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HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Friday, 19th November, 1948.

A special Meeting of the House of Assembly is held at 11.15 a.m. to-day.

Present:

His Honour Mr. J. E. T. BRANCKER (*Deputy Speaker*), Dr. H. G. CUMMINS, Dr. J. A. LeV. WILSON, Messrs. K. N. R. HUSBANDS, F. D. McD. SYMONDS, F. L. WALCOTT, R. G. MAPP, H. D. BLACKMAN, W. A. CRAWFORD, E. D. MOTTLEY, H. A. DOWDING, V. C. GALE, S. A. WALCOTT, J. H. WILKINSON, O.B.E., and E. L. WARD.

Prayers are read.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER EXPLAINS THE OBJECT OF THE MEETING

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This meeting has been summoned for one purpose only, namely, to present to His Excellency the Governor the Address which was passed by this House at our meeting on Tuesday this week in respect of the enforced retirement of Colonel O. St. A. Duke, M.B.E., M.M., Commissioner of Police, and which, it was agreed, would be presented by the whole House by virtue of the provisions of Rules 205 and 206. We now await word informing us of His Excellency's arrival and his readiness to receive us.

PRESENTATION OF THE ADDRESS

At 11.30 a.m., the Sergeant-at-Arms enters the Chamber and informs Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER that His Excellency the Governor awaits the House in the Council Chamber.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have received word that His Excellency awaits the House in the Council Chamber. We shall now proceed thither.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER, preceded by the Marshal bearing the Mace, and the other honourable members proceed to the Council Chamber.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your Excellency,—I have the honour to present to you an Address from the Honourable House of Assembly which, if I may, I shall read as follows:—

The House of Assembly

To

His Excellency the Governor

The House of Assembly have learnt with surprise that the Commissioner of Police, Colonel

O. St. A. Duke, M.M., has been required to retire under Section Eight Subsection (2) of the Pensions Act 1947-20.

The House would be glad to be informed in what way this is a special case as required by the aforementioned section.

The House understand that the Commissioner is only 52 years of age and is not desirous of retiring.

The House desire to place on record and draw to Your Excellency's attention the high respect in which the Commissioner is held by all ranks of the Police and by the public in general.

The House can only come to the conclusion that Your Excellency is being badly advised by persons without the requisite knowledge in this matter.

The House have the honour to ask that Your Excellency will cable in full the text of this Address to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies with a view to his annulling his decision in this matter.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER, on bended knees, presents a copy of the Address to His Excellency the Governor.

HIS EXCELLENCY: This Address will be carefully considered and will be telegraphed to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

The opportunity is taken by Messrs. CRAWFORD and GALE to present the Address which the House passed on Tuesday in reply to His Excellency's Message No. 38 of 1948 on the subject of the appointment of alternate nominees to represent Barbados on the Standing Closer Association Committee and by Dr. CUMMINS and Mr. WILKINSON to present the Address which was passed also on Tuesday last expressing the pleasure of the House at the birth of a son to Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER and honourable members, preceded by the Marshal bearing the Mace, return to the Assembly Chamber.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that, accompanied by honourable members, I presented the Address to His Excellency the Governor after reading same and His Excellency was graciously pleased to state that he would give it his usual careful consideration and that he would, in accordance with the request contained in the last paragraph, telegraph the Address to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies.

There being no further business, the House now stands adjourned.

THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SESSION 1947—48

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 23rd November, 1948.

Pursuant to adjournment, the House of Assembly met at 2 p.m. to-day.

Present:

His Honour Mr. J. E. T. BRANCKER, (*Deputy Speaker*), Dr. H. G. CUMMINS, Messrs. F. L. WALCOTT, M. E. COX, C. E. TALMA, H. D. BLACKMAN, E. D. MOTTLEY, J. A. HAYNES, B.A., V. C. GALE, H. A. DOWDING, J. H. WILKINSON, O.B.E., E. L. WARD, and S. A. WALCOTT.

Prayers are read.

Messrs. SMITH and FOSTER enter the House and take their seats.

DOCUMENT.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that I have received from the Commissioners of Highways of the parish of Christ Church, a Statement of Revenue and Expenditure, audited by Mr. C. R. Tudor, Auditor, for the half year ended 30th September, 1948.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER EXPLAINS PROROGATION PROCEEDINGS.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I should like to inform the House as to the proceedings now about to take place for its prorogation.

On a summons being received by the House stating that His Excellency the Governor awaits the House in the Council Chamber, the House, preceded by the Mace, will appear before His Excellency in the Other Place, and I suggest that members walk in pairs according to seniority. The Mace will go first, then Mr. Deputy Speaker and Mr. Speaker's Chaplain immediately after, then the House in pairs.

His Excellency will deliver a speech and the House will return, preceded by the Mace being carried not over the shoulder but cradlewise.

On our return to this Chamber, I will take the Chair of the Clerk of the House, read the prorogation order, and then the session is completely at end. I suggest that in returning from the Other Place, it might be simpler if instead of wheeling to come back in order of seniority, I pass down in front of honourable members and then they follow in the reverse

order to which they went to the Council Chamber. It will look less military and will be just as impressive.

THE BUSINESS OF THE DAY

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Honourable members were circularized to the effect that the honourable senior member for St. Thomas will seek permission to-day to deal with two Measures which apparently are non-controversial. Those Measures are Nos. 3 and 28 on the Order Paper.

SUSPENSION OF RULE 60.

Dr. CUMMINS: Mr. Deputy Speaker,—I ask leave to move the suspension of Rule 60 in order to deal with Orders No. 3 and 28 on the Order Paper.

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

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to move that Rule 60 be suspended.

Mr. BLACKMAN: I beg to second that.

The question that Rule 60 be suspended is put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY.

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to move that Order No. 3 be taken as the first Order of the Day.

Mr. BLACKMAN: I beg to second that.

The question that Order No. 3 be taken as the first Order of the Day is put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY VOTE FOR THE POST OFFICE.

Mr. BLACKMAN: This Resolution, Mr. Chairman, is for the sum of £60 to pay occasional labour at the Post Office. There has been an increase in the number of parcels this year and the money which was provided in the Estimates of Expenditure for this purpose has proved to be inadequate and this

£60 is required to pay occasional labour in the handling of parcels to the end of the current financial year. 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.

On the motion of Dr. CUMMINS, seconded by Mr. TALMA, the Chairman reports the passing of this Resolution in Committee of Supply.

The House resumes and on the motion of Dr. CUMMINS, seconded by Mr. BLACKMAN in each case, the Resolution is read a first and a second time and is agreed to.

REDUCTION OF AIR MAIL RATES TO THE UNITED KINGDOM

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The next Order stands in the name of the honourable junior member for St. John.—To move the passing of a Resolution that with effect from the 15th October, 1948, the postage on air mail letters transmitted from this Island to the United Kingdom via Jamaica shall be at the rate of 1/3 for the first half-ounce or part thereof and 1/3 for each additional half-ounce or part thereof.

Mr. BLACKMAN: The object of this Resolution is to reduce the air mail postage to the United Kingdom to 1/3 per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. letter via Jamaica. At present it is 1/8 per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. letter via Trinidad and if this Resolution is passed, we will be able to send letters by air mail to England via Jamaica at the reduced rate of 1/3 per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. 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.

TRIBUTE TO MR. SPEAKER.

Mr. WILKINSON: Mr. Deputy Speaker,—I should like with your permission to say a few words about our Speaker who, unfortunately, is not here with us to-day. It is understood by all honourable members that our Speaker, the honourable junior member for Christ Church, will not be seeking re-election to the House of Assembly; he so informed us when we had the joint meeting of the Other Place and this House at which he was appointed to represent Barbados at the Conference of the British Empire Parliamentary Association. When the honourable junior member for Christ Church was appointed as our representative at that Conference he was hoping to return to this island by the 15th November. As a matter of fact, I believe that he has arrived at Jamaica, is awaiting passage by plane and will not be arriving here until the day after to-morrow. I think that inasmuch as the honourable junior member for Christ Church is retiring, we should record in the Minutes of this House our appreciation of the services he has rendered to this island and this Assembly. This is probably one of the few occasions on which I speak, when everybody will agree with me and I have every reason to believe that the motion which I am about to make will be agreed to unanimously by the House. The junior member for Christ Church was a member of this Assembly from 1934, he was appointed Deputy Speaker in 1942 and in 1944 he was elected Speaker. We all are aware of the wonderful patience which he displayed as Speaker of this Assembly. There were occasions on which all of us, I suppose, were a bit trying, yet on no occasion did Mr. Speaker

lose his temper as some of us often do. We have no always agreed with his rulings but I think that they were invariably right and I do consider that this House should place on record its appreciation of his services. Before he became a member of this House, I believe that he acted for Mr. Shilstone as Deputy Clerk of the House and I, therefore, have much pleasure in moving that this House record in its Minutes its appreciation of the services to this island and to this House in particular of the honourable junior member for Christ Church.

Dr. WILSON and Mr. CRAWFORD entered the House while Mr. WILKINSON was speaking and took their seats.

Dr. CUMMINS: I rise to second the motion which has been so ably moved by the junior member for St. James. I have not had the pleasure of the long association with our Speaker which the honourable member has had but I think that what he has said reflects the view of the honourable members of this House, namely, that His Honour the Speaker was always impartial and tried to give us the best advice. The honourable member has covered all the ground; he has enumerated and elaborated on the virtues of the Speaker and there is nothing more for me to add, except to say that it was a shock to most of us when we heard that His Honour the Speaker would not be seeking re-election to this Assembly. His long association with this House should be recorded and, therefore, I have much pleasure in seconding the motion of the honourable junior member for St. James.

Messrs. SYMONDS, MAPP, and HUSBANDS entered the House while Dr. CUMMINS was speaking and took their seats.

Mr. TALMA: Before the question is put I should like to say a few words on behalf of the constituents of Christ Church whom I have had the honour to represent for the past four years as well as on my own behalf. I may say that I have had many dealings with the honourable junior member for Christ Church, our Speaker and my colleague, not only in this Chamber but outside this Chamber and despite the fact that he is a very busy man and is engaged in many respects from day to day and year in and year out, he has performed the duties of Speaker of this Assembly in a manner which can be taken as an example by other honourable members of this House. I most heartily endorse the remarks which have fallen from the lips of the junior member for St. James who has moved this motion. I feel that this Assembly is definitely sustaining a loss in the retirement of the honourable junior member for Christ Church, a man who, I may be permitted to say, represents a foregone age and the good things of life which, I fear, many of us lack. I regard his tenure of office as Speaker a very successful one. He never took any side, was always easily approachable and behaved in a manner in which he could not otherwise behave—the manner of a gentleman. Let us hope and pray that future Speakers of this Assembly will follow in his trail and live up to tradition and uphold the *status quo* at every stage and every junction.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Before the question is put I crave the indulgence of honourable members to say that I associate myself with the remarks of the honourable members who have spoken on this motion. The question is that this House record in its Minutes its appreciation of the services which His Honour the Speaker rendered to this island and to this House in particular. Honourable members in favour will please say "Aye"; those against will please say "No". I think the "Ayes" have it.

PROROGATION OF THE ASSEMBLY.

The Sergeant-at-Arms enters the Chamber and informs Mr. Deputy Speaker that His Excellency the Governor is in the Council Chamber and ready to receive the House. Having informed the House that His Excellency the Governor desires the House to

attend him in the Council Chamber, Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER, preceded by the Marshal bearing the Mace and other honourable members proceed to the Council Chamber where His Excellency the Governor makes, and presents Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER with a copy of, the following Address:—

Mr. President and Honourable Members of the Legislative Council :

Mr. Deputy Speaker and Members of the House of Assembly :

I am advised that it would be generally acceptable if on the occasion of this Prorogation Address I were to give a short review of the activities of the various departments of the Barbados Government during the period covered by the life of this Parliament. I undertake this task with some hesitation because I should much prefer to see the procedure at the closing and at the opening of Parliamentary sessions correspond as closely as possible to that which obtains in the United Kingdom. But considerable changes will have to be made in our constitutional legislation before we can follow the procedure of the Imperial Parliament in London; and, in view of the advice which has been tendered to me, I propose to draw your attention as briefly as possible to what appear to me to be certain of the more outstanding achievements of those separate units of the administration which go to make up this Government as a whole.

Whatever developments in other directions may take place in the future, it is inconceivable that Barbados should not remain primarily an agricultural country. It may well be that individual and national wealth may be derived from industry, and, for a time, from mining; but I know of no other perennial source of wealth than that which accrues from what is derived from annual harvests grown and garnered from the land by the sweat and toil of its inhabitants. It follows therefore that I should first speak of that department which so ably assists both planter and peasant to till his soil and to reap the fruits thereof. Barbados has been singularly blessed in that for an unusual number of years the most wholehearted and unselfish service has been given to this department by an outstanding officer whom I was glad some twelve months or more ago to make a member of my Executive Council.

The invaluable work which has been done for many years in the breeding of new varieties of sugar cane has continued, and a new seedling cane shows considerable promise. If the results already achieved are corroborated in future experiments the newcomer may well replace the current popular variety as a general commercial cane. The Central Livestock Station is now virtually complete; this is an important development, which will help to diversify our agriculture and to provide employment in the rural districts. We have great hopes that the animal husbandry industry will now develop, leading to the production of milk on the plantations and the keeping of dairy stock as an ancillary to sugar production. But the needs of the peasant also have not been overlooked, and the institution of six agricultural stations marks a considerable advance in dealing with the smallholder; these stations, with the facilities they provide for demonstration and instruction, together with the stud centres, are already playing an important part in the life of the people from the country districts. Linked with those is the department's irrigation scheme for assisting individual peasant cultivators to instal irrigation units. For the funds which have made the initiation of these schemes possible, and which also provide for the first steps in the direction of co-operative societies, we are deeply indebted to the Colonial Development and Welfare Act.

The department is also concerned with the harvest of the seas, and a fishery division has been established which has already done a considerable amount of work with the object of increasing the productivity of the fishing industry. We look forward with interest to the establishment in the near future of a fishery experimental station which will be the first of its kind in the British West Indies.

A shorter review must serve for that group of departments which is concerned, generally speaking, with the social welfare of the country. The passage through the Legislature of the Medical Services Act and the Quarantine Act is an important preliminary step towards re-organizing our Medical and Health Services. But, before these Acts can be brought into force, the Public Health Bill must become law; and, as this measure has not completed its course through the Legislature, there will be still further delay before we can remove those blots on the fair name of Barbados caused by the existence of unnecessary diseases and the high infant mortality rate. Improvements are already obvious in the organisation of the services provided by the General Hospital, now a Government institution; the opening of the Maternity Hospital will at last afford opportunities to train midwives for local maternity work; and an extensive building programme at the Mental Hospital has made this already most efficient

institution a model of its kind. It is gratifying to find a continuous decrease in the leper population of the island, and it is not too much to hope that, before many years have passed, this most distressing disease may be entirely stamped out.

The Education Department has shown many signs of activity. The re-organisation of the elementary schools is at last under way, and long overdue improvements to certain of the secondary schools are beginning to manifest themselves. The Erdiston Training College, now in full operation, should provide an intellectual power-house for the teaching profession; and the facilities provided by the newly inaugurated Barbados Evening Institute will bring further education within the reach of many who have hitherto been denied this privilege. The Housecraft Centre, a most successful organisation for which we are again indebted in the first instance to Colonial Development and Welfare funds, has done most admirable work for women and girls.

It is convenient here to refer to the Public Library which celebrated the Centenary of its founding by law on the 21st October, 1947. The demand for books which this ably run institution endeavours to satisfy grows almost daily, and there has been considerable development in the rural work which it carries on. In addition to its normal function as a Library the building has been used on several occasions to house well laid out exhibitions which have proved extremely popular.

The Prisons Department maintains its high standard of humane care for the offender, and I was happy to learn of the high opinion formed of its work by the Visiting Commissioner from the United Kingdom. Much thought has been given to the re-organisation of the Industrial Schools, and the recently formed Interim Committee has brought new life into activities there, and new hope to those who believe that much moral and material waste can be saved by the efficient treatment of the young offender.

The Housing Board continues its good work, but the great improvement in housing conditions which should follow from the passage of the Housing and Town and Country Planning Bill has been delayed by the inability of the House to undertake consideration of this most important measure.

In the absence of a properly ordered Social Welfare Organisation there have not been the departmental developments for which I had hoped, but much good work has been done in training suitable candidates under schemes financed under the Development and Welfare Act, and a measure of community and group work, for which there is a crying need, will be possible now that a District Welfare Officer has been appointed.

The Labour Department has continued to work unceasingly for amicable relationships between employers' and workers' organisations, and has assisted in a most material way in the preservation of industrial peace. I am happy to record that the time lost by stoppage of work has been comparatively small. The department continues to seek every possible outlet for the surplus population of the Island and has been successful in regaining a small emigration quota to the United States of America. The Surinam emigration scheme, a venture in a new direction which requires sympathetic and careful handling in these early days, has unfortunately been made a political issue. I share the view of the Commissioners whom we sent to investigate conditions in Surinam that this may well prove a valuable outlet for peasants who are prepared to work, and to undertake, with their families, the adventure of settling in a new country.

The Judicial, Legal and Police Departments have continued their task of preserving the King's peace and providing the necessary facilities for the testing and enforcement of public and private rights and duties. Far reaching proposals for re-organising the work of the Courts are under consideration. It is hoped that when the necessary legislation is forthcoming there may be general acceptance of the Government's desire to modernise many of our ancient and outmoded practices and to simplify the course of justice. Long and detailed examination has been made of Superintendent Calver's report on the Police Force and you have been informed of the final action taken thereon by the Government. To the already existing organisations for the enforcement of law and order, I welcome the addition of the Barbados Volunteer Force now revived and re-organised. The important role of this Force in assisting in the maintenance of internal security is of primary importance, and its Officers' Mess, forms a valuable common meeting ground for members of very diverse communities.

Road communication has been well maintained by the Department of Highways and Transport. This young department has already left its mark on the island, and the improvements which it has effected are much appreciated both by inhabitants and visitors, particularly those who remember what Barbados roads were like not many years ago. Shortages in the bus service due to

the war are now being replaced, but it must be borne in mind that saturation point must sooner or later be reached so far as motor traffic on the narrow roads in this island is concerned. Improvements are being undertaken at Seawell. In many ways the airport is the most important shopwindow in any colony, and I hope in due course that our layout and buildings will compare favourably, though of necessity on a smaller scale, with those in the larger islands.

The Consulting Engineers' Report on alternative schemes for a deep water harbour is under careful consideration. The real problem is of a financial and economic rather than of an engineering nature: but the benefits to the colony of such a scheme are so great and so obvious that I feel you will wish to let no removable obstacle stand in the way of such a project.

The departments concerned with the construction and maintenance of Government buildings, and with plans for regulating and providing orderly development of the City and countryside, have been fully occupied. In particular I would mention the new police station at Black Rock, with which is to be combined a branch post office; the pilot housing scheme on the Pine Estate, Erdiston College and the Livestock Station.

The departments which are, or should be self-balancing: Post Office, Waterworks, Savings Bank and Public Market, are undergoing detailed scrutiny. I hope that the new form of presenting the Colony's Estimates recently under examination will bring home to the public how much of the taxpayers' money is spent on concealed subsidies to what should in most cases be economically self-sufficient organisations. There is a crying need for a new and modern Post Office; and, while certain Waterworks facilities must be retained in the city, I see no reason why valuable space should be occupied by stores and other paraphernalia of this department which would be better centred at the Belle. Steps are being taken to implement the Roddam Report and I take this opportunity to express my grateful thanks to the Advisory Committee on auxiliary water supplies, in particular to the two unofficial members thereof, which has done much valuable work.

There remain the departments concerned primarily with supplies and finance. So long as world shortages of food and other necessities of life continue, and so long as the sterling area countries cannot purchase freely from the dollar area, the endless search for supplies must continue and so also must the attempt to find a mean between what people would like to pay for what they buy and what constitutes sufficient profit to ensure the importation of such goods as are available. There is no more thankless task than that of Controller of Supplies.

The increase in the rum export trade has put a severe strain on the Customs Department which requires reorganisation. The Income Tax Department continues to draw, as painlessly as possible, considerable sums from unwilling pockets and the Audit Department and the Treasury Department have maintained their high standards.

All these financial departments require complete overhaul, and the investigations carried out by the Salaries Commissioner together with the creation of the post of Financial Secretary will, I hope, allow us to discard much old fashioned accounting and treasury procedure and to substitute therefor more modern methods.

Mr. Deputy Speaker and Members of the House of Assembly :

Many of the activities to which I have referred have been dependent on the supplies which you have voted from time to time. For these, and for the general votes to meet the needs of the services, I thank you. A general statement of the Colony's financial position will be presented to the Legislature at the opening of the new session.

Mr. President and Honourable Members of the Legislative Council :

Mr. Deputy Speaker and Members of the House of Assembly :

It is, I believe, generally known that in settling the arrangements for the forthcoming elections, I followed, so far as is practicable in local conditions, the constitutional practice of the United Kingdom, and fixed the date of dissolution after consultation with the Leader of the House. His absence from the country is the reason why this Session has been prolonged. The compliment which has been paid, not only to the Leader of the House personally, but also to the Island in particular and to the West Indies generally, has been a lively source of satisfaction to us all.

But although the Session has been drawn out almost to the full extent of its statutory life there is much important business with which you have been unable or unwilling to deal. I say unwilling because on a number of occasions the House of Assembly has not accepted proposals to sit on additional days. I see no hope of any improvement in this connection until the House of Assembly is prepared so to amend its standing orders as to allow of the more rapid despatch of public business, and to reduce the quorum required for the legal constitution of a meeting. My predecessors and I have referred before to the paralyzing antiquity of procedure in the House, and a Committee was in fact set up to deal with procedure. I understand that this Committee has not met. Quite apart from the embarrassment which it causes to Executive Committee, by uncertainty as regards the fate, and delay in the passage, of important Government business, the condition of affairs which obtains at the moment must induce a feeling of frustration in the Island as a whole. Let me say again, as I have said before, that when measures are delayed it is neither the Governor nor certain permanent officials who are affected but the people of the country to whom the members of the House of Assembly are responsible for their seats.

At the conclusion of two years of the working of the "Bushe Experiment" it may be well that I should give you my views on this important political development.

I have watched it with great interest. It will be remembered that my predecessor adopted this device—as a "tentative and experimental" measure—so as to remedy "the imperfect distribution of power and responsibility" between the Governor and the House of Assembly. He pointed out that "for decades every imaginable device has been employed to deprive the Governor or the Government of any effective power and to concentrate it in the House". He referred to the unique financial system, to the numerous Statutory Boards, and to the control by Acts of the Legislature of a vast field of action which should be administrative. On the other hand he had no doubt that "the House of Assembly felt that, while it could oppose efficiently it could not propose as efficiently, and that the Government was not sufficiently representative of the local parliament".

The question therefore is has this device — whereby the person who seems best able to command a majority in the House submits names to me for membership of Executive Committee, and these members take charge of the general policy relating to particular departments of Government and deal with these affairs in the Committee and in the House of Assembly—has this device gone any distance towards remedying the position as it was prior to November, 1946?

In my view it has.

In the first place, the disabilities from which Government suffers are now felt not by a chance collection of individual members of the House, chosen at random or on personal grounds, but by representatives of a party returned by the suffrages of the largest of the three political groups in the country. It should not be long before the present frustrations from which the Government of the day suffers come home so closely to the individual voter that public opinion will insist on a more efficient and less legislatively hampered administrative machine. There are signs that this change is already taking place.

In the second place there is clear evidence of public realisation that in Executive Committee the wishes of the House of Assembly members are given the fullest possible consideration, and that decisions by that body are in the nature of decisions made by a cabinet of the party in power. Let me put it in this way. The Governor when sitting in Executive Committee can, under the constitution, accept and be guided by the advice of the whole Committee, or of the majority of the Committee, or of the minority of the Committee—or having heard the advice tendered, he can take completely independent action. But in practice I accept as a general, though not as an absolute, rule the advice given by the House of Assembly members if they are unanimous. These members, therefore, know that they are responsible for the measures which go to the Legislature. It is to these members that the country is now looking for action and from whom the country expects an explanation of inaction.

And thirdly, the conduct of Government business in the House—particularly in the case of complicated bills or in Committee of Supply—by a layman, as opposed to a government official, is bringing home to the electors the fact that the government of the country is their government, something which they put into power and not a creation of the Governor's. It is the electors who are responsible primarily, though of course the ultimate responsibility still lies with me.

I am fortified in my view that the Bushe Experiment meets the wishes of the majority of the electors of this country by the following facts. Public opinion on the subject seems to take three lines: there are those who think

I also welcome individually the members of the House of Assembly who have been re-elected or elected for the first time. Fresh from your contacts with the electorate you will be in a position to explain and to expound with no uncertain voice the wishes of the people of the country; to contrive means whereby the promises which you have made at the hustings may be turned into practical plans; and by proposing or opposing as the case may be to frame, or to modify in the most appropriate way, measures for the advancement and improvement of Barbados.

Mr. Speaker and Members of the House of Assembly:

I am advised that Expenditure for the year ending on the 31st of March, 1949, is likely to exceed Revenue by approximately £172,000 thereby reducing the Colony's General Revenue Balance, i.e. the accumulated surpluses less deficits of the past, to £1,152,000. This estimate of the position does not make any allowance for expenditure which will arise from any adjustment of the salaries of Civil Servants.

It will be seen from the details of the financial position set out in the appendix to this Address that the depletion of the General Revenue Balance will be caused in part by the acquisition of capital assets to the value of £130,000, without taking account of improvements to Tenantry Roads. Accordingly, the expected "working deficit" for the year will be approximately £40,000.

I should like to take this opportunity to say that the draft Estimates will be submitted to the Legislature in the new form approved by the Executive Committee, details of which have already been communicated to you. I hope that it will be appreciated that it has been the aim of all my advisers on this matter that the draft Estimates should be presented to the Legislature in a form which will give a clear and, as far as possible, a complete statement of the financial aspect of the proposed programme of work for the ensuing year. To examine and make decisions on a budget covering both current and capital Expenditure for a full year will not be an easy task, but the advantages which arise from such a procedure fully justify the effort involved in making a comprehensive review and fixing a comprehensive programme of the Government's work.

If the Estimates are to be ready at the proper time, it is essential that very early consideration is given to a Bill, which was read a first time last August, legalising the preparation of the public accounts in dollars and cents instead of in sterling.

Mr. President and Honourable Members of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker and Members of the House of Assembly:

A large volume of work awaits your consideration.

Under our constitution I cannot appoint the new Executive Committee until after this opening ceremony. It is not therefore possible for me to present to you, as is done at the opening of Parliament in the United Kingdom, an indication of the full legislative programme which my Government proposes to introduce. But I anticipate that in addition to the Bill to which I have already referred, the Public Health Bill, the Civil Establishment Bill, and a number of urgent supply resolutions, will come before you immediately. The Town and Country Planning Bill and the Land Acquisition Bill will also, I presume, be placed by the new Executive Committee high in the order of priorities. In addition to this there is a mass of work left over from last session which I should be glad to see cleared out of the way as early as possible.

The Appropriation Bill for 1949-50 will come before you in due course; and shortly you will have to consider certain recommendations made by the Seasonal Unemployment Committee, the report of the expert sent out to advise regarding oil mining legislation, the report of the Local Government Commissioner, and the report on the financial and managerial aspects of the deep water harbour project.

I pray for the guidance of Almighty God in your deliberations on these matters and on all things connected with the progress and welfare of Barbados.

I declare the Legislative Session open.

HILARY BLOOD

Governor.

APPENDIX TO THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS.

COMPARISON BETWEEN REVISED AND APPROVED ESTIMATES.
1948—49.

	Revised Estimates 1948—49	Approved Estimates 1948—49
General Revenue Balance at 31st March, 1948 ...	£ 1,324,713 (Actual)	£ 1,213,901
Revenue 1948—49	1,798,000	1,728,355
Expenditure 1948—49		
(a) Under Heads of Expenditure ...	£ 1,390,000	£ 1,405,028
(b) Special ...	450,000	704,040
(c) Capital ...	130,000	
	1,970,000	2,109,068
Excess of Expenditure over Revenue	172,000	380,713
General Revenue Balance at 31st March, 1949 ...	1,152,713	833,188

At the conclusion of His Excellency's Address, Mr. SPEAKER, preceded by the Marshal bearing the Mace, and the other honourable members return to their Chamber and proceed to the business of the day.

Prayers are read.

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that when the House attended His Excellency in the Council Chamber, His Excellency approved of their choice of me as Speaker, conceded their ancient rights and privileges and informed me that the Island was fully represented. His Excellency was pleased to deliver an Address and handed me a copy which, if it is the pleasure of the House, I shall read.

On the motion of Mr. ADAMS, seconded by Dr. CUMMINS, His Excellency's Address is taken as read.

APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY SPEAKER
POSTPONED

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker,—In view of the fact that it will be necessary to revise the Rules at a very early stage, the question may arise as to whether we should have a Deputy Speaker in addition to the Chairman of Committees and it may be that the majority of us will follow the ancient practice in the House of Commons of having one officer, instead of two, for these purposes. Inasmuch as there has been no general consultation among members as to their wishes on the point I am proposing that the appointment of a Deputy Speaker be postponed.

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to second that.

The question that the appointment of a Deputy Speaker be postponed is put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

RULES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker,—Pending the revision of the existing Rules I beg to move that the Rules of the House for the last session be the Rules of the House for this session.

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to second that.

The question that the Rules of the House for the last Session be the Rules of the House for this Session is put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN OF
COMMITTEES

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker,—In view of the fact that the honourable junior member for St. Joseph was so always willing to come to the help of the Assembly as Chairman of Committees during the last Session, I have much pleasure in proposing that he be appointed Chairman of Committees for the present Session.

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to second that.

The question that the junior member for St. Joseph be appointed Chairman of Committees for the present Session is put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

SELECT COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO
RECOMMEND STANDING COMMITTEES

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker,—It has been customary for some years now to appoint a Select Committee at the opening of a legislative session to recommend to the House the honourable members who should comprise the various Standing Committees of the House and the practice has been for your Honour to appoint the senior member of each constituency for that purpose. I suggest that we follow that practice on this occasion and I, therefore, beg to move that a Select Committee be appointed to recommend the honourable members who should comprise the various Standing Committees of the House.

Mr. WILKINSON: I beg to second that.

The question that a Select Committee be appointed to recommend the honourable members who should comprise the various Standing Committees of

the House is put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Mr. SPEAKER: Subject to the approval of the House I appoint the members of that Committee as follows:—

The senior member for the City (Mr. Mottley), the senior member for St. Michael (Mr. Cox), the senior member for Christ Church (Mr. Goddard), the senior member for St. Philip (Mr. Garner), the senior member for St. George (Mr. Miller), the senior member for St. James (Mr. E. K. Walcott), the senior member for St. John (Mr. Alder), the senior member for St. Thomas (Dr. Cummins), the senior member for St. Peter (Mr. F. L. Walcott), the senior member for St. Lucy (Mr. Ward), the senior member for St. Andrew (Mr. Gil), the senior member for St. Joseph (Mr. Adams).

SELECT COMMITTEE TO DRAFT REPLY TO THE GOVERNOR'S INAUGURAL SPEECH.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker,—I beg to move that a Select Committee be appointed to draft a Reply to the speech of His Excellency the Governor.

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to second that.

The question that a Select Committee be appointed to draft a Reply to the Governor's speech is put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Mr. SPEAKER: Subject to the approval of the House I appoint the following the Select Committee for the purpose:—

The senior member for St. Joseph (Mr. Adams), the senior member for St. Thomas (Dr. Cummins), the junior member for St. James (Mr. Wilkinson), the senior member for Christ Church (Mr. Goddard), the senior member for St. Philip (Mr. Garner).

DOCUMENTS.

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that I have received the following:—

The Colonial Treasurer's Financial Report for the month ended 30th November, 1948.

Statement of Revenue and Expenditure by the Commissioners of Highways for the parish of St. Peter for the half year ended 30th September, 1948.

PAPERS LAID.

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

Message No. 39/1948 from His Excellency the Governor, with reference to the Address from the Honourable House dated the 16th November, 1948, informing the House that their Address has been laid before the King.

Regulation under the Public Officers Loan and Travelling Allowances Act, 1948.

Progress Report No. 36—Further Improvement of Water Supply Scheme.

Statement showing Gross Customs and Excise Receipts for the eight months ended 30th November, 1948.

NOTICES.

Government Notices are given as follows:—

Mr. ADAMS: Resolution that the House of Assembly approve of the Book of Reference and Plan of the proposed change in the situation of a standpipe in Deacon's Road.

Mr. ADAMS: Bill relating to Public Accounts.

Mr. ADAMS: Bill to amend the law relating to Income Tax.

Mr. ADAMS: Bill to make provision for the definition and interpretation of certain terms and expressions, for shortening the language used in Acts and Subsidiary Legislation, and for other matters incidental thereto.

Mr. ADAMS: Bill to amend the Teachers Pension Act, 1925, and the Teachers Pension (Amendment) Act, 1943.

Mr. ADAMS: Bill to amend the Sugar Industry (Rehabilitation, Subsidization, and Labour Welfare) Act, 1947.

Mr. E. K. WALCOTT: Sir,—I tried to obtain information from the Leader of the House privately but, so far, I have not succeeded. You will notice from Section 2 of the Executive Committee Act that immediately on the opening of each Session of the Legislature there must be the appointment of the members of the Executive Committee. Usually, that is the communication that is made by you to the House and it is generally deemed to be the authority for what we would call "the Government" in the House. Doubtless the senior member for St. Joseph has some answer which is satisfactory and complies with the law.

Mr. SPEAKER: I have received no information from His Excellency the Governor as regards the appointment of the members of the Executive Committee.

Mr. ADAMS: Inasmuch as the point has been raised I will reply; otherwise I would not worry to take any notice of it. Nowhere in the Act is it stated that it is the duty of the Governor at any particular hour to notify the House that he has appointed the members of the Executive Committee. "Immediately" does not mean any fraction of a day; any time of a day is immediately.

Mr. E. K. WALCOTT: I have the right to reply to the honourable member. If, Sir, you read section 2 of the Act, you will see there the authority—

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker,—The honourable member is entirely out of order. He rose to a point of order; we are in the House and he can speak only once.

Mr. SPEAKER: The honourable senior member for St. James is out of order.

Mr. REECE: Mr. Speaker,—The Executive Committee Act gives certain members authority to act on behalf of the Government in this House and unless and until you have received intimation from His Excellency the Governor that certain members of the House have been appointed members of the Executive Committee no member of the House can assume the responsibility of laying on the table of the House, Papers purporting to come from the Governor-in-Executive Committee. It is not my intention to thwart the senior member for St. Joseph but he will have to conform with the Act. It is regrettable that before we met here to-day, notification was not given of the members who would be authorized to conduct in the House matters purporting to come from the Governor-in-Executive Committee. It would have been much better if a Message of that nature was sent to you, Sir, and the House, stating those members who are responsible for Government's business in the House and that is the only reason why I am supporting the objection which has been taken. It is perfectly true that under the Act, the members of the Executive Committee who were appointed last Session are authorized to continue to function as such but that authority ceases as soon as a new Session begins. From the moment a new Session has been started, the Governor has to notify the House immediately.—I agree with the senior member for St. Joseph that "immediately" does not mean a fraction of a day—of those persons who have been appointed members of the Executive Committee. If that is not done,

no member of this Chamber can take upon himself the authority to act as a member of the Executive Committee and, in that capacity, perform duties which a member of the Executive Committee is likely to perform in this House.

Other Notices are as follows:—

Mr. REECE: Of the following Address:—

*The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency the Governor*

The House of Assembly are of the opinion that it is desirable in the interest and for the welfare of the community:—

1. That a Deep Water Harbour be built at the Port of Bridgetown.

2. That Seawell Airport be extended.

3. That the Water Supply of the Island be extended.

The House of Assembly request that the Governor do take the necessary steps to enact legislation to give effect to the above.

Mr. COX: Of the following Address:—

*The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency the Governor*

The House of Assembly request your Excellency to send down legislation to provide for a graduated system of Liquor Licences in proportion with the amount of business done and to prohibit the conduct of wholesale and retail liquor business under the same licence.

Mr. GILL: Of the following Address:—

*The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency the Governor*

The House of Assembly respectfully request Your Excellency to take the necessary steps to secure a Radiologist for the Barbados General Hospital without further delay.

Mr. GILL: Of the following Address:—

*The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency the Governor*

The House of Assembly respectfully request Your Excellency to take the necessary steps to ensure that the Water Main Pipe supplying the district known as "Lakes" in the parish of St. Andrew be diverted from its present situation, so that it will no longer be affected by the river which runs under Lakes Bridge.

Mr. GARNER: Of the following Address:—

*The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency the Governor*

The House of Assembly is of the considered opinion that, as, for obvious reasons, private capital cannot be expected to embark upon new major industrial enterprises, the Government should take the lead in a programme of industrialization for Barbados.

2. For this purpose, the House is of opinion that the sum of £100,000 should be appropriated from general revenue for the establishment of the Barbados Development Co., which shall be authorised to

conduct research and experimentation, make plans and designs, acquire, operate and improve industrial and commercial enterprises; to make loans and to discover and develop to the fullest possible extent the human and economic resources of the island, and, form and hold interests in subsidiary corporations and enterprises; to accept grants, borrow money and issue bonds on such terms and conditions as it may decide.

3. The House respectfully requests that legislation for this and for similar purposes, be sent down to the legislature.

Mr. ALLDER: Of the following Address:—

*The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency the Governor*

The House of Assembly view with much concern the difficult land situation taking place in this colony, and, with the desire to encourage a larger Peasant Proprietorship, respectfully request Your Excellency to send down legislation immediately prohibiting the purchasing of more than one (1) acre of land in this Island by persons other than Barbadians.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: Of the following Address:—

*The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency the Governor*

The House of Assembly respectfully request Your Excellency to send down a Resolution to provide funds for the erection of a Band Stand in Speightstown and other parishes of this Island.

Mr. COX: Of the following Address:—

*The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency the Governor*

The House of Assembly are convinced, that the two weeks' sick leave granted to Public Employees, under the **Public Employees Leave Regulation Act** of 1935 is so inadequate as to demand an immediate and drastic amendment.

The House of Assembly therefore, respectfully request Your Excellency to send down with as little delay as possible the necessary Legislation for the implementation of the abovementioned object.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: Bill to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1901—1, as amended by the Representation of the People (Amendment) Act, 1943—41, as amended by the Representation of the People (Amendment) Act, 1944—13, as amended by the Representation of the People (Amendment) Act, 1946—40.

Mr. SMITH: Of the following Address:—

*The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency the Governor*

The House of Assembly asks that Your Excellency take immediate steps to provide for a more even distribution of profits between wholesalers and retailers.

Mr. MILLER: Of the following Address:—

*The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency the Governor*

The House of Assembly respectfully request Your Excellency to take the necessary steps to provide that all Peasant Proprietors be enabled to obtain

fertilizers and transportation at a cost commensurate with the price of canes in the particular year.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: Of the following Address:—

*The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency the Governor*

The House of Assembly respectfully request Your Excellency to take the necessary steps to have the Warleigh and Speightstown Bridges in the parish of St. Peter reconstructed and/or repaired immediately in view of the approaching crop season.

Mr. BETHELL: Of the following Address:—

*The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency the Governor*

The House of Assembly respectfully ask your Excellency to send to their Chamber a Resolution for the sum of money necessary to complete the extension of the four inch water mains to the villages of Cliff Cottage and Stuart Hill New Road in the parish of St. John, left unfinished from the 1937 Water Scheme.

Mr. ALLDER: Of the following Address:—

*The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency the Governor*

The House respectfully request Your Excellency to send down legislation to provide for the setting up of a branch Library and Savings Department in the parish of St. John.

Mr. MILLER: Of the following Address:—

*The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency the Governor*

The House of Assembly respectfully request Your Excellency to take the necessary steps to provide for the immediate erection of a Broadcasting Station which will be available for the use of all the inhabitants of the Island.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: Of the following Address:—

*The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency the Governor*

The House of Assembly respectfully request Your Excellency to take the necessary steps to acquire the Burnt Out Area in Speightstown in the parish of St. Peter and to have a suitable Park erected thereon with a view to providing employment as well as a comfortable resting place for the parishioners of the said parish.

Mr. COX: Of the following Address:—

*The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency the Governor*

The House of Assembly respectfully request Your Excellency to take immediate steps to send down legislation having for its object the amending of the Police Pension Act, thereby bringing it in line with the recent Civil Service (Amendment) Pension Act which provides for a pension at the rate of 1/50 instead of 1/60 of their salaries as was formerly the case.

Mr. MILLER: Of the following Address:—

*The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency the Governor*

The House of Assembly respectfully request Your Excellency to take the necessary steps to provide for the immediate erection of a modern Secondary School for the parish of St. George.

Mr. BETHELL: Of the following Address:—

*The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency the Governor*

The House of Assembly respectfully ask Your Excellency to take the necessary steps to provide that water may be supplied free to the communal baths erected by the Vestries of this Island.

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

SUSPENSION OF RULES 61 (a) AND 61 (b)

On re-assembling,

Dr. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker,— I ask leave to move for the suspension of Rules 61 (a) and 61 (b).

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

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to move that Rules 61 (a) and 61 (b) be now suspended.

Mr. Cox seconded the motion which was agreed to.

NOTICES

Mr. SPEAKER: On the adjournment for lunch, Private Members' Notices were being given by ballot. I will continue to receive these Notices.

Other Notices were given as follows:—

Mr. ALLDER: Of the following Address:—

*The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency The Governor*

The House respectfully request Your Excellency to send down legislation making provision for a Pension Scheme for agricultural workers from the age of fifty-five years.

Mr. BETHELL: Of the following Address:—

*The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency The Governor*

The House of Assembly respectfully request Your Excellency to sanction and direct the immediate continuation of the construction of the Sealy Hall Tenantry Road in the parish of St. John in order to assist the fifty-three small land owners in this district to reap their crops with some lesser degree of expense and hardship.

Mr. MILLER: Of the following Address:—

*The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency The Governor*

The House of Assembly respectfully request Your Excellency to take the necessary steps to have proper stand pipes and tenantry roads constructed and/or erected in the following districts in the parish of St. George:—

Bays Village, Bays, Workmens, Drax Hall, Fair View, Ellerton and Greens.

Mr. COX: Of the following Address:—

*The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency The Governor*

The House is of the opinion that Education should be free in Secondary Schools as in Elementary Schools, and request that its policy for educative expansion shall be so framed that this object may be achieved.

Mr. ALLDER: Of the following Address:—

*The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency The Governor*

The House of Assembly respectfully request Your Excellency to send down legislation to provide for the setting up of an Agricultural Station in the parish of St. John.

Mr. ALLDER: Of the following Address:—

*The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency The Governor*

The House of Assembly respectfully request Your Excellency to send down legislation making provision for the maintenance of all blind paupers from the cradle to the grave.

Mr. GARNER: Of the following Address:—

*The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency The Governor*

The House is of opinion that, in order to assist in the reduction of living costs, strong representations should be made to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies with a view to obtaining a greater release of hard currency in order that more of our essential supplies may be purchased outside of the sterling area.

The House is further of opinion that, in the allocation of quotas for supplies from the hard currency areas, not less than one third should be ear-marked for new traders, that is, traders who established business since the commencement of the war.

Mr. DOWDING: Of the following Address:—

*The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency The Governor*

The House of Assembly begs to draw to the attention of Your Excellency the fact that under the Capital Rehabilitation Fund, peasants and estates have to produce evidence to the Rehabilitation Board that they have incurred expenditure of a Capital nature, before payment can be made on canes delivered by such peasants and estates, for the Crop Years of 1947 and 1948.

2. The House of Assembly realizes that in the case of peasants the production by them of evidence that they have incurred expenditure of a capital nature will be impossible.

3. The House of Assembly therefore respectfully requests, that Your Excellency immediately take the necessary steps to authorise the capital Rehabilitation Board to pay the amounts due to individual peasants irrespective of the production by them of evidence that they have incurred expenditure of a Capital nature.

Mr. MILLER: Of the following Address:—

*The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency The Governor*

The House of Assembly respectfully request Your Excellency to take the necessary steps to compel the Barbados Electric Supply Corporation to cause all their poles to be placed along the highways of this island at such distance as to ensure that their potential customers be able to put in their service at a reasonable and lesser cost than at present exists.

Mr. BRYAN: Of the following Address:—

*The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency The Governor*

The House of Assembly respectfully ask that legislation be sent to the House to provide for (1) a scheme of life insurance for fishermen (2) free life saving devices for fishermen.

Mr. COX: Of the following Address:—

*The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency The Governor*

In order to give greater educational opportunities to children of poor parents who are not in a position to send their children to school regularly, the House respectfully request your Excellency to send down legislation for the purpose of increasing the elementary school leaving age from 14 — 16 years.

Mr. GARNER: Of the following Address:—

*The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency The Governor*

The House is of the considered opinion that all business, commercial and industrial concerns which operate in this island, including commission houses, insurance companies and insurance agencies, hotels, banks, electric supply corporation, gas and telephone companies, warehouses, factories, cinemas, pharmacies, and agencies for steamships and airways companies, etc., should be compelled to employ a reasonable percentage of Negro assistants on their clerical and other staffs and respectfully requests that legislation be sent down to the legislature with this object in view.

Mr. BRYAN: Of the following Address:—

*The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency The Governor*

The House of Assembly respectfully ask Your Excellency to send legislation to the House to provide for a scheme whereby Government employees will be enabled to obtain loans for (1) building or purchasing homes (2) vacation travel abroad.

Mr. BRANCKER: A Bill to amend the Supervision of the Weighing of the Sugar Canes Act, 1939 (1939—1).

Mr. WARD: Of the following Address:—

*The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency The Governor*

The House of Assembly are of the opinion that in view of the fact that the Sanitary arrangements in some of the parishes are unsatisfactory, owing to the inability of such parishes to finance the necessary schemes.