

THE House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT).

SESSION 1947—48

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 10th August, 1948.

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

Present.

His Honour Mr. G. B. EVELYN (*Speaker*), Dr. H. G. CUMMINS, Messrs. F. L. WALCOTT, K. N. R. HUSBANDS, M. E. COX, D. A. FOSTER, R. G. MAPP, C. E. TALMA, H. D. BLACKMAN, E. D. MOTTLEY, V. C. GALE, S. A. WALCOTT, and J. H. WILKINSON, O.B.E.

Prayers are read.

Mr. SMITH enters the House and takes his seat.

MINUTES.

The Minutes of the meeting which was held on the 20th July having been circulated are taken as read and confirmed.

Mr. SPEAKER: The proceedings of the 3rd August, 1948, have also been recorded.

PAPERS LAID.

Dr. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker,—I have the honour to lay, on behalf of the honourable senior member for St. Joseph, the following Papers:—

Reports on the Ground Water Resources of Barbados and their Utilisation, by George Roddam, M. Inst. E.E.

Statement of sums of money paid over to the Colonial Treasurer by the Commissioner of Police during the quarter ended 30th June, 1948.

Message No. 11/1948 from His Excellency the Governor relating to grants from the Rehabilitation Reserve Fund.

Message No. 12/1948 from His Excellency the Governor regarding the funds provided by Resolution No. 32/1948 for the training of a male and a female probation officer.

Message No. 13/1948 from His Excellency the Governor, with reference to the Address from the Honourable the House of Assembly dated the 18th May, 1948, on the subject of unemployment relief works.

Memorandum *re* Mineral Rights in Oil and Natural Gas.

Statement showing the Gross Customs and Excise receipts for two months ended 31st May, 1948.

Statement showing sums advanced to the Colonial Postmaster for the payment of Money Orders up to the 30th June, 1948.

Report of the Registrar on the Vital Statistics of the Colony for the year 1946.

Statement of the Expenditure of the Housing Board to the 31st March, 1948.

Return of the transactions in rum for the quarter ended 30th June, 1948.

Report of the Registrar of Friendly Societies for the half-year ended 30th June, 1946, and for the half-year ended 31st December, 1946.

Report on the Excise Branch of the Customs Department for the year 1947.

Two photographs of the Cable Ship "Electra" discharging foodstuffs sent from Barbados to Castries to relieve the sufferers from the fire in that town.

PETITIONS.

Mr. WILKINSON: Mr. Speaker,—I beg to present a petition from Joes River Limited, praying the House to reject the Bill entitled the Petroleum (Production and Control) Act, 1947, which is now before the House. The petition is respectfully worded and I ask that it be taken as read.

The petition is taken as read.

Mr. TALMA: Mr. Speaker,—I beg to present, on behalf of the honourable senior member for St. George, a petition from the Commissioners of Highways for the parish of St. George praying the House to pass a Bill to authorize them to borrow a sum not exceeding £2,000 to purchase a Diesel Motor Road Roller for use in repairing the roads of the said parish. The petition is respectfully worded and I ask that it be taken as read.

The petition is taken as read.

Messrs. DOWDING and CRAWFORD enter the House and take their seats.

NOTICES.

Government Notices are given as follows:—

Dr. CUMMINS (On behalf of Mr. Adams): Resolution to place the sum of £19,485 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee for the service of the Colony as set out in the Schedule to the resolution.

Resolution to place the sum of £10,000 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to provide for the subsidisation of 550 tons of rice imported from Brazil.

Mr. BLACKMAN: Resolution for £875. 13. 5 as a refund of the Customs import duty and package tax paid by Messrs. D. M. Simpson and Co. on machinery and accessories imported for the manufacture of fuel from megasse.

Dr. CUMMINS (On behalf of Mr. Adams): Resolution to place the sum of £280 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to meet the cost of the installation of electricity in the House of Assembly Chamber and Offices and the charges for electric current for the remainder of the current financial year.

Dr. CUMMINS: Resolution to place the sum of £1,450 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to meet the cost of courses in Jamaica for 2 Sanitary Inspectors and 2 Public Health Nurses.

Dr. CUMMINS: Resolution for the sum of £12,000 to supplement Resolution No. 51 of the 12th September, 1946, to meet expenses in connection with the sending of Barbadian workers to the U.S.A. for temporary employment, including the making of advances by way of loans, insurance, passages, welfare and other expenses incidental to the recruitment and sending of the workers, and for the part-payment of return passages.

Dr. CUMMINS: Of my intention to move, on behalf of Mr. Adams, the House into Committee of Supply at its next meeting to consider the money Resolutions of which notice has just been given.

Other Notices are as follows:—

Mr. WILKINSON: Of the following Address:—

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

The House views with considerable apprehension the gravity of the food situation in the Island, which has been aggravated by the small supply of Rice received from British Guiana.

The House is of opinion that immediate steps should be taken to import additional quantities of Rice from Brazil or other Countries to supplement the inadequate quantity coming from British Guiana.

Dr. WILSON enters the House and takes his seat.

Mr. DOWDING: A Bill to authorise the Highways Commissioners of Saint George to raise a loan to purchase a Diesel Motor Road Roller for use in the said parish.

Mr. CRAWFORD (On behalf of Mr. Garner): Of the following Address:—

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

The House is of the opinion that in view of the acute shortage of foodstuffs of all kinds, and the grave hardships which adverse economic conditions have imposed upon the masses of the people that the picking season for sea-eggs should be advanced, and that the procurement of this article of diet should be legalised immediately.

Mr. CRAWFORD: Of the following Address:—

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

The House of Assembly is of the opinion that an appreciable number of Barbadians would be willing to settle in the West African Republic of Liberia.

2. The House accordingly requests Your Excellency to take whatever step may be necessary with a view to assisting and expediting the emigration of Barbadians to that country.

QUESTIONS.

Mr. HUSBANDS: To enquire of the senior member of the Executive Committee present in the House at its next meeting.

1. Is the Government aware that Police Constable 486 G. C. Skeete who on the seventh day of July while in the normal execution of his duty made arrest of the driver of a motor-vehicle under the Bridgetown Traffic Regulations made under Section 36 (1) of the Police Act 1908-2 was not allowed to proffer any charges against the aforesaid driver of the motor vehicle?

2. Is the Government aware that this police constable was censured by his superior officer, Captain P. H. Duke, for having made such an arrest?

3. Will the Government enquire into the matter and if it is shown that the police constable was in order to take steps to see that he will not be in any way prejudiced by his action?

Mr. CRAWFORD: To enquire of the senior member of the Executive Committee present at the next meeting of the House:

1. Will the Government take steps to ascertain the recovery of individual factories during the manufacture of the sugar cane crop which was reaped this year?

2. Will the Government take steps to ascertain the standard costs of manufacturing raw sugar, muscovado sugar, and fancy molasses for the reaping season 1948?

3. Will the Government cause these figures to be laid on the table of the House at the earliest date possible?

BILL READ A FIRST TIME

On the motion of Mr. DOWDING, seconded by Mr. GALE, a Bill to authorize the Commissioners of Highways for the parish of St. George to borrow a sum not exceeding £2,000 to purchase a Diesel Motor Roller for use in repairing the roads of the said parish is read a first time.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Mr. SPEAKER: The first Order stands in the name of the honourable senior member for St. Joseph.—To move the House into Committee of Supply to consider the grant of sums of money for the service of the Colony.

Dr. CUMMINS asks for and is granted leave to take charge of the Orders in the name of the senior member for St. Joseph.

On the motion of Dr. CUMMINS, seconded by Mr. BLACKMAN, Mr. SPEAKER leaves the Chair and the House goes into Committee of Supply, Mr. SMITH being in the Chair.

REFUND OF CUSTOMS IMPORT DUTY AND PACKAGE TAX TO P. C. S. MAFFEI AND CO., LTD.

Mr. BLACKMAN: The first Resolution is for the sum of £379. 15. 8. to be granted to Messrs P. C. S. Maffei & Co. Ltd. as a refund of the Customs import duty and package tax paid on imported woollen piece goods which were subsequently re-shipped to the United States of America.

Messrs. Maffei and Co., Ltd. imported woollen piece goods valued £1,581. 16. 2. from E. F. Leveen & Co. Ltd. of New York, U.S.A. and paid duty

amounting to £379. 15. 8. When the goods were examined, they were found to be not of the description or quality ordered and were unsuitable for the purpose for which they were ordered. The Company communicated with the suppliers and after a long period of waiting, the latter agreed that the goods should be returned but they did not agree to the refund of the duty. A Customs officer saw the goods re-shipped and a Landing Certificate has been received from the Customs Department in New York stating that the goods had been landed at that port safely. In the circumstances, it is recommended that the duty be refunded by the Government and the object of this Resolution is to enable such refund to be made. I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to second that.

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

REPAIR AND PURCHASE OF FURNITURE FOR STAFF OFFICER'S QUARTERS

Dr. CUMMINS: The next Resolution is for £378 for (a) the repair and purchase of furniture for the quarters of the Staff Officer, Barbados Volunteer Force, and (b) the installation of sanitary facilities in the quarters of the Range Warden of the Barbados Volunteer Force.

It is well known that the Volunteer Force has recently been resuscitated and this Resolution is for the purpose of making habitable the quarters of the officers stated therein. I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Mr. BLACKMAN: I beg to second that.

Mr. GALE: I would like to enquire what has become of the furniture of the Staff Officer's quarters. I believe that up to the time the Volunteer Force was taken over by the British Army, the Staff Officer's quarters contained good furniture and I would like to know what became of it.

Mr. WILKINSON: I was really going to ask the same question. I remember that the Staff Officer's quarters were furnished with heavy furniture belonging to the Government of Barbados and I would like to know whether during the war it has been used for other purposes or has been damaged.

Dr. CUMMINS: I am not in a position to answer the honourable members' questions but the addendum states that the furniture that remains is in very poor condition and is quite inadequate. What happened in the past I am not in a position to state.

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

On the motion of Dr. CUMMINS, seconded by Mr. BLACKMAN, the Chairman reports the passing of two Resolutions in Committee of Supply and asks leave to sit again.

The House resumes and on the motions of Dr. CUMMINS, seconded by Mr. BLACKMAN in each case, the two Resolutions that were passed in Committee of Supply are read a first and a second time and are agreed to.

APPOINTMENT OF TWO ADDITIONAL CLERKS IN THE CIVIL SERVICE

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order stands in the name of the honourable senior member for Christ Church,—To move the passing of a Resolution to authorise His Excellency the Governor, in accordance

with the provisions of section 3 (2) of the Clerical Service Act, 1944, as amended by section 2 of the Clerical Service (Amendment) Act, 1947, to appoint two additional Clerks to the Clerical Staff of the Clerical Service.

Mr. TALMA: Mr. Speaker,—The duties of Secretary of the Board of Industrial Training are at present being performed by the Labour Inspector and as the result, this officer has very little time to devote to the duties of his substantive post as Labour Inspector. About 80 per cent. of his time is devoted to the duties of the Secretary of the Board of Industrial Training, so it has been suggested—and the Government has agreed—that these duties should be transferred to the Public Works Department and that an additional clerk be appointed to perform them. The other additional clerk will be attached to the Department of Agriculture in connection with the scheme for the expansion and development of the fishing industry which was approved by the passing of Resolution No. 118 of 1947 for the sum of £24,460. I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Mr. BLACKMAN: I beg to second that.

Mr. CRAWFORD: Before you put the question, Sir, now that we are discussing the Clerical Service I want to make an enquiry with reference to a matter which was debated at some length earlier this session.

Mr. SPEAKER: Is it anything to do with this Resolution?

Mr. CRAWFORD: It is in relation to the Clerical Service. It refers to the assistance which this House decided should be given to Civil Servants to acquire vehicles to travel—

Mr. SPEAKER: Yes, but that cannot be discussed under this Resolution. This is purely a Resolution for the appointment of two additional clerks in the Civil Service.

Mr. CRAWFORD: I appreciate that.

Mr. SPEAKER: If you appreciate it, then I am going to ask you not to proceed any further on that point.

Mr. MOTTLEY: There is one point I wish to be explained and it is this. The honourable mover of the Resolution pointed out that approximately 80 per cent. of the time of the Labour Inspector is devoted to the duties of Secretary of the Board of Industrial Training and paragraph 2 of the addendum to this Resolution states that the Labour Commissioner has drawn attention to the need for the Labour Inspector to be fully employed in his substantive post. Yet, I observe that it has been published that this same officer has been selected to go to Surinam as Liaison Officer in connection with the Surinam emigration scheme. This is rather conflicting. If all his time is required for the performance of his duties as Labour Inspector—and rightly so—how can the Government reconcile that with the fact that it has taken him away from those duties to be sent to Surinam as liaison officer? I would like the senior member for Christ Church to tell me something about that.

Mr. WILKINSON: I want to draw attention, Sir, to paragraph 4 of the addendum which states:—"By Resolution No. 118/1947 the sum of £24,460 was provided for the expansion and development of the fishing industry. The scheme is operated under the Department of Science and Agriculture," and to paragraph 5 which says:—"The Director of Agriculture has asked for the provision of a clerk in connection with the carrying out of the scheme." It is obvious, Sir, that in the preparation of that estimate of £24,460 sufficient provision was not made

for the administration of it and now we are being asked to provide a clerk to help in the administration of the £24,460. I sometimes think that this Civil Service is going to become like the Civil Service in England—top heavy. Every now and then, there is need for an additional clerk or additional clerks and I am not so sure that some of the present staff is overworked. I have often visited certain Departments—I am not going to mention them now—and it appeared to me as if some of the clerks in those Departments had nothing to do and I would suggest to the Administration that before they employ additional clerks they might look into the several Departments and see if they cannot transfer some of the staffs of certain Departments to other Departments. I would like the senior member for Christ Church to tell me, if he can, whether in that Resolution No. 118/1947 any provision was made for a clerk.

Mr. TALMA: In so far as the point raised by the senior member for the City is concerned, he would realize that no better person could be sent to Surinam as liaison officer than the Labour Inspector. As far as the question of the junior member for St. James is concerned I thoroughly appreciate the suggestion that provision should have been made for a clerk to help in the administration of that £24,460, but the honourable member should realize that this is a new Department and that even the salary of the Fishery Officer is paid from Colonial Development and Welfare funds. This Government intends to keep that Department going and it is with that object that this additional clerk is being asked for.

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

ADDITIONAL SALARIES FOR TEACHERS AND OTHER PUBLIC OFFICERS

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order is to move the passing of a Resolution to pay additional salary to those persons in Column 1 at the rates set out in Column II in respect of the period set out in Column III of the schedule to the Resolution.

Dr. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker,—Honourable members are quite acquainted with the history which culminates in this Resolution before us. It deals with a few school-teachers and two or three other government servants who did not receive their increased salaries when the salary scale was revised in 1944-45. There was some doubt, you will remember, Sir, as to whether those persons who died or retired from the Government Service before the respective Resolutions authorising the payment of increased salaries came into effect, were entitled to receive the increased salaries but the position has been subsequently clarified, on the petition of some policemen and one or two other government servants, and the Executive Committee decided that these teachers and other government servants in a similar position are entitled to their increased salaries. It will also be remembered that a few months ago a Resolution was passed by this House for increased salaries for some policemen and members of the Fire Brigade in similar circumstances. The teachers and other persons whose names are mentioned in the schedule to the Resolution now before the House should have been included in that Resolution but were not, through an oversight. The addendum to this Resolution sets out quite clearly the information which honourable members may want and I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Mr. BLACKMAN: I beg to second that.

Mr. CRAWFORD: Before the question is put I want to say that these ladies and gentlemen have been detained for a reasonably long time already—in some cases, years now—in respect of the payment of this money. (Voices: Some are dead). I am amazed to hear that one or two of them are now dead but I know that a few of them are still alive because one approached me last Saturday in connection with the amount that is due to him. But the point which I rose to make is this. We know that even after the Legislature makes these funds available, there is invariably long delay in the payment of the money to the persons who are to benefit from the particular Resolution and I hope that in this instance the Department concerned will make every effort to see that these people receive this money with the minimum of delay. I think they have waited long enough and they should not be subjected to any further inconvenience.

Mr. WILKINSON: I should like to support the remarks of the honourable member. I know that some of these people have died in despair.

Messrs. GARNER and WARD enter the House and take their seats.

Dr. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker,—I ask leave to postpone the further consideration of this Resolution, so that I may get a little more information in connection with it.

There being no objection, the further consideration of the Resolution is postponed.

THE PETROLEUM (AMENDMENT) BILL

Mr. SPEAKER: The next order stands in the name of the honourable senior member for Christ Church,—Second reading of a Bill to amend the Petroleum Act, 1882 (1882—2).

Mr. TALMA: Mr. Speaker,—This Bill seeks to amend the Petroleum Act, 1882, to permit the keeping of a quantity of petroleum products of a flash point between 73°F and 150°F not exceeding one thousand gallons in metal containers installed underground to a depth of not less than three feet. It is considered that this will ensure greater safety than the keeping of such petroleum products in metal or wooden cases above-ground and will facilitate the operations of dealers in such products. This provision is considered necessary by the Commissioner of Police and others who are to control the storage of these petroleum products. It is a matter which should be dealt with urgently in order to ensure safety as far as the keeping of petroleum products in containers is concerned and I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. BLACKMAN: I beg to second that.

Mr. WILKINSON: I would like, Sir, to get a little more information in this matter. The first part of paragraph (a) of Clause 2 of the Bill is in order but as regards the latter part—

Mr. SPEAKER: I suggest to the honourable member that the remarks he is making now may well be made if and when the House is in Committee on the Bill.

The question that this Bill be now read a second time is put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

On the motion of Mr. TALMA, seconded by Mr. BLACKMAN, Mr. SPEAKER leaves the Chair and the House goes into Committee on the Bill, Mr. SMITH being in the Chair.

Clause 1 is read and agreed to.

Clause 2 Paragraph (a) of section 9 of the Principal Act is hereby repealed and the following new paragraph substituted therefor:—

"(a) that it shall be lawful for any dealer in petroleum products of a flash point between 75° F and 150° F to keep in a place to be approved by the Petroleum Inspector any quantity of such petroleum products not exceeding one thousand gallons in metal containers installed not less than three feet underground or to keep in any shop, store or warehouse any quantity of such petroleum products not exceeding two hundred gallons if in metal cases and fifty gallons if in wooden packages."

Mr. TALMA: I beg to move that that be Clause 2 of the Bill.

Mr. BLACKMAN: I beg to second that.

Mr. WILKINSON: As I was saying, on the motion for the second reading of this Bill, the latter part of paragraph (a) of Clause 2 states: "or to keep in any shop, store or warehouse any quantity of such petroleum products not exceeding two hundred gallons if in metal cases and fifty gallons if in wooden packages." That seems to me to be a new provision because I do not believe that under the present Act a person is allowed to keep fifty gallons of petroleum products in a wooden package in a shop, store or warehouse. Would the honourable member give us an explanation as to what is really intended by this latter provision?

Mr. TALMA: I regret to say that the file relating to this matter is not in my possession and that I cannot clarify it for the honourable member, as much as I should like to do so. The file happens to be in the possession of the Leader of the House and I really cannot give the honourable member the information he wants. I must offer the House an apology in that respect.

Mr. WARD: In the circumstances, I am going to move that the further consideration of this Bill be postponed. Unless there is some particular reason for it I feel that it is dangerous to store petroleum products in a shop in such large quantities. I think the system is that large quantities of these petroleum products must be stored underground and dealers are allowed to keep only small quantities aboveground. In the first place, the Insurance Companies are against the keeping of petroleum products in large quantities aboveground and I know that to be a fact because I have to keep a supply which is stored at some distance from my residence. I think we should have all the particulars before we pass this Bill and inasmuch as the honourable member is not in a position to give them, we should postpone the Bill to get the information.

Mr. TALMA: In view of the remarks of the two last speakers and of the fact that I am not in a position, through no fault of my own, to give the information I beg to move, Mr. Chairman, that you do now report progress and ask leave to sit again.

Mr. WILKINSON: Paragraph (a) of Clause 2 states that any quantity of petroleum products not exceeding 200 gallons if in metal cases and fifty gallons if in wooden packages can be kept in any shop, store or warehouse, yet in paragraph 2 of the Objects and Reasons, it is stated that it is considered that the keeping of petroleum products underground to a depth of not less than three feet would ensure greater safety than the keeping of such products in metal or wooden cases aboveground. Those two statements are contradictory and I think the honourable member is right to postpone the further consideration of the Bill for the information.

Mr. BLACKMAN: I beg to second the motion of the senior member for Christ Church.

The question that the Chairman do now report progress and ask leave to sit again is put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

The CHAIRMAN reports and the House resumes.

ADDITIONAL SALARIES FOR TEACHERS AND OTHER PUBLIC SERVANTS

Dr. CUMMINS: Before Your Honour proceeds to call the next Order I ask leave to revert to Order No. 3—the Resolution relating to additional salaries for teachers and other public officers.

There being no objection, the honourable member is granted leave to proceed.

Dr. CUMMINS: Certain honourable members, Mr. Speaker, were apprehensive as to whether if this Resolution was passed now, the parties will receive their money or whether the Executive Committee would have to send down another Resolution for the money and during the interval I received information from the Auditor General that it would not be necessary to send another Resolution for the money; that the money has been already provided and that this Resolution only seeks to give sanction to the payment of it. I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Mr. BLACKMAN: I beg to second that.

Mr. COX: There is only one thing I should like to say in relation to this retrospective pay and it is this. I think the Government also owes this pay to members of the teaching fraternity who left the Service, even though they had not reached the retiring age. My reason for saying that is this: It was understood that the payment of this money would be retrospective and while the Resolutions were under consideration some of the individuals who were to have benefited left the Service. My feeling is that they had already worked for the additional pay and, therefore the Government should pay it to them. Let us say that these individuals left the service in June and the Resolution or Resolutions affecting them were passed in July, they were definitely entitled to payment of the additional salaries up to June because if the Resolution had been passed in May, they would have received their retrospective pay for April, May and June. In my opinion, it is not too late for the Government to re-consider the position of these individuals because it cannot say that they did not work for the money.

Mr. SPEAKER: The honourable member should bring that matter up by way of an Address.

Mr. COX: I have on the Order Paper an Address dealing with the matter but I can very well see that even more important Addresses than that will not be dealt with this session. I am only throwing out a hint to the Government because the matter is in its hands and if it wants to send the necessary Resolution to this House it can do so.

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

THE MARKET AND BUTCHERS (AMENDMENT) BILL

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order stands in the name of the honourable senior member for St. Thomas,—Second reading of a Bill to amend the Market and Butchers Act, 1890 (1890-14).

Dr. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker,—The Veterinary Surgeon who was also Superintendent of the Public Market has resigned or is about to resign. Inasmuch as a Veterinary Officer will be attached to

the Department of Science and Agriculture, it will not be necessary to appoint a Veterinary Surgeon as Superintendent of the Public Market and it is proposed that a layman should be appointed to that post. As far as the inspection of butchers' meat is concerned, we have in this island a few sanitary inspectors who have been trained in the inspection of meat and who can very well perform the duties that the Superintendent of the Public Market performed in his capacity as Veterinary Surgeon. The Objects and Reasons are clearly stated and I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. BLACKMAN: I beg to second that.

The question that this Bill be now read a second time is put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

On the motion of Dr. CUMMINS, seconded by Mr. BLACKMAN, Mr. SPEAKER leaves the Chair and the House goes into Committee on the Bill, Mr. SMITH being the Chair.

Clause 1 is read and is agreed to.

Clause 2. Section 3 of the Principal Act as amended by the Civil Establishment (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1944, is hereby further amended by deleting the words "a person whose name is on the Register of Veterinary Surgeons of this Island" occurring in lines one and two thereof and substituting therefor the words "a fit and proper person."

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to move that that be Clause 2 of the Bill.

Mr. BLACKMAN: I beg to second that.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I am not so sure that the wording of this amendment should remain as it is. As the senior member for St. Thomas has stated, there are sanitary inspectors to-day who possess the necessary qualification for the inspection of meat but if the wording of the Act is merely "a fit and proper person," there is nothing to prevent the Governor from appointing anybody who does not have the qualification but who, in his opinion, is a fit and proper person. I am suggesting that after the word "person" the following words be added:—"holding a Certificate of Meat Inspection from the Royal Sanitary Institute." We should not leave the wording as it is—"a fit and proper person"—but should pin down the Head of the Administration to the appointment of a fit and proper person who possesses the qualification in meat inspection. I beg to move that the words "holding a Certificate of Meat Inspection from the Royal Sanitary Institute" be added at the end of Clause 2 of the Bill and I hope that the honourable introducer will accept my amendment; it will cause no harm to be done to anybody and will prevent a dissatisfied lot of butchers from saying "you have not merely passed a Bill to enable a layman to be appointed to inspect our meat but you have given power to appoint a layman that is not qualified to do that inspection."

Mr. CRAWFORD: I do not think that the amendment of the honourable member to this amending Bill will satisfy the butchers. I am not in a position to state with authority whether or not the possession of a Certificate of Meat Inspection will give an Inspector of Meat the necessary knowledge to inspect meat in all cases but from the remarks I have heard from time to time by butchers it is necessary to have a Vet. to supervise the inspection of meat at the Public Market. Moreover, Sir, judging from the revenue which the Colony gets from the Public Market, I think that we could afford to have a qualified Vet. stationed there for the purpose of inspecting meat. Complaints have reached me from time

to time over a period of years that in many cases meat which has been condemned by officers who are not veterinary officers should not have been condemned. Take, for instance, pigs. I am told by people who know better than I do that the effects of a sunstroke, in respect of pigs, are in many cases undiscernible from the effects of swine fever and many a butcher has had his carcass condemned on the ground that the pig had swine fever when it had a sunstroke. Similarly with cows and other animals that are slaughtered for consumption and in those circumstances the butchers stand to lose an appreciable amount of money if their carcasses are condemned unjustly by an officer who is absolutely incompetent to pass judgment on their condition. If the regulations of the Market would permit the referring of any dispute between a butcher and the Meat Inspector to the Veterinary Officer attached to the Department of Science and Agriculture, well then, Sir, we may pass this Bill as it stands but I do not think that the rights of the people who slaughter animals in the Public Market will be properly protected unless there is some appeal which can lie on the part of the butchers to a qualified veterinary officer.

Mr. GALE: Mr. Chairman,—I am going to second the amendment of the senior member for the City. It is not usual in any other part of the world to have a Veterinary Officer inspecting meat or in charge of a Public Market. Up to a few years ago, there was no opportunity in the West Indies for persons to qualify in meat inspection but at present we have a branch of the Royal Sanitary Institute which holds examinations and gives diplomas in Meat Inspection. As regards the inspection of carcasses I would very much prefer to accept the decision of a man who is trained in Meat Inspection than that of a Vet. The Vet is the man who examines the animal before it is killed; he is not specially trained in the inspection of carcasses for people to eat. His job is to diagnose while the animal is alive and not after it is dead and I feel that if we insert the amendment of the senior member for the City it would be sufficient to meet the requirements in this particular instance. In England Veterinary Surgeons do not inspect meat; the meat inspection is done by qualified Meat Inspectors and that is what is needed in Barbados.

Mr. MAPP: I hope the Government or the member in charge of this Bill will see the wisdom in having some safeguard as is proposed in this Bill. Under the Act provision is made for the appointment of a Superintendent of the Public Market who must be a Veterinary Surgeon and provision is also made for the appointment of an Assistant Meat Inspector who must be either a Veterinary Surgeon or a person equally qualified to inspect meat. From the wording of the section, we must presume that a Veterinary Surgeon is qualified to inspect meat. Further than that. He is qualified for other things and I should think that it would be a proper safeguard if we agreed that the Superintendent of the Public Market should be a Veterinary Surgeon. As far as I understand the amendment, it is proposed that the Superintendent of the Public Market need not hold the qualification of a Veterinary Surgeon; as a matter of fact he need not have any qualification at all. I feel, Sir, that if it is laid down that the Assistant Meat Inspector must be either a Veterinary Surgeon or a person equally qualified to inspect meat, how much more necessary it is to insert the safeguard that the person whom he is to assist must be either a Veterinary Surgeon or a person equally qualified to inspect meat! I do not see that I can agree to the amendment put

forward by the Government, namely, that he can only be a fit and proper person, without the proper safeguard that he must be a Veterinary Surgeon or a person qualified to inspect meat because it would mean that the Assistant Meat Inspector would do all the meat inspection; he would be an expert in a subordinate position to that of a non-expert. I agree that the Act should remain as it is and I beg to move that the further consideration of this Bill be postponed in order that the Government may reconsider its proposal.

Dr. CUMMINS: Certain honourable members seem to be confused about this matter. This Bill proposes that the Superintendent of the Public Market, instead of being a Veterinary Surgeon should be a layman. The Director of Agriculture thinks that the Department of Agriculture should run the meat market as well as the fish market and the Superintendent should be what this amendment says—a fit and proper person who should be qualified to look after the inspection of meat and fish. The Vet. would be attached to the Department of Science and Agriculture and in case there is a dispute when a carcass has been condemned, he will function like a Court of Appeal. As far as the phrase “a fit and proper person” is concerned, if honourable members care to make the wording stronger they may do so, but I cannot see how any Head of the Administration could think of appointing anybody to this post but a person who has been trained in the inspection of meat and who holds the Certificate of Meat Inspection from the Royal Sanitary Institute. In reply to the senior member for St. Philip I will say this: The Act was passed in 1890 when nobody thought of training Sanitary Inspectors, when a Sanitary Inspector was a superannuated schoolmaster or policeman but to-day Sanitary Inspectors are trained in all branches of Sanitary Science and there are a few men in Barbados who possess the Certificate from the Royal Sanitary Institute in Meat Inspection.

Mr. GALE: This Bill really seeks to revert to the days when the Superintendent of the Public Market was a layman and a Veterinary Surgeon used to be appointed to go into the Market and inspect the meat. For some reason or other that system was abolished and a Veterinary Surgeon was put in charge of the Market as Superintendent—in my opinion, a wrong thing to have done. A veterinary surgeon only wastes his time as Superintendent of the Market. Any person with average intelligence should be able to take charge of the Market and the meat inspection could then be done by some other person who is qualified to do so. It would be a waste of a Veterinary Surgeon's time to put him in charge of the Market when his time could be much better spent in promoting schemes, such as animal husbandry, among the peasantry of the island and that is the idea behind this Bill.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: I have given this matter some thought. I have tried to look at it in the light of 15 or 20 years ago when the Public Market was more like a market than it is to-day. To-day, the Public Market is only a place for the slaughter of animals because the majority of hawkers boycott the market and would not go there to hawk their wares. As far as I can see, the Government is planning to establish district markets and as far as this Bill is concerned, I am not so much interested in whether the person to be appointed Superintendent of the Public Market should be a layman as I am interested in knowing what the salary attached to the office will be. No amount has been stated in this Bill but if you look at the original Act you will see the salary attached to

the office and that salary was fixed to suit a Superintendent of the Market who has the qualification of a Veterinary Surgeon. If you say now that it is not necessary to have a man with that qualification as Superintendent of the Market but that the salary should remain as it is, then that will need some more study because it is obvious that if the Superintendent of the Market is to be a person like a clerk, you do not necessarily have to fix the salary at the same figure at which you fix it for a professional man. I do not know what is the salary of the present officer, Dr. Stoute, but I know that you would fix the salary at a higher figure for a man with the qualification of a Veterinary Surgeon than you would for a man without it. When it comes to the question of the meat inspection I am not against the wording, “a fit and proper person.” I do not agree with some honourable members who say that a Meat Inspector cannot really inspect meat as a Veterinary Surgeon can. I go further and say that the Meat Inspectors in Barbados to-day are responsible for the throwing away of meat that is found in shops or warehouses to be bad. When meat is imported into this island, the Veterinary Surgeon does not inspect that meat; it is inspected by the Meat Inspectors and if they say it should be thrown away, their decision is law. I am sure that the Meat Inspectors whom we have in Barbados are well qualified to do the work of meat inspection and I do not subscribe to the statement that they are not qualified to do so. But what is worrying me—and I will let the House know it now—is this: It has been drawn to my attention that there is a particular officer in the Department of Science and Agriculture whom they want to appoint as Superintendent of the Public Market. To me, that is not good enough. If you are going to change the Act, the reason for the change should be specifically stated. Where you have a salary for a person with a special qualification and you do not intend to insist that the person filling that job should possess that special qualification, then it means that you are giving somebody a soft, cushiony job at a salary which he is not qualified to receive. The salary was fixed for Dr. Stoute at a higher figure than that which Mr. Pontifex received. The late Mr. Pontifex who was Superintendent of the Public Market was a layman and in those days he was also Inspector of Scales and Weights which used to be repaired in the Public Market. To-day, the repairing of scales and weights is done at the Central Police Station and the Public Market is purely a place where meat and fish are sold. I say that if this officer to whom I referred is going to get the same pay as that which Dr. Stoute who is a Veterinary Surgeon received, then something is wrong somewhere. I think the salary is about £700 a year and if you are going to appoint a Meat Inspector to inspect meat, you do not need to have a £700-a-year man as Superintendent of the Public Market. I want to tell the House that candidly because while the essential part of the work—the meat inspection—is being done at 6.30 or 7 o'clock in the mornings, the Superintendent will be sitting down doing nothing and will still be drawing £700 a year. People who receive £700 a year in Barbados must show some work for it. If they do not show results for a £700-a-year salary, then this House would be failing in its duty if its members do not agitate for their removal from their posts. £700-a-year is not a normal salary in Barbados. There are many people who work for very much less and still have to live. I should like the honourable introducer of this Bill to answer the several points which I have raised.

Mr. BRANCKER enters the House and takes his seat.

Dr. CUMMINS: I believe I can allay the fears of the senior member for St. Peter. If the House agrees to this change then the question of the salary will be decided. The honourable member need not have any fear that the salary which is at present paid to a Superintendent who is a Veterinary Surgeon will be paid to a layman as Superintendent of the Public Market.

Mr. COX: I should like to say that this is one of those Bills which we should consider very careful because it is known that quite a lot of dissatisfaction exists in the Public Market. I am in favour of this proposed change because, like others, I do not feel it is necessary to have a Veterinary Surgeon stationed at the Market all day to look after the inspection of meat. At the same time, in order to remove doubts from the minds of the butchers I think that some safeguard should be put in this Bill by way of giving them the right of appeal from decisions of the Meat Inspector to the Veterinary Officer. We all know, Sir, that many butchers have made complaints from time to time in respect of the condemnation of their carcasses. Sometime ago there was an Inspector in the Public Market inspecting meat and the butchers claimed, whether rightly or wrongly, that carcasses were wilfully thrown away. They claimed that the Meat Inspector was a sort of petted tyrant and used to take them before the Courts very frequently and they fear that if this Bill is passed, that same man would be sent back to the Market. It is a matter for the Government whether it sends that man back or not but I feel that as conditions are to-day in the Market, if we are going to move the Veterinary Surgeon in whom the butchers have very much confidence, we should insert in this Bill a clause giving them the right of appeal from decisions of the Meat Inspector to the Veterinary Officer. The senior member for St. Thomas has told the Committee that it has been decided by the Government that that should be done but I do not want it done in that manner. I want it inserted in this Bill because I feel that it is the safeguard necessary to give the butchers confidence in the Bill.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I think that from the manner in which honourable members have spoken, they see the wisdom in my amendment. We really do not want two Inspectors of Meat at the Public Market. For some time now, the meat inspection has been practically carried on by persons holding the Certificate in Meat Inspection from the Royal Sanitary Institute but not in accordance with the law. And as the law now stands, section 39 of the Act gives the right of appeal. When there is dissatisfaction the Surveyor, as he is called in the Act, can be called in and in that way the right of appeal can be exercised. I do not see the necessity for postponing the Bill if we insert the words which I have suggested.

Mr. CRAWFORD: I beg to second the amendment of the senior member for the City. I am now satisfied that the right of appeal exists and that in case there is a dispute between a butcher and the Meat Inspector, the former will have recourse to the Veterinary Officer. I have been very apprehensive about that and so long as that right exists I am satisfied in my mind because despite all that has been said I am still of the opinion that the final decision should rest with the Veterinary Officer rather than with the Meat Inspector.

Mr. DOWDING: Our prime consideration to-day is to lay down something that will safeguard the public from consuming bad meat and I feel that the amendment moved by the honourable member on my right is definitely necessary. Great strides have been made in Meat Inspection all over the world during

recent years. Once upon a time we knew nothing about the various diseases which can be contracted from the eating of meat contaminated by various viruses and I do feel that we should definitely have a qualified man in Meat Inspection to inspect meat. I would say further that a man who is properly qualified in Meat Inspection is definitely more qualified to inspect meat than a Veterinary Surgeon and I sincerely hope that honourable members would see the wisdom in supporting the amendment.

Dr. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman,—I accept the amendment of the senior member for the City (Hear, hear).

The question that Clause 2, as amended, stand part of the Bill is put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

On the motion of Dr. CUMMINS, seconded by Mr. BLACKMAN, the Chairman reports the passing of the Bill in Committee.

The House resumes and on the motions of Dr. CUMMINS, seconded by Mr. BLACKMAN in each case, the Bill is read a third time and is agreed to.

SEPARATION AND MAINTENANCE (AMENDMENT) BILL

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order is to resume Committee on the Bill to amend the law relating to Separation and Maintenance.

Mr. SPEAKER leaves the Chair and the House resumes Committee on the Bill, Mr. SMITH being in the Chair.

On the motion of Mr. TALMA, seconded by Dr. CUMMINS, the Chairman reports progress and asks leave to sit again.

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

REPLIES LAID

On re-assembling.

Dr. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker,—I beg to lay on the Table of the House the reply to question No. 59 standing in the name of the honourable senior member for St. Michael, and the reply to question No. 63 standing in the name of the honourable senior member for St. Philip.

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to lay the replies to questions No. 61 standing in the name of the honourable senior member for St. Peter.

SUSPENSION OF RULE 61 (a)

Mr. ADAMS: I ask leave to move for the suspension of Rule 61 (a) so as to continue Government Business.

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

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to move that Rule 61 (a) be now suspended.

Mr. TALMA seconded the motion which was agreed to.

'FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) (AMENDMENT) BILL

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day under Government Business stands in the name of the honourable senior member for St. Thomas:—Second reading of a Bill to amend the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1933 (1933—2).

Dr. CUMMINS: This Bill has for its object the protection, so to speak, of fresh milk. A certain amount of skimmed milk is coming into this colony

and it is feared that large quantities of this milk coming into the colony might provide a means by which the quality of fresh milk might be lowered. We know that cases are brought before the Courts from time to time where water has been added to the milk. This Bill seeks to bring our local Act into line with the Act of Great Britain, also safeguarding against the mixing of colouring matter with fresh milk. The "Objects and Reasons" of the Bill set out the matter clearly. The following information is therein set out:—

This Bill seeks to make provision to safeguard against the mixing of fluids or colouring matter with fresh milk.

2. As the law now stands it would probably be an offence under section 4 of the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1833 to sell fresh milk so mixed. It is considered, however, that the existing provision is not ample to meet the various eventualities which may arise.

3. In English legislation specific provision in respect of milk is included in section 24 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 (1 & 2 Geo. 6, c.56).

4. The provisions of this Bill are based on the provisions of the section mentioned in the preceding paragraph.

5. A Bill has recently been introduced into the Legislature for the purpose of encouraging the importation and consumption of skimmed milk. Should it be passed into law and have the desired result, the presence in this Island of large quantities of skimmed milk might well provide a means by which the quality of fresh milk might be lowered. The provision of adequate safeguards in the law is therefore of increased importance.

I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. BLACKMAN: I beg to second that.

The question that this Bill be now read a second time was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

The second reading was passed.

On the motion of Dr. CUMMINS seconded by Mr. BLACKMAN, Mr. SPEAKER, left the Chair, and the House went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. SMITH being in the Chair.

Clause 1, the title Clause was read and passed.

Clause 2 was read as follows:—

2. The Principal Act is hereby amended by inserting immediately after section nine thereof the following new section to be numbered 9A:—

9A. (1) No person shall—

(a) add any water or colouring matter, or any dried or condensed milk or liquid reconstituted therefrom, to milk intended for sale for human consumption; or

(b) add any separated milk or any mixture of cream and separated milk, to unseparated milk intended for such sale; or

(c) sell or offer or expose for sale, or have in his possession for the purpose of sale, for human consumption any milk to which any addition has been made in contravention of the provisions of this subsection.

(2) No person shall sell, or offer or expose for sale, under the designation of milk, any liquid in the making of which any separated milk or any dried or condensed milk has been used.

(3) In this section the words "separated milk" include skimmed milk.

(4) A person who contravenes any of the provisions of this section shall be guilty of an offence."

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to move that Clause 2 stand part of the Bill.

Mr. BLACKMAN: I beg to second that.

Mr. MOTTLEY: In connection with Sub-clause (4) of this Clause I feel that anybody who has been found guilty of adulterating milk should on the third conviction be sent to prison; and I am wondering whether this is not the appropriate time to insert an amendment to that effect. In some cases milk is put in water because there is more water than milk. It would be a pleasure to know that this House is protecting the inhabitants of this country by providing that persons be sent to prison on the third conviction for putting water in milk.

Dr. CUMMINS: I quite agree with the honourable member; I feel that way myself. However, I will bring the matter to the attention of the proper Authorities and see what can be done about it.

The question that Clause 2 stand part of the Bill was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Clause 2 was passed.

On the motion of Dr. CUMMINS seconded by Mr. BLACKMAN the CHAIRMAN reported the passing of the Bill in Committee.

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On motions of Dr. CUMMINS seconded by Mr. BLACKMAN in each case, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

PARISH CONSTABLES (AMENDMENT) BILL

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day also stands in the name of the honourable senior member for St. Thomas:—Second reading of a Bill to amend the Parish Constables Act, 1900 (1900-4).

Dr. CUMMINS: The object of this Bill is to increase the fees paid to parish constables. I know that the honourable junior member for St. Lucy will be pleased in that a Bill of this sort has at long last come before the House. For a few years now the honourable member has not failed to bring this matter to the attention of the Government. I believe that in July 1944 an Address in connection with this matter was passed in this House and the Government has sent down this Bill. It is proposed that, instead of having to come to the Legislature every now and then in order to amend the Act whenever it is sought to increase the fees of these constables, the matter be dealt with by way of Regulations. I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. BLACKMAN: I beg to second that.

Mr. BRANCKER: The fee of two shillings which is payable to a parish constable under the Act of 1900 is too small—

Mr. SPEAKER: That is a matter with which I think the honourable member can deal when the House goes into Committee on the Bill.

Mr. BRANCKER: I was only saying that under the present Act the fees payable to parish constables are too small and under this Bill Regulations will be made providing for increasing them to a reasonable amount. That is why I am supporting this Bill which, of course, I feel should have been before us long ago. The Governor-in-Executive Committee will have the power to make these Regulations and in view of the fact that it is proposed that these Regulations shall be approved by the Legislature I have no objection at all to supporting that principle which is provided for in this Bill.

Mr. MAPP: While I appreciate the fact that this Bill has been sent down as a result of an Address

which was passed in this House, I just want to utter a few words of caution to the Government. I hope that the Regulations for increasing the fees to parish constables will be made wisely and that the fees will not be made so attractive as to be out of all proportion to what the figures are at present. I say that because I know from experience as a Clerk in the Government Service that many wrongs were done. Mr. Fergusson, who was a Police Magistrate here used to point out that while a person might be convicted, a case was brought in circumstances where no case should have been brought at all. In some cases simply for the purpose of getting fees constables take advantage of poor people. I say that the Government should bear that in mind and they should not make the fees by any means attractive.

Mr. SMITH: I really did not intend to say anything in connection with this Bill, but after listening to the remarks of the last speaker—

Mr. SPEAKER: I was about to stop the last speaker relative to the principle of the Bill.

Mr. SMITH: I am saying that the fees should be made attractive. I know that there is in my district a certain constable who, when he retires at night, tells his wife not to answer any calls because he is not going to break up his night's rest and get blows in going to District "F" Police Station for a fee of two shillings. If that attitude is adopted what is going to happen to the public? There might be a case of one person killing another. You do not always get the assistance of policemen on the spot and I say that these constables should be paid for having to break up their night's rest. Sometimes they receive blows from robust prisoners and I feel that the Government should make the fees for these constables so attractive that people will be encouraged to become constables.

The question that this Bill be now read a second time was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

The second reading was passed.

On the motion of Dr. CUMMINS, seconded by Mr. TALMA, Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the House went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. SMITH being in the Chair.

The three Clauses of the Bill were read and passed.

On the motion of Dr. CUMMINS, seconded by Mr. BLACKMAN, the CHAIRMAN reported the passing of the Bill in Committee.

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On motions of Dr. CUMMINS, seconded by Mr. BLACKMAN in each case, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

SUSPENSION OF RULE 60.

Mr. ADAMS: I am asking leave to move for the suspension of Rule 60 so as to deal with Order No. 27 as the next Order of the Day. I must apologize to the House, but it slipped me when fixing the Order Paper on the last occasion to move up this Order. The object of this Bill is to amend the Merchant Shipping Act, 1898 so as to include motor vehicles among the forms of transport which might be requisitioned by Receivers of Wreck with a view to the preservation of ships, boats, persons and cargo. In view of the fact that the hurricane season is on us I am asking leave to move for the suspension of the Rule so as to deal with this Order now.

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

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to move that Rule 60 be now suspended.

Mr. TALMA seconded the motion which was agreed to.

MERCHANT SHIPPING (AMENDMENT) BILL

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to move that Order No. 27 be taken as the next Order of the Day.

Mr. TALMA seconded the motion which was agreed to.

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day therefore stands in the name of the honourable senior member for St. Joseph:—Second reading of a Bill to amend the Merchant Shipping Act, 1898 (1898—2).

Mr. ADAMS: As I have intimated, the object of this Bill is to add motor vehicles to the kinds of vehicular transport liable to be requisitioned by Receivers of Wreck. When the Merchant Shipping Act was passed in 1898 there was not such an extensive use of motor vehicles as there is today. Section 83 of the Act says this:—

"Whenever any ship or boat is stranded or in distress at any place on the shore of the sea or of any tidal water within the limits of this Island, the Receiver of the district shall, upon being made acquainted with such accident, forthwith proceed to such place, and upon his arrival there he shall take the command of all persons present, and assign such duties to each person, and issue such directions as he may think fit. . . ."

Then Section 84 says:—

"The Receiver may, with a view to such preservation as aforesaid of the ship or boat, persons, cargo and apparel, do the following things, that is to say:—

(1) He may summon such number of men as he thinks necessary to assist him;

(2) He may require the master or other person having the charge of any ship or boat near at hand to give such aid with his men, ship or boats as may be in his power:

(3) He may demand the use of any waggon, cart, carthorses, mules, oxen or asses that may be near at hand."

This amendment is to include the words "motor vehicles" in Section 84 of the Act which I have just read. I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. TALMA seconded the motion which was agreed to.

The second reading was passed.

On the motion of Mr. ADAMS, seconded by Mr. TALMA, Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair, and the House went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. SMITH being in the Chair.

The five Clauses of the Bill were read and passed.

On the motion of Mr. ADAMS seconded by Mr. TALMA, the CHAIRMAN reported the passing of the Bill in Committee.

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On motions of Mr. ADAMS seconded by Mr. TALMA in each case, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

COLONIAL TREASURER'S (AMENDMENT) BILL

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day also stands in the name of the honourable senior member for St. Joseph:—Second reading of a Bill to

amend the Colonial Treasurer's Act, 1891 (1891—20) as amended by the Colonial Treasurer's (Amendment) Act, 1941 (1941—9).

Mr. ADAMS: Honourable members will remember that some time ago a similar Bill came before the House and, as to be expected, the House stood for its right and held that the Governor could not appoint the Colonial Treasurer. This Bill accedes to the wishes of the House. As the position is at present, if the Colonial Treasurer happens to be ill, you would have to go to his bedside and get him to sign cheques if the House is not in session; because the House has to nominate someone to perform the duties of Colonial Treasurer and the Governor-in-Executive Committee has to approve the nomination. This Bill seeks to amend the law so as to authorise the Governor to make a temporary appointment in case the Colonial Treasurer is ill or is otherwise incapable of performing the duties of his office, and to report the appointment to the House for approval or other appropriate action which is provided for in Clause 3 of the Bill. The fears of the House have thus been removed. I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. TALMA: I beg to second that. The Bill hardly needs any further explanation. It will expedite matters as to the duties of the Colonial Treasurer.

The question that this Bill be now read a second time was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

The second reading was passed.

On the motion of Mr. ADAMS, seconded by Mr. TALMA, Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair, and the House went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. SMITH being in the Chair.

The four Clauses of the Bill were read and passed.

On the motion of Mr. ADAMS seconded by Mr. TALMA, the CHAIRMAN reported the passing of the Bill in Committee.

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On motions of Mr. ADAMS, seconded by Mr. TALMA in each case, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

SUSPENSION OF RULE 60

Mr. ADAMS: I ask leave to move the suspension of Rule 60 so as to deal with Order No. 37 as the next Order of the Day. This Order is a Resolution seeking to give effect to the extension from Barbados of the air letter service which has been extended in England to include the U. S. A. and several other foreign countries. The postage will be at the rate of sixpence per air letter form.

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

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to move that Rule 60 be now suspended.

Mr. TALMA seconded the motion which was agreed to.

RESOLUTION RE SPECIAL AIR LETTER FORMS ADDRESSED OUTSIDE EMPIRE TERRITORIES

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to move that Order No. 37 be taken as the next Order of the Day.

Mr. TALMA seconded the motion which was agreed to.

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day therefore stands in the name of the honourable junior member for St. John:—To move the passing of the following Resolution:—Resolution that from the 15th August, 1948, the postage on the special air letter forms provided for that purpose addressed to any

destination set out in the Schedule to the Resolution shall be at the rate of six pence per form.

Mr. BLACKMAN: Mr. Speaker,—The countries mentioned in the Schedule to this Resolution are as follows:—Argentina, Brazil, Cuba, Dutch Guiana, Germany (British Zone), Liberia, Panama Canal Zone, Republic of Panama, Phillipines, Puerto Rico, United States of America and Virgin Islands of

U.S.A. Up to now these special air letter forms are only usable in Empire Territories and the object of this Resolution is to extend their use to the countries which I have mentioned. I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to second that.

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

The Resolution was passed.

SUSPENSION OF RULE 60

Mr. ADAMS: I ask leave to move the suspension of Rule 60 so as to deal with Order No. 33 as the next Order of the Day.

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

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to move that Rule 60 be now suspended.

Mr. TALMA seconded the motion which was agreed to.

COTTON EXPORT LEVY (AMENDMENT) BILL

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to move that Order No. 33 be taken as the next Order of the Day.

Mr. TALMA seconded the motion which was agreed to.

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day therefore stands in the name of the honourable senior member for St. Joseph:—Second reading of a Bill to amend the Cotton Export Levy Act, 1935—5.

Mr. ADAMS: It has been found that the present export levy of half-penny per pound is insufficient to provide the funds required to meet the expenses of the Barbados Cotton Growers' Association. In order to meet that situation it is proposed to amend Section 3 of the Cotton Export Levy Act by repealing the words "not exceeding one half-penny per pound," since that Section of the Act fixes the maximum export levy at half-penny per pound. I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. TALMA: I beg to second that.

The question that this Bill be now read a second time was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

The second reading was passed.

On the motion of Mr. ADAMS seconded by Mr. TALMA, Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair, and the House went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. SMITH being in the Chair.

The two Clauses of the Bill were read and passed.

On the motion of Mr. ADAMS, seconded by Mr. TALMA, the CHAIRMAN reported the passing of the Bill in Committee.

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

At this stage, it now being 3.30 o'clock, Mr. SPEAKER stated that it was now time for the consideration of Private Members' Business.

SUSPENSION OF RULE 61 (b)

Mr. ADAMS: I ask leave to move the suspension of Rule 61 (b) for the purpose of completing the Cotton Export Levy Bill.

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

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to move that Rule 61 (b) be now suspended so as to finish the Cotton Export Levy Bill.

Mr. TALMA seconded the motion which was agreed to.

COTTON EXPORT LEVY (AMENDMENT) BILL

Mr. SPEAKER: When the time for Private Members' Business arrived, the Bill to amend the Cotton Export Levy Act was under consideration.

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to move that this Bill be now read a third time.

Mr. TALMA seconded the motion which was agreed to.

On a similar motion, the Bill was passed.

ORDER NOT PROCEEDED WITH

Mr. SPEAKER: It is now time for the consideration of Private Members' Business. The first Order of the Day under Private Members' Business is to resume debate on the motion that this House adjourn for 5 minutes in order to consider that in the opinion of the House the failure of the Government to formulate and declare its policy with regard to the assistance it is prepared to afford new industries is disadvantageous to the best interest of the Island.

SUSPENSION OF RULE 60

Mr. GALE: I ask leave to move the suspension of Rule 60 in order to proceed with Order No. 79 as the first Order of the Day under Private Members' Business.

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

On the motion of Mr. GALE, seconded by Mr. DOWDING, Rule 60 was suspended.

BARBADOS DISTILLERIES (JETTY) BILL

Mr. SPEAKER: The first Order of the Day under Private Members' Business now stands in the name of the honourable junior member for St. Michael:—Second reading of a Bill to authorise the Barbados Distilleries Limited to drive piles and erect a jetty thereon on the seashore adjoining their property called Mount Ararat, St. Michael.

Mr. GALE: I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to second that.

Dr. CUMMINS: I am not objecting to this Bill but in 1936 I happened to be a member of this House and the road running along this property and I believe along which this jetty will pass, was the subject of great discussion. I had asked questions about that road and the replies were debated in the House. I think it should be brought forcibly to the attention of the Government and the parties concerned that when we have erected a deep water harbour where it is proposed to erect it, naturally a road running along the course of this old road will, in my opinion, be very valuable in relieving the traffic from upper Black Rock and Eagle Hall. I want to be assured that the driving of these piles and the erection of this jetty will in no way interfere with this road.

Mr. GALE: As far as I have been informed, this jetty will be carried out into the sea and the road will in no way be obstructed. The jetty will be of sufficient height so that people will be able to use the road.

The question that this Bill be now read a second time was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

The second reading was passed.

On the motion of Mr. GALE, seconded by Mr. DOWDING, Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair, and the House went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. SMITH being in the Chair.

On the motion of Mr. GALE, seconded by Mr. S. A. WALCOTT, the Preamble was postponed.

The five Clauses of the Bill were read and passed.

The Preamble was read and agreed to.

On motion of Mr. GALE, seconded by Mr. S. A. WALCOTT, the CHAIRMAN reported the passing of the Bill in Committee.

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On motions of Mr. GALE seconded by Mr. S. A. WALCOTT in each case, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

ADDRESS RE ADVANCEMENT OF THE PICKING SEASON FOR SEA-EGGS.

Mr. GARNER: I ask leave to deal with the Address of which notice was given on my behalf earlier to-day. It is a non-controversial matter, it deals with the advancement of the picking season for sea eggs.

There being no objection, the honourable member was granted leave to deal with the Address.

Mr. GARNER: The Address reads as follows:—

*The House of Assembly
To*

His Excellency the Governor

The House is of the opinion that in view of the acute shortage of foodstuffs of all kinds, and the grave hardships which adverse economic conditions have imposed upon the masses of the people, that the picking of the season for sea-eggs should be advanced and that the procurement of this article of diet immediately should be legalised.

I hardly think that this is a controversial matter. Everybody knows that it is hard to obtain foodstuffs nowadays. Sea-eggs form part of our local food and I am told that they are rich in vitamins. I feel that if the season during which sea-eggs may be taken were advanced that would do a lot of good to the community. Sea-eggs are being caught but the catching of them is not legalised and there are those who will not buy sea-eggs because the season for catching them has not yet legally arrived. There are certain law-abiding citizens who will not purchase any sea-eggs until the catching of them is legalised. I beg to move that this Address do now pass.

Mr. ADAMS: I have very great pleasure in seconding the motion for the passing of this Address. (Cheers). I do not know why the honourable mover looked at me when he was speaking about people purchasing sea-eggs. (Laughter). I think honourable members will remember that since the War began the Government has made enquiries as to the taking of sea-eggs before the 1st of September and when it is reported that no harm will be done if the date is advanced, it has been customary to advance the date to the middle of August. Doubtless if the Government have favourable reports from the Director of Agriculture and Fisheries that the season can be advanced without any real damage being done to the industry and also from the Police, the Government will agree to advance the season. I think that honourable members should thank the honour-

able junior member for St. Philip for bringing the matter to their notice. Perhaps it may be that in the parish of St. Philip sea-eggs are eaten sooner than in other parishes.

Mr. CRAWFORD: I have not checked the records, but as far as my memory serves me, it was in 1940, the year after the War broke out, that as a result of recommendations made to me by the fishermen of St. Philip, I asked the Government to advance the picking season for sea-eggs that year. On one or two occasions since then a similar effort was made and it met with opposition on the part of the Government on the ground that the picking of sea-eggs too early would in some way interfere with their propagation. As far as I know, we have not advanced the picking season for sea-eggs for a few years. Even if there is some scientific reason for not advancing the season, I am of the opinion that after a lapse of a few years much harm cannot be done if we again in 1948 do what we have done periodically within the past eight years. Sea-eggs are a very popular article of diet and I feel that the current conditions in the colony will justify the taking of the step proposed in this Address by the Authorities. It is well known that at this time of the year the roes are fairly mature and in acceding to the request of the honourable junior member for St. Philip we are merely giving legal status to what is actually taking place at the moment. I have not yet eaten any sea-eggs (A MEMBER: Shame!) but it is known that people are picking them and there is no reason why the Government should not take steps to legalise the position.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that this Address do now pass. Honourable members in favour of that will please say "Aye", those against will please say "No". I think the "Ayes" have it. I will ask the honourable junior member for St. Philip to present the Address.

Mr. GARNER: As Your Honour pleases.

SUSPENSION OF RULE 60

Mr. WILKINSON: I ask leave to move the suspension of Rule 60 so as to deal with Order No. 86 on the Order Paper as the next Order of the Day. That Order is a Bill which seeks to authorise the Vestry of St. James to raise a loan for the purpose of erecting and equipping a Dispensary in the parish for the use of the residents.

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

On the motion of Mr. WILKINSON, seconded by S. A. WALCOTT, Rule 60 was suspended.

ST. JAMES PARISH LOAN BILL

Mr. WILKINSON: I beg to move that Order No. 86 be taken as the next Order of the Day.

Mr. S. A. WALCOTT seconded the motion which was agreed to.

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the honourable junior member for St. James:—Second reading of a Bill to authorise the Vestry of the parish of St. James to raise a loan to erect and equip a Dispensary for the use of the residents of the said parish.

Mr. WILKINSON: As I said just now, this Bill merely seeks to give the Vestry of St. James the necessary authority to raise a loan for the purpose of building and equipping a dispensary which is much needed in the parish. I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. S. A. WALCOTT: I beg to second that.

The question that this Bill be now read a second time was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

The second reading was passed.

On the motion of Mr. WILKINSON, seconded by Mr. S. A. WALCOTT, Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the House went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. SMITH being the Chair.

On a similar motion, the Preamble was postponed.

The thirteen Clauses of the Bill and the two Schedules were read and passed.

The Preamble was read and agreed to.

On the motion of Mr. WILKINSON, seconded by Mr. S. A. WALCOTT, the CHAIRMAN reported the passing of the Bill in Committee.

Mr. SPEAKER: resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On motions of Mr. WILKINSON, seconded by Mr. S. A. WALCOTT in each case, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

SUSPENSION OF RULE 60

Mr. MOTTLEY: I ask leave to move the suspension of Rule 60 in order to deal with Orders Nos. 81 and 83 as the next Orders of the Day. They are both non-controversial matters.

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

On the motion of Mr. MOTTLEY seconded by Mr. GALE, Rule 60 was suspended.

VESTRIES (AMENDMENT) BILL

Mr. MOTTLEY: I beg to move that Order No. 81 be taken as the next Order of the Day.

Mr. GALE seconded the motion which was agreed to.

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the honourable senior member for the City:—Second reading of a Bill to amend the Vestries Act 1911 (1911—5).

Mr. MOTTLEY: This Bill seeks to amend the Vestries Act 1911 so as to allow the Vestry of St. Michael to increase the salary of the Parochial Treasurer from £600 per annum to £750 per annum. Honourable members will remember that before the Act was amended the Parochial Treasurer of St. Michael was paid on a percentage basis. In 1939 the Act was amended and the salary of the Parochial Treasurer was fixed at £600 per annum. At that time the matter was gone into very carefully and since then the revenue of the parish has increased from over \$300,000 to over \$700,000 per annum. After the Cupe Commission carried out an investigation in respect of the Civil Service, the Vestry of St. Michael appointed a similar Commission in respect of parochial servants and certain recommendations for increases in salaries were made. As a result of these recommendations the salaries of parochial servants were increased with the exception of that of the Parochial Treasurer which remained at £600 per annum. After due consideration and discussion of the matter from every possible angle, the Vestry have seen fit to increase the salaries of certain Officers including that of the Parochial Treasurer, but the Act will have to be amended before the salary of the Parochial Treasurer can be increased. I think I have said enough for honourable members to appreciate the position. I repeat that after the Cupe Commission made its investigation in respect of the Civil Service, the Vestry followed suit in respect of parochial servants and no recommendation was made for an

increase of the salary of the Parochial Treasurer during the entire period of the War. I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. GALE: I beg to second that.

The question that this Bill be now read a second time was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

The second reading was passed.

On the motion of Mr. MOTTLEY, seconded by Mr. GALE, Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair, and the House went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. SMITH being in the Chair.

The two Clauses of the Bill were read and passed.

On the motion of Mr. MOTTLEY seconded by Mr. GALE, the CHAIRMAN reported the passing of the Bill in Committee.

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On motions of Mr. MOTTLEY seconded by Mr. GALE in each case, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

VESTRIES (AMENDMENT) BILL

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day also stands in the name of the honourable senior member for the City:—Second reading of a Bill to amend the Vestries Act 1911—5.

Mr. MOTTLEY: This Bill above all Bills coming before this House should be rather non-controversial. It merely seeks to amend the Vestries Act by deleting the word "male" wherever it occurs in section 7 of the Act and by deleting other words occurring in the section as set out in Clause 2 of the Bill. At present the Act only gives the right to His Majesty's male subjects to become Vestrymen or to have seats on the Vestries. This Bill proposes to amend the Act so as to allow female subjects of His Majesty who have reached the age of twenty-five years and who possess the necessary qualifications, to have seats on the Vestries of the island. It is apparently absolutely necessary today that women should take their place in the civic and political life of the colony as in other spheres. I feel sure that honourable members are of the opinion that a Bill of this nature is long overdue. This Bill should go through without any controversy at all. It is definitely the feeling of all classes of the community that women would be able to contribute very much to the working of the several parishes. It is unnecessary to remind honourable members that as far as the constitutional set-up of the island is concerned, the Administration feels that His Majesty's female subjects should be allowed to have places higher up in the seats of Government. I have much pleasure in moving that this Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. CRAWFORD: I beg to second that. This Bill is long overdue. From the time when we amended the law so that women can be eligible for seats in this Chamber, we should have taken this step and made it possible for our public-spirited ladies to offer their services to parochial Bodies. The Bill before us now is much the same as that of which I gave notice last year, but the session ended before it was considered. I have great pleasure in seconding the motion for the second reading of this Bill.

Mr. BRANCKER: There is very little which I need add to what has been said by the honourable mover and seconder. We shall welcome ladies to seats on the Vestries just as we welcome them now by our sides in this Legislative Hall.

The question that this Bill be now read a second time was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

The second reading was passed.

On the motion of Mr. MOTTLEY seconded by Mr. GALE, Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the House went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. SMITH being in the Chair.

The two Clauses of the Bill were read and passed.

On the motion of Mr. MOTTLEY seconded by Mr. GALE, the CHAIRMAN reported the passing of the Bill in Committee.

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On motions of Mr. MOTTLEY seconded by Mr. GALE in each case, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

SUSPENSION OF RULE 60

Mr. TALMA: I ask leave to move the suspension of Rule 60 so as to deal with Orders Nos. 76 and 77 as the next Orders of the Day.

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

Mr. TALMA: I beg to move that Rule 60 be now suspended.

Mr. COX: seconded the motion which was agreed to.

CHRIST CHURCH (HIGHWAYS INSPECTORS) BILL

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the honourable senior member for Christ Church:—Second reading of a Bill to authorise the Commissioners of Highways for the parish of Christ Church to increase the salary of the Inspector of Highways for the said parish and of the Assistant Inspector of Highways for the said parish.

Mr. TALMA: This Bill is to be regarded as a matter of great urgency. It has been lying here for some time through no fault of my own in that this is the first occasion on which we have dealt with Private Members' Business to any great extent. The Bill seeks to authorise the Commissioners of Highways for the parish of Christ Church to increase the salaries of the Inspector of Highways and the Assistant Inspector of Highways and the Cost of Living Allowance is being incorporated. The passing of this Bill is the only means by which increased salaries can be paid to these two hard-working employees. I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. CRAWFORD: I beg to second that. The Highway Commissioners of the parish of Christ Church are very anxious that this Bill be passed. Both of these officers are highly competent employees and I have great pleasure in seconding the motion for the second reading of this Bill. (Hear, hear).

The question that this Bill be now read a second time was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

The second reading was passed.

On the motion of Mr. TALMA seconded by Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the House went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. SMITH being in the Chair.

On a similar motion the Preamble was postponed.

Clauses 1 to 3 were read and passed.

Clause 4 was read as follows:—

4. This Act shall be deemed to have come into operation on the first day of April one thousand nine hundred and forty seven.

Mr. TALMA: I beg to move that Clause 4 stand part of the Bill.

Mr. CRAWFORD: I beg to second that.

Mr. MAPP: Is it proposed that these increased salaries be paid as from 1947?

Mr. CRAWFORD: It is intended that the increased salaries be paid as from the 1st April, 1948.

Mr. WILKINSON: I beg to move that the words "forty seven" be deleted in order to insert the words "forty-eight."

Mr. TALMA: I accept that amendment.

The question that Clause 4 stand part of the Bill was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Clause 4 was passed.

Clause 5 was read and passed.

The Preamble was read.

Mr. WILKINSON: The Preamble is also wrong. The words "forty seven" should be deleted and the words "forty eight" inserted in place thereof.

Mr. TALMA: I ask leave to delete the words "forty seven" in order to insert the words "forty eight."

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

Mr. MAPP: This Bill was introduced in February this year; so it was intended that this increased payment should be made from April last year. I think that we should postpone the further consideration of this Bill.

Mr. CRAWFORD: The people who are going to benefit from the passing of this Bill have only been employed for about two months; therefore they could not be paid from 1947.

Mr. TALMA: The remarks of the last speaker are in order. The year 1948 is correct.

The Preamble as amended was passed.

On the motion of Mr. TALMA seconded by Mr. Cox, the CHAIRMAN reported the passing of the Bill in Committee with an amendment.

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On motions of Mr. TALMA seconded by Mr. Cox in each case, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

CHRIST CHURCH PARISH LOAN BILL

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day also stands in the name of the honourable senior member for Christ Church:—Second reading of a

Bill to authorise the Vestry of the Parish of Christ Church to raise a loan to enable the said Vestry to make certain erections, repairs, reconstructions and renewals to certain Parochial Buildings and Chapels.

Mr. TALMA: This Bill follows the usual practice adopted by all Vestries and I do not think that it can be regarded as being controversial. It has been long delayed and I beg to move that it be now read a second time.

Mr. COX: I beg to second that.

The question that this Bill be now read a second time was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

The second reading was passed.

On the motion of Mr. TALMA seconded by Mr. Cox, Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the House went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. SMITH being in the Chair.

On a similar motion, the Preamble was postponed. The thirteen Clauses of the Bill and the two Schedules were read and passed.

The Preamble was read and agreed to.

On the motion of Mr. TALMA seconded by Mr. Cox, the CHAIRMAN reported the passing of the Bill in Committee.

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On motions of Mr. TALMA seconded by Mr. Cox in each case, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

THE ADJOURNMENT

The Order Paper having been fixed,

Mr. ADAMS: I am sorry that we had no meeting on Tuesday last and I am asking honourable members to attend the House on Thursday of next week as well as next Tuesday and let us deal with non-controversial matters. If we work at the rate at which we worked to-day we will get through with these matters. I beg to move that this House do now adjourn to this day week, the 17th day of August, 1948, at twelve o'clock noon: and in spite of the activity of honourable members in moving up matters on the Order Paper, I hope that we will spend the whole day in doing Government Business.

Mr. TALMA seconded the motion which was agreed to.

Mr. SPEAKER accordingly adjourned the House to this day week, the 17th day of August, 1948, at twelve o'clock noon.