

THE House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SESSION 1950—51

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 8th August, 1950.

Pursuant to adjournment, the House of Assembly met at 3 o'clock p.m. on the abovementioned date.

Present:

His Honour Mr. K. N. R. HUSBANDS (*Speaker*),
His Honour Mr. A. E. S. LEWIS (*Deputy Speaker*),
Mr. L. E. SMITH (*Chairman of Committees*),
Dr. H. G. CUMMINS, Messrs. D. A. FOSTER, O. T. ALLDER, G. H. ADAMS, B.A., F. L. WALCOTT, H. A. DOWDING, F. C. GODDARD, J. H. WILKINSON, O.B.E., M. E. COX and R. G. MAPP.

Prayers are read.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the meetings which were held on the 18th and 25th July, 1950, respectively, having been circulated are taken as read and confirmed.

Messrs. BRYAN, CRAWFORD, and E. K. WALCOTT enter the House and take their seats.

MESSAGE FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that I have received a Message from the Honourable the Legislative Council returning the Bill to provide for the eradication of native wild cotton, with an amendment.

NOTICES

Government Notices are given as follows:—

Mr. ADAMS: Resolution for \$25,816 to supplement the Estimates 1950-51, Part I, Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1950-51, No. 15, which form the Schedule to this Resolution.

Mr. ADAMS: Resolution for \$502 to supplement the Estimates 1950-51, Part I, Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1950-51, No. 16, which form the Schedule to this Resolution.

Mr. ADAMS: Resolution for \$11,000 to supplement the Estimates 1950-51, Part I, Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1950-51, No. 17, which form the Schedule to this Resolution.

Mr. ADAMS: Resolution to place the sum of \$750 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive

Committee for the purpose of making loans to five delegates of the Barbados Elementary Teachers' Association to assist them to meet expenses of attending the fifth biennial Conference of the Caribbean Union of Teachers which will be held in British Guiana from the 12th to the 26th of August, 1950.

Dr. CUMMINS: Bill to amend the law relating to persons of unsound mind and for purposes connected therewith.

Mr. ADAMS: Of my intention to move the House into Committee of Supply at the next meeting to consider the money Resolutions of which I have to-day given notice.

QUESTIONS.

Mr. W. A. CRAWFORD: To enquire of the Senior Member of the Executive Committee present at the next meeting of the House of Assembly:—

What steps does the Government propose to take with reference to the suggestions made since 1948 by Mr. R. Gollotti, of the Industrial Survey Panel appointed by the Caribbean Commission to the effect that

(a) white coralline limestone from Barbados would be very suitable for the manufacture of white cement—especially in view of the fact that limestone is said to represent 72% of the quantity and 98% of the cost of the raw materials in the manufacture of white cement:

(b) Barbados could be a centre for a shoe industry serving the Lesser Antilles?

Mr. MAPP: To enquire of the Senior Member of the Executive Committee present at the next meeting of the House:—

1. Have grants been released for the repair of tenantry roads in the several parishes this year under the Repair to Tenantry Roads Scheme?

2. If the answer is Yes, what is the amount allocated to St. Thomas for the repair of such roads?

3. If the answer is No, what is the cause of the long delay in starting on this Scheme this year, and when will the Government start it?

Mr. MAPP: To enquire of the Senior Member of the Executive Committee present at the next meeting of the House:—

1. In view of the lack of adequate latrine accommodation for persons attending police courts in the rural parishes and the inconvenience thus caused, will the Government take early steps to remedy this?

BILL READ A FIRST TIME

On the motion of Dr. CUMMINS, seconded by Mr. F. L. WALCOTT, a Bill to amend the law relating to persons of unsound mind and for purposes connected therewith is read a first time.

Mr. GARNER enters the House and takes his seat.

SUSPENSION OF RULES 88 AND 89.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker,— I ask leave to move the suspension of Rules 88 and 89 in order that I may deal, in all their stages to-day, with the Resolutions for \$750 and \$11,000 respectively, of which I gave notice earlier. The Resolution for the sum of \$11,000 is for the purpose of sending members of the Fancy Molasses Board to Canada.

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

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to move that Rules 88 and 89 be suspended.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: I beg to second that.

The question that Rules 88 and 89 be now suspended is put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

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 Government.

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to move that Your Honour do now leave the Chair and the House go into Committee of Supply and that it be an instruction to the Committee of Supply, when the House is in Committee of Supply, to consider the Resolutions for \$750 and \$11,000 respectively, of which I gave notice earlier to-day.

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to second that.

The question that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair and the House go into Committee of Supply and that it be an instruction to the Committee of Supply, when the House is in Committee of Supply, to consider the Resolutions for \$750 and \$11,000 respectively, of which notice is given to-day, is put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

RESOLUTION TO PURCHASE LAND AT WELCHES FOR A SUB-POST OFFICE.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman,— The first Resolution is for the sum of \$1,539 to purchase a piece of land at Welches for the erection thereon of a sub-post office. The addendum states: "for some time consideration has been given to the necessity for the erection of a sub-post office in the Belmont District, St. Michael. The greatest difficulty has been however experienced in the acquisition of a suitable site. The Colonial Engineer has recently, on further investigation, reported that the triangle at the junction of Welches Road and Kingston Road will soon be cleared of houses and sold in spots and has recommended part of it as a suitable site for the proposed post office. The Colonial Postmaster has agreed to its suitability. The owner of the land is now ready to sell the land and has enquired whether the Government desires to purchase the lot recommended by the Colonial Engineer. The area required is 4,969 sq. ft. and the price quoted is 30 cents per square foot. The total expenses will be: Cost of land—4,969 sq. ft. at 30 c.—\$1,490.70, legal expenses — \$48.00 — \$1,538.70. Although it is not proposed to build the sub-post office immediately, it is necessary that the site should be acquired now as the owner is pressing for an early

reply." For some time—certainly for two years; it may be longer—the Government has been pressed by the Colonial Postmaster to get a spot in that district on the ground that, as the Eagle Hall sub-post office does, a sub-post office in the Belmont District would relieve the pressure on the General Post Office. This triangle is situated on the right hand side of Welches Road, going from Bridgetown, and not on the left hand side. I believe that a distinguished journalist lives on the left hand side and this site is opposite to his residence. As I said, as far back as 1948, the matter was under consideration and we were hoping to get a suitable site in this neighbourhood. This particular site seems to be better than all the other sites that were investigated and I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to second that.

Messrs. MOTTLEY and MILLER enter the House and take their seats.

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Chairman,— I am very pleased to see the Government getting ahead with the acquisition of sites for the erection of sub-post offices in the rural districts and I hope that the Government will act a little more speedily about the erection of this sub-post office than it is acting about the erection of a sub-post office in Oistin. The Vestry of Christ Church has given the Government, free, gratis and for nothing, a very beautiful spot of land for this same purpose; the Vestry of Christ Church gave everything the Government asked for; there were certain conditions attached and the Vestry waived those conditions—probably the senior member for St. Joseph does not know that. The Vestry gave the Government all the land it asked for; the Government even suggested that a library be attached and the Vestry of Christ Church welcomed the idea because they wanted to see the area developed but nothing has been done. Eighteen months have elapsed and I do hope that this proposal will be a means of getting ahead with the erection of the sub-post office in Oistin. Last year we thought it would have been done; this year we thought it would be done but we have not seen a stone laid yet on the spot. I repeat that the Vestry of Christ Church has given the land without any restriction whatever. The site is a most suitable site and I do hope that having drawn the Government's attention to the matter, it will get ahead with the erection of this very necessary post office in Oistin.

Mr. ALLDER: Mr. Chairman,—I am wondering if it is really necessary to have so many sub-post offices within an area of a mile and a half from the Central Post Office. I take it that we are about in future to extend the Central Post Office. As a matter of fact it has been said that the Government will, within some future period, be building a new Post Office which would provide the necessary amount of accommodation for the public and I really would like to know if as soon as the Central Post Office is extended, the Government would not find that these sub-post offices which it is now erecting around the suburbs are two expensive to run or if there would not be a duplication of post office work in the metropolitan parish. At Eagle Hall you get buses every fifteen minutes; therefore, there is no difficulty of transporting people from that and the surrounding districts to the Central Post Office. What I feel is that in the rural parishes people have to travel long distances on foot because they cannot get a bus as readily as do persons who live in the metropolitan area and I think that if you are not careful you are going to find that as soon as you have established these branch departments and then have a re-organization of the Central Post Office, it would be a waste of time running them after you have

gone to all that expense. I feel that if there is to be the erection of sub-post offices, they should be erected in those parishes where you have only one post-office at a far distance from the people's houses. I do not know for what reason the Government has decided to set up one sub-post office at Eagle Hall and now proposes to erect another in the Welches District but I do feel that you will find in the long run that these proposals are not working out as you expected.

Mr. LEWIS: Mr. Chairman,— I had hoped to hear a member, say like my colleague, speak early in this debate because he may be able to put the minds of honourable members at rest as to whether 30 cents per square foot is a good price to pay for this land. I know that he would be able to do that. I understand that the only body to whom they would be able to sell this piece of land is the Government because it is a "point"; that is the information I got. I admit that I did not get the information from an expert and I may have got it from somebody who would be rather on the side of preserving the interests of the taxpayers and protecting the purse strings of the colony. I hope that the Government is not setting a new standard of price for land in that area by paying 30 cents a square foot for a small piece which, I understand, juts out; it is not a suitable site on which to build a house. However, the Government can call in the Civic Circle to plant trees around the post office and make it a real site for persons going to do business with the post office. But, Mr. Chairman, I was sorry I was not in the House on the last occasion when a Resolution for capital expenditure was before it because I am going to say something about which I would like the senior member for St. Joseph definitely to make a statement to this House. This Resolution is for Capital Expenditure but it does not say whether this money will be refunded from Loan Funds and we can only conclude that this is going to be taken out of Current Revenue. If that is so, I should like to draw the attention of the senior member for St. Joseph to the fact that we have already agreed in the 1950-51 Estimates to a contribution of \$100,000 towards Capital Expenditure. I have taken the opportunity to discuss this matter with the Financial Secretary and he tells me that it is proposed—some statement, he believed, was made in the House about a year or two ago to that effect—that this contribution to Capital Expenditure would come out of accumulated balances. Well, Sir, although that is very enlightening I say that it is a rather dangerous thing that is beginning to happen because the Executive Committee Act—I believe the Rules of the House too—say that the House of Assembly is the sole branch of the Legislature for laying down the conditions under which money must come out of the Treasury. I feel that if we pass this as it is we are making a contribution of more than \$100,000 to Capital Expenditure. We are not functioning in this branch of the Legislature as we should or there is somebody that is taking away our rights. A statement should be made in this Resolution, even for the sake of courtesy, that this money is coming out of Loan Funds or Current Revenue or Accumulated Balances and if that is not made I cannot see anybody taking this money out of anything but Current Revenue. I take it that without a statement in this Resolution as to where this money is coming from this House is not laying down the conditions under which money should come out of the Treasury. If you refer to the Rule Book or the Executive Committee Act you will see that there is no other branch of the Legislature that can lay down the terms under which money should come out of the Treasury. If this money is to come out of Current Revenue, we

should be told that it is part of the \$100,000 which, we agreed, should be contributed from Current Revenue to Capital Expenditure; if it is to come out of Accumulated Balances I take it that we should be told so, and if it is to be refunded from Loan Funds we should be told so. The financial policy of the Government is something which you have to get out of the mouth of a civil servant and that is wrong. During the War it might have been necessary to make contributions from accumulated balances but war conditions do not obtain to-day. We have a definite statement in our current year's Estimates to the effect that a certain amount is contributed from Current Revenue to Capital Expenditure and in view of that, I claim that a statement should be made in a Resolution of this kind showing exactly where the capital expenditure is coming from; otherwise not a member of this House would know where it is coming from. The Financial Secretary is not clear on the point, so I am asking the senior member for St. Joseph to take the trouble to see that exactly what is happening is written into these Resolutions or some day he is going to find himself in the position of being asked about these things and not being able to answer them himself. Whatever is the policy I would like to know it. The next thing is this: We were told that with the re-modelling of the Estimates we would not have so many supplementary Resolutions coming to this House. This is No. 13 and No. 17 has been introduced and only about five months have expired since we passed this year's Estimates. So the House is wasting its time with the new method of dealing with these Resolutions every quarter.

Mr. CRAWFORD: Sir,—Frankly speaking I am at a loss to discover the necessity for a sub-post office in the Welches district. I cannot see why it should be deemed necessary to construct a sub-post office at Welches. I am prepared to emphasize the point raised by the senior member for St. John—in fact the honourable member on my left and I were discussing the same point not so long before the senior member for St. John raised it. It does appear as if there is more a case for the erection of additional post offices in the country districts than there is for the erection of additional post offices in the parish of St. Michael. As a matter of fact, the populous village which would be served by this sub-post office is almost as near to the Central Post Office in Bridgetown as it will be to the sub-post office in Welches. All that is needed, in my opinion, in that district is a big letter-box. I think that there is a letter-box now somewhere in the My Lord's Hill area and the most that is needed at Welches is another letter-box. After we shall have paid this sum—fifteen hundred odd dollars—for this land, we then have to proceed to erect the building and I am sure that by the time the Government is finished the construction, the equipment, and the staffing of this new sub-post office will have cost anything in the vicinity of £4,000; not less than that. It is true, as it has been stated in the addendum to the Resolution, that it is not proposed to build the sub-post office immediately but the point is that it is proposed, I presume, to build it at some time or other, if not, why bother to acquire the land at all? It is difficult to appreciate how, for instance, we can find approximately £4,000 for a new sub-post office at Welches and we cannot, for instance, find a small sum—hardly more than £4,000 or £5,000—to purchase Rosegate Tenantry in St. John. I am sure that the Rosegate Tenantry cannot cost more than £5,000 and it would be of far more advantage to the colony if we were to purchase Rosegate Tenantry than to

raise the money for the construction of this sub-post office, I only mentioned that because it occurs to my mind; but there are many other vital things which could be quoted and which would be of far greater advantage to the colony than the erection of this sub-post office. If I stand alone I am prepared to move that the further consideration of this Resolution be postponed or that the Resolution be rejected. As a matter of fact, I beg to move that this Resolution be rejected.

Mr. WILKINSON: Mr. Chairman,—I am not convinced that this sub-post office is necessary—

THE CHAIRMAN: Is the honourable member seconding the motion for the rejection of the Resolution?

Mr. WILKINSON: I am speaking on the Resolution. As I was saying, I am not convinced that a sub-post office in that district is a necessity. After all, it is only a distance of a mile from the Central Post Office in Bridgetown and I do think that the erection of additional post offices in the country districts are much more needed than a sub-post office mentioned by the Acting Colonial Postmaster, post office at the corner of Welches and Kingston Roads. It may be necessary to put a post-box at that corner, which is a very different thing from a post-office. I beg to move, Sir, that the further consideration of this Resolution be postponed.

Mr. MILLER: Mr. Chairman,—I would like to say a few words on this Resolution. What I am particularly dissatisfied about is the price of 30 cents a square foot for land in this particular area. Another point is this: This is a little piece of land that juts out from the direction of Kingston towards the Pine Road and in the interest of traffic I do not think that any building should be erected there at all. It is dangerous to erect any building on that spot of land. I suggest to the owners of this land to transform it into a beauty spot and thereby enhance the value of the entire area. I do not think that the Government should pay 30 cents a square foot for land in that area and, further, I do not think that much of the land in that locality has been sold at that price. I am sure that portions of land in that area have been sold at 20 cents and 24 cents per square foot. I do not think that this spot of land is suitable for the erection of a building and in view of the pressing traffic problem I do not think that the Government should erect a sub-post office there. I only hope that the Leader of the House would reconsider this proposal. I repeat that this site should not be used for this purpose; it is a dangerous and ugly corner and only a few months ago a little boy was killed in that locality. We should concern ourselves with the people and not with the wishes of an official and certain honourable members do not seem to understand that. I repeat that 30 cents a square foot is an abominable price for the Government to pay for land in this particular area.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman,—This land is being sold out for the erection of a better class of house. The Board of Health has already approved of the cutting up of this land and they have approved of the maximum price of 36 cents per square foot for it. The talk with the present owner of this site has been going on since 1948 and the present owner has already been offered 30 cents a square foot for the site for the establishment of a gasoline station. He has written to tell the Government that he prefers the Government to have the land and has offered it to the Government at 30 cents a square foot. I have heard no argument adduced yet which would justify this Committee in even postponing this Resolution, let alone not voting for it. The Colonial

Postmaster sometime ago went into the whole question of sub-post offices. He recommended one for Christ Church, one for St. John, one at Eagle Hall and one in the Belmont District. The erection of this sub-post office was foreshadowed at the time of the consideration of the 1948-49 Estimates; it was included in the Capital Works which we intended to do but it was not put in the Estimates. One of the Chief reasons is that the price was not at that time agreed on but it was discussed by the Estimates Committee, as will be seen from page 92 of the 1948-49 Estimates. This is nothing new. Now that the owner can get the land sold, he has suggested to the Executive Committee to buy it now. The Government has been offered by the manager of the Co-operative Bank an area of land on the other side of Welches Road at 40 cents a square foot but it is not suitable for this purpose. Let me just explain a little, as far as the Colonial Postmaster is concerned. He was specifically asked by the doubting Thomases on the Executive Committee whether this sub-post office was absolutely necessary; he satisfied us that owing to congestion in the General Post Office, especially in the postmen's room, he had brought forward this proposal to relieve that congestion. Just as he gave us the figures which would be taken off the General Post Office, if the sub-post office was erected at Eagle Hall, he gave us the figures which would be taken off and shifted to this new sub-post office—figures in connection with the Fairfield Road, Carrington Village, Government Hill and The Ivy districts. The Government has other things in mind but this proposal is not anything new. The Government could defend itself by saying that this is capital expenditure which was foreshadowed two years ago; this is not completely new capital expenditure, such as the purchase of the tenantry referred to by the junior member for St. Philip would be. The very thing that is worrying the junior member for St. James worried the members of the Executive Committee, that is, whether the erection of this sub-post office is necessary and after being shown the figures the members of the Executive Committee were satisfied that it is absolutely necessary. It is also contemplated that the old age pensioners living in those districts would be paid their old age pensions at this sub-post office. I apologize to honourable members if I did not give them all the information in my opening remarks but I have noticed that honourable members recently have been quite content to believe that the Government has gone very thoroughly into a matter and they do not always ask for full details. I am sorry if I made a mistake on this occasion. I repeat, Mr. Chairman, that the senior member for St. John need not worry to think that the parish of St. John is not thought of, as far as an additional sub-post office is concerned. Before the honourable member was even a member of this House the Colonial Postmaster put up the proposal that there should be one in Christ Church, one in St. John, and others in other districts, particularly with the view of accommodating old age pensioners and the question as to whether we could combine police stations with some of these sub-post offices, as has been done in the Eagle Hall district, has also been considered. I ask honourable members to accept the Government's statement that the Government has been considering this proposal for some time, that the Government approved of it two years ago but that it has only come to the House to-day because the owner of the land is faced with a ready-made purchaser and says that he would take 30 cents instead of 36 cents per sq. foot which

he originally asked for. As regards the erection of the sub-post office in Christ Church is concerned, the question of combining a library with it is under consideration by the Colonial Engineer and that is the reason why the construction has been delayed. The junior member for the City made a useful statement. He said that in order to get some knowledge of the Government's policy one has to get it from a civil servant and that that was wrong. I agree with him.

Mr. LEWIS: I am sorry to interrupt the honourable member but I did not say that.

Mr. ADAMS: The Reporters will prove in due course that the honourable member has forgotten what he said.

Mr. LEWIS: And the honourable member will have then forgotten what he said.

Mr. ADAMS: The honourable member used the expression that he had to get the Government's policy from a civil servant; that is the sentence he made. One would imagine that an honourable member knowing that a matter with which he has to deal is of a financial nature, would come and ask me the Government's financial policy. I am not aware that the Financial Secretary is a member of the Executive Committee. If the honourable member cares to go behind the backs of the four members of this House who are members of the Executive Committee and ask other people what is the Government's policy then he deserves the answer which he gets.

Mr. MILLER: I do not know if the Leader of the House has paid sufficient attention to this matter. He talked about a better class of houses being erected in this area and remarked that the Government had been offered a site on the opposite side of Welches Road at 40 cents per sq. foot. I will tell him that none of the land in Welches could ever be sold at 40 cents a square foot. The individual who would buy land at 40 cents a square foot would not think of building at Welches the type of house that should be erected on such land. I am building now the best houses on the best spots of land in Welches and those spots have been sold at less than 30 cents a foot and I think that the senior member for the City who is known as a land shark—it is only that he is a land magnate—will support me in saying that none of the land in Welches has reached the price of 40 cents a square foot. But the Government is a nice milch cow and has inexhaustible funds. The Government will find that it will pay 30 cents per square foot for this land and that a gasoline station is yet to be erected in that locality. I repeat that where they plan to put this post office is not a suitable site. I am going to vote for the Resolution. I happen to be on this side of the House and while I am on it I am going to serve the Party as long as the senior member for St. Joseph wants me to serve. There is nothing to prevent me from resigning my seat, if the occasion should arise, and go home and play with my children. But in my opinion this is one of the occasions when the Government is wrong and I am saying so.

Mr. DOWDING: I think that the argument of the senior member for St. George about the unsuitability of the site for building purposes should be carefully considered by this Committee before attempting to sanction the spending of this \$1,500 on the erection of this sub-post office. (A VOICE: not the erection). Well, Sir, buying the land includes the erection of the building. This particular piece of land, Sir, is bounded on three sides by important highways. It is most unsuitable for any type of business which

will cause congestion of traffic on any of those three highways. My honourable colleague is perfectly correct in asking that this land be left as an open space. If one stand by that triangle during the height of the reaping season and watch the amount of traffic that passes along those three streets, one would soon find out whether or not a building erected on this site is likely to cause congestion of traffic on those highways. I am convinced that it is a most unsuitable site and that if this Committee does not think carefully about what it is doing, this House may be causing the death of people by sanctioning the erection on that spot of a building which would cause congestion of traffic on the highways around it. I am not convinced that there is the necessity for a post office at that spot. The type of persons who are occupying and will occupy the type of houses that are built in that area will be able to get to Bridgetown in their motor cars and I repeat that I am not at all convinced that there is any necessity for a post office at that spot. If, Sir, we had been told that a post office was about to be erected in the Ivy district I could understand that, because a post office there would serve the people on the top of the Hill, people in St. George and people in other parts of St. Michael as well. I am sure that my colleague would agree to a proposal to erect a post office in the Ellerton District in the parish of St. George (Laughter). It seems to me that all the improvements are directed towards Bridgetown. If we could put this post office in a country district it would be better because it is going to cause the death of persons in the long run if it is erected on this site. Now, the senior member for St. Joseph has spoken about the foreshadowing of this proposal about two years ago. Do not let us worry about what happened two years ago; let us think the matter over in the light of the problem as it is to-day and let us decide by constructive debate, whether or not it is necessary that this particular spot of land should be acquired for the erection of a sub-post office in that area. We have actually no figures before us. All we are told is that "for some time consideration has been given to the necessity for the erection of a sub-post office in the Belmont District....." but we are not told how many people it would serve or what the necessity is and whether it would not be better to enlarge the General Post Office. I am going to second the motion for the postponement of the further consideration of this Resolution until we get further information and I hope that the other honourable members will agree that owing to its unsuitability for the purpose this site on which it is proposed to build this sub-post office will be a death trap in the future.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman,—I would not have taken part in this debate if the senior member for St. George had not taken the opportunity to advertise his business and leave mine out, that is to say, he has made it quite clear that he is now building the best houses in the Welches area and that they are being built on the best spots of land that were bought from me; so I take this opportunity to remind honourable members that the best houses are being built in Welches on the best spots of land that are obtainable from me. As far as I am concerned what I regret is that the Government is not going to buy this entire triangle when one recalls that a fatal accident occurred there. With motor vehicles going up from the Welches area and coming down from the My Lord's Hill district daily it is regrettable that the Government has not seen fit to purchase that small triangular piece of land. I do not think that the senior member for St. George should

be allowed to get away with the statement that none of the land in that area could be sold at 40 cents per square foot. The honourable member should know the Welches area; it is comprised of not only Carrington Village and this small triangular piece of land. It is true that some of the spots in Welches have been sold at more than 30 cents a square foot; that some of the land has been sold at 20 cents and 24 cents per square foot is an absolute fact but to say that none of it was sold at 30 cents and over per square foot is incorrect. Of course, I do not take umbrage at all at his reference to me as a land shark. If the honourable member was dealing in electricity or tamarinds I would follow him but when it comes to dealing in real estate I suggest to him to come and learn a few things. The Leader of the House stated that an offer was made for a portion of this land for the erection of a gasoline station. That is an absolute fact and what I am surprised at is that the honourable member said that only 30 cents per square foot was offered. I can tell him that a higher price than that was offered for another site near there for the erection of a gasoline station but most of the people living in that area, including the owner of this land, would not like to have a gasoline station in that area. As far as the sub-post office is concerned when I first read this Resolution — I heard a lot about the proposal — I myself could not see the necessity for the erection of a post office on this site. No attempt is made in the wording of the addendum to the Resolution to convince me that the congestion at the Central Post Office is such that this sub-post office would relieve it. I thought at first that it was the idea of some of the imported officials who come here and want to leave something behind, when they are gone, to show that at least they have done something. I am going to say that the only case that apparently has been made out by the Leader of the House for the purchase of this site is that it would provide accommodation for old age pensioners. If there is one thing which is a shame on this Country it is that old people must line up in the hot sun and pouring rain when they go to receive their old age pensions. If it is possible to erect some sort of shed, not necessarily a post office building like the one in Upper Black Rock, under which these old people could shelter while they are waiting for the little pittance, they are entitled to it, as far as I am concerned. The spot of land seems to be suitable for the erection of such a shed and that is one of the reasons why I said that it is regrettable that the Government did not buy the entire triangular piece of land. I agree with the junior member for St. George that to erect a building on this spot of land would be a sort of death trap and I hope that the Government would reconsider this proposal. If the Government were going to purchase the whole area, it would have to do so at a reduced price. We must have open spaces and this area is admirably suited as an open space. If honourable members think that the purchasing of the entire area by the Government at a reduced price would be a transaction more beneficial to the community and they see the wisdom of postponing this Resolution on that score, all well and good. Mr. Chairman, I hope that honourable members will not be led away by—I almost used the expression “the harangue”—of the honourable member who remarked that land in that area has not been sold at 30 cents per square foot. I repeat that more than one person contemplated putting a gasoline station in that area but the present residents, including the owner of this spot of land, were not in favour of a gasoline station being erected in the area.

Mr. ALLDER: The more I listen to the arguments adduced on this Resolution the more I am convinced that it is not necessary to erect a sub-post office on this spot of land. The junior member for St. George has raised a very important point, that is, the question of danger to the public. The junior member for St. George has warned this Committee that the erection of a post office on this land would make the area more dangerous from the point of view of motor and other forms of vehicular traffic, especially during the reaping season when motor vehicles pass up and down that locality with their heavy loads. Vehicles travelling from Bridgetown along Welches road to country districts and vehicles travelling from country districts along Welches Road to Bridgetown meet at that triangle and must be a source of danger to persons who have to use that sub-post office. The suggestion that old age pensioners might be accommodated at this proposed building makes me more apprehensive. No old man or old woman who might have to go there to collect his or her old age pension could do so without taking the risk of crossing one of those roads along which vehicles are always travelling. Imagine the situation. Go down to the Parochial Buildings and see the type of persons who have to go there for out-door relief. Go to Bay Street and see the type of persons who have to line up for their old age pensions. Many of the old age pensioners have to get other persons to go with them as a means of protection and you are proposing to put their lives in jeopardy by collecting their pensions at a building in this area. Study the matter from that angle. I am nothing to do with the argument about the price of the land because we know that several things arise when the Government is the buyer. The question is: is it necessary to have this sub-post office there? Don't you believe that there are persons living in My Lord's Hill, and in the Ivy who would prefer to pay a bus and come to the Central Post Office in Bridgetown rather than have to walk down the Hill to go to this sub-post office to do their business? As slight as that question appears, you would find that it would happen sometimes. There is another point and that is the question of cost. If you say that the land is going to cost so little, it does not end there. The fact is, as the junior member for St. Philip said, whenever you are finished constructing your building, you are going to find that you have spent a tidier sum than you imagine at this time when we are discussing the proposal. Firstly, I do not feel that this is necessary and secondly, the traffic in that area would become more dangerous. If the Government would by the entire triangle and cut off all those blind corners and make the district safer to the travelling public, that is the only thing I would consider as sensible. And even if such safeguards are taken, it is my humble opinion that if old age pensioners are requested to go to that area to draw their pensions, you would be doing them greater harm than the inconvenience which they now experience in Bay Street. I wish honourable members would take a matter of this sort more seriously because I, for myself, do not see the necessity for putting a lot of sub-post offices within a mile radius of the Central Post Office when people in much farther districts are in dire need of postal facilities.

Mr. COX: Mr. Chairman, — Apparently those honourable members who are opposed to this Resolution do not know the spot of land on which it is proposed to build this sub-post office. Those of us who know Fairfield Road know that it leads to Belleville. Some honourable members seem to think—in fact, they have said so—that this is a dangerous

spot on which to build a post office, more particularly as old age pensioners will go there to draw their pensions. But surely if honourable members were serious and if they took a look at the quarters and the surroundings in which old age pensioners assemble today to draw their pensions I fail to see how they could compare these conditions with the conditions which will exist if and when we purchase this site and build a sub-post office. Some honourable members spoke about the lorries and buses which pass along the highways adjacent to this site; let them go to Bay Street where the old age pensioners draw their pensions and they will see there not only lorries and buses but motor cars, handcarts, and many other vehicles which tend to endanger the lives of these old people who assemble there. Mr. Chairman, it is absolutely necessary that this sub-post office should be built in order to take off some of the load from the Central Post Office. It has been clearly explained that the Colonial Postmaster has gone thoroughly into the matter and I think that honourable members should credit him with some knowledge of the running of postal affairs. He has recommended the erection of this sub-post office, pointing out that since the sub-post office has been built in Black Rock the congestion at the Central Post Office has to a large extent been relieved. Many old age pensioners go to the sub-post office in Black Rock for their pensions instead of going to Bay Street. Many persons post their letters and do other postal business there instead of coming to the Central Post Office in Bridgetown and thus the congestion at the Central Post Office is relieved to some extent. The Postmaster has stated that if a sub-post office is erected in the Belmont district it would assist with the My Lord's Hill, the Carrington Village, the Government Hill and other adjoining areas and he has made this recommendation after a careful investigation into the circumstances and with a thorough knowledge of the number of persons in that area who avail themselves of the postal facilities which are offered. So there is no point in one sitting here and saying that it is an unsuitable site when the Colonial Postmaster has gone thoroughly into the matter. You must give some consideration to the recommendation of the Head of a Department who takes an interest in the affairs affecting his Department. Some honourable members spoke, Mr. Chairman, as if this sub-post office is to be built on the road and as if as soon as one steps out of the post office one will step on to the road. That sub-post office will have space all around it; so there is absolutely no point in saying that it will be a danger spot, unless honourable members do not know the spot.

Mr. CRAWFORD: I am very glad to see that the Government has begun to appreciate how useful these sub-post offices could be, from the point of view of the payment of pensions to old age pensioners in the districts in which they are erected. It took about 16 or 18 months' agitation in this House to get the Government to agree to utilize the sub-post office in Christ Church for the payment of old age pensions and thereby prevent old people from walking from Dayrells Road to Gall Hill for their old age pensions. If now one of the arguments be that an advantage of having this sub-post office at Welches is because it will provide accommodation for old pensioners, how much more is there in the suggestion that more sub-post offices in the rural areas are necessary in order to alleviate the disadvantage which old age pensioners now suffer in going from one end of a parish to the other. You, I am sure, Mr. Chairman, should know from experience that in some of the rural parishes, the

collection of old age pensions is a matter of a day's work for many old age pensioners; they leave home early in the morning, walk 5 or 6 miles, and get back home in the afternoon. I know more than one postmistress who has to help some of them with cups of tea. It would be better for us if we were considering to-day the grant of a sum of money for the purchase of land for the erection of a sub-post office in some rural district. Really, Sir, I have heard nothing to convince me that it is absolutely necessary for us to put a sub-post office at Welches. And I do feel that the money which it is going to cost eventually could easily be spent to far greater advantage. The land, the construction of the building, the equipment, the staff, and everything else—all are going to cost money; let us spend our resources to the greatest possible advantage. I appreciate the fact that the Colonial Postmaster must have special knowledge of the conditions in the Post Office and I also appreciate that he would know the congestion and so on in his Department but I say that perhaps in the same way he lost sight of the fact that this sub-post office could be useful for the payment of old age pensions, he may also have lost sight of the fact that in the rural areas it is more important to construct additional post offices rather than construct more of them in the parish of St. Michael; that is all I am suggesting. After all, he is discharging his duties as a government official and we are making the decision as representatives of the people. Although he may come into contact with the people he could hardly claim to have greater knowledge of the needs of the people of this Country than we have and we suggest that our recommendations should be as good as his.

Mr. ADAMS: This is my last speech on this subject. I would just like to remind the junior member for St. Philip that the Social Welfare Officer, just a few months ago in his report on old age pensioners, as far back as 1947, recommended that the sub-post offices should be used for the payment of old age pensions and that was mentioned by the Acting Colonial Postmaster, Mr. Durant, in a Minute in the month of May and again in another Minute later in the month of June of the same year. The Colonial Postmaster went into the question of density and pointed out that we would have to have a sub-post office at Eagle Hall, and one in the Belmont area; that just as the one at Eagle Hall would serve the poor class of persons as well as the residents of Strathelyde, so would the one at Belmont serve the people in My Lord's Hill, Fairfield Road, Welches as well as the residents in Belleville. If honourable members have come with their minds made up they would stick out but do not say that the matter has not been thoroughly investigated. The Police were asked to assist; the Colonial Engineer approved of the site; the Planning Officer approved of it; the Colonial Postmaster and the Acting Colonial Postmaster approved of it; and members of the Executive Committee themselves raised the question and used exactly the same arguments which some of us have used to-day. But because this is the month of August or because the Government has been getting away with too much recently, there is this opposition. Does the honourable senior member for St. John consider that he alone could think of the site being a source of possible danger to people? Apparently, the honourable member thinks that it is safer for old age pensioners to go along Baxters Road and up the Wharf and get to Bay Street safely but that they are likely to be killed in hordes on their way to a building erected on this triangle. The honourable member said that we are proposing

to put the lives of people in jeopardy and talked about blind corners. There is no blind corner in this locality. If honourable members feel to postpone the Resolution for information which the Government has not got now but could give to them subsequently let them vote for the postponement. But I can tell honourable members that the Colonial Postmaster feels that even with a new and bigger General Post Office it would be necessary to have sub-post offices in the built-up areas. There are 6,227 houses in Christ Church and two post offices, 2,295 houses in St. John and one post office, 20,700 houses in St. Michael and until the sub-post office was built in Black Rock there was only the General Post Office. It is not a question of distance from the City; it is a question of density of population in a particular area. The Colonial Postmaster expressed the opinion that with the erection of a sub-post office in the Belmont district the following Routes would be operated with greater ease—Nos. 13, 14, 15, 22, and 23. Mails would be sent in and out in bulk daily to, and five men would be located permanently at, this sub-post office. More postmen are going to be attached to this sub-post office than at the sub-post office in Black Rock. Could the Government put the case more thoroughly? The Colonial Postmaster has gone into the question of Routes and he recommends that this sub-post office is even more essential than the sub-post office in Black Rock, from the point of view of density of population and the number of postmen that would be taken away from the General Post Office. The exact sum was not put in this year's Estimates because at that time we had not agreed on a price and were still negotiating for the purchase of the spot. Other things are under consideration but they are not coming before the House as new capital expenditure until the Government decides to go in for new capital expenditure. As I have said, the erection of a sub-post office in Christ Church is still under consideration but it is held up because of the library to be attached. The only information which I have not got here and could not give honourable members would be the last census figures of the area but honourable members scarcely need those when they are told that the Colonial Postmaster has stated that while the sub-post office in Black Rock provides employment for four postmen, a sub-post office in the Belmont district will provide work for five postmen. I repeat that this site is not a blind corner and that it is no more dangerous than any other junction of two roads in Barbados. The senior member for St. John talked about putting people's lives in jeopardy. Does he not think that the traffic up and down Eagle Hall is infinitely more than the traffic along Welches? I have told the House all the facts. I have told the House that this is not a proposal that is being rushed through. I told the House that it originated with the Social Welfare Officer's memorandum since March, 1947, and then the Acting Colonial Postmaster's Minutes in May and June 1947. I appeal to the members of the House to see that this is a well-thought out plan; that it is necessary, and that the danger to the public is less than at Eagle Hall.

Mr. CRAWFORD: Much time might have been saved if, Sir, the speech which the last speaker has just made had been made earlier in this debate. I am willing to concede that in his last attempt he has been able to make out a case for the support of this Resolution. But I am going to withdraw my motion for the rejection of the Resolution purely on the implied assurance that the demands of other areas will be attended to as early as possible—

THE CHAIRMAN: The honourable member's motion for the rejection of the Resolution has not been seconded.

Mr. CRAWFORD: On that assurance we are supporting the Resolution and are looking forward to action in the very near future along the lines I suggested.

Mr. LEWIS: I would like to correct two statements and say what I think about the particular site. The senior member for St. Joseph said something about the Board of Health fixing the price. I believe that he knows now that that is not strictly correct. Valuers are sent in by the Executive Committee and they fix the price and I should not like anybody to think that I was a member of the Board of Health, that the land was sold at 30 cents a square foot and the Board of Health fixed the price at 36 cents a square foot. From the time I became a member of that Board, we have not fixed the price of land yet. The next thing is this: The honourable member has not answered the question as to where this money is coming from for the purposes of capital expenditure. He says that he is not going to answer it. Well, Sir, it is my duty to draw to the attention of the House that they do not know what money they are voting. The next thing is this: I did not go to a civil servant to get the policy of the Government. I got the policy of the Government when I went to a civil servant about the matter; that is why it struck me as peculiar. When we were buying the last bit of land from Waterford, the Government's spokesman in the Other Place was asked: "Where is that money coming from? Is it coming from Loan Funds or otherwise?" He was wrongly reported in the Press that it was coming from Loan Funds. The information which I have is that this money is coming from Current Revenue and I say that there should be a statement to that effect in this Resolution. The honourable member does not seem to want to see the point now but he may want to see it one of these days. So far as this area is concerned I understand that it is a very good area in which to erect a sub-post office and it is a great pity that with all that information in the file and the information that a sub-post office is already being used for the payment of old age pensions, the person who drafted the addendum to this Resolution did not consider it necessary to state all the purposes for which this sub-post office would be used. I am sorry to hear a member of the Government try to make a joke of what I say. But this is not the way to treat this House. This House is voting this money for a particular purpose, that is, to purchase this land for the erection of a sub-post office and if you decide in the meantime that you are going to pay old age pensioners there, you should state something to that effect in the addendum. Some honourable members are perturbed about the particular site but the fact that it is entirely surrounded with roads minimises the danger because all the traffic coming down My Lord's Hill need not go in one direction. So far as the Architect and Town Planning Officer is concerned it is a pity that he did not recommend to the Government to leave the site as an open space and if you had put in that the Police who knew the spot where the accident occurred had approved of this site, we might not have had this debate. It is not a bad idea, in my opinion, to accommodate old age pensioners there. I am trying to give the Government a number of points. I suggest to the Government that if it has information at its disposal the time to give it is when the particular Bill or Resolution is being introduced. This is a democracy and if you

give the information which you have, you will save a lot of time. If the senior member for St. Peter would like me to look up debates when he was not in the Government I could satisfy him that he used to talk longer than any other member of this House and that he talked more nonsense than most other honourable members of the House. I repeat that it would be a good thing to state where this money is coming from for this capital expenditure. One of these days the Government will be called to account and I believe that its members would not be able to tell because they would not know themselves. Some honourable members are hungry and I have a suggestion to make. It is this: Let us adjourn for tea and let those honourable members who feel that this is not a suitable site visit the site in the meanwhile and come back for tea because you have to pay for it just the same.

Mr. E. K. WALCOTT: I really came to vote for this Resolution because I thought that it was all right, but the debate has persuaded me to vote against it, although apparently it will be passed because certain honourable members are satisfied. It is well that honourable members heed the warning which has been sounded. The senior member for St. Joseph has inadvertently mixed two points of view—the necessity of a sub-post office in a district as distinct from the necessity of a sub-post office on a particular site. I think that he has proved conclusively the necessity for this sub-post office in that district but what I am not satisfied at all about—I know the district very well—is that this particular site is suitable. I do not suppose—except you were to take a big block in a big city where a post office occupies the whole block—that you will find any place in the world where a post office is put at the corner of two roads. If it is a question of the difference between the price of 30 cents a square foot for land on this side of the road and 40 cents a square foot for land on the other side of the road, my advice to the Government is to put the post office on the other side of the road. Nobody could go to this post office on this side of the road without crossing the road but if you put it on the other side of the road where there is a populous area, it means that hundreds of persons could go to it without crossing the road at all. Do not let us say that it is not a dangerous corner because it is within my knowledge that the very first case I ever had in my practice at the Bar was in connection with a collision which occurred at that corner. My further advice to the Government is to institute one-way traffic along those roads immediately before this sub-post office is opened to the public for the safety of persons who will have to cross the roads, not at present because if there is one thing that stares you in the face in connection with this Resolution is this statement in the addendum: "Although it is not proposed to

of people who use it would not be in danger. I will tell the Government this: If you buy this spot of land, for goodness' sake, before you put a post office there, take some time off and go and see it and see if you cannot use it for a purpose other than the erection of a post office.

Mr. ADAMS: I would like the honourable member who has just sat down to give the statistics in connection with the number of persons who were killed as the result of crossing that road.

Mr. E. K. WALCOTT: You are going to increase the traffic immensely in that area, by asking people to cross the road to get to the post office to post their letters. The more the post office is needed in the district, all the more would hundreds of persons go to it and the honourable member asks me to give statistics of the number of deaths that occurred in that locality in the past as the result of persons crossing the road! You want hundreds to go to this site and in that case you are increasing the danger possibly more than tenfold.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: I do not want to waste the time of the House but when the senior member for St. James gets up and wants people to believe that the erection of a sub-post office on this spot of land is a potential danger to the people who will use it I must speak. The honourable member has been to London and he knows that in the heart of London there are sub-post offices which are used by millions of people.

Mr. E. K. WALCOTT: Apparently the honourable member did not listen to my opening remarks. I particularly stated that in the big cities post offices occupy part of a square, if not the whole square. This is a suburban district; this is not an urban district proper.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: I am not talking about a post office taking up a whole block in London. Honourable members do not know anything about this locality. If they knew the locality they would know that there is a Major Road Stop Sign when you are coming from the direction of Bridge Road and crossing over to the other side of the road. There is no question of any danger to people's lives, as far as this site is concerned. There is nothing to prevent those honourable members who wish to visit the site from doing so but it is not the business of the Government to adjourn this debate for that purpose. This is not a Law Court where the hearing of a case is adjourned in order that the jury may visit the locus in quo. It is the duty of honourable members to visit the site before they come to the House.

Mr. MILLER: Mr. Chairman,—I do not know that the Government can justify their buying of that spot of land for the erection of a sub-post office but as I have said, I am prepared to vote for the Resolution. I repeat the suggestion which I made earlier, that is, that the Government should buy the land and leave it as an open spot. The Government has the

On the motion of Mr. ADAMS, seconded by Dr. CUMMINS, the House is adjourned until 6 o'clock p.m.

RESUMPTION OF COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

On resumption,

Mr. SPEAKER: On the adjournment the House was in Committee of Supply.

Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the House resumed Committee of Supply, Mr. SMITH being in the Chair.

INCREASE IN ALLOWANCES *re* BARBADOS SCHOLARSHIPS

Mr. ADAMS: The next Resolution, Mr. Chairman, is a Resolution for \$2,280 to supplement the Estimates 1950-51, Part I, Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates, No. 14, which form the schedule to this resolution.

As honourable members will see from the addendum to this Resolution, the Government Scholarships and Exhibitions Act, 1949, fixed the allowance to be granted to Barbados Scholars at the rate of \$1,920 per annum, but when that Act came into operation there were studying in the United Kingdom five Scholars whose allowances were \$1,680 in the case of four and \$1,320 in the other case. The Secretary of State has intimated recently that the minimum allowances which these scholars should receive is \$1,680 with all tuition and examination fees paid for them, as this will relieve them of the financial difficulties with which they are faced in having to meet these extra fees from private sources. It is therefore proposed that the allowances at present paid to all Barbados Scholars should be brought into line and paid at the increased rate of \$1,920 per annum with effect from September, 1949, when the new Act came into operation. The financial implication for the present year is \$2,280 and the total additional commitments will be \$3,240. Even if there were no precedent for doing this, and there is, it is only equitable that these Scholars, with the conditions as they are in England today, should get the increase which Scholars subsequent to 1949 are getting. I do not think it is necessary to stress anything in this Resolution in order to persuade honourable members that it is fair to grant this increase. If one were acting merely on the merit of the persons concerned, we hear from the lips of Dr. C. B. Clarke what I consider almost superlative praise of the 1943 scholar. Although he read Classics he is studying medicine and Dr. Clarke says that he is the best scholar that he has come across in 30 years. I say that because even the wisest of us can make mistakes; Mr. Hayden was very strong on preventing a boy who read classics from shifting to medicine on the ground that he had wasted his time. This particular scholar read classics because he thought it was an easy way to win

honourable senior member for St. Joseph talk about this particular scholar. It is within the right of the Education Board to dictate to a certain extent what profession the winner of a Barbados Scholarship should take. The honourable senior member for St. Joseph may remember that on one occasion in the corridor outside the Attorney General's Chambers I gave the reaction to a discussion which I had with Mr. Hayden about this same scholar taking medicine having read classics. I reminded the honourable member that an education in classics was the finest education that anybody could have, and I insisted that this particular scholar who had taken classics should not be prevented from taking medicine. I instance the case of a scholar who did classics at Harrison College and turned to medicine and found no difficulty whatever. I should like to say that in my opinion, anybody who can master Greek and Latin does not have much difficulty in mastering anything even including the knowledge of the law. This is all a pleasure to me because I used my influence to prevent this same scholar from having to take to teaching but that he should be allowed to take medicine; it is more than pleasing to hear that he is making a success in medicine. As regards this Resolution, nobody would object to it.

Mr. LEWIS: I will be vague in the information which I will now give the House, but the parent of a recent winner of a Barbados Scholarship came to me and assured me that he had discussed with the honourable senior member for St. Thomas and the honourable senior member for St. Michael a matter to the effect that since we have granted more scholarships the initial advance or some other advance has been reduced. I think he mentioned that the amount of £50 was given whereas previously a scholar got £90. I speak subject to correction, but this parent assured me that the advance to a scholar has been reduced and great difficulty has been experienced as a result. I did not go any further with that parent after he said that he discussed the matter with the two honourable members whom I have mentioned. If there is any initial advance which has been reduced I am asking the members of the Government to give this matter some attention and see if some hardship is not created. This parent said that the difficulty was in respect of the payment of the passage and I hope that honourable members will check up and see if there is anything wrong.

Mr. CRAWFORD: I have had the same complaint; my information is that the initial advance used to be £90 and it has now been reduced to £50. In view of the high cost of living and especially the high cost of passages to England now, there is more reason for increasing the initial grant than decreasing it. It would be useful if the honourable senior member for St. Joseph would explain why there has been this reduction, if it has been purely accidental or not, because there need

ber for the City is referring, but I got the impression that the money was not enough. It sounds strange to me to hear that the amount has been reduced; I was under the impression that this particular parent wanted permission to borrow ahead out of the scholarship money. I really have not seen him myself; I have seen a member of the family, but I have the matter under investigation to help this parent as I understood he wanted help; it is a question of having a regulation to get the advance before the student takes up residence instead of giving the money at the end of a term, but it is a matter which I have under consideration.

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

LOANS TO DELEGATES OF THE BARBADOS ELEMENTARY TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

Mr. ADAMS: The next Resolution, Mr. Chairman, is one of those which have been cyclo-styled. It is a Resolution to place the sum of \$750 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee for the purpose of making loans to five delegates of the Barbados Elementary Teachers' Association to assist them to meet expenses of attending the fifth biennial Conference of the Caribbean Union of Teachers which will be held in British Guiana from the 12th to the 26th of August, 1950. The Secretary of the Barbados Elementary Teachers' Association made an appeal to the Governor-in-Executive Committee for a loan to cover the expenses of five delegates and eleven observers attending this Conference; the Association did not express its willingness or ability or both to contribute any part of this amount and the Government felt that it ought to advance a loan to be repaid by the delegates, not for all, for which the Association was asking, but the cost of the return passages of the delegates at any rate, which would be roughly \$150 a man. The Government could not see its way to advance money in respect of the observers. The teachers have gone six better; they have got two observers to each delegate—not one observer to each delegate—and one observer thrown in. The Government did not consider that it should ask the Legislature for funds in respect of these eleven observers when there was a delegation attending the Conference; the Government felt that inasmuch as the Association is sending five delegates to this Conference, it would send down this Resolution to pay the travelling expenses of these delegates. The money will be repaid monthly, I believe at the rate of \$10 per month. I beg that this Resolution do now pass.

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to second that.

Mr. LEWIS: I would like to say that the members of this delegation are bound to benefit by seeing somewhere outside Barbados, by seeing the Magnificent Colony. I hope that they will go into the interior and make such a good impression down there that Barbadians will not be left out of the settlement scheme. I warned this Government when money was given in respect of the Trade Union that they were opening the flood gates. If the teachers know that this Conference is coming off by a certain time, and that they should have a delegation strong enough to represent them, they should try and not come to the Government for assistance in this matter. It has become increasingly clear that the moment the Barbados Cricket Association finds itself in difficulties, it does not make any effort to raise funds; it arranges to borrow money from the Government with the distinct understanding that it is not going to repay the money. There are those who will offer to

repay money, but instead of repaying it they will ask for more. (Mr. ADAMS: You can deduct this money from the teachers' salaries). It would be fairly illegal to take this money out of the teachers' salaries. This sort of wet nursing can be carried too far; if the Government is spending money for educational purposes, it is a pity that they could not spend it so that students could go to British Guiana on holiday and learn something of the people from that colony. I do not see why these teachers should want two observers to each delegate and an extra observer for all. (Laughter) A trip outside this island might brighten their minds, it may result in something beneficial to them and those are the grounds on which I am voting for this Resolution. I feel, however, that the Government is becoming a money lender and people are being made to feel that they have not got to make that effort which they used to make before. The merchants who sell cricket gear have no thought about helping the Cricket Association when they need funds, but the Association comes to the Government for help. I hope that on one of these mornings they will find that there is no money in the Treasury; members of the Government will then be statesmen instead of politicians and they will have to say not only that they are spending money but whence they are getting it. If these things continue, the Government will be left with as many bad debts as the Roebuck Street merchants and the small retailers had before the War.

Mr. ALLDER: I feel that this is an opportunity whereby these people who are in the lower brackets will have a chance to go out of this island, and I do not know if they will gain anything by it. This amount of \$150 per delegate does appear to be small, but I suppose that the Government knows all about it. I am glad that in lending this money the Government is assured that the money will be recovered in even monthly instalments.

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

EXPENSES OF FANCY MOLASSES ENQUIRY COMMITTEE

Dr. CUMMINS: The next Resolution, Mr. Chairman, is the other one which was cyclo-styled earlier this afternoon. It is a Resolution to place the sum of \$11,000 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to supplement the Estimates, 1950-51, Part I.—Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates, 1950-51, No. 17, which form the Schedule to this Resolution. This is the result of the findings of a Committee appointed by the Governor-in-Executive Committee to enquire into all aspects of the fancy molasses industry as it affects the island. This Committee sat and it was felt that the matter would be more easily dealt with if the members of the Committee were allowed to proceed to Canada and take evidence there in addition to the evidence taken here. As a result this sum of \$11,000 is being asked for to pay the expenses of this Committee to proceed to Canada; the Committee will leave Barbados on September 2 by Trans-Canada Airline and they will visit Montreal, Quebec, St. Johns, Prince Edward Island and Halifax and they will return about October 6. It is estimated that the visit will take 35 days and the expenses of the Committee including subsistence allowance will amount to \$11,000. The purpose of this Resolution is of paramount importance to the welfare of this island and I am sure that honourable members will do everything in their power to encourage the fancy molasses industry. I

take much pleasure in moving that this Resolution do now pass.

Mr. COX: I beg to second that.

Mr. DOWDING: I think it my duty as a member of the Fancy Molasses Control and Marketing Board to inform this House of the situation as it was placed before that Board and the situation as I see it now. We all know that the reason why this matter has been brought to our attention is the fact that some merchants in Bridgetown had agreed to ship fancy molasses in bulk. This House has two members appointed to the Fancy Molasses Control and Marketing Board, and, in my opinion, it is the duty of the members of that Board to inform this House of the situation as they see it. This matter was brought before the Board which held several meetings and made its final decision; nothing else occurred until we saw it published that a Committee had been appointed to go into exactly what the Board has been constituted by an Act to do, namely, to control the production, price, marketing and export of fancy molasses. Today this House is asked to produce \$11,000 to send a Committee to Canada—a Committee of which the Fancy Molasses Control and Marketing Board knows nothing about except that one of the members of the Committee happens to be a member of the Board. I think that this House should consider the advice of members of this Board before it grants this money, or this House should consider the abolition of the Board as it is duly constituted. What is the use of appointing a Board from this House and from the Other Place—a Board which has evidence which this House knows nothing about brought before it and discussed and when a decision is made by this Board it is completely ignored? In my opinion it would be a sad state of affairs for this House not to be informed of these facts. It is not my intention to inform this House of all the evidence and of all the facts which came before the Board; I do not think it would be correct to do that; but I do feel it is correct for me to inform the House that a Board, of which two members of this House constitute a part, has been completely overlooked. With regard to the Resolution itself, we are asked for \$11,000 to send these gentlemen to Canada and to a few resorts along the line for the purpose, as I understand the honourable introducer, to take evidence from the people in Canada. What evidence are they going to be able to get from the people in Canada? Every bit of evidence which it is necessary to get can be got right here in Barbados, either from the merchants who have been dealing with the matter for a long time or by communication with whatever official there is in Canada to give that evidence. The details of the molasses situation in Canada are well known, and Canada is not so very far away from Barbados; we have just had the Trade Commissioner in this island and why did somebody not get from him the facts of the case? He told local people what the situation in Canada is, and today we are asked to send to Canada people who have not been recommended by the Board which has been duly constituted to deal with this matter. I have said what I had to say about this matter and now I intend to listen to what honourable members have to say in connection with it. I sincerely hope that the members of the Government will give us the details, facts, memoranda or anything else concerning this matter, and I hope that my colleague who is also a member of the Board will say whether he agrees or disagrees with what has been done.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: I will let people like the honourable member who has just sat down know something right now. There is the question of the workers' interest which we have to represent. This is not a matter to be dealt with by a Board; this issue of sending fancy molasses out of this colony by tanker would have caused one of the biggest labour disturbances which this island has ever seen. I do not know if honourable members realise what has happened in Bridgetown; the honourable member has said that you can get here the same evidence that you can get in Canada, but he does not know what he is talking about. Canada is the biggest buyer of fancy molasses from Barbados and Barbados can boast of producing some of the best fancy molasses in this area. For sometime now we have been faced with the problem that merchants of this island and members who constitute the Fancy Molasses Control and Marketing Board were beginning to make plans to ship fancy molasses other than in the normal way, and the excuse is that the Canadian people are refusing to buy our fancy molasses because it is being sent in puncheons and puncheons are too dear. That is a part of the evidence which we have to get; that is evidence which the honourable junior member for St. George says you can get second hand from the merchants. This is the first time that I have seen merchants fighting against each other and trying to use the Union as a football, but the Union would not bounce. It was very difficult for us to get a clear understanding from these people in this vital issue. The merchants are primarily interested in their pockets and it did not matter to them who died by the way; nobody either in the molasses trade or the sugar industry paid any interest to the worker. To-day, in so far as the Workers' Union is concerned, we are not prepared for the workers to suffer by any action of employers under any pretext unless we are convinced that all the relevant facts are made known. Even the merchants tell us that they are not in a position to see the future of the molasses trade in Canada; they make a categorical statement that the Canadians are not prepared to buy fancy molasses in puncheons. With that position facing us what should we do? The Press published that the tanker was coming here, and it was only the level-headedness of certain people that prevented what might have happened in this island; otherwise honourable members would have said what action should have been taken after the event.

I hate to associate myself with remarks made about people unless I can justify those remarks. There are those who have a jealousy of certain people; if honourable members are doubtful about Sir John Saint, let them speak in the House. Sir John Saint's knowledge and ability in the sugar industry is well known and the Honourable Mr. J. D. Chandler is a producer of fancy molasses. I would here like to remind the honourable junior member for St. George who mentioned that things were done without any reference to the Board, that the Governor-in-Executive Committee have not got to refer to any Board when they are setting up a Committee. To continue with what I was saying, the honourable senior member for St. Joseph is qualified to represent the workers' point of view; there is nobody in this island who can say that he is not qualified to do that. We feel that if a change in respect of the molasses industry is to come about, we must have it straight from the horses' mouth; we must have it from the buyers in Canada. We want to know what are the hindrances in the way of their purchasing our fancy molasses; we do not want blindly to tell people that they must change

their industry or we do not want coopers who have learnt their craft for 29 or 30 years to be out of work. There are on the water front people whose only employment is connected with produce; they have to make their living out of shipping this produce. We have to give this Committee the opportunity of investigating every aspect of this matter; hon. members always want to talk to the British people, but we want to talk to everybody, we want to talk to the British, Canadians or Americans. We want to know under what conditions they want to buy our fancy molasses and how can we send it to them. We buy shooks from Canada and if our puncheons go back to Canada at too high a cost, let us examine the position. If there is to be any changeover to shipment of molasses by tanker, we must see that the workers' cause is being protected from every stage. This is the first opportunity that this island has ever had of investigating any changeover in this industry; at all other times things were done by the merchants, but now this opportunity is given to other people to go into the real facts.

I should like to say that I am not concerned about the personnel of the Committee because I am satisfied in my mind that the Government has made a good choice. I am satisfied that the workers' point of view will be represented as long as the honourable senior member for St. Joseph is there; I have no doubt that the interest of the workers is being protected. Representing the producers' point of view is the Honourable Mr. Chandler and as I have said, Sir John Saint's knowledge of the industry is well known. The Government saw to it that they did not put any merchant on this Committee because it would be a grave error to do so; if you had put one of the merchants on this Committee, you would have put on the Committee one of the same people who are involved in the shipping of molasses. I am not too modest to tell honourable members who are sitting quietly in this House this Tuesday night that they would have been out of their beds long ago if a drop of this molasses had gone by tanker; they should realise that this colony would have been in trouble in so far as the water front is concerned. Whoever likes to oppose this Resolution can do so. This matter has been placed before the Labour Commissioner and the workers were not afraid to tell him what it meant if no proper investigation was made and the molasses went by tanker. So far as the workers are concerned, we are not satisfied to have this changeover until we know all the relevant facts. If it can be proved beyond the shadow of doubt that from an economic point of view the Canadian importers are not prepared to buy molasses shipped in puncheons—if there is the difficulty of getting the shooks cheaper to be overcome, if the Canadian importers say: "We cannot buy from you because of competition in other places"—then the workers will have to agree as reasonable people. If honourable members do not realise what the shipment of molasses by tanker means, I will say that it means a heavy stroke in the employment of people. The newspapers publish a lot of tripe about the wages of workers, but if the writers knew the average wage of workers they would not write what they write; some of these workers do not earn any money in six weeks. This is no political issue; it is a purely economic matter. Honourable members do not realise what this matter means and how high tempers were. The honourable senior member for St. Joseph and His Honour the Speaker realise how serious this issue was, and the amount of persuasion which had to be used so as to get the workers to keep down their tempers. I feel that the Gov-

ernment should have a thorough investigation of this issue and if this visit to Canada is a means of settling this very vital matter, I think that honourable members should realise that the shipment of molasses by tanker means a lot more than this \$11,000. I commend this Resolution to honourable members and I do not want them to be occupied with the argument about the Board not being acquainted about what was being done. This is a matter which is far above being dealt with by any Board. I am a member of some of these Boards too and I say that the big Board, which is this House, has to be told about this issue; any other Board is subsidiary to this House. I hope that honourable members will realise that this investigation means a lot not only to the future economic position of the island, but also to the future of the workers of this island.

Mr. REECE came into the Committee and took his seat.

Mr. MILLER: I happen to be a member of the Fancy Molasses Control and Marketing Board and I have to agree with my colleague. We were asked to say what we felt about the export of fancy molasses by tanker and I believe that my colleague will remember that the Board decided that it was not in the interest of the colony to allow the molasses to be shipped by tanker. I feel that there is such a thing as ordinary courtesy and that something should have been said to the members of the Board about what was being done. I believe that one of the members of the Board should have been a member of the Committee which is going to Canada to carry out this investigation. We are all aware of what the molasses industry means to this island and it is in the interest of the Government to see that the labourer is getting what is his due and to see what is in the interest of the island. If the time has come when there is to be a change in the manner of the shipment of molasses to Canada I agree that we should have this investigation in Canada on this vital issue; but I do not agree with the statement of the honourable senior member for St. Peter that this House is the big Board and you should ignore anybody else. It must be remembered that two of the members of the Fancy Molasses Control and Marketing Board were appointed from this House, and now the honourable member says that this House is the big Board and the House can go over the head of the Board which has been appointed by the House. I think that out of ordinary decency it should have been told to the Board that the Governor-in-Executive Committee had decided to appoint a Committee to investigate this matter. Suddenly we have this Resolution before us and I am in sympathy with my colleague; I think that we should have been informed about this matter.

Mr. ADAMS: I am merely replying to what the honourable senior member for St. George and his colleague have said. Since when has the Governor-in-Executive Committee, in appointing a Committee of Enquiry, got to ask any Board's advice through common decency? When Major Hallinan was appointed to make investigations in respect of the General Hospital, was the Hospital Board asked what they thought about it? And when Mr. Justice Ward was appointed to make enquiries relative to the Pay Ward "A" building at the Hospital, was the Hospital Board asked anything out of common decency or anything else? In this particular instance this Board has no real functions, it is merely an advisory Board to the Governor-in-Executive Committee.

Mr. MILLER: On a point of order. I did not say that the Governor-in-Executive Committee should come to this Board for advice; I did not insinuate that. I said that the Board should have been given some information about this matter before the Resolution was placed before us. We should have been told that the Governor-in-Executive Committee had decided to do such and such a thing.

Mr. ADAMS: I withdraw what I have said if I misunderstood what the honourable member said. If members of the Board say that they should have been told what had been decided, I take it that they buy the "Advocate" newspaper, and if they wanted more information they would buy the "Beacon". (Laughter). When the Governor appointed Mr. Justice Vaughan as a Board of Enquiry to enquire into the alleged corruption in respect of public buildings after the grave remarks made by the honourable senior member for the City, did he ask the advice of the Housing Board? And when Mr. Blackman was appointed to enquire into grievances relative to the bus concessionaires, was the Highways and Transport Board asked for their advice? I would like to say that any Government which knew that we came as near to bloodshed as we came in 1937, would have appointed this Committee to make this investigation. When merchants tell us to go on the spot ourselves, we would not be doing our duty if we did not come to the Legislature and say that it is absolutely essential for this Committee to go on the spot. There has been a contradiction among the merchants and therefore we have to decide the matter for ourselves; there are those who tell you that if this molasses is not shipped by tanker we will lose the molasses trade and there are others who say that the molasses should not be shipped by tanker. And when you have these conflicting statements you have to decide the matter for yourself. Never in all my years of public life have I heard in such a stupendous matter as this which affects the future of the molasses industry in this island, such conflicting evidence as I have heard from people of high morality engaged in this business; and I think that the Government has acted wisely and speedily in all it has done so far.

Mr. MOTTLEY: The amount of this Resolution seems to be very large, but I am voting for it. I do not envy those who are responsible for the labour situation in this colony. I am voting for this Resolution because I can assure them that they do not know all they want to know. I feel that it is right to have this enquiry; it is right for this Committee to go to Canada and get some relative facts in respect of this issue although I feel that this is only a palliative, so to speak. The molasses industry in Barbados is passing through its period of transition now and as a matter of fact, the representatives of labour or of the Union and the exporters of molasses have a really difficult job before them. The real question is that we have something to sell and we have always tried to sell it in the best market, which is Canada and Canada can buy from other sources what we have to sell. The question which must be considered is whether we can efficiently produce and export our fancy molasses to Canada in the old-fashioned way, that is, in puncheons. That is a big question—a question which affects quite a large number of workers in this country—and there are those of us who realise that in the absence of any scheme of emigration we must do everything we can to avoid putting people out of work. When we come to deal with the molasses industry, it is a question of efficient production, and on the question of export, it is a matter of how well you can compete with other countries. It must

be obvious to honourable members that there are other countries besides Barbados which produce fancy molasses, and I feel that while this Committee might be able to stave off the position for one or two years, it is a question of how cheaply and efficiently we can produce our commodity. The expenditure of this \$11,000 will satisfy the Unionists and the great number of workers in this colony who have been handling fancy molasses in an old-fashioned way for many years, that every possible step has been taken to avoid a great number of people being put out of employment. I knew what the position in this colony was just about the time when the Press had everybody in Bridgetown guessing why the honourable senior member for St. Joseph had been called back here. Those of us who are interested in the affairs of the colony made diligent enquiry to find out the reason why the honourable member had been called back and we found out that his presence was really needed because the younger hot-heads could not handle the situation. In my opinion, it is cheaper to spend this \$11,000 and have this Committee go to Canada and satisfy people that everything is being done to keep them in work; but I must say, like many other honourable members, that this is just a palliative. You cannot go on handling your fancy molasses in the old antiquated way which means more expense, and the question of efficiency, bulk purchasing and bulk shipment is nothing new to this industry. This question has now peeped in at Barbados, and eventually fancy molasses will have to be shipped in bulk. I know that this row is more a merchant's row than that of anybody else; and it is because this row affects a great percentage of the labouring people in this colony that the Government has decided to set up this Committee. I commend the action of the Government in not merely investigating the matter in Barbados and taking the word of one set of merchants as against that of another set of merchants but seeking to get the facts for themselves and see if Barbados can continue to export fancy molasses in a way which will assist a greater number of labourers. I am supporting this Resolution and I hope that for the time being at least, the position will be staved off; but I do feel that eventually it will be a question of Hobson's choice. This is a matter in which our hands are tied. I hope that the Report of this Committee will be forthcoming speedily and when it is presented the working people of this colony will be satisfied that not one set of merchants in Bridgetown has done anything to hurt them. I hope that they will further be satisfied that this money was expended so as to enable the Committee to get at the root of the matter and the Government will also be satisfied. When I say "the Government" I mean those of us who are responsible for the good government of this country, because I feel that a healthy Opposition is as much responsible for good government as the Government itself. In such important matters I feel that the Opposition should show its fullest sense of responsibility. I do not see any reason why any honourable member whether of the Opposition or otherwise, should vote against this Resolution because it is in connection with the settlement of dissatisfaction which exists among workers and the various shippers of fancy molasses. If it were a question of workers and one set of shippers disagreeing, that might have been all well and good; but when the shippers agree in this matter, it is time that steps be taken to show them the right way.

Mr. MAPP: I do not think that anybody who has heard the honourable senior member for St.

Joseph and the honourable senior member for St. Peter speak about the row which arose over this fancy molasses business would under-estimate the importance of this question. It is true that the sugar industry is the major industry in this colony, and when it is considered that only recently we voted money to send a delegation to England in connection with the sugar industry, and now we are voting money to send a delegation to Canada in connection with the same industry, we can well envisage what would happen if we had more industries. The amount of this Resolution does seem to be a big amount on the face of it; however, I do not see how the Government could avoid sending this Committee abroad. The Committee is comprised of the honourable senior member for St. Joseph who represents the interest of the workers, the Ex-Director of Agriculture—I do not know whose interest he represents, but he is employed by the sugar manufacturers—and the Hon. Mr. J. D. Chandler who represents his own interests. I do not know which side he has taken in this dispute, but it would be a great help to him when he goes to Canada and hears all the evidence, to come back and convince those who might be opposed to his point of view that they should adopt his point of view. The Leader of the House having followed the investigation in Canada will come back here and represent the interest of the colony and that of the workers at the same time. I do not know what Sir John Saint will say when he comes back. I am wondering in view of this large amount which has been asked for, if consideration was given to the question of asking the Canadian Government to assist in the matter of providing a Secretary to the delegation in Canada. Is it absolutely necessary to carry a Secretary from Barbados to take evidence on behalf of the delegation? I think that if the Canadian Government could engage the services of somebody up there as Secretary to take evidence the cost to the colony would be cheaper and it would be worth while for the Government to take advantage of such an offer if it is made. If the Canadian Government could provide a Secretary it would not be necessary for us to spend money in that direction. I am thinking of the interest of the industry and also of the Exchequer.

Mr. GARNER: In different circumstances I would oppose this Resolution. I extend my sympathy to the Leaders of the Union in this matter and it is on that account that I am not opposing this Resolution; but I am not enamoured about it. We have to stop what I believe is a row among the members of the mercantile community. What I personally think is that we are only warding off the evil day but it has got to come and the Unionists must understand, just as agriculturists have been made to understand, that you cannot stop the march of progress. Time marches on and you have got to move abreast of the times otherwise you will be left behind. In this case, I am very sorry for the Union; the Government finds itself in a dual capacity and it has got to do its best. Just as the agricultural workers are getting accustomed to mechanization in agriculture, so the time is coming when nothing but tankers will take the molasses out of the island. I like to speak what I mean; you cannot fool people. These gentlemen cannot go to Canada and tell the people there what they must do; one millionaire there will buy all the people here. The people up there make laws but we are only beggars. I know the answer which is going to be brought back; it is that you can only sell the molasses if you ship it in bulk. If I accumulate the means of driving in a Limousine you cannot tell me to drive in a donkey-cart. The leaders of the Union must stand up like men and

that brings me to the position which we occupy in this island. Let us have more living space; the place is too small for us. God moves in a mysterious way. Everything is becoming obsolete and outworn; King Sugar is losing his sweetness and the molasses is going down the same trail. We have to become big-time politicians and rise to the hour, because this little 2 x 4 Barbados cannot afford to feed its inhabitants, and I want to go to the country where God is giving me a surplus. You can put off the evil day, but I say my prediction is going to be made sure. God is working out his purpose. You must have problems; the sugar industry is too small and you cannot do anything unless you mechanize. Unless we join forces and get what is for us in the face of opposition, we will be no more. We have to face the facts; people are demanding bread and butter and King Sugar is losing his sweetness. All the sweets are in one corner and you make no attempt to break that clique. Mr. Chairman, I know the facts and I believe I am right; when a man has evidence that what he advocates is right, he will die for it. I sympathize with these gentlemen, but they cannot succeed because as time goes on we will be told by the people in Canada that it will not pay them to buy this molasses in puncheons. Businessmen look for profit and they do not put sympathy in business; they do not know sympathy, they know profit. I sympathize with the Government and I am speaking in a way to let them understand what I mean. They will have larger problems coming up just now because God has begun to move and when He begins to move nobody can stop Him. There was a time when certain things could go on, but when the time is up for God to march, nobody can stop Him. It is no miracle; it is just that God is moving on and you cannot stop Him. I am no misfit and if you remove me from here I will get on the soap-box and I will lead an army and show what is the true position. I repeat; I am very sorry for the Government and the Union, but I know what they will be told. I hope that when the answer comes back everybody will be satisfied that the Government has done what it could possibly do to get a palliative for the time being, but molasses will be shipped by tankers in the long run.

I want to say that somebody has got the land and is keeping it for certain people; all the wealth has come from the land and can you get away from the land? Everything you see comes from Mother Earth. You do not want everybody to learn Greek and Latin; you want people to till the earth. I agree with Booker T. Washington who said that people must be taught to do things with their hands and to develop their minds, not only their brains, I feel that all these things that are overtaking us are only a token of what God is going to do in the near future, because we are all His children and we are all made in His image and likeness; we do not walk like animals with our heads down, but as men we must, like other people, go forward. When I look around this island and see what is going on, I say that I have great hopes for the people of this colony and the people of this area if they will only rise up as one man and tell the Mother Country that these places are out-dated and outworn and we want expansion. You have England, Australia, Canada and New Zealand but when you talk about emigration they do not want people of colour or West Indians. They want you in time of War, but they do not want you in time of peace. This War which seems to be looming on the horizon is not a War which black people should get into unless they have

the absolute assurance that they will get something out of the stake. If all of us are fighting together, when the War is over let me have what is my share; but do not tell people that it is their victory and then they do not get anything out of it. Let people get an assurance before they go one foot. You go to a War and come back lame and cannot do anything; you get a little pittance for a short while and your neighbours contribute to your well being. We have a greater ideal than that. I will say that to anybody, whoever he is, so long as he breathes God's breath. This matter which is before us will boil down to the true facts; we are only warding off the evil day. I know the tight spot in which the Government finds itself and it is willing to do the right thing—hence this Committee. The Government themselves feel sorry for the future and they do not want the onus to rest on them that they did nothing in the matter. I repeat that you cannot prevent time from marching on especially when God is working out His purpose.

Mr. LEWIS: I think that this is a situation which might be described as some good coming out of attempted evil. If it had not been for the merchants trying to make more profit, the honourable senior member for St. Peter would not have been able to make the speech which he has made. If it is regarded that the amount of this Resolution is a big amount, it must be remembered that it has to be spent in the dollar area and a good portion of it will represent exchange. I do not agree with my colleague that because the amount of the Resolution is a big amount the workers will be satisfied; in these entire proceedings the only way the workers will be satisfied is if the honourable senior member for St. Joseph was on the Committee. (Mr. MOTTLEY: He is on the Committee). For the benefit of my colleague I will say that the Committee comprises the honourable senior member for St. Joseph, the Hon. J. D. Chandler, Sir John Saint and Mr. Deane as Secretary. If the honourable senior member for St. Joseph is a member of the Committee, the workers will be satisfied. If this molasses has got to be shipped in bulk, the honourable member will tell the workers that that is inevitable and they will believe it. The Fancy Molasses Control and Marketing Board gave permission for 600,000 gallons of molasses to be manufactured and something should have been said as to how the molasses should be marketed; therefore this situation has been caused through a lack of foresight. I do not agree that this is a question of one set of merchants against another set of merchants; I believe that two or three merchants said: "I will bell the cat" and the others said: "Go ahead and do it." In respect of this Committee going up to Canada, and taking their Secretary, I think the suggestion made by the honourable junior member for St. Thomas is one which should be considered, but honourable members are sneering at it. The Canadian Trade Commissioners have duty-free privileges in this colony and they may be inclined to furnish somebody who will be able to put you on the right contact in Canada. But you are taking a Secretary who is going to contact people who are buying molasses and he will work for Plantations Ltd. when we are paying for him out of the Treasury. That is how it looks to me. I believe that the Secretary is already in the employ of Plantations Ltd. so that you are taking him up there to make contact for Plantations Ltd. We have it in the Speech from the Throne that we have had the services of Mr. Tanner of Alberta and I say that we should have a West Indian Trade Commissioner in Canada together with the Canadian Trade Commis-

sioners. As to the personal of this Committee, if Sir John Saint comes back here and says anything, a few people will believe it, if the Honourable Mr. Chandler comes back and says anything nobody will believe it; but if the honourable senior member for St. Joseph comes back here and says that he has gone very carefully into the matter and he sees clearly that time marches on and the molasses will have to be shipped in bulk, every worker will be convinced. We are investigating the conditions under which the buyers will buy our molasses, and since the tanker did not take away any of it, I hear that the molasses is going up in little cans and two or three other sizes and the people are extremely glad to get it. I do not agree that the honourable senior member for St. Joseph can go up to Canada and make the right contact in the time we have heard; he knows where to find the merchants here, but he will not know where to find the people in Canada. I feel that in this matter we need some assistance from impartial persons so that in the multitude of counsel and investigation there will be some wisdom.

Mr. CRAWFORD: One fact has emerged from this debate and it is that everybody knows that sooner or later we shall have to ship fancy molasses by tanker. Apparently the only people who do not know that are the members of a particular Union, and therefore this delegation will go to Canada and come back to tell the members of this Union that we shall have to ship fancy molasses by tanker. If that be the case, can anybody tell me why this delegation must have four members on it? Why should this colony be saddled with the expenditure of \$11,000 to send Sir John Saint, the honourable J. D. Chandler, the honourable senior member for St. Joseph and the Secretary of this Committee to Canada for them to come back and tell this island and this particular Union what we already know, namely, that the molasses will have to be shipped by tanker? Assuming that you have the honourable senior member for St. Joseph as a responsible man, you do not want both the honourable Mr. Chandler and Sir John Saint; one of those two persons at least is sufficient. I am willing to concede that you will not be able to send a representative of the workers alone, and if you have to send a delegation you should make that delegation as small as possible and save as much money as you can. What I object to is this: we are told that if it had not been for the taking of certain action there would have been bloodshed in this colony, there would have been disturbances worse than what took place in 1937 and the challenge that you either vote for this Resolution or you play into my hands. How did this whole issue come about? Before the tanker came to this colony to take a single gallon of molasses, the streets in Bridgetown were dug up with the permission of the Authorities to lay a pipeline to put molasses from a bond into the tanker. The tanker came into the harbour and the Harbour Master gave permission for it to come inside to be loaded with molasses, and it would have been loaded with the molasses, there having been made a previous arrangement for the payment of a certain amount of money, equal to the amount which would have been expended on the shipment in the normal way, into Union funds. (Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: That is not true). The people who have more information than I have, can put their more accurate knowledge before the public, and when they have done so, let me put the source of my information before the public also. The position is really this: if the molasses shippers in Bridgetown had got away on this issue, that tanker would have left with a shipment of molasses and that molasses would have been in Canada to-day. It

is well known by molasses shippers in Bridgetown to-day that one member of this Committee actually told them: "You will have to ship molasses by tanker: we will not allow Evelyn Roach to steal a march and leave the others behind." And the joke is that some of the same molasses shippers who were making this big row about the arrival of this tanker, were quite prepared to ship molasses by tanker; they had consulted engineers and they were prepared to lay their own pipe lines next year. It is only that Evelyn Roach stole a march this year. This whole issue has been changed from a dispute between the shippers of molasses into an effort to protect the workers: if people believe that those who ship molasses do not know what this issue is all about, they are living in a fool's paradise. It is common knowledge that some of the rank and file of the Union started this whole issue; it is common knowledge what influence was brought to bear on them to adopt the attitude which they adopted, and it is common knowledge that members of the rank and file of the Union are still waiting until this delegation returns to this colony. They are waiting to hear the official reaction to the whole question before they say what they know about the situation and the part they played in it. My attitude towards the whole matter is that we need not send this delegation to Canada in order to satisfy either the Union or the community that the time is coming or has come when molasses will have to be shipped by tanker; and at least let the shippers of the molasses pay one half of the cost of this delegation going to Canada. There is no earthly reason why the Government should have to defray the whole cost of this delegation going to Canada. My colleague, the honourable senior member for St. Philip claims that the people should be told the truth and the truth will set them free; and he added that he did not want to say everything he intended to say, but when this whole matter is over the workers will be told what they should have been told from the beginning, that is, that the molasses will have to be shipped by tanker. And are we asked to spend \$11,000 in order to tell the workers so? Admittedly we have to get the information at first hand; we want to send our own men on the spot, but must we send the whole Committee? This Committee cannot bring back one iota of additional information which the shippers have not got to-day and which is not available to the Government itself from the same source. In this respect, the remarks of the honourable junior member for the City are worth while recalling; even if the situation were not what it actually is at the moment, pressure could be brought to bear and advice could be given from here to Canada which will result in what all of us know will be the final outcome.

Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the amount of this Resolution be reduced by \$5,500 and if nobody supports that motion, it is a matter for the Committee. I am at perfect liberty to take whatever steps I feel will best indicate my attitude towards any given matter. I am doubtful as to whether there can be any general support on the part of the public for the passing of the entire amount asked for in this Resolution for the purpose for which the amount has been asked. Unless the whole community has been affected by the disease of Squandermania we should not be willing to expend Government funds without paying any attention whatever to the result on the financial position of the colony. It has been said that when rogues fall out honest men get a fair deal: nobody is suggesting that all the shippers of fancy molasses in Bridgetown are rogues. I am only using the axiom

for the purpose of saying that if it had not been for the fact that there was this big difference of opinion between the shippers of fancy molasses in Bridgetown there would have been far less possibility of the position of the workers in this industry being as well protected as it is to-day. Out of evil sometimes comes good and sometimes it may be true to say that people who are not directly concerned with matters of this sort are easily imposed upon and they really are not always acquainted with the true facts of the case. Of course, it is quite easy to be wise after the event. What I think should be admitted publicly is that perhaps some statement should have been made to the effect that when permission was given even indirectly or by implication for the shipment of the molasses, it was not completely foreseen how disadvantageous that might eventually have been to the interest of the workers involved. Everybody is not infallible, anybody can make mistakes; but I am not going to sit here and be told: "You either vote for this Resolution or I set the workers at your head because it is their battle which we are fighting." We have been told too many times that rather than this being a battle it is merely a smokescreen through which you may be able to get to tell the workers of this colony: "The time has come when we shall have to find other work for you or absorb you in some other industry; but the shipment of fancy molasses in the future will go forward by tanker." I am merely quoting in so far as that statement is concerned; but I do think that if that attitude had been adopted there would bound to have been less dissatisfaction on the part of people concerned in this particular matter, the people whom we are told to-day these steps are being taken to protect and represent.

Mr. WILKINSON: I know that the hour is late but I am asking for a few minutes to speak on this matter before we adjourn. Fortunately I do not buy or ship molasses. The last few speakers have adopted the attitude that we are sending up delegates to Canada knowing that they have a hopeless case. I do not take that view; I think that every member around this Table must know that in the past the syrup industry has been of great value to Barbados, particularly to the workers who are engaged in that industry. It is a well-known fact that more labour is employed in making three puncheons of syrup than in the manufacture of one ton of sugar and that is why we have been very zealous in trying to maintain the syrup industry of Barbados. When you come to talk about shipping molasses by tanker you immediately lose your personality and individuality in the industry. Once the molasses goes into a tanker, it is commonsense that you cannot follow it any further. What becomes of the molasses after it has been put in a tanker we do not know. I am one of those who think that there are a considerable number of retailers in Canada who will favour the importation of Barbados syrup in packages, and I am hoping that when our delegation gets to Canada they will find that what I have said is correct. Barbados syrup has been known for many years and it has cost thousands and thousands of dollars to build up the name of Barbados syrup by advertising it in Canada and the United States of America. That advertising has been paid for by the producer and the exporter. There is undoubtedly a certain flavour attached to Barbados syrup — a flavour which cannot be obtained from syrup made in any other West Indian Island. That may be due to the fact that there is something in the soil, but what I have said is a fact. I think it would be a very sorry day for Barbados when

we have to ship our fancy molasses in bulk and find that when it reaches Canada before it is landed it has been blended with something else and our name for Barbados syrup has gone. Let me quote an example; we all know Ross' Ginger Ale which is to-day very expensive. Ross' claim that they can only manufacture that Ginger Ale in Belfast because of some particular flavour of the water in Belfast, and we claim a particular flavour for our syrup in Barbados. Sixty years ago I was the last of a large family and we had a small income and we used to insist on buying Lisle's syrup in the green tin because that syrup had a name and a particular flavour, although at that time you could get other syrup at a cheaper price. I maintain that there are people in Canada who want Barbados molasses, Bema brand, and if the molasses is shipped in tankers the brand has gone. I think that we should do all we can to maintain our shipment of molasses in puncheons and I hope the delegation will be successful. I am one of those who think that this delegation will make a show and I think they will come back with something if they are going up to endeavour to get the true facts. I beg the honourable senior member for St. Joseph to listen to all sides in Canada and in the United States. He will hear that if we can produce anything cheaper we will get in the market, but that will not be for our good. If we can maintain our present market at the present price, that is the right thing to do. I am voting for this Resolution and I hope that this delegation will be successful in doing what I think they intend to do, that is, to maintain our present trade with Canada and the United States of America. If we ship molasses by tanker we will be in competition with other people and the biggest port which has the greatest facilities will gain the market. At present we have no Deep Water Harbour and we would have to employ small tankers to come to Barbados and commonsense will tell you that it is more expensive to ship in small tankers than in big ones. It is also common knowledge that in the past we have obtained more than the equivalent of sugar in the price of syrup and all that will have gone as soon as you ship by tanker. I wish the delegation every success. (Cheers.)

Mr. ADAMS: I am rising to congratulate the honourable junior member for St. James on having made one of the ablest speeches to which we have listened during his parliamentary career. The honourable member is not afraid to say things which may be unpleasant, and the honourable senior member for St. Philip feels that he must say things as he sees them. When I spoke at first I was at pains to say that some people assured us that if that shipment of molasses had not gone forward we would be beginning to lose our molasses trade; and we have also been assured that there was no immediate danger around the corner. The honourable junior member for St. James has said something of which I am aware from evidence which has been given to the Committee, and I wish to assure honourable members that in so far as the information which we have had at this end is concerned, it bears out what the honourable member has said, and we may even find that other methods of shipping might be available to us without our losing our trade. I do not know whether figures were given before, but there are four big companies in Canada and 173 small ones; the small people fear that if molasses were shipped by tanker they would be squeezed out and the business would be in the hands of the four companies. There is no foregone conclusion as to the future of the molasses trade. The honourable junior member for St. James has put his points in a calm way and it is of immense importance to us to try and preserve

the position which Barbados molasses has gained in Canada. I have been appointed as a member of this Committee because of my position in the Trade Union Movement, it is true, but also to advise the Government in the interest of the sugar industry in this colony. We want to profit by seeing those who prefer Barbados molasses to any other molasses and we also want to ensure that all the sweets are not available to those who take sugar and melt it down and use it as syrup. There are some unscrupulous people who take Barbados syrup and dilute it and it is all the more necessary that steps be taken in this matter. I want to emphasize that it is of the utmost importance that the necessary steps be taken knowing that the people in Canada are not united on this question. It is not a question of letters and telegrams being sent so that the people in Canada will be primed beforehand of what to tell us; there is a conflict between retailers and it is for us to find out things.

One last point in reply to the honourable junior member for St. Philip. I am going to leave him to the tender mercies of the honourable senior member for St. Peter who is more capable of handling him this afternoon than I; but I wish to say that I have heard some of the most preposterous and untrue statements which the honourable member could easily have discovered to be untrue. He said that permission was given for the tanker to come in and so on.

Mr. CRAWFORD: I said that permission was given for the tanker to come into the harbour.

Mr. ADAMS: This is not war time and the Harbour Master would have no authority to prevent any vessel from coming into the harbour. The honourable member implied that the Harbour Master permitted the tanker to come in and the Government had specifically given permission to enable people to ship the molasses.

Mr. CRAWFORD: I said that the Authorities gave permission to dig a pipeline along the street and the Harbour Master gave permission for the tanker to come into the inner harbour. The tanker could not have come in there without his permission.

Mr. ADAMS: The honourable member specifically said that the tanker came into the harbour to take away molasses; but I will tell him something now. I interviewed in the lobby of this House Mr. Newman, Mr. Grace and his son more than once and assured them that the molasses was not leaving this island. I was asked what was to be done and I said: Send a cable to your people not to let the tanker leave. They brought down the tanker nonetheless they knew that the molasses was not leaving the island so that if the Harbour Master gave permission for the tanker to come alongside, he did so because he could not help it. There is no authority for any Harbour Master to prevent a tanker from coming into the inner harbour. I told these people in the lobby of this House that the most I could do was to advise them to cable then and cut their shipping losses by not allowing the tanker to come down. I was surprised to hear that the tanker had come down. I do not want to say anything more; if they chose to bring down the tanker they were cutting their own throats. I said what I have said because I was directly concerned with these people and I warned them that they could have cut down their losses.

Mr. ALLDER: On listening to the remarks of the hon. senior member for St. Peter, I got the impression that this delegation is nothing more than a band of salesmen going up to Canada to sell this produce. I have been given the impression that this is another sluice gate which leads from the Treasury. What we have heard during the past number of weeks since this tanker came here for molasses gives the impression that there is a war between the producers

of fancy molasses being fought on the political battlefield and financed by the Government. Sir John Saint is really doing a good service to the Sugar Producers' Association and also to the colony and he is getting the Government to do whatever the Sugar Producers' Association wants it to do. Considering the annual expenditure in the interest of the sugar industry, one can easily come to the conclusion that this industry is getting as much money spent on it as any of the branches of social services. I am not forgetting that not only is the industry subsidized and people are permitted to bring in machinery free of duty, but that the profits accumulating from the industry are going to the various factory owners and sugar exporters. But when it comes to a question of sending a delegation or representative anywhere these people do not say: "We are going to foot a part of the bill;" the Government must be asked to forward all the money that may be required. Mr. Chairman, I am in sympathy with the plight of the workers who have something to do with the sugar industry, but I cannot see where the interest of the workers will have any final decision or influence on this matter. Time marches on and therefore what we are trying to prevent from happening will ultimately have to happen. I feel that this delegation should not be too costly and its members should be reduced as suggested by the honourable junior member for St. Philip. I go further and say that we have a Trade Commissioner in Canada who represents the West Indies and from him you can get the necessary information which you want. However, in case that you do not want to rely on the information which this Officer can send you, and you care to send up a delegation, I do not see why two persons should not be sent so as to save a part of the expenditure. In my opinion, the honourable senior member for St. Joseph is quite capable of representing the side of labour if labour must be represented, and either Sir John Saint or the Hon. Mr. J. D. Chandler is capable of representing the sugar industry. But I do not see any change in a decision which has partly gone through and which you might have to face in the future. However honourable members may be looking at this matter, this sum of \$11,000 is still a tidy sum; and, to use the words of the honourable senior member for St. Joseph, we have to be careful about increasing our expenditure until we have carried out a fiscal survey of this colony. That gives me the feeling that the finances of the colony are not what they should be and therefore in duty bound we have to be careful in our commitments especially of this nature. I am obligated to second the amendment which has been moved by the honourable junior member for St. Philip, not that I did not think of a reduction of the Resolution before the honourable member made the motion, but I have marked out on the addendum here the provision for such an amendment. I think it is logical for us to try to be as careful as possible in this matter. When mechanical implements were brought in some years ago to be used in the sugar industry, the howl which went up against their introduction was shortly killed by their being allowed to come in in greater numbers; to-day we find that they are being used all over the island and in some respects labour has been displaced. Whatever we do know as regards competition, in a short while we are going to see tankers coming here to take away molasses in bulk. That is not what we would prefer, but it is something which those who have influence and power want, and so long as they want it they are going to get it even if you have to swallow it as you would swallow a bitter pill. Nevertheless I do not see why you should not try to approach this matter from a more intelligent angle—an angle which cannot be considered as being a great strain on the Treasury. It does seem as if a thing becomes right not on account

of its principle but because of the persons who sponsor it; I feel that the position should be the other way around. As some honourable members have said—and I am convinced about it—the amount of this Resolution is too high to be spent on a fruitless project. We have seen where individuals come out from Canada to represent greater interests than the local sugar industry and they have had success; here this is a case which I feel does not need as many as four persons to be sent up and I hope that the motion for the reduction of the amount of the Resolution will be supported. I feel that it is unnecessary to spend this amount of money on this project; I think the amount should be reduced by sending fewer members on the delegation. For the reasons I have given, I beg to second the motion of the honourable junior member for St. Philip.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: The hon. member who has just sat down does not know anything about what he was talking, but I will deal with him on a more appropriate occasion. He has to second everything that the hon. junior member for St. Philip brings in here. As regards the hon. junior member for St. Philip, he is not now in his seat but he will read the debates whenever they are printed. The hon. member talks about rogues and thieves falling out, but that is a statement which he should keep to himself. When he insinuates that members of the Union have done something about which they should be ashamed, I am telling this Committee that even before the question of shipping molasses by tanker came up, a gentleman wanted to ship molasses in steel drums and the workers made a protest to the Union and this gentleman was told that he could not send out the molasses in steel drums. Up to the present moment this gentleman still has his steel drums which he has not yet shipped. It is not our business to tell the hon. junior member for St. Philip anything because he has been denounced by the people as representing the workers' interest. His Union is not on the register and he has been rejected not only in the industrial line but also in the political field. When he is talking about rogues and thieves falling out, that belongs to himself.

Mr. CRAWFORD: On a point of order. I am absolutely sure that from every point of view the hon. member will know far more about rogues and thieves than I would know.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: What is the hon. member speaking on?

Mr. CRAWFORD: I rose on a point of order. I am yet to say what the hon. member has said that I have said. What I am saying is this: from every point of view the honourable member will be more concerned with the behaviour of rogues and thieves than I could hope to be.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: The hon. member is qualifying what he has said.

Mr. CRAWFORD: I said that when rogues and thieves fall out honest people get their due; and I said that there are not all rogues and thieves in the molasses business.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: What is the use of using the axiom about rogues and thieves falling out? The hon. member will have more on his conscience about that matter than I would have. I would like to say that the Workers' Union as it is constituted is an Organization which meets every Wednesday afternoon to discuss business, and there must be a majority decision of the Union before anything is done. If the honourable member really wanted to know something about the action of the Union in respect of this matter he could have had the information that long before the tanker arrived in Barbados, as the honourable

senior member for St. Joseph has said, the shippers of this molasses had every opportunity of cancelling their orders. But they did not want to do that; the honourable junior member for St. Philip could have gone to the Labour Commissioner and got his information instead of making the insinuations which he has made. We do not want the good work of this island to be disrupted. As regards the honourable senior member for St. John, he is a self-appointed Sir Oracle; he knows what we of the Union do not know. Like the honourable junior member for St. Philip he knows that the molasses will have to go by tanker, but we do not know that.

Mr. CRAWFORD: I said that people are claiming that the molasses must be shipped by tanker, and that I was merely quoting. I know nothing about it.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: The honourable member knows what we do not know. I should just like to say that when the honourable member makes any insinuation about any official of the Barbados Workers' Union, the position of the Union in this matter is like a book which anybody can read. But the honourable member is forever making statements which cannot bear examination and his opinion has cost him a lot.

Mr. GARNER: I beg to move that the question be now put.

Mr. WILKINSON: I beg to second that.

The question that the question be now put was put and resolved in the affirmative, the following division being taken:—

Ayes: Mr. SPEAKER, Messrs. MILLER, BRYAN, COX, F. L. WALCOTT, ADAMS, GARNER, MOTTLEY, WILKINSON, REECE and Dr. CUMMINS—11.

Noes: Messrs. CRAWFORD and AILDER—2.

The question that this Resolution be reduced by \$5,500 was put and resolved in the negative without division.

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

On motions of Mr. ADAMS, seconded by Dr. CUMMINS, the CHAIRMAN reported the passing of three Resolutions in Committee.

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On motions of Mr. ADAMS, seconded by Dr. CUMMINS in each case, the Resolutions passed in Committee were read a first and second time and agreed to.

ADDRESS RE PAYMENT TO ACTING DEPUTY CLERK AND GRATUITY FOR FORMER MARSHAL

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker,—I ask leave to deal with an Address relative to the payment of Mr. D. A. Banfield who acted as Deputy Clerk during the illness of the Clerk, and to the grant of a gratuity to Mr. J. W. Parris, the former Marshal of this House.

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

Mr. ADAMS: I am sure that the House will mark its sense of appreciation of the length of service which the former Marshal has rendered to this House by agreeing to this Address which asks that he be given a gratuity. This Address also asks that a Resolution be sent down for the payment of Mr. Banfield who acted as Deputy Clerk during the illness of the Clerk. The Address reads as follows:—

*The House of Assembly
to*

His Excellency the Governor

The House of Assembly respectfully request Your Excellency to send down for their favourable consideration a Resolution to provide for the pay-

ment to Mr. Dave Arrundell Banfield of the sum of Twelve Hundred Dollars as a Gratuity for six months' service rendered them as Deputy Clerk during the recent leave of their Clerk as well as to provide a Gratuity for their late Marshal, Mr. James William Parris, for his thirty-five years of service in his post to be calculated at the same figure as is granted by the Government of this Island to its employees.

I think that there will be general agreement as to the amount of money in both instances. Mr. Banfield has had to give up his practice when he acted as Deputy Clerk, and he is paid as if he were Deputy Clerk. In the case of Mr. Parris, the amount has been calculated on the basis of a month's salary for each year's service, so that 35 years' service would be equivalent to 35 months' salary. I beg to move that this Address do now pass; I feel sure that the House will pass it unanimously and we will reward these two Officers—one for his long and faithful service and the other for stepping into the breach at an unfortunate moment.

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to second that.

Mr. MILLER: This is a case of granting a gratuity to the former Marshal of this House who has served for 35 years. When you think of a man serving for that period of time, you know that in that service he has given the best years of his life. I am happy to know that I happen to be in this Assembly when this Address asking that a gratuity be paid to Mr. Parris is being passed. I am pleased about this matter for several reasons; I think that it is our duty when a person has served faithfully for 35 years as Mr. Parris has done, to see that he is given an amount by means of which he will be assisted in keeping soul and body together during the last years of his life. I want to place on record my gratitude for whatever is being done in the interest of Mr. Parris.

Mr. REECE: I feel that every member of this House who knows the service which Mr. Parris has rendered both as a member of the House and as Marshal, will be pleased that the Government has decided to reward him for his services. Mr. Parris is a man who has a great wealth of parliamentary experience and he has put that experience at the disposal of the House. It is indeed gratifying to me and to his large circle of friends to know that his services as Marshal of this House have not been overlooked. With regard to Mr. Banfield, he has had to make a sacrifice so as to attend this House and therefore it is fit and proper that he should be remunerated for the manner in which he has filled the office of Deputy Clerk. I am sure that each and every member of this House will be satisfied that the Government has decided to remunerate him in a manner similar to that in which the Deputy Clerk is being remunerated.

Mr. ADAMS: I should not like the Deputy Clerk to feel that the House has not appreciated the services which he has rendered and which were more onerous when he acted as Clerk than his services as Deputy Clerk. I think it is only fair to him to say publicly that the members of the House are grateful to him; he tries to keep us in the straight path although he is not always successful.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I just want to say this: The Clerk receives \$400 a month and the Deputy Clerk receives \$200 a month. Mr. Banfield acted for the Deputy Clerk and you pay him at the rate of \$200 a month. If the Deputy Clerk has acted as Clerk I think that he should be given some remuneration too, because it means that he had to devote more time in acting in the capacity of Clerk. What is done in the case where the Deputy acts for the Head of the Department in abnormal circumstances should obtain here; I think that some consideration

should also be given to the Deputy Clerk who had to do the work of the Clerk. I am sure that we would not like a person to work and not remunerate him. I am told about the conditions under which the Deputy Clerk acted for the Clerk, but nevertheless the work had to be done. The Deputy Clerk might not have had to attend the office from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. but the work was done.

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 senior member for St. Joseph to present this Address.

Mr. ADAMS: As Your Honour pleases.

THE ADJOURNMENT

Mr. ADAMS: In moving the adjournment of the House I should like to inform honourable mem-

bers that it is the intention of the Government to begin the consideration of the Bill to provide for the regulation of Public Utilities and to refer it to a Select Committee on its having passed the second reading. The Government will not ask honourable members to remain here after 7 p.m. next Tuesday unless the circumstances are similar to what they were this afternoon. I cannot suggest that we take any long vacation now. I beg to move that this House do now adjourn to Tuesday next, the 15th day of August, 1950, at 3 p.m.

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to second that.

The question that this House do now adjourn to Tuesday next, the 15th day of August, 1950, at 3 p.m. was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER adjourned the House accordingly.