none.

The question that Regulation 53 stand part of the Regulations is put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Regulations 54 to 58 inclusive and Forms A and B of the Appendix are read and agreed to.

Mr. Talma enters the House and takes his seat. Forms C to CC inclusive are read and agreed to.

Form DD is read.

Mr. WILKINSON: Before the question is put, Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the senior member for St. Joseph whether he can give me the information I asked for last Tuesday in connection with Regulation 49.

Mr. ADAMS: I arranged to go into it with one of the Judges of the Court of Appeal but that appointment has not yet come off. I am personally in agreement with the honourable member and I shall raise the point at the Executive Committee. I can only speak for myself at present but it seems reasonable and it should be done. I can assure the honourable member that as far as I can push it I shall do so. At the same time what is to be done in the matter can be done without our having to come back here and amend this Resolution.

The CHAIRMAN: Is the junior member for St. James satisfied with the explanation of the senior member for St. Joseph?

Mr. WILKINSON: The information is not forthcoming but the honourable member promises that he will look into the matter and I do not wish to delay the passing of these Regulations.

The question that Form DD stand part of the Appendix is put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

On the motion of Mr. Adams, seconded by Dr. CUMMINS, the Chairman reported the passing of these Regulations in Committee.

The House resumes.

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to second that.

Mr. WILKINSON: Mr. Speaker,—These Regulations were first presented sometime during the last session and I am not aware that they have been checked. I wish to emphasize that it is important that before the Resolution is sent to the Other Place, the honourable member in charge of it should see to it that the Regulations are checked. There may be some alterations necessary, in the light of the experience gained in the working of the Act, and I throw out that suggestion to the honourable member.

The question that this Resolution do now pass is put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

MIDWIVES AND NURSES REGISTRATION RULES.

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order stands in the name of the honourable senior member for St. Joseph,—To move the passing of the following Resolution:—

Resolution to approve of the Rules made by the General Nursing Council under Section 9 of the Midwives and Nurses Registration Act, 1932 (1932-1).

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker,—These Rules speak for themselves. Unfortunately these Rules have had a rather chequered career. They were originally drafted as far back as the session of 1939—40, and after certain correspondence and exchange of opinions between the General Nursing Council and the Hospital Board they were eventually brought back to the House in 1943 and passed with an amendment which, I think, was brought to the notice of the House by the senior member for St. Thomas and the then Senior Member for St. Joseph (Mr. GREAVES). They were afterwards sent to the Other Place but the legislature was prorogued before they could finally be dealt with. As I say, these Rules speak for themselves. They seek to place midwifery and nursing locally on a very high level and they are taken by the General Nursing Council from the Rules of the relative Authority in Great Britain—England and Wales at any rate. I am sure that honourable members will see how necessary it is at long last to try and get these Rules passed. According to the Act, unless both Houses of the Legislature pass them they will not have the force of law, so it is not like some of those instances in which rules or regulations can have the force of law unless we reject them. I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Mr. BLACKMAN: I beg to second that.

Mr. SPEAKER: If the honourable member is not going to move the House into Committee, the Clerk will have to read the Rules.

Mr. ADAMS: I do not propose to move the House into Committee unless there is a very great desire that it should be done.

The Deputy Clerk begins to read the Rules and gets as far as sub-paragraph 1 of paragraph 1 when

Mr. WILKINSON: Mr. Speaker,—I think it will be much more satisfactory if we went into Committee on these Rules and I beg to move that Your Honour do now leave the Chair and the House go into Committee.

Mr. HAYNES: I beg to second that.

Mr. ADAMS: I would just like to point out that on the previous occasion, as far as I remember, the senior Member for St. Peter made a point as to whether he could interrupt the reading of these Rules to speak on any particular rule and my recollection is that Your Honour ruled that it was quite permissible for him to do so.

Mr. SPEAKER: I do not think that it so.

Mr. ADAMS: I am sorry, Sir. Your Honour was not yet Speaker.

The question that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair and the House go into Committee on these Rules is put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Mr. SPEAKER leaves the Chair and the House goes into Committee, Mr. RAMSAY being in the Chair.

Rules 1 and 2 are read and agreed to.

At this stage, 2 p.m., Mr. SPEAKER resumes the Chair and adjourns the House until 2.45 p.m. in accordance with Rule 40 (a).

REPLIES LAID.

On re-assembling,

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker,—There is one lot of replies to questions ready and they will be laid by the hon. senior member for St. Philip. After that, I propose to ask leave to move for the suspension of Rule 61 (a) so that we might resume Government business.

Mr. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker,—I beg to lay the replies to questions No. 4 standing in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Lucy.

Mr. BRANCKER: I ask that those replies be printed and circulated.

SUSPENSION OF RULE 61 (A).

Mr. ADAMS: I ask leave to move for the suspension of Rule 61 (a) in order to resume Government Business.

There being no objection, the hon. member was granted leave to make the motion.

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to move that Rule 61 (a) be now suspended in order to resume Government Business.

Mr. COX seconded the motion which was agreed to.

RULES OF THE GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL.

Mr. SPEAKER: When the adjournment took place, the House was in Committee on the Resolution to approve the Rules made by the General Nursing Council under section 9 of the Midwives and Nurses Registration Act, 1932 (1932-1).

Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair, and the House resumed Committee on the Resolution. Mr. RAMSAY being in the Chair.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: When the House was adjourned, we were in Committee on the Resolution to approve the Rules made by the General Nursing Council under Section 9 of the Midwives and Nurses Registration Act, 1932 (1932-1), and Rule 2 had been passed.

Rules 3 to 7 inclusive were read and passed.

Rule 8 was read as follows:—

8. A pupil must, except during such holidays as may be permitted by the Council, devote the whole of both periods of her training to pre-

paration for her examinations and must not be engaged on any other work of whatsoever nature.

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to move that Rule 8 stand part of these Rules.

Mr. BLACKMAN: I beg to second that.

Mr. S. A. WALCOTT: I think that this is a very hard Rule. I would like an explanation as to why a pupil should not be allowed to do any other work so as to help herself.

Mr. ADAMS: These Rules which have been made by the local General Nursing Council have always been emphatic and of a very high standard. I do not think that the word "row" is too strong to describe what takes place between the Hospital and this House as regards lowering the standard which obtains in respect of midwives in Great Britain. The Rule does seem to be a hard one, but I do not presume it will be construed in such a way as to prevent a pupil from cooking or darning her stockings at home.

Mr. S. A. WALCOTT: I do not think that that answers the question. If this Rule were left out, that would not be interfering with the required standard at all.

Mr. ADAMS: I would like to point out that a similar provision is made in regard to the terms of the contract relating to schoolmasters and schoolmistresses, but nobody would dream of making it so hard as to say that they cannot play an organ on Sundays for instance. Personally I would imagine that the only way to ensure that a student midwife does her work properly is to state that she may not hold another job.

Mr. S. A. WALCOTT: Schoolmasters and schoolmistresses are receiving pay and they cannot hold other jobs: but here these are pupils and I think that they would want some remuneration towards their support. I think that this is a very hard Rule, and I do not see that there would be any effect on the required standard if it were taken out.

Dr. CUMMINS: While this does appear to be a hard Rule, yet the nurses at the General Hospital cannot do anything else. They are not allowed to engage in any other calling, and this Rule amounts to about the same thing. These nurses will be residing at the place which is provided for them, and during the time when they are at that place they will be students and they will be paid.

Mr. SPRINGER: It is set out in Rule 7 (1) that the training of a pupil shall comprise theoretical, practical and clinical instruction and attendance on and nursing of cases; and that such training shall be at approved training institutions. Universal experience of such training is that persons are provided with clothing, food and pay. I do not see any reason to anticipate that any different arrangements will be made in any institution which is to be created. We must bear in mind that the people who make these arrangements are people who are well versed in respect of all these matters and people who have been trained in classes. I do not think that there is any intention of working a hardship on anybody. The stipulation provides a pretty certain guarantee that the pupils will be in the same position as nurses who are doing medical nursing.

The question that Rule 8 stand part of these Rules was put and resolved in the affirmative.

A division was taken as follows:—

Ayes: Dr. WILSON, Dr. CUMMINS, Messrs. BRANCKER, SMITH, FOSTER, MAPP, SPRINGER, ADAMS, BLACKMAN, COX, and Mr. SPEAKER.—11

Noes: Messrs. MOTTLEY, HAYNES, DOWDING, GALE, S. A. WALCOTT and WILKINSON—6.

Rules 9 to 17 inclusive were read and passed.

Rule 18 was read as follows:—

18. The Council in approving institutions shall take into consideration the number and qualifications of the members of the medical and nursing staff, the equipment for teaching purposes, the facilities for study by the pupils and all other matters having relation thereto. The Council may cause the institution and the training therein to be inspected by a member or officer of the Council or other competent person whose report shall be considered when the question of approval is determined.

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to move that Rule 18 stand part of these Rules.

Mr. BLACKMAN: I beg to second that.

Mr. WILKINSON: I would like to enquire as to whether under these Rules anybody who has been trained outside Barbados, in Trinidad or British Guiana for instance, can come up here and sit an examination, or whether a person has to be trained here in order to take the examination.

Mr. ADAMS: As far as I remember, no provision is made for that under these Rules. I do not know whether that is possible under any Statute, as a matter of fact, but I rather fancy that some member of the Hospital Board will be able to give some information in this regard.

Dr. CUMMINS: What I feel is that these Rules approximate the Rules of the General Nursing Council of Great Britain, and that anybody from anywhere else, whose standard comes up to what is required, will be allowed to register. For instance, a very high standard obtains in Trinidad, and quite a few of our nurses have gone there to be trained in midwifery. Our standard would have to come up to theirs, and of course, I suppose there would be some reciprocity.

The question that Rule 18 stand part of these Rules was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Rule 19 was read and passed.

Rule 20 was read as follows:—

20. The Council may for any cause which to them may seem just at any time rescind, cancel or annul the approval granted to any institution under these regulations.

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to move that Rule 20 stand part of these Rules. For the information of the honourable junior member for St. James, I would like to say that I have just looked up the Act, and it says that all nurses trained in any part of His Majesty's Dominions, outside the island or in the State of New York may be registered as a midwife. Any person who has been trained and has fully qualified outside the island may, on making application to the General Nursing Council, be registered.

Mr. BLACKMAN: I beg to second that.

Mr. S. A. WALCOTT: I do not think that that answers the honourable member's question. The honourable member asked if a person who has been trained outside this island can come here and sit an examination.

Mr. ADAMS: There is no provision for that at present.

The question that Rule 20 stand part of these Rules was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Rules 21 to 39 inclusive were read and passed.

Rule 40 was read as follows:—

40. Notwithstanding the provisions of any rule herein contained all nurses who have completed a

course of training in midwifery at the Barbados General Hospital shall be entitled to be admitted to the roll, if approved by the General Nursing Council.

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to move that Rule 40 stand part of these Rules.

Mr. BLACKMAN: I beg to second that.

Dr. CUMMINS: This was the amendment made by the House on the last occasion. I am glad to see that the General Nursing Council is now in a more considerate frame of mind and has embodied the amendment here. On the last occasion no provision was made for nurses trained at the General Hospital; a standard was set and everybody was required to come up to that standard. As a result of the discussion on the last occasion, this Rule has been inserted. I am glad to see that the General Nursing Council has facilitated matters for the nurses at the General Hospital.

Mr. HAYNES: I would like to know if this Rule will create any hardship on those midwives who are already in practice. I should like to know if these midwives will find any difficulties in being allowed to practice after these Rules have been passed. If there is going to be any difficulty in this regard, a great hardship will be created on a certain class of persons in this island until we have a properly trained staff of midwives.

Mr. ADAMS: Unfortunately, Mr. Chairman, this does not affect those midwives who have already registered. I say unfortunately because there are some ancient village cronies who are registered midwives and who may be responsible for some of the infant mortality of this island. Those people will not be affected by these Rules; they will remain in practice.

The question that Rule 40 stand part of these Rules was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Rules 41 and 42 were read and passed.

Rule 43 was read as follows:

43. The curriculum of training and subjects for examination shall be the same as those for the certificate of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales as modified by and in use at the Barbados General Hospital.

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to move that Rule 43 stand part of these Rules.

Mr. BLACKMAN: I beg to second that.

Mr. LEWIS: I would like to ask the honourable senior member for St. Joseph if he does not think that Rule 41 should come above the heading of the Rules which we are now considering. As far as I remember, we had to put in a Rule on the last occasion and it seems to me that Rule 41 is out of place. This Rule says: "Notwithstanding anything hereinafter contained the Council may refuse to admit to the Register any woman whom it considers to be physically, mentally or morally unfit to be a nurse." The heading is "Course of training and conduct of examination for nurses."

Mr. ADAMS: The Rule was passed like that on the last occasion. I agree with the honourable junior member for the City that it is more appropriate for Rule 41 to come above the heading as mentioned by the honourable member.

The question that Rule 43 stand part of these Rules was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Mr. LEWIS: I beg to move that the heading of the Rules now being considered be inserted after Rule 41 and above Rule 42.

Mr. ADAMS: If the honourable member will look at the Rules from 41 to 45 he will see that they all deal with registration, and I think that we had better allow the Rule to remain where it is.

Rules 44 to 46 inclusive were read and passed.

The Schedule was read and passed.

On the motion of Mr. ADAMS, seconded by Mr. BLACKMAN, the CHAIRMAN reported the passing of the Rules in Committee.

The House resumed, and on a similar motion, the Resolution was passed.

Mr. SPEAKER: It being now 3.30 p.m. of the clock, the House will now proceed with the consideration of Private Members' Business.

ADDRESS *RE* PURCHASE OF THE BAY ESTATE

Mr. COX: Mr. Speaker,—Before the next Order of the Day is called, I should like to ask leave to proceed with the Address of which I gave notice earlier to-day with respect to the purchase of the Bay Estate. I think that honourable members will realise the urgent necessity for the passing of this Address and I sincerely hope that they will see their way to support it.

Mr. SPEAKER: The honourable member is asking leave to proceed with this Address of which he gave notice earlier to-day. If no honourable member objects, the honourable member will be granted leave to proceed. No honourable member having objected, the honourable member is granted leave.

Mr. COX: The Address reads as follows:—

*The House of Assembly
To*

His Excellency the Acting Governor

The House of Assembly respectfully request Your Excellency to take immediate steps to negotiate with the owner or owners or Attorney of the "Bay Estate" with a view to purchasing same.

I think that in the interest of tenants this Government should try and purchase such tenancies as they are put up for sale. We are well aware of the hardships that are created and the inconvenience to which people are put when these tenancies change hands. In many cases people have to remove from these tenancies, and they find it very difficult to obtain the materials necessary for repairing their houses afterwards. I feel that the Government can lose nothing and have everything to gain from the purchase of this estate. There are quite a number of houses on the various spots, houses which have been there for about 50 years, and if we allow these people to be placed at the mercies of the likely owners of this land, we do not know how they will fare. Judging from what took place when the Carrington's Village and Kensington tenancies were sold, I think that the Government should do their best and make sure that these tenants obtain some security. With these few remarks, I beg to move that this Address do now pass.

Mr. BRANCKER: I beg to second the motion for the passing of this Address. I think that there is very little which need be said in support of it. This is one of those Addresses which automatically commend themselves to everyone. There is a vast difference between this estate and the Pine Plantation which we have already purchased. It is almost impossible to think of this House not

agreeing to purchase a really good property such as the Bay Estate. With its proximity to the City and the fact that there is a tenantry there plus its general suitability, it must, in my view, commend itself to anyone who is in favour of purchasing land which offers these amenities. Of course, if the Government decide to purchase this land, we must expect them to give us the necessary information as to acreage and so forth, because we do not want to pay any extravagant price for it, although we will have to pay more for it than a private individual would have to pay. That is always the case in Barbados. The Government, without any exception that I know of, always have to pay more for anything than a private individual or firm has to pay. As long as we can get this land at a price which is not unreasonable, I think that we will be well justified in purchasing property which we can put to a much quicker and better use than we have done with the Pine Plantation. (Cheers).

Mr. TALMA: I am in thorough agreement with this Address. (Cheers). I think, however, that at this stage we should decide what will be done with the land when we shall have purchased it. (A MEMBER: That is a matter of details). I would like to know whether the Mover of the passing of this Address had in mind a Land Settlement Scheme, or whether he thought of dividing this land in lots and selling it to people. I would like to get some more information on this matter so as to rest assured that when a substantial sum of money will have been spent we will not have another 'Erdiston' or another White Elephant on our hands. I feel that this matter should be further ventilated so that not only the members of this House but the general public should understand why we are anticipating this expenditure. This land is really central and suitable for purposes which we may have in mind, and I would like to draw the attention of honourable members to the fact that Ex-service men could be assisted after this estate has been acquired. This is something which is absolutely essential and it will receive my full co-operation.

Mr. GALE: I, too, would like the honourable Mover of the passing of this Address to make it a little more explicit. There is no doubt that the Bay Estate offers excellent residential sites: it is very near to the City and it is largely tenanted at present. It is one of those places which readily lend themselves to an up-to-date Housing Scheme. (A MEMBER: Quite so.) If the Government are purchasing this property so as to carry out the suggestions contained in the Housing Bill which was sent down to this House during the last Session, I am quite in agreement with the proposition. However, I think that it must be emphatically stated when we are passing this Address that we would like to acquire this land for the purposes of setting up an up-to-date Housing and Town Planning Scheme. The Pine Plantation has been purchased but nothing has been done there in respect of housing up to the present time. Unfortunately, the Housing and Town Planning Bill has not been passed, but I think that under such a Bill it will be necessary for this Government to acquire land in proximity to the City. I think that the Bay Estate is an excellent site for a Housing Scheme, therefore if the honourable Introducer of the Address will amend it somewhat, I will give it my unstinted support.

Mr. WILKINSON: I am not prepared to vote for this Address until I have been given some more particulars. We have not been very fortunate in

the past. I have been a member of the Government and we have bought property such as "Erdiston" which has been lying there for years and nothing has been done with it yet. Two years ago we had a great discussion with regard to land at the Pine Plantation and it was eventually agreed that the land would be purchased for the purpose of a Housing Scheme and also for an Agricultural Station. I believe that the Agricultural Station is working but the Housing Scheme has not been passed by the House so that progress can be made. There is quite a lot of land up there and I think that we should develop that land before we can take the taxpayers' money and buy more land. I would like to remind honourable members that Housing Schemes are wanted not only in St. Michael but in the other parishes as well. (Cheers). I said about two years ago that I would prefer to see some of the money spent in purchasing properties outside the City limits. If we are going to have a model Housing Scheme, let us erect some model houses in the country. (Cheers).

Do not let us confine this model housing to St. Michael. The whole trouble throughout the world to-day is that people want to flock to the City and, if it is not too late, the present generation should be persuaded to remain in the country. I was listening to a broadcast a few days ago—I cannot remember who the speaker was—but he said that we have got to alter our system of education and that the primary thing in education is agriculture. We have to get people to go back to the land and we have to see that there are comfortable surroundings in the country just as are obtained in the City—I see some honourable members smiling—I am referring to the cinemas. Therefore, before we can vote for this Address, I think that we should be given a great many more particulars. We have to get these particulars before we can spend the taxpayers' money to purchase another property within two miles of the City for the purpose of a Housing Scheme. I ask honourable members to consider that our future policy should be to develop the land at the Pine Plantation in respect of a Housing Scheme and to start model Housing Schemes in the other parishes of the island.

Mr. SPRINGER: I rise to my feet only because of the interesting suggestions made by the last speaker. As far as the first part of his speech is concerned, he has stressed the necessity, which is universally recognized, for improving life in the country so that people should not flock to the towns unprofitably, as is happening in some parts of the world. Those are no new sentiments; the honourable member is not claiming to be preaching any new gospel because that has been proclaimed by all forward-looking members of society for a long time. It is the second part of the honourable member's speech that I must protest against. The whole question of housing in Barbados in the past has suffered from a short-term approach. The reason why the Housing Board has been the butt of criticism for all these years is because the policy which inspired its earliest founders including the House in those days, was a short-sighted policy. They were using the same argument which the honourable junior member for St. James is putting before us to-day "We can only spare you £10,000. Do what you can with that". I submit that that is an entirely wrong way of looking at the matter. We have had the assistance of experts in these parts—assistance of which no doubt my friend on my left, the honourable senior member for St. Joseph will say some-

thing before the debate is closed—and we can see the necessity for long-term planning in this matter of housing. It takes no less than 50 years before we can begin to see the effects of town planning. Are we going to wait until we can develop every piece of land that we need in this City before we purchase it? We have been criticised for not purchasing the Carrington's village property and we have seen what has happened. Are we going to allow private interests to come in and establish themselves—and you cannot blame them—without having any regard to the interests of the community? I say no. The attitude of the Government in this matter has been expressed publicly before. Until we have an administration for the purpose of dealing with housing, the haphazard purchasing of land is to be avoided, but no one will deny that this particular case, that has been brought forward by the honourable senior member for St. Michael, is an exceptional case. Although I cannot vote on this matter and commit myself in advance before the matter is discussed in Executive Committee, it seems to me that it is reasonable to say that the normal policy and attitude towards land purchase should be suspended in a case of this kind in view of its special nature. That is not to say for a moment that the policy suggested by the honourable junior member for St. James is not recognized to be a wise policy. I agree that we need Land Settlement and Housing Schemes in respect of the country districts; the agricultural talent of the island should be encouraged and we need in the country districts, community centres and the development of such amenities that make life more interesting. We should be readily provided with such things in which we are lacking. When it comes to the question of investment in a particular case, no wise man would miss the opportunity to make a purchase because he has no intention of putting the property to immediate use. I say that here we have land in respect of which we can see to what use it can be put. That is my general attitude in this matter, and I thought that I should express it even although I am not voting on the matter now. (Cheers).

Mr. RAMSAY: I must rise now lest I wait until it is too late. The majority of people are wise after the event. If I were not in Barbados and I heard that the Bay Estate was put up for sale, and that the House of Assembly, ironically speaking, had turned down the proposal to purchase it, I would think that something had gone wrong. Here is a plantation, a portion of which is in the City limits, and the Government should purchase it with a view to making things easy for the poor people like lightermen, carters, servants and so forth. It is desirable, and within our power to put these people in easy contact with the City. I do not see that there is anything which should prevent us from passing to-day an Address having for its object the purchase of this land by the Government. I belong to Barbados, and I say that the purchase of this land is for the betterment of Barbados. I counsel honourable members to view the matter from that standpoint. These well-known lines of Sir Walter Scott apply here:

"Breathes there a man with soul so dead,
Who never of himself has said
This is my own, my native land?"

Let us be men; let us be brave and courageous; let us ask the Government to purchase this land for the benefit of Barbados. The honourable junior

member for St. James has rightly said that we want model houses all over the country. I represent the parish of St. Peter and I am hoping that we will have these model houses there in due course. I am hoping to see some of them in St. Lucy, St. Philip and in other parishes as well. I say that honourable members should ask themselves this question: Is the purchase of this land for the benefit of Barbados. I say "yes." All this talk should cease and let the vote of honourable members be taken especially as there is no time to be lost. The purchase of this land will always redound to our credit (Cheers). As regards the purchase of the land at the Pine Plantation, that is no White Elephant; land is something which should be acquired. I advise the Government to procure land, for the time is coming when land is going to be sold for six times more than you are paying for it to-day. If we do not purchase this land, we will have allowed a golden opportunity to slip. I say, let us vote for this Address: do not let us go into any details. Land is always useful to Barbados. (Cheers).

Mr. LEWIS: I am supporting the passing of this Address because I think that the Government should acquire as much land as they can, so long as the land can be used for housing. I should like to suggest that in purchasing this land, we should bear in mind not only one particular section of the community with regard to the Housing Scheme which will be put into operation. I think that the Government should also have in mind the building of houses for the people who are termed the "middle classes" in the community as well as for the working classes, and I take it that this is an ideal portion of land for this purpose. My reason for voting for this Address this afternoon is that I think that the Government should assist those persons who have been renting that land for very many years to acquire their spots at reasonable prices. I think that that is one of the first steps which the Government should take in respect of this land; I think that they should re-sell it at reasonable prices. I believe that the tenantry which is there has been established for a considerable time, and the great inconvenience suffered by the tenants has been condoned by this Government. A recent Act has compelled people who are establishing tenancies to lay down proper roads, and I think water mains before the tenancies can be established. This tenantry is an old one which was exempted from the provisions of that Act, perhaps because of shortsightedness on the part of the Government. (Mr. ADAMS: Of former Governments.) I would counsel the honourable junior member for St. James to vote for the passing of this Address, not because we have already purchased some land which could be used for housing, but because the honourable member is also in a position to help the cause which he has so ably championed today. As regards the question of establishing Housing Schemes in the country districts and the remarks of the honourable junior member for St. James about people coming into the City, I should like to say that much of the blame for that situation can be laid at the door of the plantation owners. If they had been farsighted enough to make the conditions more tolerable for the people, they might have remained in the country districts. The plantation owners have it in their power to be generous enough to give the Government the land necessary for housing the people (Cheers). In that way there will be a contented people living around the plantations, and there will

be a more healthy people to work on the plantation. Therefore, if the honourable member sees any drift of the people towards the City, it is because of the intolerable and unhealthy conditions which obtain in the country districts, it is also because of the lack of social amenities. I do not think that the honourable member need to be unduly worried about any vast number of people coming to live on this land. If the Government acquires this property, there are a number of people already living there, people who need a proper Housing Scheme and whose house may, with proper spacing fill the area entirely. I think that the Government should insist on having adequate spaces for houses on this land, and after they have fulfilled these obligations, they should see that the renters, in the first instance, be given easy terms on which to acquire their spots of land. I have much pleasure in supporting the passing of this Address, and I hope that the Government will negotiate with the owners of this property in the way I have advised them to do it. The owners of this land have been renting it for all these years under conditions which should not have existed, and the Government have not called upon them to spend any of the money which they have been getting to remedy this state of affairs! I say that these matters should be taken into consideration when the owners of this property are negotiating with the Government for the price of the property. (Cheers).

Mr. HAYNES: I am in agreement with the views of the last speaker. I think that it would be a great mistake for us to miss this opportunity of purchasing this property. The only thing I am worried over is that I do not see why the matter should not have been taken up by the Government in the first instance. I think that when it became known that this property was for sale, the Government should have taken steps to get a quotation as to the value of the property. They would have been able to prevent any attempt at exploitation. They would have come to the House and inform honourable members that the value of the property had been put at so much money, and the price would have been fixed at that figure. The only difficulty now is that the price of the land might be extremely high. I venture to say that the Pine Plantation was purchased at a reasonable price for the simple reason that the purchase was made in the manner I have mentioned. I am hoping that when any other property, either in the country or in the City is offered for sale, the Government will negotiate with the owners thereof before the matter is brought to the House. I shall certainly support this Address wholeheartedly.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I am voting for the passing of this Address. Honourable members are aware that a notice appeared in the Press offering this property for sale, and those of us who come in contact with the people in these villages from day to day, must realise from the approach which is made by several of these people, that they feel that if this land is sold to private interests, they must suffer in one way or another. I am one of those who levelled severe criticism at the Government for not purchasing Carrington's Village Tenantry, and in spite of that, I was quite a lot to do with the matter in a private capacity. Like the honourable junior member for St. Peter. I would be surprised if the Government allowed this opportunity to purchase this property to pass by. Here is a tenantry with over 100 acres of land with more than 700 houses on it, and you can well un-

derstand a private company acquiring this property and speculating on it whatever criticism could be offered against that company. I do not see any interest that would not do the same if the opportunity was offered. As a representative of the people in this House, my duty as a representative of the people must come before any private interest, and I support the passing of this Address. (A MEMBER: That is a very generous gesture). Whatever is done with this land—whether it is rented to the people or not—I cannot conceive of the Government allowing this opportunity to pass by and not acquire this land with its proximity to the City and with more than 700 houses standing on it.

Mr. ADAMS: After hearing the remarks of the honourable member who has just sat down, after hearing the honourable member, who is one of the acutest business men in Bridgetown, make that declaration in support of this Address, I have hope for the future of Barbados. I am somewhat embarrassed in speaking because I happen to know quite a lot affecting some of the things which have been said, and I cannot publicly disclose some of that knowledge at the present time. I will say this, that I have reason strongly to believe that this particular purchase, if it goes through, will not be one of those purchases in which the Government will be fleeced, so that there is no fear on that score. As regards the Pine Plantation, there is a Committee sitting—I am a member of that Committee—to make recommendations as to how to apportion the land for one purpose or another under the Ten-year Development Plan affecting the Agricultural Station and housing and town planning. I can assure honourable members that some remarkable figures culled from the West Indies generally have been put before the Committee to show that, with the rate of expansion of population, if anything, the Bay Estate and the Pine Plantation will be too little for our purposes in this generation. We have come to the conclusion while going into the figures affecting the Pine Plantation that if the Bay Estate came into the market, we would suggest to the Government that they purchase it. The Committee has come to that conclusion although it has not yet reported, so that honourable members can rest assured that the land will be sold on reasonable terms. I believe that all the members of the Government are entirely in agreement that this land should be purchased, and there can be no real argument against acquiring it. I suppose that as soon as the new Housing Authority comes along, the point raised by the honourable junior member for the City as to whether the houses to be erected will be of one type or of different types will be decided. Speaking for myself—and in this respect the Town Planning expert is of the same opinion—the houses should be of different types, otherwise they will look too much like empty match boxes standing side by side. From the aesthetic point of view, and from any other point of view, it would be better to have houses of different sizes erected. It would present a more pleasant appearance to have houses erected in that way than to have them of one type, and from a social point of view, I think that it is wrong to segregate people into different classes. It is wrong to make a man, who is in one income group, feel that he is living in one secluded quarter and that a “higher up and better off” type of man is living above him, as obtains in places like Poona and Kenya. It is therefore quite possible—I should say even probable—that the desires of the honourable junior member for the City will be fulfilled with the coming of new House-authority. I wish to assure honourable members—as the honourable junior member for St. Peter has put it—

that they will discover when they get the Report of the Housing and Town Planning Committee, that far from the land at the Pine being a White Elephant, the natural overflow from Bridgetown after the Bay Estate has been laid out, will find its way to the Pine; and that in another 15 years there will still be more overcrowding unless in the interval we purchase more land which comes into the market or under the Compulsory Powers Act. Like the honourable member on my right, the honourable senior member for St. George, I cannot now vote on this matter for the reasons which I gave last Tuesday, but I wish to say that I am glad to think that when the matter is being discussed by the Executive Committee, they will know beforehand that the overwhelming majority of the members of the House are in favour of the purchase of this estate by the Government.

Mr. COX. Before the question is put, I would just like to reply to the honourable junior member for St. Michael as to the purpose to which I hope this land will be put. I am hoping that it will be used for improving the housing of the people of this colony. As regards the remarks of the honourable junior member for St. James, I would not expect him to support this Address, because I know quite well that he is one of those who are fortunately placed. When the honourable member questions why are we not removing people to the Pine Plantation, he forgets that these days are not the primitive days of the past. We cannot put people to live in mud as was the case previously; we are moving forward to better civilisation and culture, and we have to provide the amenities which naturally follow. I do not think that anyone should compare the Pine Plantation with the Bay Estate. Already you have roads at the Bay Estate, roads which can easily be improved, and there are other facilities there which the Pine Plantation does not offer. The people have been renting land at the Bay Estate for quite a number of years, and we are saying that it would be in the interest of the community if the Government would take steps to purchase this property and so create a state of security for the people who have been living there for all these years.

The question that this Address do now pass was put and resolved in the affirmative, Mr. SPEAKER declaring “I think the ‘Ayes’ have it.”

Mr. SPEAKER: I will ask the honourable senior member for St. Michael to present this Address.

Mr. COX: As Your Honour pleases.

ADDRESS RE COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE POSSIBILITIES OF EMIGRATION

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Speaker,—Before the next Business of the Day is proceeded with, I ask leave to proceed with the Address of which I gave notice earlier today—the Address dealing with the personnel of the Commission which is to investigate the possibilities of emigration to British Guiana and British Honduras.

Mr. SPEAKER: The honourable member is asking leave to proceed with the Address of which he gave notice earlier to-day. That Address deals with the personnel of the Commission to enquire into the possibilities of emigration to British Honduras and elsewhere. If there is no objection, the honourable member will be granted leave. There being no objection, the honourable member may move the passing of that Address.

Mr. BRANCKER: I beg to move the passing of this Address and I apologise to honourable members for the lack of sufficient copies of it so that every honourable member could have a copy. In the circumstances of this particular case, and the fact that this is a matter which calls for urgency, I am sure that honourable members will not object to looking over the shoulder of others and reading the Address. There is the possibility of the personnel of this Commission being announced shortly, and that is why I am hoping that this Address will be passed before them. I am asking leave Mr. Speaker, to withdraw the Address of which I gave notice earlier today, and to substitute therefor this Address which reads as follows:—

*The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency The Governor*

This House learns with deep satisfaction of the proposal by His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies to send a Commission to British Guiana and British Honduras for the purpose of studying questions of population with a view to emigration from crowded West Indian territories and for displaced persons from Europe.

2. This House views with some misgiving the announcement that this Commission will investigate the possibilities of setting displaced persons from Europe in these Colonies and hopes devoutly that the needs of crowded West Indian territories will receive prior consideration and treatment.

3. This House is convinced that the personnel of a Commission of this sort should include native West Indians. The House respectfully draws the attention of Your Excellency to the fact that this Island is one of the most overcrowded colonies in the British West Indies and would remind Your Excellency of the statement by the Moyne Commission to the effect that it must rank high for favourable consideration in connection with any project for the transfer of populations within the West Indies.

4. In view of the foregoing the House is further convinced that at least one Barbadian should be asked to serve on this Commission, and respectfully requests that Your Excellency will transmit by cable the text of this Resolution to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies.

I have no doubt that most honourable members will be in agreement with the Address.

Mr. SPEAKER: The honourable member is asking leave to withdraw the Address of which he gave notice earlier to-day, and to substitute in place thereof the one which he has just read. If there is no objection, the honourable member will be granted leave.

There being no objection, the honourable member was granted leave.

Mr. BRANCKER: Honourable members will recall that not very long ago, we passed an Address to His Excellency the Acting Governor asking him to take steps to investigate the possibility of Emigration Schemes to British Honduras, Brazil and any other country. Those of us who were parties to the Address—and the whole House was unanimous in passing it—must have received a thrill when we read in the Press a few days ago of the decision of His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies to appoint a Commission to study questions of population with a view to emigration of West

Indians to British Guiana and British Honduras. There is just a tinge of anxiety which one cannot avoid feeling in reading that the Commission will investigate also the possibilities of settling displaced persons from Europe in these colonies. We can quite see that the Imperial Government regards it necessary to find some outlet for such displaced persons, and, from the West Indian point of view, we cannot help thinking that if some of these persons are settled in British Guiana and British Honduras, they should be settled in comparatively small numbers so that sufficient room will be left for the settlement of the bulk of the surplus population of this Colony and other West Indian Colonies. After all, charity begins at home, and the needs of British Colonies should receive prior consideration to those of displaced persons from Europe however great their needs may be. After all, we in these Colonies, came to the rescue of the Empire in its hour of peril, and we feel without any lack of modesty that we deserve preferential treatment. If this Scheme goes through, and the Commission which is appointed recognizes that British Guiana and British Honduras are suitable places for the emigration of population, then I am expressing the hope that if there are displaced Europeans among the emigrants, their proportion will be very small as compared with the proportion of Barbadians and other West Indians from these overcrowded territories. As regards the question of the personnel of this Commission, I am sure that no honourable member will disagree with me that it is essential that a West Indian should serve on this Commission, and what West Indians are there who are more aware of the need for an outlet for our surplus population than West Indians who have been born in Barbados? These are the people who have a practical knowledge of our surplus population, and the need for some vast scheme of emigration and colonization. I feel that it is essential that a Barbadian—a native West Indian—should be selected to serve on the personnel of this Commission. I make bold to say that this is not a case of parochial interest or anything like that; I suggest that we need a practical man to serve on a Commission such as this one, and we cannot hope to find a more practical man to deal with such matters than a Barbadian. With those brief comments, I beg to move that this Address do now pass. I hope that His Excellency will see fit to acquaint His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies of it and that results will be borne at an early time.

Mr. MAPP: I have much pleasure in seconding the motion for the passing of this Address I would, however, like to move an amendment to paragraph 3 of the Address, namely, that the words "and one of the most overcrowded spots in the world" be inserted after the words "British West Indies." I think that an Address of this nature is very important at this time, and it should receive the unanimous support of the whole House as in the case of the Address which we passed with respect to emigration and coming so soon after that. I say that this is a most important Address because the British Government does not have a very good reputation for paying any particular attention to these West Indian Colonies and matters appertaining to them. Only lately a Committee was set up to deal with matters in connection with the economic welfare of these Colonies, and to deal with the ten-year Development Plan which is now being considered

by these Colonies; a Committee was set up to advise the Colonial Office—

Mr. SPEAKER: I think that the honourable member should deal with the merits of this Address without going into that matter.

Mr. MAPP: I think that it is all bound up with this matter. I think that it must be impressed on the British Government that we are not being sufficiently considered at present. Unless we do that, we are in danger of being left out, and that is why an Address of this nature is of such great importance. We have been left out on many occasions in respect of matters that vitally affect us. I repeat that this Address should receive the support of the entire House, and I hope, as the honourable junior member for St. Lucy has said, that if any displaced Europeans are to be sent to British Guiana or British Honduras they will be very much in the minority. Only recently we heard over the radio that there is a shortage of manpower in the British Isles and they could emigrate Europeans there if they want to steep up production. Why should they send these displaced Europeans to these Colonies when Barbadians and West Indians want to emigrate? I think that it is proper for this House to record its views of matters in connection with federation, and we should view with concern the steps which are being taken toward the federation of these West Indians at the present time.

Mr. SPEAKER: I would like to draw the attention of the honourable member to the fact that we are not dealing with the question of federation at all. We are dealing with the question of emigration to British Honduras and elsewhere.

Mr. MAPP: I will bow to your ruling, Mr. Speaker, but I thought that we should bring to the attention of His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies the fact that the opinion of these Colonies must prevail in matters which concern them.

Mr. GARNER: I am going to support this Address, but I feel that paragraph 4 should be amended. I think that the word "one" occurring in line 1 should be deleted and the word "two" inserted in place thereof. I think that we should have at least two Barbadians to serve on this Commission. I feel that the Address which was originally sent to the Secretary of State for the Colonies has been somewhat sabotaged. We have passed an Address asking that West Indians be colonized in these places and the Secretary of State for the Colonies has seen fit to include displaced persons from Europe in the Scheme! This is a serious matter—

Mr. SPEAKER: I do not want to interrupt the honourable member, but I should like to remind him that we are not discussing the Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Mr. GARNER: If I cannot discuss that, I do know if I can discuss the Address at all.

Mr. SPEAKER: I think that the House would do well not to raise any debate on that particular point.

Mr. GARNER: I feel very strongly on it.

Mr. SPEAKER: I do not see any particular object in discussing that point; I think that the ground is very well covered in paragraph 3 of the Address.

Mr. GARNER: I think that you asked for freedom of speech at the opening of the Session. As I was saying, we want an outlet for West Indians in the West Indian area. We feel that there are certain barriers which are being placed against people of colour

in certain places. We cannot overcome that, and we are trying to develop the West Indian area for West Indians. There was no idea of including displaced persons from Europe in the original Scheme, and if the Secretary of State for the Colonies want to send displaced persons anywhere, there is Canada, Australia—

Mr. SPEAKER: My point is that the honourable member cannot well debate the reason which the Secretary of State for the Colonies has for appointing the Commission which has been appointed. We can say that the needs of West Indians are very great, but we cannot discuss the reason or the motive which is aback of the Commission as appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Mr. GARNER: I am only dealing with what he has stated.

Mr. SPEAKER: The honourable member can put the case as strongly as he likes, but I do not think that he has any right to discuss the motive behind the Commission as has been appointed.

Mr. GARNER: If there is no free speech in this House, I would like you to give your ruling.

Mr. SPEAKER: I have said that you can put your case as strongly as you like, but you cannot discuss the motive which the Secretary of State for the Colonies has in appointing that Commission.

Mr. GARNER: In the original Address passed by this House, it was pointed out beyond any doubt that we want West Indians to emigrate to British Honduras and other Colonies, and now, Sir, I have seen it stated in the Press that the Secretary of State for the Colonies is also including certain displaced persons from Europe in the terms of reference of this Commission. I feel that we are struggling for economic security in these West Indian Islands, and if you send displaced persons from Europe to these parts, they will get the profits which we are making. I do not think we have the resources for that matter; we are fighting hard to make our ends meet, and therefore I think that some other spot should be found for these displaced persons.

Mr. SPEAKER: That is perfectly in order, but you cannot discuss the motive which the Secretary of State for the Colonies has for appointing the Commission.

Mr. GARNER: If you would allow me to state my feelings in the matter—

Mr. SPEAKER: That is perfectly all right, but you cannot suggest the reason behind the Commission as appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Mr. GARNER: Paragraph 1 of this Address states: "This House learns with deep satisfaction of the proposal by His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies to send a Commission to British Guiana and British Honduras for the purpose of studying questions of population with a view to emigration from crowded West Indian territories and for displaced persons from Europe." I feel that the authorities who have the task of forming that Commission should be able to view the matter from an economic point of view. While it is true that we are not as impoverished as some people think we are—we have a few resources—and we are the most overcrowded spot in the world. If we are seeking an outlet for our unemployed people, I do not think that we should include people who can go anywhere freely. I fear that this Scheme is not going to be as we originally thought: I fear that the Address which we passed is being sabotaged. I do not think that sufficient attention is being paid by

the Secretary of State for the Colonies to the social and economic improvement of these West Indian Islands. I hope that he will see that these Colonies are kept for West Indians, because many of us here view the future with a certain amount of despondency. Unemployment is becoming rife, emigration is getting slow and we cannot see a ray of hope for the future where King Sugar is concerned. I hope that it will be impressed upon the Secretary of State for the Colonies that we want the West Indian Colonies to remain in the hands of West Indians, and we do not want our movement sabotaged. As soon as you bring these displaced persons from Europe to interfere with the working of these islands, you are doing harm and there will be no end of rivalry. It is for that reason that we are passing this Address; let us have a proper footing in the West Indies, let us try to govern ourselves and when we ask for things West Indian, let us have things West Indian. We can do all that is necessary to be done. We have asked for certain things in this Address and please do not mix us up with the Europeans who can go anywhere they like while we can be restricted no matter where we go. (Cheers).

Mr. ADAMS: What the honourable member has in mind may be excellent from one point of view, but I do not think that it is the right way to approach the Secretary of State for the Colonies. I think that we should suggest to him that it is time to speed up emigration. If you are begging a man, the old proverb is as true to-day as it ever was; "Molasses is a much better way of catching flies than vinegar." We are begging the British taxpayers, we are begging the Secretary of State for the Colonies to help us to emigrate some of our people, and to talk about sabotage in this respect is not an expedient way to approach him. Lest anybody misunderstand the point which I am making, let me say that in 1937 I made this very point at the Colonial Office before the then Secretary of State for the Colonies, Mr. Ormsby Gore, and I still have the same feeling. In 1938 when it was announced that Jews were to be settled in British Guiana, we specifically pointed out that Barbados stood out pre-eminently for assistance in this way, but I do not think that we should make the mistake of putting the case in any thunderous language. I suggest that if we say that we deprecate the proposal to settle displaced persons from Europe in these Colonies, that will be all we need say by way of securing another type of emigration especially from the overcrowded islands into British Guiana or British Honduras. I would suggest that only a small number of highly-skilled people should be permitted to come to this area. If these displaced persons of a particular type come that will be the best for us. If we have people who are more highly skilled in handicrafts than we can produce, that will be the greatest gain to the West Indies. I do not speak of old "Isaacs" or second-hand cloth dealers, but if we have highly-skilled toy-makers coming down, that will not do us any harm. That will help us. I have that considered opinion because that has been the history and the effect of the Industrial Revolution in Great Britain. Foreign weavers have helped considerably to make Lancashire what it is. Even before the War when there was the suggestion of taking displaced refugees in England from the Continent, there was a great outcry by the Trade Unions against allowing that. There were many arguments used, but in the long run England had provided for the refugees who

found a home away from the Continent. There was a very interesting book published in 1938 on the question, and there is a wealth of information to be obtained from it. We have to remember that the question of settling displaced persons is an international one; we do not know what might have been the cause of these Colonies being thought of as places to which some of these displaced persons might go. There was a suggestion—I do not know how far it has gone—that the United States Government would provide the money necessary for some displaced Jews being sent to this or that part of the world. I am as anxious as anyone else to see proper emigration from Barbados; we want room as has already been stressed. I repeat that I made that point in 1937; and every Labour Government has made that point. While we are thinking of the displaced persons, we also have to think of the displacement of natives. I suggest that we do not use any offensive language in impressing the Secretary of State for the Colonies with our needs; he knows that we are the most overcrowded spot in the West Indies. We hope that some of these displaced persons will be very highly skilled so that we can make use of them. I do not agree that we should use language such as would grate on the ears of the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

MEMBERS: Question.

Mr. CRAWFORD: Before the question is put, I should like to say, first of all, that there is not the slightest implication in the statement made by the Secretary of State for the Colonies that these displaced persons whom it is proposed to settle in British Honduras or British Guiana, will be confined for the greater part, to skilled technicians or craftsmen. If that were the case, none of us would view the matter with any misgiving. The general statement has been made that the Commission will concern itself with the possibility of finding an outlet in these colonies for displaced persons from Europe, and I submit that that statement more than justified our apprehension. We cannot countenance the large-scale settlement of refugees from Europe in British Honduras and British Guiana to the exclusion of West Indians. Personally, I view the matter with even more apprehension. It is perhaps a settled line of Colonial policy whenever they can and wherever possible to settle in Colonies two distinct racial groups of people. In Palestine you have Arabs and Jews at each other's throats, and it is reported both by the opponents and friends of the British Government that they have always intensified these racial differences so as to maintain the present political position. It is quite possible to imagine in twenty-five years' time, when we are on the last lap of self-government, Jews and Creoles claiming autonomy and the British Government taking advantage of the situation to deny autonomy to both of them. In India, for nearly a century the British Government has been settling the differences of the Hindus and Moslems to their advantage, and we have to view with some apprehension any attempt to settle, on any large scale, refugees from Europe in these Colonies. I can say quite definitely that these people are not wanted in Great Britain. Every important Trade Union in Great Britain within the last three months has voted against the proposals for these people to remain in Britain and participate in any industry. In the case of the Poles, nearly all the members of the Coal Miners' Union are opposed to their remaining in Britain. Many of these people

have had to leave Europe because they are opposed to the existing regimes many of them are Fascist in their outlook. They are opposed to the present system outlook. They are opposed to the machinery of Government, they are nothing to do with the working classes and, to my mind, they are among the last types of persons whom we want in these Colonies, especially at this stage of our political development. I think that the second paragraph of the Address might be put in stronger language. We are not begging the Secretary of State for the Colonies for anything, and in this connection, I am entirely in disagreement with the honourable senior member for St. Joseph. We are asking for assistance, expert assistance in the first instance, and secondly, because we are not self-governing, we cannot take it upon ourselves to formulate a policy without reference to the Secretary of State for the Colonies. We are asking for assistance in this Scheme because we do not have the money for financing it. I repeat, we are not begging for anything; we are saying that we are overcrowded here, we are the most overcrowded spot in these parts, and we are asking the Secretary of State for the Colonies who has control of our affairs and do something for us. I am in entire agreement with the honourable junior member for St. Philip that we have to impress most firmly on the mind of the Secretary of State for the Colonies and on the entire British Government that this is a matter to which attention should have been paid long ago, and now that they are promising to pay attention to it, we must not be brought in at the tail's end. I am convinced that if it were not for the fact that the British Government is now committed, in consequence of their foreign policy, to find a place for these displaced refugees, they would not have noticed us at all.

Mr. SPEAKER: The honourable member is now going beyond the scope of the Address.

Mr. CRAWFORD: I am not suggesting that there are ulterior motives which may not bear the light of examination, but I am of the opinion which I have just expressed. We have a Labour Government in power and they are not noticing us, but they are planning to settle Assyrians in British Guiana—the same old story in a different form.

Mr. SPEAKER: The honourable member can press his point as much as he can, but he must not put any reasons for the Commission as appointed.

Mr. CRAWFORD: I realise that some of the most mighty countries in the world have been built up purely by refugees. America owes her eminent position to a great extent to refugees from Europe, people who had to leave persecutions on the Continent, people who were the last dregs of humanity. They were outcasts; (Mr. ADAMS: And they made America the wealthiest place in the world). And they made America the wealthiest place in the world. (Laughter). America and Britain are countries with immense resources, and although we have not had any investigation carried out as yet, I think that I am correct in saying that you cannot find the same resources either in British Guiana or in British Honduras. I would suggest that the word "some" occurring in line 1 of paragraph 2 of the Address be deleted and the word "grave" be inserted in place thereof.

Mr. BRANCKER: I accept that amendment.

Mr. TALMA: There is only one observation which I would like to make, and it is that if the Secretary of State for the Colonies realises the

necessity for settling displaced persons or refugees in British Guiana and British Honduras, he should also realise that there is the same necessity for settling West Indians in these Colonies. I could very well understand the position if Canada and other places where it is felt that people of colour have no right to be, were included in this scheme. I do not see how we can derive any actual benefit by overcrowding these back alleys of the British Empire; I do not see how we are going to benefit if other people are going to be sent to fill up the vacant spots in these parts. I think that we should be granted the right to emigrate our people to places like Canada and elsewhere.

Mr. LEWIS: The text of the Address which was passed by this House on the 10th of December, 1946, is as follows:—

"The House of Assembly respectfully ask that Your Excellency will immediately investigate by means of delegates or otherwise, the possibility of an Emigration Scheme with British Honduras, Brazil and any other country.

The House respectfully ask Your Excellency to draw to the attention of His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies the urgent necessity for Imperial support for such Emigration Schemes.

It would seem as if the cardinal point was left out of the Address; we never said that the Emigration Scheme should concern West Indians solely or principally. We merely asked for Imperial support in respect of such Schemes, but the type of people for whom we wanted emigration was not set out in the Address. If that was not transmitted to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, I hardly see that there was any intimation that we would object to people other than Barbadians or West Indians being included in the Scheme. I say that it would be wise to bear in mind the text of the Address which we have passed, and in this debate we should concern ourselves with getting West Indians included in the Commission. I think we should now be grateful to the Secretary of State for the Colonies for his quick action and concern ourselves with emphasising the necessity for having West Indians, and particularly a Barbadian, to serve on the Commission.

Mr. SPRINGER: The whole of the debate seems to be proceeding on the assumption that the decision of the Secretary of State for the Colonies to send a Commission to British Guiana and British Honduras was due to the Address which we passed in this House. That is not altogether the case. We have to remember that we are still colonies and there is still an Empire. While I might endorse the sentiments which have been expressed by honourable members, and while we look forward to the time when there will be a federation of the West Indies, when we will manage our own affairs, yet it is still a matter for the British Government to decide what territories will be developed and who are to be removed into them. I do not think that political pressure should be brought to bear on displaced persons, but that we should do the best we can in the circumstances. We cannot adopt the attitude of saying that you must reply to us because we sent you an Address and that we should be the only people to be considered in this Scheme. I agree that there is no harm if displaced persons are included in the Scheme if they are of the right type and in the right proportion.

The question that this Address as amended do now pass was put and resolved in the affirmative, Mr. SPEAKER declaring "I think the 'Ayes' have it."

The Address was passed.

Mr. SPEAKER: I will ask the honourable junior member for St. Lucy to present this Address.

Mr. BRANCKER: As Your Honour pleases.

ADDRESS *re* SUB-POST OFFICE IN HASTINGS DISTRICT

The first Order of the Day under Private Members' Business was called.—To move the passing of an Address to His Excellency the Acting Governor requesting that steps be taken for the establishment of a Sub-post Office in the vicinity of Hastings Rocks, Christ Church.

Mr. TALMA: Mr. Speaker,—The Address reads as follows:—

*The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency the Acting Governor*

The House of Assembly deems it an urgent necessity, in view of the importance and increase in residents in the Hastings area, for the establishment of a Sub-post Office in the vicinity of Hastings Rocks, Christ Church.

2. The House therefore sincerely hope that your Excellency will implement this proposal without undue delay by sending down the necessary Resolution; and by so doing avoid the numerous inconveniences and hardships suffered by the residents of this area both local and foreign.

I gave notice of this Address during the last Session of this House, and it is an Address which will commend itself to every reasonable member of the House. It deals with creating greater facilities for tourists who frequent this island, and we look forward to receiving these visitors in a great number within a few months from now. If we are attempting to develop the tourists trade and to grant tourists all the facilities which are essential, I feel that an Address of this nature asking for the establishment of a Sub-post Office in the vicinity of Hastings Rocks, if it is possible to make the necessary arrangements for it with the Management in that centre, would be the means whereby much of the congestion in the 'buses and the inconvenience

experienced by strangers and also by the people of that district will be relieved. The position now is that people have to pay 'bus fare and also for posting their letters, and on certain days they are kept waiting for one-half of the day for seats in the 'buses. Not only would strangers benefit materially, but also the residents in Dayrells Road and in the districts where bungalows are being built daily. The congestion which is now being experienced in the General Post Office will also be relieved. I am not doing anything against the wishes of anybody; this is a demand which has been made by the Conservative element, and I am trying to accommodate them. I beg to move that this Address do now pass.

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to second the motion and, in doing so, I appeal to the honourable member to see that this Address will lead to some controversy. It is now after five o'clock and there are some of us who have appointments for that hour. In the circumstances, I am asking that the debate on this Address be postponed.

Mr. SPRINGER: I beg to move that the debate on this motion be postponed.

Mr. COX: I beg to second that.

The question that the debate on this motion be postponed was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

THE ADJOURNMENT

The Order Paper having been fixed.

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to move that this House do now adjourn to this day week, the 26th day of January, 1947, at twelve o'clock noon.

Mr. COX: I beg to second that.

The question that this House do now adjourn to this day week, the 28th day of January, 1947, at twelve o'clock noon was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

The House was accordingly adjourned to meet on Tuesday next, the 28th day of January, 1947, at twelve o'clock noon.