THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SESSION 1950—51

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 18th July, 1950.

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

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*), Messrs. T. O. BRYAN, R. G. MAPP, D. A. FOSTER, M. E. COX, F. L. WALCOTT, G. H. ADAMS, B.A., J. E. T. BRANCKER, H. A. DOWDING, L. E. R. GILL, F. C. GODDARD, and W. W. REECE, K.C.

Prayers are read.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting which was held on the 4th July, 1950, and the Proceedings of the meeting which was to be held on the 11th July, 1950, having been circulated are taken as read and confirmed.

Mr. BETHELL enters the House and takes his seat.

MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker,—I have the honour to present from His Excellency the Governor Messages as follows:—

MESSAGE No. 22 of 1950 informing the House that His Excellency has assented to, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty the King, certain Acts.

MESSAGE No. 23/1950.

His Excellency the Governor
To
The Honourable The House of Assembly

His Excellency the Governor has the honour to refer to his Message No. 19/1948 of the 24th August, 1948, on the subject of the selection of two unofficial members of the British Section of the Caribbean Commission, and to the Address of the Honourable House of Assembly dated 5th October, 1948, in reply thereto.

2. At the last meeting of the Commission, one of the unofficial members was unable to be present, with the result that the British Section was under strength. To obviate this, the British Co-Chairman has proposed, and the Secretary of State has agreed, that the unofficial British delegates to the next West Indian Conference should be asked to elect not only two unofficial members for appointment to the Commission but, in addition, an alternate for each, who should attend when the substantive member is unable to do so.

L. SAVAGE,
Governor.

Government House,
Bridgetown,
13th July, 1950.

PAPERS LAID

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

"The University College of the West Indies, Exhibition Regulations, 1950."

Report on the working of the Barbados General Hospital for the year 1948—49.

Statement showing Gross Customs and Excise Receipts for two months ended 31st May, 1950.

Statement of Advances by the Government of Barbados and amount received from His Majesty's Government under the provisions of the Colonial Development and Welfare Act for period ended 31st March, 1950, in respect of the several schemes sanctioned by the Legislature.

Mr. MOTTLEY enters the House and takes his seat.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting which was held on the 27th June, 1950, having been circulated are taken as read and confirmed.

NOTICES

Government Notices are as follows:—

Mr. ADAMS: Resolution to place the sum of $3,000 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. 10, which form the Schedule to this Resolution.

Mr. ADAMS: Resolution to place the sum of $5,000 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee for the purpose of making loans to two students to enable them to read for degrees in Arts at the University College of the West Indies.

Mr. COX: Resolution to approve of the Book of Reference and Plan of the proposed extension of Waterworks in the parish of St. Michael.

Mr. ADAMS: Draft Bill to amend the Police Act, 1908.

Mr. ADAMS: Draft Bill to amend the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1933.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: Draft Bill to amend the Sale of Cotton Act, 1906.

Mr. ADAMS: Draft Bill to authorise the payment of an additional pension to William O'Brien Payne.

Mr. ADAMS: Bill to authorise the Executive Committee to exchange certain lands, the property of the Government of this Island.

Mr. ADAMS: Of my intention to move, later in the day, the suspension of Rules 88 and 89 in order to deal with the Resolutions for the sums of $3,000 and $5,000 respectively, of which I gave notice a moment or two ago.

Other Notices are given as follows:—

Mr. REECE: Of the following Address:—

The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency the Governor

The House of Assembly respectfully desires to point out to His Excellency the Governor the need of more Post Offices and Libraries in the rural districts of this Island.

The House of Assembly therefore requests that His Excellency should draw this need to the attention of the Governor-in-Executive Committee and ask the said Governor-in-Executive Committee to send down to the House of Assembly a resolution for such sums of money as the Governor-in-Executive Committee thinks necessary to establish such Post Offices and Libraries in the rural districts of this Island.

Mr. GODDARD: Of the following Address:—

The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency the Governor

The House of Assembly respectfully begs to draw the attention of His Excellency the Governor to the fact that a shed for the use of fishermen and vendors of fish is needed at Silver Sands in the parish of Christ Church.

The House of Assembly therefore prays His Excellency the Governor to take such steps as are necessary to send down a resolution for a sum of money to the House of Assembly to provide for the cost of erecting at Silver Sands, Christ Church, a shed to be used for the purposes mentioned above.

QUESTIONS

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

Whether Government is aware of the continued dissatisfaction of Peasant Proprietors in connection with the weighing of their canes at a considerable number of the sugar factories in this island?

2. If the answer to the above question is "yes", will Government take action whereby there shall be continuously on duty at each sugar factory in this island throughout the reaping season, either

(a) A government itinerant Cane Inspector, or
(b) A government paid cane weigher, or
(c) A memebr of the Police Force or other Public Officer thoroughly versed in the operation of local scale beams.

Mr. L. E. SMITH: To enquire of the senior member of the Executive Committee present at the next meeting of the House of Assembly:—

Whether Government is aware that persons other than those engaged in the Sugar Industry are in need of assistance, such as is provided by the Labour Welfare Fund for persons engaged in that Industry?

2. If the answer to the above question is in the affirmative, will Government establish a scheme whereby similar provision may be made for needy workers, other than those engaged in the Sugar Industry of this Island.

SELECT COMMITTEE'S REPORT

Mr. Cox presents the Report of the Select Committee appointed to draft a Reply to His Excellency's Message No. 21 of 1950 relating to this Colony's accession to the "Relief Goods" Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom and the Government of the United States of America which arises from the Economic Co-operation Agreement.

The honourable member gives notice of his intention to proceed with the consideration of this Report later in the day.

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME

On the motion of Mr. ADAMS, seconded by Mr. Cox, a Bill to amend the Police Act, 1908, is read a first time

On the motion of Mr. ADAMS, seconded by Mr. Cox, A Bill to amend the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1933, is read a first time.

On the motion of Mr. F. L. WALCOTT, seconded by Mr. Cox, a Bill to amend the Sale of Cotton Act, 1906, is read a first time.

On the motion of Mr. ADAMS, seconded by Mr. Cox, a Bill to authorize the payment of an additional pension to William O'Brien Payne is read a first time.

On the motion of Mr. ADAMS, seconded by Mr. Cox, a Bill to authorize the Governor-in-Executive Committee to exchange certain lands, the property of the Goverment of this island, is read a first time.

REPLY TO HIS EXCELLENCY'S MESSAGE *RE* RELIEF GOODS AGREEMENT

Mr. COX: Mr. Speaker,— Before you call the Orders of the Day I beg to move that the consideration of the draft Reply to His Excellency's Message No. 21/1950 relating to the Relief Goods Agreement be taken as the first Order of the Day.

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

The question that the Select Committee's draft Reply to His Excellency's Message No. 21/1950 be taken as the first Order of the Day is put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Mr. COX: Mr. Speaker,— The draft Reply reads as follows:—

The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency the Governor

The House of Assembly have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's Message No. 21/1950 relating to the "Relief Goods" Agreement.

The House agree to accede to the Relief Package Agreement mentioned in Your Excellency's Message.

The House respectfully suggest that proper provision be made to ensure that no misuse is made of the Scheme.

This is in reply to a Message which was sent to this House by His Excellency the Governor about two weeks ago enquiring whether this branch of the Legislature accedes to the Relief Package Agreement which has been entered into by the United Kingdom Government and the Government of the United States of America. If the Legislature accede to this Agreement, this colony will be undertaking to allow certain types of relief goods from the United States—the types are set out in His Excellency's Message—to enter duty free. The Select Committee after obtaining the advice of the Colonial Postmaster and the Comptroller of Customs who agreed that the proposal is workable, recommends the House to accede to the Agreement. I, therefore, beg to move that the abovementioned Address which embodies the terms of the Committee's Report, be the Reply to the Message of His Excellency the Governor.

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

Mr. MILLER enters the House and takes his seat.

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Speaker,— I regret that I did not have the opportunity of reading the Select Committee's Report before because although they state that they hope that steps will be taken to see that only those articles which are agreed to will be admitted, yet I think that the scope is very wide indeed. I have made certain enquiries and I am glad to be able to state that as far as local organisations to whom relief goods are consigned in bulk from recognized charitable organisations in the United States are concerned, they are doing very useful work and with them we have no fault to find. But when it comes to private individuals in the U.S.A. sending articles to private individuals in this island I think that the scope is so wide that no steps taken by the Government will be able to prevent misuse of the privilege. It is proposed that relief packages up to 22 lbs. in weight sent by individuals in the United States to individuals in this island should be admitted duty free and that such packages can contain not only clothing and food but also medical supplies and soap. What is to prevent people in Barbados from receiving duty free all sorts of luxurious articles from their families in the United States—articles such as are prohibited from being imported into this colony from hard currency areas—as a result of our acceding to this Agreement? To permit such articles to come in free of duty would savour of discrimination against many persons who cannot now import those articles. I cannot think of any steps which the Government could take to prevent misuse of this privilege, however good its intentions may be. I should very much like to hear other honourable members express their opinions on the proposal. Those of the commercial community with whom I discussed the matter are of the opinion that the loophole is so big that great misuse will be made of this privilege if we accede to the Agreement. I admit that 22 lbs. is the maximum weight but a person can receive a parcel to-day and another parcel tomorrow and another parcel the next day and in that way he would receive duty free any amount of goods from different individuals in the United States.

Mr. LEWIS: Mr. Speaker,— This is an Agreement by which something which already exists and is provided for by an amendment to our Customs Tariff Act is to be extended. Relief goods—old clothing, medical supplies, and things of that sort—are now to be sent from one individual in the United States to another individual in this island and it is proposed that they should be admitted free of duty. Undoubtedly, that would be a benefit to the poor people of this colony. I say, Sir, that it is regrettable that we have to publicly admit in a British colony that we are so poverty stricken that we are unable to look after our poor and are seeking the assistance of a foreign Power. We have to publicly acknowledge that we are in that position and that we are willing to accede to this proposal. Now, so far as the safeguards are concerned, the senior member for Christ Church has said that he does not know if the Government can take any steps to prevent any misuse of this privilege. The Government may not be able to take steps to prevent all misuse but it certainly can take steps to prevent some misuse and that is where the difficulty comes in. There was a time in this Country, I understand, when parcels of clothing were allowed to come from the United States free of duty and it was discovered that some misuse was made of the privilege and it was stopped. I would like to tell the senior member for Christ Church that if he, for instance, got one of these parcels I am quite sure that the Post Office would not let him get it duty free. It is a matter of relief goods for people who are unable, for instance, to supply themselves with those things out here but everything would not be allowed to come in as old clothing. I do not know what they are going to do about the medical supplies. Perhaps the uneasiness about the medical supplies is that anybody here who has medical supplies to sell may not like medical supplies to come in duty free; that may be the point. However, so far as the working of this assistance is concerned, the Select Commitee took steps to know what can be done and they were assured that it would necessarily throw more work on the Post Office because the goods would be certified over there as relief goods and the person receiving them over here would need to be certified at this end. Unless that was foolproof I am quite sure that the Barbados Post Office or Customs would not hand over the parcel; so that in those instances in which you may not be able to check everything, it only means that the Government would have to spend more money than the duty it would have got. I feel that with the Servants we have in the Post Office and Customs we can give this proposal a fair trial and it would be in the interests of the Government to see that there is no misuse of it.

Mr. MILLER: Mr. Speaker,— This proposal relates to old clothing and I fail to see why it should be the subject of a debate. To be frank, I hope that the House would decide the issue without any further discussion. The medical supplies which would be received from time to time would help poor, sick people and no Socialist Government should want to collect taxes in such circumstances. I am imploring honourable members to let this Address pass without any further discussion and let us help the poor, some of whom would probably be looking forward to the receipt of these old clothes.

Mr. CRAWFORD enters the House and takes his seat.

Mr. REECE: Mr. Speaker,— I feel that we should pass this Address to His Excellency the Governor because, as has been pointed out, there are poor persons in this community who would greatly bene-

fit from gifts from their relatives in the United States and the United Kingdom. For many years gift parcels have been coming to poor people in this Country and I can speak from my own personal knowledge that the people who receive them have not only been grateful but have benefited as a result of the receipt of such parcels. Of course, any law is liable to abuse. There is nothing which could ever be done which would entirely prevent people from attempting at any rate to evade a particular law and although the dangers of which my colleague spoke are ever present, yet I feel confident that the Comptroller of Customs and the Colonial Postmaster would see to it that the provisions of the relative Acts are carried out and see that people do not receive goods which are prohibited by these Acts from being imported into Barbados. In view of the many restrictions people have been unable for a long time to import in the open market and from hard currency areas, so that I am in favour of any relaxation that would bring relief to the people of this colony from those areas. I am in favour of this Address. Within recent years charitable organisations in this Country have received the support of similar charitable organisations in the United States, not only in the form of money but also clothes for distribution to the poor people. That has only touched the fringe of the matter and I think this would be a further relief to these poor people. I take it that the Government will see to it that the provisions of the Acts which prohibit the importation of certain articles into this Country are complied with.

Mr. MOTTLEY: The idea of this Address has everything to recommend it. Unfortunately for me I did not see a copy of the Select Committee's Report before; nevertheless, because we feel that the scheme may not be foolproof or because advantage might be taken by the unscrupulous of a scheme of this sort we cannot allow those deserving cases which will benefit from it to suffer. It is, therefore, but right that we should approve of the idea of having relief packages from individuals in the United States sent to individuals in this island and admitted free of duty. I think I can speak with some experience on this matter because quite recently I have had the honour, I should say, of making friends, while in the United States, with some persons connected with various recognised organizations and only a few days ago they sent me packages for which I had to pay duty and which were purely for distribution among poor people. Be that as it may, while it is all well and good to permit discarded clothing to enter free of duty, yet we can very well visualise that to permit food and medical supplies to enter free of duty is going to be taken advantage of. Now, I said at the outset that you cannot allow a scheme of this sort to fall through or throw cold water on it because of the unscrupulous but the Government should make provision against the taking of undue advantage of it. An attempt is made right here now by people with friends, not relatives, abroad to actually get in foodstuffs—canned goods—and medicine for purposes of sale, and I think that a keen watch should be kept on that. I should like to make a suggestion in connection with this Address. We should use our commonsense in this matter. While His Excellency's Message relates to the United States, it is common knowledge that a number of people who send relief packages here send them from Canada and in my opinion this proposal to admit packages with clothing, food, and medical supplies should not be confined to the United States of America but should be extended to Canada, because, I repeat, there is a number of people in Canada who send packages to their poor relatives in this Country. If this proposal is to serve the purpose which honourable members would like it to serve I think myself that Canada should be included. I feel that the Government should take every possible precaution to prevent undue advantage being taken of this scheme. I repeat that it is a rather commendable scheme because a number of people in this island depend on the receipt of clothing from the United States. In some instances their existence depends upon the help which they receive from the United States of America, and it would be a great relief to them if they did not have to pay duty on these packages with the little financial aid which they receive from time to time. Although, Sir, the Select Committee's Report was not circulated, this matter is of such importance that we should definitely pass this Address to-day and in passing it we express the hope that persons other than those who stand to benefit from the scheme would not go out of their way to take advantage of it. Although we know that there are people who are unscrupulous enough to misuse this scheme we could not, as an elected body, allow that to prevent us from approving of something which would benefit hundreds of poor people in this Country. It may be argued that this is an Agreement between the United States of America and the United Kingdom and that therefore we could not include packages from Canada but we may, nevertheless, express on the floor of the House that it is within our knowledge that there are people in Canada who send packages containing food, clothing, and medical supplies to their relatives in this island and that in our opinion Canada should be included. Imagine two persons living in houses adjacent to each other. One receives a package from the United States of America free of duty and the other next door receives one from Canada but has to pay duty on it; that to my mind, savours of discrimination and I throw out the suggestion for the consideration of the proper Authorities.

Mr. CRAWFORD: Sir,—No member of this Chamber could fail to agree to the Report of the Select Committee, although we all expect that the Government will make the necessary provisions to ensure that the licence which this Agreement will confer is not more or less abused. For some time now, both the Government of the United States and ordinary American citizens have been deeply concerned over the economic conditions of people living in what are known as "depressed areas", including, of course, the British Colonial Countries. Those charitable organizations, as well as governmental organizations, have instituted relief measures to give some sort of assistance to these people. Owing to the dollar crisis and the restriction of the flow of American manufactured goods to what are known as the sterling areas, there has been this intensification on the part of American citizens and organizations to endeavour to get needed American goods, which in many instances are cheaper than similar British manufactured goods, to people who through the absence of dollars in the countries in which they live can no longer afford to buy them. As far back as 1948 several West Indians in the United States of America and even coloured Americans began to concern themselves with the position of the poor classes in the West Indies who even under normal conditions are denied the necessities for their existence and it was felt by those people that, with the restrictions in the way of the flow of American goods to these colonies and the deterioration of the economic conditions of these people it was more or less essential to extend the flow of relief goods to the West Indian colonies and to secure the assistance of the West Indian Governments in order to guarantee, Sir, that those goods

were received by the people to whom they were sent at the minimum or possibly no cost at all. I really have not refreshed my memory about the steps that were actually taken at that time but from what I can recall at the moment, one or two of the organizations there wrote one or two members of this Assembly asking that we use any influence we have to get the Government to admit, duty free, packages sent from charitable organizations to necessitous people in this colony. I think I tabled an Address to the Governor in the matter and I do recall that the Government readily agreed to the amendment to the Tariff Act to which reference is made in this Message of the Governor and gave the assurance that packages would be allowed to come in from organizations in the United States of America to accredited organizations here for distribution to the poor and needy in this colony. Well now, Sir, the Message from His Excellency the Governor with reference to this proposal, proposes to further expand the scheme. We are told that the United Kingdom Govermnent has entered into an Agreement with the United States Government along the lines stated in the Message. This,, Sir, is neither the time nor, perhaps, the place to refer in detail to the basic principle of the Economic Co-operation Agreement, nor need we concern ourselves to-day with the advantages which might well accrue to the United States as a result of the Agreement. What we need concern ourselves with is whether or not our decision to accede to the Agreement will confer any advantage on the people in tnis Country and there is no member of this Chamber who will dare say anything to the contrary. Accordingly, Sir, I have great pleasure in supporting the Select Committee's Report. Of course, I repeat that we expect that every possible step will be taken to ensure that this scheme is not abused and I find it difficult, Sir, to conceive that there can be any opposition on the part of any thinking person in this community to this proposal, bearing in mind the present high cost of British goods and the great impossibility on the part of the people in this colony to obtain these relief goods owing to the import restrictions and the acute dollar situation. I can appreciate the suggestion of the senior member for the City with regard to the inclusion of relief goods from Canada but I do not think that it is practically possible for us to accept his suggestion, in view of the fact that we have not been told that Canada is a party to this Agreement between the United Kingdom and the United States of America. If and when Canada becomes a party to this Agreement we in this Chamber would be willing to afford facilities to Canadian relief goods under these conditions which we are now agreeing to afford relief packages from the United States of America.

Mr. WARD entered the House while Mr. CRAWFORD was speaking and took his seat.

Mr. DOWDING: Mr. Speaker,— There are always two sides to any question. In this case, while most members have spoken at great length on the good that this can do, very few have spoken on the evil that it can also do. I regret, Sir, as I always do regret, that legislation of this sort is placed before us in such a hurried manner. Now, Sir, this proposal, as I see it, will allow any individual in Barbados to receive from any individual in the United States of America any goods which come in the categories of discarded clothing, food, and medical supplies. Some of these goods, Sir, may be liable to the highest yielding taxation in this island and it does seem to me that a great deal of revenue is going to be lost from individuals who will obviously take the opportunity to receive these goods free of duty from the United States. I hope, Sir, that the honourable introducer of this Address will criticize the remarks I have made and show us how this proposal will or will not affect the island. I take it that some discussion on that phase of the matter took place at the meeting of the Select Committee, and I think that it would be wise for this House to carefully consider this proposal before it accedes to it. Taking myself as an example I would be able to import from the United States by getting an individual there to send me such things as penicillin products. There would be no need to conceal them and if even they are concealed I do not see any means of discovering them. Again there are a number of medicines that belong to the "sulpha" family and which can be obtained cheaper from the United States than from the United Kingdom. These medicines are in great demand in modern practice and I take it, Sir, that many persons will avail themselves of the opportunity to get these medicines cheaper than they can obtain them in Bridgetown. In other words, the proposal, in my opinion, amounts to an imposition of controls on the merchants in Bridgetown to a certain degree while on the other hand you are going to allow food, clothing, medical supplies, and soap to be brought in by other individuals without any controls; that is the way, Sir, I see it up to the present. Now, Sir, is this measure necessary in this island? We all agree that whatever can be done in order that poor people in this island may receive these gift parcels, must be done but is this the only way in which it can be done? I am dubious about that. I think that from the English point of view the shortage of food in England as an aftermath of the war was the chief reason for this Agreement but are we in the same position in Barbados? Should we not distribute all relief goods, whether they be sent to individuals or to charitable organizations, through one central organization, thereby certifying that those goods will be given away to people in need of those goods rather than allowing, say, Sir, Lord X who is well acquainted with people in the United States to get his food and his medical supplies and his soap — luxuries and fine canned goods such as asparagus — from the United States free of duty? That, Sir, is the phase of this proposal that is worrying me. I believe that in the case of England it was a dire necessity as far as food is concerned but I do not see that the position in Barbados is on all fours. As I said, Sir, this Report has only been just put before us and I offer my criticisms, purely constructively, in order that some other member may continue where I left off. There are, I repeat, two sides to this question. On the one side we would be giving relief to poor people and on the other side we would be relieving many persons who are able to pay taxes which this Government should be receiving by way of import duties.

Mr. ADAMS: It is a matter for the senior member for St. Michael to reply. I am not replying, except in respect of the remarks of the honourable member who has just sat down. Two Tuesdays ago I mentioned that Barbados was, I believe, the only colony that was holding up the Secretary of State for the Colonies by way of its reply as to whether or not it accedes to this Agreement. This is a Convention made between the United States and the United Kingdom. Other colonies have approved of it. I have seen a telegram to the effect that the House of Assembly was about to sit on such a date and that the Secretary of State would get a reply on such a date. Since then the Governor has sent two telegrams

stating that the House has not yet dealt with the matter. As I have said before, this is an urgent matter and if the honourable member had been listening to me he would not have said that the Government does its business in a rushing manner. When I heard some honourable members express the fear which the junior member for St. George has expressed, namely, that luxury goods would come in free of duty and that people in the commercial world would be able to get things down by way of this scheme, I suggested that the matter should be referred to a Select Committee. I spoke with the Colonial Secretary who assured me that the Administration was well aware of that danger and had already made provision for seeing that people do not slip in goods such as tins of asparagus. I do assure the honourable member that I am glad he has said what he said. I have heard about a Lord X getting certain things from Trinidad which is a sterling area but I did not know that they need to get their friends in America to send them down goods. Now that I know that, I will pass on the information. It is always interesting to hear the junior member for St. George who always has some information to give us and I can only say that if he is friendly with persons who break the law and he discovers that they have broken and are breaking the law, it is his duty to report it at least to the House.

Mr. COX: Mr. Speaker,—The senior member for St. Joseph has made at least two of the points I intended to make. We are well acquainted with human nature and we know that no matter how careful we are to put up barriers some people are clever and that at some time or other some individual would slip through. This proposal applies purely to poor persons. In the first place I would mention that the two Governments must agree that the goods are relief goods before they can be admitted duty free. Honourable members should know that the Post Office collects at the rate of 4 cts. per lb. on each parcel; that will no longer exist if we agree to this proposal. Therefore, great care must be exercised to see that this scheme is not abused and that is why the Select Committee's Report is worded as it is. As far as the remarks of the senior member for Christ Church are concerned, we know that certain people will get away with things. It has been discovered that sugar has been sent from this island to the United Kingdom as "relief parcels" and has been sold in the United Kingdom. We know that attempts will be made to abuse this scheme but I can assure honourable members that the Colonial Postmaster as well as the Comptroller of Customs are prepared to do everything that lies in their power—even to the extent of having additional staff—to see that this privilege is not abused. I apologize to honourable members for not having had copies of the Report circulated among them before. The Select Committee was prepared to present its Report on Tuesday last but unfortunately we did not have a quorum of the House and it had to be left over until to-day. As the senior member for St. Joseph has said, the Secretary of State for the Colonies is anxiously awaiting our decision and we have to push the matter through to-day.

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

SUSPENSION OF RULES 88 AND 89.

On the motion of Mr. ADAMS, seconded by Mr. F. L. WALLCOTT, Rules 88 and 89 are suspended.

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, when the House is in Committee of Supply to consider the Resolutions for $3,000 and $5,000 respectively, of which notice was given earlier to-day.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: 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 when the House is in Committee of Supply to deal with the money Resolutions, of which notice was given to-day, is put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

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

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman,—The first Resolution is for the sum of $3,361 to be placed at the disposal of the Executive Committee to supplement the Estimates as set out in the schedule to the Resolution. The schedule provides for the supplementary amount of $3,360 to be granted to Combermere School and the token amount of $1 to be granted to the Lodge School. As the addendum to the Resolution states, "when the revision of salaries was undertaken it was realized that the fixing of salary scales in the light of qualifications might not give due recognition to the value of the services rendered by certain teachers and, although steps were taken to provide that experience without qualifications should count for entry into certain grades, it was realized that there were a few outstanding cases of teachers whose exceptional contribution to education would merit their being treated as holding qualifications of the highest order. Representations made by the Governing Bodies of the First and Second Grade Schools were considered by His Excellency the Governor-in-Executive Committee who decided that Mr. F. A. Collymore, of Combermere School, and Mr. L. A. Walcott, of the Lodge School, should be placed on the scale appropriate to teachers holding first and second class Honours Degrees and that Mr. V. B. Williams, of Combermere School, should be considered as holding a School Certificate and placed on the scale of a teacher having 15 years' service and holding a Certificate." I may say that this matter has engaged the attention of the Executive Committee for a long time on many occasions because it is fraught with difficulty.

You can use the argument that certain person's parents spend a great deal of money to give them a University education and to enable them to obtain a Degree; that is a fact which should be recognised. On the other hand there are certain people whose poverty and the poverty of their parents prevented them from taking advantage of a University education but who, nevertheless, have been teaching for many years—it may be at the Parry School or Combermere School or Harrison College or Queen's College—and who because they have turned out to be very good teachers are deserving of special attention. As I said, after great consideration, the Executive Committee came to the conclusion that these three persons whose names have been mentioned at any rate should have this consideration granted to them.

Any decision, naturally, is open to approval or criticism according to the way in which you look at it. I may say that honourable members may have this or that view as regards the omission of certain persons or even the inclusion of one of those persons. I can think, for instance, of two ladies at Queen's College—Miss Laborde and Miss Flemming—who have been there for years, who have done extraordinarily good work at that College, through whose hands a generation of pupils have passed with good results and who, some people may feel, should be considered in the same way as Messrs. Walcott and Collymore are considered. But I do assure honourable members that this matter has been given careful thought by the Executive Committee and no harm can be done if three people are inserted when six should be inserted; on the other hand much harm can be done if the three are not inserted. I think that they are deserving of this consideration and I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. MOTTLEY: When I received a copy of this Resolution, the first thought that came to me was whether I should get in touch with persons who know something about this matter or who know more about it than I do. Consequently I discussed it with several teachers. It is true, as the senior member for St. Joseph said, that there are arguments on either side, because, as I have been told, there are those who feel that they gave up time and pleasures and burnt the midnight oil to study and tried to qualify and then after all that, you put people who have not worked so hard—some of whom did not care to work so hard — on a par with them as far as salaries are concerned. But I may say that among the experienced teachers the concensus of opinion is that the name of one of these persons which are mentioned here, although he is not a qualified man in the sense that he does not hold a specialist degree, his is a most deserving case. I refer to the senior Assistant Master at Combermere School — Mr. Collymore. It is universally felt among the teachers of this colony that this gentleman has done such excellent work that although he does not possess a Degree, the Government should bring this Resolution and do justice to him by putting him on a par with persons who are qualified, as far as salaries are concerned. As regards the Master at the Lodge School I have not found out much about him but I leave him in the hands of the senior member for St. John who is a member of the Governing Body of the Lodge School and of the honourable member on my right who is said to be a former pupil of that school. What I should like to say is this: The senior member for St. Joseph mentioned that at several of the other schools there are also Masters and Mistresses who have given excellent service to this Country and who have now reached the age when it would be rather difficult for them to attain the status of qualified men and women. I hope that these cases which are mentioned in this Resolution are not isolated cases but that when proper representation is made to the Executive Committee, similar treatment will be meted—I do not want to mention any names to-day — to those persons of the teaching profession at other secondary schools. It is true, I understand, that there is the practice to-day whenever possible to appoint persons with qualifications to the secondary schools and however much we agree with this Resolution, we must regret that they had to go as low as to include — I am saying this, for the simple reason that it is the feeling of teachers — one below the standard of the School Certificate. One can very well appreciate the idea of bringing up unqualified but experienced and aged teachers to the standard of teachers with University Degrees but there is definitely a feeling of dissatisfaction existing among the teachers over the bringing in of one whose qualification is below the standard of the School Certificate. There are going to be several requests from teachers of elementary schools who are in possession of the School Certificate. I am supporting this Resolution because all these laws are not the laws of Medes and Persians and there are certain other cases which they are bound to consider and think of treating them in an equitable way. As regards Mr. Collymore it is felt that the work which he has done at Combermere School for a period of years is such that in any event he would be entitled to the salary which is paid to qualified men holding first and second class Honours Degrees. Mr. Chairman, I feel that there are few, if any, honourable members who will offer any opposition to this Resolution but I believe that there are honourable members, like myself, who feel that it would have been much better if the Government had been able to come here and argue the case of an unqualified teacher who has been teaching for a long time and whom it is desirous of bringing up to the standard of qualified teachers but it is rather difficult for us to get over the idea of bringing an unqualified teacher up to the School Certificate Standard when in elementary schools there are several teachers who possess the School Certificate. These will, in due course, make similar applications in respect of salary and I hope the Government will give them the same consideration as they are giving these three teachers to-day. I am going to support this Resolution. I have given it careful thought and I am guided, I should say, by the advice of, and the information which I have collected from, these persons who are versed in a matter of this sort.

Mr. MAPP: Sir,—This is the second instance of departure from a certain method which the Government adopted in dealing with Civil Servants in recent times. It was only recently that we agreed to pay a pension to a government employee, based on his public service, but service done outside the ranks of the Government. We agreed to that and we are being asked to-day to agree to a second departure in this instance of paying salaries to employees on a higher basis than the basis to which they are entitled at present. Now, Sir, although this is a precedent—and in my opinion it is a dangerous precedent—I, like the honourable member who has just sat down, agree to it. I agree to it because in my opinion there are certain grades of activity which call for experience and which experience counts a great deal. One of those branches of human endeavour is the teaching profession. It has been said that great teachers can only be born; they cannot acquire a proper approach; they cannot acquire the necessary virtues which go to make up a great teacher. Certain persons by aptitude even more so than ability —although they must have ability—are fitted to the role and task of teachers, in which experience must count and, therefore, on principle I agree to this departure from our established procedure. But I am warning this Government that it is now opening itself to very many claims from other persons who have been by-passed, whose claims that they should be treated in a manner similar to this have been ignored in the past, especially members of the teaching profession. This Government is opening itself to claims from those people, claims which the Govern-

ment, composed as it is today, will not be able to ignore. The last honourable member spoke about such cases. Let us take the case of elementary teachers. When the last scales were being revised, a difference in salaries was made between trained and untrained non-graduates. The trained non-graduate received $480 a year more than the untrained non-graduate and the older teachers — teachers with great experience — were debarred from going to the Erdiston Training College where they could be considered as trained non-graduates and where they could qualify for the higher salary through such qualifications. Well, Sir, there was great dissatisfaction among many of these teachers. I know that many of them felt that it was unfair to debar them from qualifying. It was unfair that their experience, whist is a most valuable asset to the teaching profession, was not taken into account and that this great difference in salaries was given to teachers who were trained non-graduates. I also know that certain teachers left the Service, went to Curacao and came back to join the Service and because they had been trained at the Rawle Institute, a very inferior Institute, they received more salary than those teachers who by their experience were more properly trained than they were. I commend the Government for applying a different principle to-day in such matters. I commend it for taking experience into account but as I said already, do not let the Government be surprised if it is called on in the near future to consider those members of the teaching profession in the elementary schools who were badly treated, when the recent salary scales were being drawn up. Experience was not taken into account at that time and I can cite a lot of cases in which experience was not taken into account in the past in the Government Service. But, Sir, it is sufficient for me to say that I believe that the Government will extend this privilege and this new principle to other deserving cases along the lines which I have just mentioned. I do not know, Sir, who decided on the various scales in which these three teachers are placed. I do not know if it were the advisers of the Education Board, if it were the Education Committee or if it were the Headmasters of the respective schools. Mr. Collymore who, I understand, is an excellent teacher, especially in English, is to be placed in the scale appropriate to those teachers holding an Honours Degree. Mr. Walcott, probably by virtue of his long service and great experience, is also to be placed in that position. Why he should be placed so far up in the scale I do not know. I do not know on what basis they work this thing. Mr. Williams is to be placed in the scale of those holding the School Certificate; he has over 15 years' service to his credit; he has experience and I have said already I have no objection to his being treated in this way. I would have liked to have heard who placed these first two teachers in this category. What special procedure was adopted? Are you going to place a teacher there if he has given 30 or 40 years' service? Or are you going to place him there because in the opinion of the Headmaster of his school he is efficient or what? I have said that I do not know the basis on which this has been done. I personally feel that it is a very haphazard way of carrying out this new departure; that is how I feel about it. It has been under consideration, I understand, for a long time but, as I have asked, exactly where will you place a teacher because of his experience? Are you going to place all teachers who have done, say, 20 or 25 years' service—regardless of their ability, regardless of their qualifications—in the scale appropriate to teachers holding first and second class Honours Degrees? What factors will you take into account? As I said already, I agree to the principle and I hope that the Government will adopt the same method in dealing with other exceptional cases because it is certainly going to have a flood of applications in the near future from teachers who feel that they are unfairly treated, as far as this question of salary is concerned. I just throw out this hint and warning in the hope that the Government will look seriously into the matter.

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

SUSPENSION OF RULES 61 (A) AND 61 (B)

On re-assembling,

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker,— I beg to move that Rules 61 (a) and 61 (b) be now suspended.

Mr. COX: I beg to second that.

The question that Rules 61 (a) and 61 (b) be now suspended was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

RESUMPTION OF COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

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.

SUPPLEMENTARY VOTE *re* COMBERMERE AND LODGE SCHOOLS.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: When the House was in Committee of Supply before the adjournment, we were considering a Resolution to place the sum of $3,361 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. 9, which form the Schedule to this Resolution. The honourable junior member for Christ Church was about to speak.

Mr. REECE: I am in favour of this Resolution and I would like to say that the mere possession of a University degree and other qualifications does not in itself make a person a good teacher. The honourable junior member for St. Thomas has said that good teachers are born; I would not go so far as to agree with him entirely, but I would like to say that some of them are born and others have acquired the ability of imparting knowledge. Good teachers are rare. The Government has accepted the principle that persons with qualifications should be paid on a higher scale than those who have not acquired qualifications; that principle has been approved by this House and it has been embodied in an Order. I do not think we are departing from that principle; what we are really saying now is that in deserving cases those persons who came in the service before that principle was accepted, and who came in under another principle, should be recompensed for their work. It must be remembered that at the time when the teachers which we are considering to-day were appointed, there was no need for the appointee to have these qualifications. As a matter of fact, in some of the schools difficulty was experienced in recruiting staff, and the Government and the Education Bodies were forced to accept from First and Second Grade Schools students who showed an aptitude for teaching and put them on the Staffs of the Schools. Those persons acquired experience and became good teachers. In this Resolution the name of Mr. Collymore appears and there is no

reason for me to say anything about the good work which he has done at Combermere School. There is hardly a teacher within a decade who has done more in the cause of teaching than Mr. Collymore; his life has been an example not only to the boys of Combermere but to the island as a whole. He is indeed a fine teacher and I do not think that anybody would grudge him in respect of what is being done for him in this Resolution. As regards Mr. Walcott of Lodge School, he holds a degree; he attended the same Institute as I attended. He was appointed to the Staff of Harrison College after leaving the University and then to the Staff of the Lodge School. He has not only done well at teaching, but he has lived such a life that it is a great benefit to the boys who have come under his guidance. As regards the other gentleman, I do not know him very well but I understand that he has also done well for the School at which he is teaching. These gentlemen were appointed to the Staffs of these Schools in those days when it was not required that teachers should have these particular qualifications. There are others in the teaching fraternity who have also done well. Mention has been made of the Elementary Schools, and there are many examples of Headteachers and Assistant Teachers who have done well even although they did not have the advantage of attending a University. These gentlemen here entered the service under the conditions which existed at that time; they have worked well, they have rendered good service and it is fair that they should be treated according to their merits. I feel that the new order which has been accepted applies and should apply to those teachers who enter the service today rather than those who came in under different conditions. The Government has decided, and quite rightly so, that in the interest of education only the best teachers should be appointed to the Staffs of these Schools; but we must never forget that at the time when these particular teachers were appointed, that regulation was not in force. As the honourable Leader of the House has said, many of these teachers were unable to get the advantage of University education; nevertheless they have done well and no one can gainsay the fact that education in Barbados has been of a very high standard indeed. I do not think that any criticism should be levelled at these teachers. The honourable junior member for St. Thomas has pointed out that the Government will find itself overrun with applications from teachers on the ground that they have been teachers for many years, but I think that every case will be most carefully considered not only by the Education Board but also by the Executive Committee itself. Whenever a case comes before the Executive Committee I think that the merits of that case will be fully sifted and determined before the Resolution comes down asking for an increase for a teacher on the ground that he has done good work in the cause of education in this island.

Mr. ALLDER: The persons mentioned in the Schedule to this Resolution have shown a zeal which should be followed by other people. We all know that as regards those mentioned in respect of Combermere School, they have done their utmost in the interest of the School in keeping it up to standard, and I feel that if there is any consideration at all to be given to either of these persons he is well worth it. These teachers have not only tried to do their best inside the School but also outside the School; they have tried their best to help boys to obtain those qualifications which they themselves have not been able to attain. As far as Mr. Collymore is concerned, I feel that if there is a vacancy for the headship of Combermere School this gentleman should be considered, his services being so impressive. In connection with Mr. Walcott of the Lodge School, I can say from personal experience that the present standard of that School has been due to the untiring efforts of this gentleman and others like himself; he has a great responsibility at this School, not only in the matter of teaching, but in keeping the whole establishment in order which calls for work for 24 hours a day, and I feel that he too is deserving of consideration. If there is the information that there are other people in the teaching profession who were not considered when the increases were given on the last occasion, there is nothing to prevent us from doing what is an act of justice as regards these gentlemen. Lodge School is a place where masters were few in number as compared with the work which they had to do; it is a School where discipline has to be maintained and those who are responsible for maintaining such discipline should also be compensated for the energy which they put in their work. I appreciate the attempt which is being made to cause satisfaction in the minds of the people concerned, and this action is something to which I shall give my support.

Mr. CRAWFORD: I can visualise that this Resolution will cause a lot of heartburning on the part of teachers at other schools throughout the colony; as a matter of fact, I regard it as almost a studied attempt to establish a precedent which, to say the least, will be most dangerous. It is true that the three masters who will benefit under the provisions of this Resolution have devoted a considerable length of time to teaching in this colony, and I suppose I should say, with some success at least in so far as one or two are concerned. Generally speaking, in view of the fact that other teachers at secondary and elementary schools possess School Certificates and have equal success to their credit, it should not come as any surprise to anybody if there is any adverse comment on the decision of the Government to select these three masters for treatment of this sort, unless the Government proposes to give equal consideration to other applicants under similar conditions. I do not know very much about Mr. Walcott's teaching ability but I gather from the addendum to this Resolution that it is the general opinion that he has made a considerable contribution to the educational life of the community. Of Mr. Collymore it can be said that he has made a somewhat all-round contribution to the life of the community as a whole. Apart from teaching he has taken a practical interest in the development of art, literature and the drama and generally speaking, I suppose it can be said with accuracy that his contribution to the life of the colony has been fuller than that of people who possess high academic degrees. From that point of view a case can be made out for singling him out for special treatment in the manner which this Resolution does. With regard to Mr. Williams, apart from teaching at Combermere I think he was interested in the Boys' Scout Movement—I am not sure if he still is—but I think he is extremely fortunate to have been singled out for treatment of this sort, although on reference to the Schedule to this Resolution it will be seen that the amount which he will really get is, comparatively speaking, small. It is not so much the amount, however, it is the principle of the thing. There are those of us who feel that teaching ability is not to be measured merely in terms of academic qualifications; those of us who feel like that will readily support this Resolution with the distinct hope that applications from teachers under similar conditions will be entertained favourably by the Government in

the future. Without that assurance either expressed or implied I am sure that this Resolution would not be accorded the general support which has been accorded it to-day. It is to be hoped that other teachers in secondary schools and more especially teachers in elementary schools with years of service to their credit, and who through no fault of their own were unable to remain at school long enough as to enable them to acquire certain academic qualifications, will receive the same favourable consideration at the hands of the Government as these three gentlemen have received. I am sure that there are teachers who are teaching in similar circumstances —some names spring readily to my mind, especially names of teachers in elementary schools—and who could very easily have been included in this Resolution to-day. I can say with certainty that representations are going to be made to the Government in connection with these particular cases, and we look forward with some degree of certainty to the receipt in this Chamber of a Resolution making similar provision for giving those teachers the same treatment which these three teachers are receiving to-day. With the possible exception of Mr. Collymore none of these teachers has a greater all-round claim for special treatment at the hands of the Government than certain elementary teachers whose names I do not propose to call but they are familiar to honourable members and therefore when their claims for consideration of this kind reach the Authorties it is to be confidently assumed that they will be most favourably and satisfactorily considered.

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

PURCHASE OF VERY HIGH FREQUENCY WIRELESS COMMUNICATION SETS

Mr. ADAMS: The next Resolution, Mr. Chairman, is one of those of which I gave notice earlier to-day, and it is a Resolution to place the sum of $3,000 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. 10, which form the Schedule to this Resolution. Honourable members have been handed cyclostyled copies of the Resolution and they will see from the Addendum that this sum of money is required for the purchase of very high frequency wireless communication sets for ensuring rapid and private communication between the three key stations which are mentioned. This is a matter of taking necessary precautions to meet the event of a hurricane. I will read from the addendum to the Resolution. It says:—

"On the 25th of June, the Wireless section of the Hurricane Relief Organisation held a practice for the purpose of testing how well signals from the several units in the country districts could be heard by headquarters at the Garrison and *vice versa*. The main defect revealed by the practice is the absence of a direct link between Garrison Headquarters where the Central Intelligence of the Organisation is stationed and the Central Relief Organisation at Queen's Park; there is also no direct link with Government House where decisions must be made and passed on to the Garrison. In the event of a hurricane and with the disruption of telephone and other communications there is no way other than by runner of informing the Central Relief Organisation of relief needed in country districts or of receiving vital instruction, etc., from Government House." All this is set out in Mr. Barton's pamphlet which was published this year "In previous years three transmitting sets have been either loaned or hired but none of these is available this year."

Honourable members will see from paragraph 3 of the Addendum how this sum of money has been arrived at. I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. REECE: Perhaps the honourable senior member for St. Joseph will tell us what Department is going to be responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of these wireless communication sets. We know that honourable members are in agreement with this Resolution because in the event of a hurricane there is really no means of communication except by runner. Telephone poles will be blown down and it is necessary to have wireless communication. I would just like to know what Department is going to be responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of these wireless communication sets.

Mr. MILLER: I am voting for this Resolution but I should like the honourable senior member for St. Joseph to give us some information as to the item "Servicing equipment $360" mentioned in this Resolution.

Mr. ALLDER: I am not sure as to whether i am in favour of this Resolution. I am wondering if we are finding ourselves in the same position as England and America found themselves, that is to say, with military personnel always trying to get as much money spent as possible. Every Head of a Department likes to see that large grants are allocated to his Department; I am wondering if this equipment is really to meet the event of a hurricane or if the Volunteer Department has seen fit to order it. If it is for the purpose of meeting the event of a hurricane, I should like to say that the last hurricane which took place in this colony was about 60 years ago, and the destruction was not so great as would prevent a message from being carried by runner or vehicle. To spend this $3,000 in purchasing these high frequency wireless communication sets is like putting this equipment to waste. I do not like this proposal: I feel that we might have to spend this money to a better and more immediate advantage than in buying this equipment to be put down for an indefinite period. I am told that the Volunteer Department has some of this equipment for which it has not got much use and a man is paid part-time for keeping it. I understand also that they are about to get a permanent officer to look after this equipment. It is not only that we are going to spend this $3,000 in purchasing this equipment, but it is also a question of the upkeep and the continual payment of somebody to see after it plus the replacement. This matter is worrying me; I do not see that it is necessary to purchase this equipment and I am not such a pessimist as to feel that if we do not have this equipment we will have a hurricane next year. It does not mean that because we had a hurricane last year we will have another one this year. All these preparations are taking up your capital and immediate things which it is necessary to deal with are not being considered. I know that there is a school, the stairway of which has broken away; that stairway has been condemned by the school managers two years ago and nobody has seen fit to spend any money on it.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I do not think that this Resolution is in connection with any school.

Mr. ALLDER: I know that, Mr. Chairman. I still feel that it is unnecessary to spend this money in purchasing this equipment; we are not going to have any hurricane of such dimensions that you will have to use this apparatus. The Police Department has apparatus of this sort and it is about to get more. The Volunteer Department will want this equipment.

the Electric Department will also want it and you will eventually spend too much money in purchasing apparatus which only suits bigger countries where travelling is difficult. In this year of mobility I do not think that you will have anything to fear where transport is concerned in a colony 21x14.

Mr. SPEAKER: As I see from the addendum to this Resolution, there are three special points at which it will be necessary to provide very high frequency communication sets in the event of a hurricane, and these points are: Garrison Headquarters, Queen's Park and Government House. While I agree that these points must be in direct contact one with the other, I feel that in the event of hurricane communication will have to be kept up between headquarters in the metropolitan area and the Police Stations in the rural areas. My fear is whether these high frequency sets will prove of sufficient potency as to provide a link-up between the City areas and the rural areas. I wonder if the Government has considered such a possibility.

Mr. MAPP: The honourable senior member for St. John has been prophetic but I do not think that any of us can really prophesy that this island will not be struck by a hurricane or some disturbance, and I think we will all agree that we should be prepared for such an event. We all know that the Department which this equipment concerns is an expensive one. I am wondering if the honourabe Leader of the House can tell me something about the loan or hire of these three transmitting sets mentioned in the addendum. In paragraph 2 of this addendum this is stated; "In previous years three transmitting sets have been either loaned or hired but none of these is available this year." I would like to know where we can get these sets and why they are not available this year. It seems to be so much easier to borrow these sets or rent them as has been done in the past.

Mr. ADAMS: The word "available" is unfortunate. The position is that these transmitting sets are not to be depended upon. Tests have been carried out at the Military Headquarters, Government House, St. George's Rectory, Police Headquarters, District "D" and other Police out-Stations. The report about these transmitting sets is that owing to their age and condition they are not recommended to be depended upon in an emergency. On such a report the Government could not do otherwise than send down this Resolution. There is a detailed report as to where signals are to be used. If the honourable junior member for Christ Church had asked what is going to happen to these communication sets I would have said that they would be used to transmit messages from barristers to out-districts as to when they can come to their cases. The Police will use these sets for ordinary transmitting purposes just as they use their radio.

Mr. ALLDER: I have read that the Police have some radio sets and occasionally they have to warm them up so as to keep them in order because there is no use for them at present. I do feel that these transmitting sets which the Police have should be used for this other purpose as well. I do not see the wisdom of adding more transmitting sets to what you have already just for them to rust and then you have to replace them occasionally. It is hard for me to support this Resolution with the points which have been given to me, I do not think that there has been put forward a sufficiently strong argument to justify our providing this equipment. The amount of $3,000 is a tidy sum of money. As has been pointed out by His Honour the Speaker, these communication sets are only to be used at three points which are only about a mile distant from each other, and I would like to see the type of storm which would prevent an individual running from the Garrison to Queen's Park to say nothing about the use of motor car, motor cycle and the other means of transport which we have. You have to stop these Heads of Departments from making unnecessary demands on the Treasury.

Mr. SPEAKER: I think that the honourable senior member for St. John has misused my remarks My point was that more than three high frequency wireless communication sets might be necessary because I do not read in the addendum that provision is made for linking up with the rural areas. I see that there are three focal points—the Garrison, Government House and Queen's Park—and I feel that in the event of a real storm communication would have to be made between the City area and the most distant parts of the country, and the Police Stations might prove to be good points. Far from saying that this $3,000 is more than enough, my point of view is that it may not be sufficient.

Mr. MILLER: I prefaced my remarks by saying that I am going to vote for the Resolution, but I would like the honourable senior member for St. Joseph to know that this is blackmail. I feel very strong on that. I would not like to think that I denied this Organisation this money, but I think it might be misused. I think that the equipment neeessary for this job is going to rust and be wasted. As regards this service equipment for which the sum of $360 is asked, I am saying that if the Electric Inspector had ten pairs of hands he could not use all the service equipment which he has got in his possession. I would like to inform honourable members that at some future date this equipment will fall on the junk heap and in the dust and ruin of this Department. However, if we refuse to vote this money and anything should happen, we would be reproached for not voting for this Resolution.

Mr. WARD: I am voting for this Resolution because, in my opinion, we should put ourselves in such a position that in case of any emergency nothing can be said about our curtailing expense and not providing something which will be useful to the community. I am wondering what type of equipment is going to be ordered, because it must be borne in mind that a special type of equipment will have to be ordered. We in this House should not curtail any expense in a matter of this sort because we want to be prepared to meet any emergency. I feel that this equipment could be useful to the community after a hurricane in case there is a hurricane; this equipment could be used by the Police. I am willing to support this Resolution and I hope that the money will be properly spent; I hope that it will be spent in ordering equipment which will be useful to the community and not be lying in the dust and the junk heap in some part of a building.

Mr. LEWIS: I cannot allow this Resolution to be passed without saying that I was hoping for more enlightenment as to exactly what is contemplated in the Resolution. I was hoping for more enlightenment on this matter not only from members of the Government but from any other honourable member who has any knowledge about it. From the time I read this Resolution I said that it was like one of these matters in connection with the sugar industry and the water supply. This is a question of making provision in case of a hurricane and we will have to vote the money otherwise we will have it laid at our door that somebody got killed because the Government did not have wireless sets. The next thing I want to say is that you will have to see that the hurricane will not come anywhere near the building in which you have this equipment housed. We

have on the Statute Book a law to the effect that you can commandeer food, clothing and means of transport in the island and if the Electric Inspector had treated the radio amateurs properly, he would get all co-operation from them. These radio amateurs came into prominence during the war and they rendered very valuable service. I am sure that you could commandeer their sets and we have it that the Police have advertised that they have tested their equipment and it is in excellent condition. What is worrying me a bit is the first paragraph of the addendum to this Resolution. It says there: "The Wireless section of the Hurricane Relief Organisation held a practice for the purpose of testing how well signals from the several units in the country districts could be heard by headquarters at the Garrison and *vice versa*." I would like to know if these units belong to the Hurricane Relief Organisation or the Government. We used to rely on the people who have these transmitting sets, they are not in the possession of the Government and I suppose more sets will be necessary. Unfortunately for the Government Electric Department, it is a most extravagant Department, and people who know what they are talking about frequently say that in that Department there are all kinds of little gadgets which the people in the office do not know how to use themselves. They import books but they do not read them. I know that this Department asked for £150 to buy books for teaching people Morse Code, so much so that I think the honourable junior member for St. Lucy asked whether an inventory would be kept as to these books. It is unfortunate that this Department should have to deal with this question because no matter how genuine it is there is bound to be some suspicion about it, but the technical advice must necessarily come from this Office. I would not like to have it resting on my conscience that I did not vote this money and somebody lost his life as a result of a hurricane. It is for the honourable senior member for St. Joseph to say where this equipment will be housed in case of a hurricane. I repeat that the law is there whereby you can commandeer food and likewise any motor car or other vehicle, and you can also commandeer any receiving set. If we have 30 or 40 radio amateurs co-operating with the Police who have their equipment, it would possibly be unnecessary to bring down this Resolution with which it is so difficult for honourable members to agree if they feel that they may be spending the taxpayers' money unnecessarily.

Mr. ADAMS: This is a Resolution on which there should not be so much debate. I was hoping to keep quiet but I have been so sorely tempted to speak that I have yielded to the temptation. Some time ago I reminded the honourable senior member for St. John that it is a bad practice to prepare a speech and get it off his chest no matter that the circumstances may not warrant it. I gather now that the honourable member has not got to prepare a speech so as to get something off his chest. The honourable member must have some communication with the Almighty so as to be able to tell us that we will not have a hurricane of any great intensity. If we had known that last September the honourable member could have run from Bridge Road to Constitution and none of those lives would have been lost. What is the good of making a speech like that? The honourable junior member for the City, who cannot lose his reputation for seeing things which other people cannot see, speaks about what can be commandeered. The law is there under which you can call upon people to stop looting and you can commandeer vehicles and so on, and you will save a lot of money. I will get the honourable member to be in charge of that. I have read the official enquiry into the St. Lucia fire and there you have fire engines not having been tested for months, men who were not trained, no orders for the Police, and so on. A sergeant admitted that after a time he went back to headquarters thinking for a solid hour while the town was burning. What the honourable junior member for the City is asking us to do is this: Do not have any preparations of your own because the law allows you to call upon the honourable senior member for St. George, who is the greatest non-official electrical professional in the island, and tell him that a hurricane is coming and he must bring his equipment so that we can transmit to St. George and other areas. You may bring your apparatus but it may not be in order. I appeal to honourable members to contribute to the debate something which will help the Government. I am sorry to have to say this, but the honourable senior member for St. George is likeable in his childlike way of approaching these subjects; he does not want to have it put on his conscience that he refused to vote for this Resolution and could have prevented any loss of life, but he knows that equipment is all about rusting now and it would be enough for this purpose. We heard about the equipment at Seawell being lost and the honourable member who made mention of it, never came forward and substantiated his remarks. It is the duty of the honourable member to show that equipment in respect of which this Resolution has been brought down is there and that we can save some of this money. We all know that things come out from the honourable senior member for St. George a little faster than they should; we do not know some things until somebody comes along and tells us. If the honourable member with his special knowledge can tell us that there is a transmitter lying down in such and such a place, that it only needs a little adjustment and it will be a first class transmitter, that information would be useful. In the case of the St. Lucia fire, a pump was left behind because, for some months it did not work properly, and it was subsequently found that practically nothing was wrong with it; but it was not overhauled. The honourable member may know that there is a transmitter which the Government can put in order and save $720 which would be spent in buying one of these transmitters mentioned in the addendum to this Resolution. I can only say in conclusion that the Government already possesses wireless apparatus at Districts "C", "D", "E" and "F" and this was made use of during the test two Sundays, ago in addition to that at other places. I do not know whether the honourable senior member for St. John puts his faith in what he reads in the *Advocate*, and the honourable junior member for the City has said that the Police have tested their equipment and it is in excellent condition; but Colonel Michelin has said that the Police wireless equipment is on its last legs and cannot be depended upon in a hurricane or any other emergency. Faced with that information, the Government would be rightly condemned if anything happened and it was possible for the Commissioner of Police and the Electric Inspector to say "We warned you that the apparatus was not to be depended upon, and we did not have the prophetic skill to tell you that the hurricane would be of such and such magnitude."

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

LOANS TO TWO STUDENTS TO ATTEND THE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Mr. ADAMS: The next Resolution, Mr. Chairman, is one which has also been cyclo-styled. It is a Resolution to place the sum of $5,000 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee for the purpose of making loans to two students to enable them to read for degrees in Arts at the University College of the West Indies. As honourable members will see from the Addendum, "The Principal of the University College of the West Indies has notified this Government that among the candidates who recently sat the scholarship examination of the University College, there were two Barbadians, in addition to those to whom exhibitions financed by this Government have already been awarded, who are eminently suitable for University education both by their mental and personal characteristics." I may say that Dr. Taylor has spoken very highly of these persons and has said that the University would be extremely glad to have them. He has said that both of them wish to read for degrees in Arts and that one of them, namely, Vernon Smith was taken ill with appendicitis during the examination and was unable to complete it, but the little that he did, shows that he is a desirable person. Paragraph 2 of the Addendum says: "The University College is anxious to include these students in the admissions for October, 1950, but through lack of financial resources neither of them will be able to attend the College. The courses which they would like to take will be of three years' duration and the estimated annual cost for each student is $1,200; the University College is prepared to offer them a grant in aid of $480 per annum each for the three years."

The University College is prepared to make that grant itself—something which has not been done in the case of anybody else, as far as I know. These two persons are Joyce Hope and Vernon Smith. I do not think, speaking for myself, that when we have already laid down the principle of granting scholarships, the Government without changing the Act, could grant additional scholarships and exhibitions. On the other hand, the Government takes the view that in educational matters where people have a certain amount of money you should make loans to them. Acting on that principle, the Government has come forward with these two specific cases, because although we have not yet formulated any details in respect of a loan policy for education, we approve of the principle of a loan policy for education. In any scheme which we may send down to the House these two persons would come under it. I think that all of us will agree to the principle that you should encourage people to do their best, and you should have some method whereby you do not give loans to people who do not need them; and you do not withhold from people who need money the chance of getting University education. Honourable members are aware that there are cases where you win an exhibition but your income is such that you do not need any money; you do not need anything added to the £1.000 a year which some students in my time used to spend. On the other hand, there are people who have money but not enough, and therefore you loan them money. There is another category where you do not want people to be a perpetual charge on the Treasury and you make loans to them and the money will go back into the Treasury. If you feel that you should give £2,000 a year for scholarships you should set aside £20,000 a year for loans which will be repaid, and there will be no further charges on the Treasury. I say that because I want to anticipate the criticism that you are opening the door to every parent to ask for money to send his children to the University. This is a question of making loans to people who have to repay them; no member of this community would deny assistance to a man who wants to spend money in educating his children, while at the same time you make loans to people who want to build or repair fishingboats or to build or repair houses. Naturally this will be establishing a precedent, but there is no danger of establishing a precedent in a matter where the principle can be accepted as one on which the Government is working. If there is any information affecting this matter and it has not been given I shall be happy to give it. I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Mr. COX: I beg to second that.

Mr. LEWIS: This Resolution is for the purpose of assisting a good cause and the principle is a good one; but I say it is regrettable that the Government should establish this principle in this manner. You used to award one Barbados Scholarship, you have extended the number to five and you could have laid down this principle so that all parents might have known that you intended to adopt the principle of making loans to assist deserving children to get University education. I think that that would have been the right thing to do because there might be lots of people who might have been able to justify getting loans under these conditions. I do not think that the Government should wait for examples of this kind so as to force a principle; if you know that this is a right thing to do you should broadcast it to the public that this is the principle which you are willing to adopt. You should say that you are willing to set aside a sum of money for making loans to parents whose children have shown that they could make good use of loans and be a credit to the island if this financial assistance was made available to them. I would like to know if in case it is found that proper use is not being made of loans, if children are superannuated or anything like that, whether the Government will insist on the repayment of money which has already been spent. I would like to know if such a provision will be made in the agreement to repay a loan. I do not think that it would be incorrect to make a loan if a child feels obligated to make a special effort to justify the loan; I think that in the interest of the taxpayers and the children themselves it would be wise to put in some provision as I have indicated in any agreement which is made for the repayment of a loan.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I do not know much about higher education and I therefore do not attempt to criticise the grant of any assistance for higher education. Far be that from me. I will support any scheme for higher education because it is upon higher education that you build your cultural foundation in any community. I believe that you really free people when you educate them; that is the first sign of freedom. Relative to this Resolution which the honourable senior member for St. Joseph has introduced, I listened carefully to him: I have also read and reread the addendum to the Resolution and I say that the honourable member has made out partly a case and partly not a case. Apparently it is the duty of the Government to assist a man in educating his children by way of a loan in the same way as it is

the duty of the Government to assist a man in building or repairing a fishing-boat or building or repairing his house. If that is the principle behind this Resolution then I think it should have very good support; if that is not the principle behind the Resolution then, in my opinion, you are creating a dangerous precedent. Here there have been awarded two Scholarships or Exhibitions to the University College of the West Indies and taking part in the competition for these Exhibitions were these two candidates; and no better person than the principal of the University College says that these two Barbadians have not won Exhibitions but they are eminently suitable for University education both by their mental and personal characteristics. That is something which must be left to the Principal or the persons dealing with education to judge, but we have already committed ourselves to the award of two Exhibitions to this University; we have made provision for Barbados Scholarships, Island Scholarships and now for Exhibitions to this University College. The Principal of this College says that these two persons are eminently suitable to enter the College and he suggests that the Government should help them; the Government feels that it has made certain changes in the Act and that it should help these people by means of loans. That is all well and good; I had a different view of that matter until the honourable senior member for St. Joseph said that it is the duty of the Government to help a man to educate his child, just as it is the duty of the Government to assist people in building fishing boats or houses. I was wondering whether it was merely because this recommendation comes from the Principal of the University College that you will make these loans. What I am wondering now is this; if there are other deserving persons in this community—if applications were to be made by people whose children deserve to enter this College — if this same attitude is going to be adopted towards them. Do not let it be felt that you are making these loans purely because the Principal of the University College has said that these two candidates are eminently suitable for University Education. Suppose there is any candidate who has actually qualified and who is desirious of entering Mc Gill or any other University and an application is made by a parent who can ill afford to pay for that candidate to enter the University; will the Government adopt the same policy as it has adopted here? If that is the policy then I am in wholehearted agreement with the idea; if it is otherwise then I say that we are not only establishing a dangerous precedent, but we are doing wrong. I should like to say that there are several boys and girls who are leaving Harrison College and Queen's College with Higher Certificates and they cannot find any means of livelihood; it is a question of entering the Civil Service, the teaching profession or staying at home and under this loan policy it will mean that several of these persons will be able to go on to study if they can get in the Universities. The door is open that if there is any difficulty in respect of children getting in the Universities people can make applications to the Government and obtain loans to assist them in doing so. If the Government is prepared to back up what the Leader of the House has said, that it is the duty of the Government to assist a man in educating his children by way of a loan in the same way as it is the duty of the Government to assist a man in building or repairing a fishing boat or building or repairing his house, that is all well and good. I repeat that if the Government is making this loan merely on what the Principal of the University College has said, then this is a dangerous precedent.

I do not think it is necessary to go into small details as regards paragraph 4 of the addendum to the Resolution which deals with agreements for the repayment of these loans; I take it that the Government will see to it that the necessary agreements are made, that the repayments are reasonable and they will not create any hardship on the children. I support this Resolution in respect of these people attending the West Indian University and I will support Resolutions in respect of people attending other recognised Universities—people who cannot afford to pay but who have the necessary qualifications. I hope that in view of the shortage of specialists in these parts, arrangements will be made whereby those students who have been assisted in attending the Universities will come back to Barbados or the West Indies and be of some use to us whether in the teaching profession or otherwise for a period of time. It might be argued that this is a loan, but I contend that if you have no other means of qualifying and you are going to have a loan from the people of Barbados free of interest, then it is not too much to put in an agreement that people will be asked to come back here and help us for a reasonable period with what they got at our expense. Mr. Chairman, I support this Resolution strongly after the words which the honourable senior member for St. Joseph has used; he has not said that this provision is only in respect of the University College and I know several people who have the necessary qualifications and who are only looking for jobs. These people are well qualified for entering the Universities although they may not have any "pull." I know that there are qualified persons who would benefit from University training but their parents have nothing. I hope that when other applications for assistance are made to the Government they will be given the same support as is being given in these two instances. I have much pleasure in supporting this Resolution with that proviso.

Mr. CRAWFORD: The points raised by the honourable member who has just sat down need to be clarified by the Government before this debate ends. My own interpretation of this matter was that this Resolution was not before the House as a result of the development of any special phase of the Government's policy as regards education; my own interpretation of the matter was that in view of the recommendation of the Principal of the University College with regard to these two students, the Government felt more or less obligated to afford them some assistance. The Principal of the University College places himself on record as claiming that these two students are eminently suitable for University education both by their mental and personal characteristics, and so strongly does he feel this that he is moved to the extent of making them a grant from the University. These students will each get a grant of $480 per annum for the three-year course. In view of that recommendation and in view of the fact that the University College was prepared to make a grant to these students, in my opinion, whether or not it agreed in principle with the policy of making loans to students for University education, the Government would feel more or less morally obligated to come to the assistance of these two particular students, and that is why I thought the Resolution was before us to-day. The remark used in support of the Resolution by the honourable senior member for St. Joseph and quoted by the honourable senior member for the City does place an entirely different interpretation on the issue; the Committee can draw no other conclusion than that, regardless

of whether or not we had this recommendation from the Principal of the University College before us, and irrespective of whether or not the University College was prepared to make a grant, the Government is committed to the principle of making loans to assist deserving students who want to pursue their education at higher centres of learning. As to which of these two interpretations is accurate, the Committee is entitled to some definite statement, because there is all the difference in the world between the implementation of the policy as enunciated by the honourable member on my right (Mr. Adams) and the interpretation that this Resolution is before us to-day purely because of the extenuating circumstances surrounding the two students whom the Resolution seeks to benefit. Normally First and Second Grade Exhibitions are accorded students after they have passed the educational test for entry into First or Second Grade Schools, providing that the headmasters or headmistresses of the elementary schools think that the particular students will derive some advantage from the Exhibitions. If the parochial bodies grant exhibitions under these conditions, the Government could not very well lay itself open to the charge of being unsympathetic with the representations made by the Principal of the University College and refuse to give the financial assistance sought by these two particular children.

With regard to the point made by the honourable senior member for the City about people returning here after qualifying at the Universities, I want to say that he has most decidedly anticipated me in that connection. I believe that it should be made a condition of the loan that the recipient must serve this colony, if his services are needed, for a period of at least five years. If we are taking the exceptional step of enabling a boy or girl to receive the benefits of education at a higher centre of learning—education which by no stretch of the imagination could be obtained without such assistance—I feel that the community is entitled to demand in return, the service of people, if it is required, for a period. We are asked to make all sorts of attractions for specialists and other people to come to this colony; we are asked to give leave passages for themselves and their wives to go abroad every four years because we cannot fill these posts. If we are going to assist local people to qualify, people who unfortunately could not do it on their own, the least we must demand in return for this assistance is the condition that after they qualify their services must be used locally; they must be obligated to serve for five years in the colony even although they would have been offered appointments outside the colony. The point is that if they did not have the assistance from the local Government, they would not have been in a position to qualify either for the local posts or the more remunerative posts outside. Therefore I am not supporting the Resolution unless there is the undertaking given that such a condition is enforced in respect of the loans.

Mr. WARD: I am somewhat confused by the arguments adduced by the honourable senior member for St. Joseph. As the Resolution stood, I was under the impression that these loans to these individuals were enabling loans to allow them to qualify themselves in Arts at the University College; but since the argument has been enlarged, the position is a somewhat difficult one as far as the Government is concerned. I understand that the Government is willing to make loans to individuals to go to any University if they are unable to pay their way. I think that the Government should make some definite statement as to whether they are only confining themselves to granting loans to students in respect of the University College or whether they will also make loans to students who want to take degrees at any University in England or Canada provided that the candidates are suitable. I feel that before we vote for this Resolution we should know which is the correct policy that the Government is going to adopt and to what this colony must look forward. Another point is that which has been raised by the honourable junior member for St. Philip; if the Government is going to adopt the policy of granting loans to allow individuals to study abroad, it must be borne in mind that the money which they are receiving is money which belong to the people of this community; and they should give the benefit of their education to this community before they go outside. I feel that there are two broad principles which must be known before we decide to use the taxpayers' money to help individuals who cannot help themselves.

Yet another point is that we are at present singling out two individuals to be loaned this money to enable them to attend the University Colllege; but one does not know how many more people would have sat for an exhibition to this College if they knew that such a position existed. Probably very many more people would have stood to benefit from this scheme if they knew that it was in the offing. I feel that this scheme should have been made known by the Government before we adopt a side issue of this kind. This is not the correct way of establishing the scheme; I feel that we should be more fundamental in the policy which we are going to adopt and not adopt any haphazard policy. We should have some definite statement from the Government before we vote for this Resolution this afternoon. I would be pleased to see our people qualify having obtained higher education because I feel that a community with qualified people will be a community which will be respected, and we will feel safer because we will be able to face the demands of the future. I do not see that there is anything wrong in adopting the correct policy; we must remember that we are concerned about higher education and there are many people of this colony who would be glad to have a little secondary education. At the present moment scholarships are limited; if we can afford to make loans to individuals so that they can go out and study, we should also consider that there are other people who would like to get secondary education, people whom we should assist. The Government should take all these things into consideration and have a clear-cut policy in respect of what they are doing.

Mr. ALLDER: This Resolution is for the purpose of helping two students who have been recommended on good authority for assistance, and I say that the Government should be free to use its discretion when it comes to a question of dealing with needy cases. I would hate to see this Government become a money-lending Government. As a matter of fact, any Government that wants to do good should prefer to give money to the poor rather than to lend money to people who are higher up the social strata. We have had the hard experience of scholarship winners in the past treating us in a dishonourable way when this colony found it difficult to get specialists in the various Departments. I have in mind now the case of a scholarship winner; everybody in the island appreciated his winning that scholarship and, speaking as a member of the Lodge School Board, when we sent to engage his services and offered him the same conditions of employment which he now enjoys in Africa, he told us pointblank "No." That is the case where a scholarship winner has not been mindful of the colony which has contributed to his education. If you have needy cases I say that you should use your discretion; but if the Government is to become a money lender in an indiscriminate way, I say "No." You should not try to bind the Government to lend money for this purpose to every-

body who applies for a loan because you are liable to find that you concentrate more on higher education, although I am not against people getting higher education, at the expense of the educational scheme. I feel that emphasis should be laid on the extension of the facilities which are to be enjoyed in the Elementary and even the Second Grade Schools. It is a fact that if the Government sets up a scheme of lending money you are going to find that it cannot adopt the practice which is adopted by private enterprise, that is, forcing the hands of those who borrow from it, and there is no jailing although it is felt necessary that the Government should get back the last half-penny. If the Government should embark on such a thing, we know that everybody will feel that the Government should give everything; but in case the Government meets with any bad payments and nobody is asked to pay up, advantage will be taken of the Government. You have no set conditions whereby the money is to be repaid and therefore it is gone; that is where you get the bureaucratic system where certain people are promoted at the expense of others. I say that there are many money lenders around Bridgetown; if you feel you have a child who can enjoy the benefits of a good education and you need assistance, then consult outside money lenders. I feel that the Government should lend money to the poor people to enable them to build houses and it should extend the facilities for elementary and even secondary education for the majority of those who are scarcely able to afford their children the benefit of attending a Second Grade School.

On the question of people returning to the colony and giving assistance to it after they have qualified, I see that the British Council has seen fit to make such a stipulation and the Government should also make that stipulation. We are suffering from the shortage of specialised people, and if people want our assistance we should be able to put in the agreement something by which the colony will benefit. We have to face the facts and it is not being selfish if you give a pound and ask back for a quarter. We do not want people to come back here and work for nothing; all we are saying is that we have been so kind to you as to enable you to qualify yourself that you can come back here and help us to fight this shortage of technical people in this colony. I do not agree that this Government should become a money-lending concern except in cases of great necessity. With the amount of unemployment in this colony and the lack of proper provision in Elementary Schools, I think we should address ourselves to those questions rather than building up the superstructure and leaving the foundation without proper attention.

Mr. REECE: The honourable member who has just sat down says that we want to encourage specialists amongst us; well we are going to lend this money in order to enable these students to become specialists and they are not of the monied class. The mere fact that the Government has had to come and ask for this loan on behalf of these students should point out to the honourable member and others of what humble circumstances the parents of these students are.

Mr. ALLDER: On a point of order. I want the honourable member to understand that I am in sympathy with these students and I am supporting this Resolution. I appreciate the Government's attitude towards them.

Mr. REECE: I am glad that the honourable member has given the assurance that he will support this Resolution because he is a true Barbadian who is seeking the benefit of the community at the expense of the taxpayers. The object of this Resolution is simple; here are two students who are unable to take advantage of the brains which God has given them and the Government is asking for assistance for them. It is the duty of the Government to assist people to build houses and also to assist people in getting their education. Both of these things are essential to the welfare of the people. I know that when the honourable Leader of the House made that statement there was a great underlying principle behind it; he would not have made that statement without responsibility. Although the Government has not yet worked out the details under which any loan scheme in respect of education will operate, yet the Government is committed in principle to what the honourable member has said, namely, that in suitable and deserving cases the Government is willing to provide the funds whereby people who have natural ability will be able to attend a University and enjoy the benefits of such an education. I do not think that anybody would disagree with that; but each case has to stand on its own merits. One has to look at the surrounding circumstances and see whether the Government would be correct to extend such facilities. The principle is there and there is no gainsaying the fact that this assistance is given to people in the hope that they will return to this colony and give it the benefit of the education which they have received.

As has been pointed out by the honourable senior member for St. John, the terms and conditions for the repayment of these loans must be put in the agreements. When the Government makes a loan, the King's Solicitor is called in and the legal provision is put in the agreement. This is a question of making loans and the Government will see that the loans are repaid. And do not let anybody think that the Government will play ducks and drakes with its money; the Government will see that the money is repaid. If it turns out that the people who have been granted a loan are unable to repay it, the Government is not like a private individual who is willing to carry them to jail; the Government in such circumstances, has extended the sympathy which one would expect a father to extend to a defaulting son. As regards this Resolution, we are going to vote for it; and I accept what the honourable senior member for St. Joseph has said. As far as he is concerned, it is the duty of the Government to provide money whereby, in deserving cases, people in straitened circumstances and who are in need of money, can obtain the necessary loans so as to educate their children. I cannot see any better use to which public funds can be put, because no community can live and thrive unless there is culture and refinement; and the best means of obtaining culture and refinement is through education. When these students return here after qualifying and work for us, they will be able to spread this culture and refinement among the people of the community and raise the cultural tone of the people of the colony. I cannot see the position in any other light; I would like to see the island in a position that we can grant many scholarships. Recently the Government has extended the number of scholarships to the present figure, but the Government has to be guided by the state of its finance; there are many Heads of expenditure and the Government has to consider carefully how much money can be spent on each Head. If the time comes when the Government finds that it is able to grant a greater number of scholarships to the University College I do not think that the Government will refuse to do so and so open the door for higher education to the children of this colony. On this question of mak-

ing loans the Government has already taken all the safeguards to see that it is properly protected. I do not think that there should be any conditions attached to a loan; if a man gets a loan and repays and benefits by it, he should be able to diffuse his knowledge among mankind in general, the world being a small place. I am in wholehearted agreement with this Resolution and I hope that the Government will pay special attention to the Rules and Regulations under which the Government lends money. I hope that the Bill under which the Government will be working in respect of the loan policy will, at a later date, be put before this House for our consideration.

Mr. ADAMS: Although the honourable member who has just sat down has really put the Government's case very well, I will reply. The Government has a loan policy for education. Other members of the Government will agree with me when I say that there is no reason why we should not lend money to people to enable them to send their children to secondary schools until the colony can afford free secondary education. There is every reason for spending money at the bottom even before you spend it at the top because more of the people at the bottom will remain in the island than those at the top, I repeat that the Government has a loan policy for education, but it has not worked out all the details. As to the question as to whether loans will be extended to persons in respect of places other than the University College, I say that we have not yet made up our minds as to that. I wish to say this: the honourable senior member for St. Lucy should not accuse the Government of doing things in a haphazard way, the Government would never have come to this House unless it had made up its mind. These two students are bound to come in under any loan scheme because you have to include the University College of the West Indies; whenever the scheme is brought about we will not be making loans to people who do not come under the scheme. We were told by Dr. Taylor that he has to make provision to get these students down for the October term and therefore we come down with this Resolution. These students have been given a grant of £100 per annum, and it has not happened that the University College has given people, out of its own funds, a grant to attend the College. This is the first time, so far as I know, that such a thing has happened and the Authorities of the College must feel very keenly that these candidates are suitable ones for University education. If we want to build up a real West Indian University we should do our utmost to build it up to the highest standard.

On the question of attaching conditions in respect of scholarships I have discussed that with Heads of the British Government from time to time; I have discussed the matter with Dr. Taylor, Dr. Priestly and Sir James Irvine, Principal of St. Andrew's University and they all say that it may not be a bad idea to attach conditions in respect of scholarships, but they find that it does not always work and it is not the best thing for the Government to do. A girl may get married after studying medicine, but the condition of her scholarship was that she should return to the colony where the scholarship was granted and give assistance. You have to look out that people will get married. There is the case of a person who felt it his duty to pay back to the donors the money with which his wife was assisted in obtaining her education, since her getting married prevented her from fulfilling her obligation. We do not attach any condition that a scholarship winner in this colony should return to the colony. I deprecate people winning scholarships and then going to China and India instead of coming back to the West Indies, and in the nation which we hope soon to see, it would be an excellent thing if all scholarship winners were to come back to the West Indies. Too often in the past it has been felt by people that it was not worth while to return to the West Indies because there were no suitable jobs and they went to other parts of the world. We can take into consideration that in these particular cases before us, the students are going to read for degrees in Arts and therefore they are not likely to be running to some other parts of the world and making more money. These students are likely to teach in schools and one can reasonably expect that if they go to this University College, they are far more likely to find employment in the West Indian area.

Whatever might have been the case 20 years ago, a great change has come about. Could anybody picture the honourable senior member for St. John being a member of the Governing Body of the Lodge School at that time? Could you picture Mr. Millington and Mr. Clarke being allowed to cross Harrison College except on sufferance? All that has been changed; I do not want to say that it is due to the Labour Party's activities, (Laughter) but it is due to the spread of democracy in this island in the last 20 years. When Mr. Chris Springer first went to Harrison College he was asked why he did not try to get a job in West Africa; that shows the mentality of the rulers of this country 20 years ago. All that is over, the fear that a person might go and get his education abroad and then be forced to hunt about other parts of the world in order to make a living—all that is over. In the circumstances in which the selection of these people has been made by the University College Authorities, I see no fear about these two people being lost to the West Indies. I appeal to honourable members to see that if they agree in principle that it is a good thing to help a poor parent to educate his child who is promising and can take advantage of University education, they should vote for this Resolution, the Government having given the assurance that it has adopted the principle of a loan policy for education. We cannot say how far this policy will extend, but the West Indies University will be the first choice, and we do not extend the policy to anybody who comes along and says: "I want to send out my child." If a Barbados scholar is desirous of taking a post-graduate course and his parents cannot help him and a recommendation comes from his tutors, surely the Government would say: "Certainly, we will loan you the money to have that extra year." We are now awarding five Barbados Scholarships and we have to provide the money. On this question of making loans, it is a matter of £. s. d. Can we afford to set aside $1,000,000 for this purpose? We have to consider many things before we can come down with a clear-cut scheme in this respect; even in the case of house-building and fisheries we have had to put a limit and so even in the case of subsidisation because we have not got a bottomless Treasury. The Government will take into consideration all the suggestions made to-day in respect of the matter before us but, I repeat, we have not yet made up our minds as to details. We will remember what the honourable senior member for St. Lucy and the honourable senior member for the City have said, and if we cannot agree with those suggestions we will come back to the House and say why we cannot agree with them; but I hope that honourable members will agree to pass this Resolution so as to enable these students to go to the University College in the October term.

Mr. WARD: The hon. member says that the Government has no definite policy as regards making these loans at the present moment but we are asked to grant assistance to allow these students to enter the University College. I want to draw his attention to the fact that in the case of scholarships being awarded, those scholarships are competed for as a prize, whereas in this case these students have not obtained any scholarship; we are asked for assistance to enable them to enter the University College. These students have competed and failed but the Principal of the University College feels that if these students can be helped it would be a good thing for them. I never intended to oppose the Resolution; I only wanted to get some definite policy on which to work because we would be treading on uncertain ground. If we are asked anything about this matter we should be in a position to give a proper statement about what has taken place in the House

Mr. MOTTLEY: There is one point which has not been absolutely clarified. The hon. senior member for St. Joseph has told us that at present the Government has no definite policy in respect of lending money in order to allow students to enter Universities; he has not committed himself as to whether loans will be made in respect of the University College and any other recognised University. As the hon. senior member for St. Lucy has said, when people come to you, you must be able to clarify the situation because, no doubt, this matter is going to engage the attention of a good number of people. Two students have won the Exhibitions to the University College and the Government has decided to help these other two students. We also provide for scholarships to recognised Universities and what I am wondering is this; if students came up to open scholarship standard—if they were not successful in winning Barbados scholarships—and parents made application for loans so as to enable the students to attend a University, would they be given that assistance? I am voting for this Resolution to-day on the understanding that if any such cases arise in the future I will look forward to the Government giving similar help as they are giving in the circumstances in which the parents of these two students find themselves. Those of us who have not had higher education should not stay in the way of others who can get it. I never suggested that the Government should go into any money-lending business, but money loaned in respect of education is money well invested.

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

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

THE DOG LICENCE (AMENDMENT) BILL

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order stands in the name of the honourable senior member for St. Joseph, —Second reading of a Bill to amend the Dog Licence Act, 1902.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, — As honourable members who seem to follow the local Press very keenly would know, for some time—I say it merely as a statement. I intend neither praise nor blame—great enthusiasm and energy have been displayed by the Commissioner of Police and one of the things he feels is that we should be more up-to-date as regards the existence of stray dogs on the streets of Barbados. The Objects and Reasons of this Bill are, in effect, to make sure that a dog is licensed, that it can be checked that a dog is licensed because after the passing of this Act, a dog which appears on the street and not wearing a collar around its neck, can be spotted as either a dog that has not been licensed or a dog, if it is licensed, owned by a person who has been careless enough to let it go on the street without a collar, with a badge attached, around its neck. The Bill is simple and I suggest that it is non-controversial. The Government has asked for information on the subject and has been told that the sums mentioned in the Bill are reasonable. I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

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

Mr. LEWIS: Mr. Speaker,—I hope, Sir, in mentioning a point that struck me about this Bill, to bring home to honourable members a very serious aspect of life in this community. First of all, I should like to say that I do not think that a period of four days' detention is long enough, although I do not want to encourage people to have dogs, allow them to be kept for weeks by the Police, then go for them and when they get hungry again let them go astray. But I do feel that dogs stray now from houses for a longer period than four days and eventually return; therefore four days does strike me as a short period, especially if there is a lack of communication. Sir, a dog and I believe a horse have always been known to be the friends of man and I think we should be very careful to see that we are justified in taking the life of one of these animals and merely because it has been found straying around. Sometimes people find themselves in an economic position that they can afford to keep dogs and at another time they cannot. But, Sir, this is introducing into this community a very serious aspect. We are saying that where life appears to be superfluous and unwanted, the method of dealing with it is to destroy it. I cannot say that it is a bad principle to take these dogs off the streets because they are a danger to life, as far as traffic is concerned—a strong desire on the part of a driver not to kill a dog might cause him to pull off a dog and kill a human being — still I feel. Sir, that although we have to support the Commissioner of Police—every new man in a job wants to do something sensational and spectacular to show that he is at least taking a very keen interest in his duties—we are at this particular time in our history introducing the principle that where these apparently unwanted animals—these animals that are said to be the friends of man—are concerned, the way to deal with them is to dispose of them by taking their lives. I say, Sir, that I regret it. I do not want to be squeamish over the matter; if it has to be done and it has been found to be of good effect in other communities, I sincerely hope that it would have a good effect in this island. What I would like to know is whether the introducer of the Bill would accept an amendment to the Bill, if and when it reaches the Committee stage, to the effect that the period of detention of a stray dog by the Police should be a week or ten days, at least a longer period than four days. Four days seems a rather short period because you are going to find some very good dogs straying, some that are very valuable to their owners, some, if their detention was advertised, people would come along and perhaps they would find very good homes. Dogs are very intelligent animals and are very useful to people in this country. They protect the proper-

ties of people while they are asleep,—people who cannot pay watchmen to watch their properties I would consider my suggesion that the period of detention should be extended.

Mr. MILLER: Mr. Speaker,— I can hardly think of a more friendly animal which the Government would create a law to put to death. I once had a friend, a little dog called "Rags". He used to call at my works at breakfast time. I missed him for about two days and when I made enquiry I discovered that he was being detained by the Police. I hurried to the Police Station only to discover that he had been dead long ago. Dogs, Mr. Speaker, stray for long distances, especially during the mating season and some of them remain from their homes as many as five days. No one would have his dog taken to a police station wantonly. In my opinion a period of four days is too short; it should be at least seven days. After that, an advertisement should be inserted in the newspapers for another seven days and you will find that a lot of people would be glad to take these dogs and license them. I am pleading with the Government on behalf of these poor animals and am asking that it be so arranged that after a dog has been detained by the Police for seven days, an advertisement be inserted in the newspapers requesting persons to come in and take it; in that way I am sure that a number of stray dogs will find homes. I am asking the Government to reconsider this matter. It is true that stray dogs cause some trouble in respect of traffic and I can appreciate the Government's effort to eliminate this difficulty; but at the same time I hope the Government will reconsider the matter with the view of making it easier for these unfortunate dogs.

Mr. MAPP: I hope that the Leader of the House will see his way to extend this period of four days to a week as has been suggested by the last speaker. It may be that the owner of a dog which has been detained by the Police has had it licensed and the badge may have been lost from around its neck; the Police find it straying and if the period of its detention is only four days, it may be that the owner may lose that dog through not having sufficient time to prove that he has licensed it and received a badge which has been lost. I do not know if by some remarkable coincidence this has been introduced now that a Chinese Restaurant is to be opened in this City but, Sir, it is sufficient to say that it does have a little foreign and eastern aspect about it. Barbadians are not accustomed to these drastic measures in respect of their straying animals and I should like to give straying dogs a chance to go back to the fold and rejoin its family. I myself think that this is a bit hard on the canine species. I am not surprised that members would be pleased if the time limit for the detention of these poor creatures is extended because if the dog is a friend of man it would seem a bit unfriendly on our part to have it disposed of in such a short time as four days. Another thing we have to remember is this: There are many people who keep dogs, who love dogs but really cannot afford to license them. It has been suggested that the Government should give such persons a loan. Sir, I am serious about this matter; it is not a matter about which to make fun. The male sometimes has a very harsh feeling towards animals but the female loves animals. We are not taking this thing seriously enough and I hope that the Leader of the House would see his way to extend this period of four days and give these dogs a better chance. I do not know if when these dogs are impounded they will be put in a particular place and an advertisement inserted in the local Press so that people could have a chance to go and see what can be done to save the animals' lives. I feel that that is a course which should be pursued. Possibly somebody who wants a good dog may see one, like it and may be willing to give it a chance to live. I feel that such a person should be given the opportunity to take that dog. If we extend the period of detention, a dog would have a better chance of getting someone to take care of it. A child may take off a badge from the neck of a dog or the dog itself may take it off. The dog may regard a badge as a chain and I myself would not blame him for taking it off. This Bill can have serious repercussion. We think of these creatures in this way because they are not human beings. Think of persons who love animals. You may be unnecessarily imposing a severe strain on some human being who really loves dogs and I feel that the Government should extend this time limit. We know that the Commissioner of Police is going about his duties as fearlessly and as expeditiously and as judiciously as possible and if the Act makes this provision he means to have it put into effect whether it is a burden on the people or not; but we have to take into consideration in this House certain conditions that may arise as the result of legislation which we pass. I think that these dogs deserve a better chance than this and I hope that the Leader of the House will see his way to extend this time limit.

Mr. ALLDER: Whether they be good dogs or bad dogs, life is important. Honourable members seem to be localizing the matter to dogs that are well fed and dogs that are neglected, but I feel that all life is important. I regret we have to discuss a bill of this sort this afternoon. I would like to know if the dog problem in this island is as great as the Bill purports it to be or whether because there have been a few articles in the newspapers suggesting that certain dog owners do not keep their dogs tied and that they run at people, this Bill has been introduced or if because a few dogs run about the streets of the City this legislation has been brought forward to have badges attached to collars around the necks of dogs. It does not end with a few defaulters nor does it end with putting collars around the necks of dogs with badges attached to the collars. The result is going to be a mass destruction of lives; no notice is given of such a consideration because it affects only dogs in this case. As I have said, all life is important and although a few dogs do cause us a little annoyance, yet I feel that some sympathy should be shown towards them. In case honourable members do feel to pass this Bill I would like to say that I do not see my way to support it because it seeks to destroy the lives of creatures who, like ourselves, are not responsible for their presence on this earth and some of whom, like some of us, have to eke out an existence by all means. I cannot lend support to the passing of this Bill but in case the majority of members feels to pass it I am going to ask the Government to be very careful that undue suffering is not allowed to take place with these dogs. I suggest that the assistance of the S.P.C.A. should be solicited, so that if in case the Police are forced to destroy these dogs by some means or other, that means could be of a very painless nature. Another thing is this: It has been suggested that advertisement in the newspapers should be resorted to in the case of dogs that are detained by the Police. I say this: We should not resort to any advertisement in this matter because that would be aiding and abetting something which is not necessary. Although there are many dogs which appear to be unowned yet I believe that these dogs have a right to existence and that Nature should have its course in eliminating any species of the animal kingdom that needs to be eliminated and

that fails to compete in the battle of life. I believe that legislation should be the last resort if you feel that you have a couple of creatures that are of no material benefit to your community. I wish the Government would refrain from bowing to the suggestions which appear to me to have come from the Commissioner of Police and a few contributors to the Press. The problem is not so great in my opinion; although it is a slight problem yet the dogs still need the sympathy of man.

Mr. REECE: Mr. Speaker,—I am not in favour of this Bill for many of the reasons which have been stated by other honourable members and in addition I would like to say this: In this colony where we have so many poor people owning dogs that appear on the highways it is going to be very difficult to carry out the provisions of this enactment. Talking about a badge, you have to buy a proper leather collar to which to attach that badge. A badge is to cost twelve cents but what about the cost of the collar to which that badge is to be attached? People in Barbados who own dogs are for the most part poor people. Are they in a position to buy for their dogs collars to which these badges must be attached? Further, as has already been pointed out, the collars and the badges may be lost and the poor person who owns a dog would, in such circumstances, have to buy a new collar and another badge. This legislation may be all right for England but I do not think that it is suitable for Barbados.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker,—I am going to ask leave to postpone the further consideration of this Bill although I am not completely persuaded by some of the arguments which have been adduced. It would seem as though some honourable members are not aware of the Bridgetown, Speightstown, and Holetown Act which to-day says that a police constable could shoot at sight every dog that walks around the streets of Bridgetown before 5 o'clock in the morning and after 8 o'clock at night. For years, that provision has been on the Statute Book. I believe that you can go back as far as the 18th century and find a similar legal provision. Stray dogs have been liable to be shot for the last 100 years or more and I make that statement in order that honourable members may see that their criticism about the taking of dogs' lives is not so well founded. While other honourable members were speaking I drafted an amendment to give the Commissioner of Police power to sell or destroy a dog that is detained by the Police. I have no authority other than to bring this Bill before the House but I can well see that the Commissioner of Police may be given authority to sell as well as to destroy a dog that is detained by the Police. The Police could not detain a dog indefinitely; if the owner would not claim it within a reasonable period, they must dispose of it and I can well imagine that the Executive Committee would agree to an amendment of the sort I am suggesting. As regards the period of four days, if a person loves his dog and it does not come home on a particular evening he would go and report it to the nearest police station. If he cannot afford to pay for four days he cannot afford to pay for 14 days; so that the shortness of the period is no hardship. I have craved Your Honour's indulgence to make these explanations because I have no authority to amend the Bill but I can well see the usefulness in giving the Commissioner of Police authority to sell. I, therefore, ask leave to postpone the further consideration of this Bill.

There being no objection, the honourable member is granted leave and the further consideration of the Bill is postponed.

THE CURRENCY BILL.

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order stands in the name of the honourable senior member for St. Joseph, —Second reading of a Bill to implement an Agreement to provide for a uniform currency in the Eastern Group of the British Caribbean Territories and for purposes connected therewith.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker,—This is a Bill to implement an Agreement made between certain of the Caribbean Colonies in the Eastern Group to have a unified system of Currency. The preamble of the Bill sets out how it happened to reach here and I would just like to point out to honourable members that this Bill has already been passed in St. Lucia, I know, and in Trinidad, I think. I am not sure how many of these Colonies have passed it but I am told that it has been passed in Trinidad and I have seen a copy of the St. Lucia Act. Certain suggestions were made from time to time while the Currency Conference was sitting and were approved of by the Governments of the different Colonies concerned. I do not think that we would be justified in altering anything in this Bill except to correct a few obvious mistakes. As I have said, the paragraphs of the preamble sufficiently explain the history of the Bill and I, therefore, beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. COX: I beg to second that.

Mr. LEWIS: Mr. Speaker,—Although this is a uniform Bill and one resulting from an Agreement I think that it is of sufficient importance for us to have some brief history of the Agreement. This Bill was circulated among honourable members only yesterday and so far as I know—at least I have not received it—we have not received any Report from the Currency Conference. There are other Conferences which have sat and I have received copies of their Reports but so far as this Currency Conference is concerned I have not seen a copy of its Report. The thing that you see and read in respect of this Conference is that they have agreed to have a uniform currency for the Eastern Caribbean; that is the decision which they have arrived at and I think that honourable members in agreeing to it, should be in possession of some of the facts. We are about to go into a Federation; we are about to take over the responsibility for things of this sort and it is items like this that should lay the foundation for the proposed Federation. The honourable senior member for St. Joseph would admit that a Bill of this importance has only been introduced with a few words by him. I think I heard him say that a Report has been written. Probably there are few of us who can understand it but speaking subject to correction a Report of that Conference has not been circulated to me. I do not remember receiving a copy of it. I do not know what is going to be our responsibility in respect of the new currency issue for this area. I fail to see why we should run headlong into agreements on Customs Union and Currency Uniformity with Countries who have not signified their intention to join us in a Federation. So far as we know now, they are entirely out of it and if there is anything to be got out of a Note issue I do not see why they should be allowed to come into it. There is not going to be any such thing as a Barbados Note or a Trinidad Note; it is going to be a West Indian and British Guiana Note and you are linking up your Currency or Note issue or Customs arrangements with those of people who seem not to be willing to join us in a Federation and bear their share of the Federal burden. However,

Sir, the fact remains that perhaps it is the result of absolute ignorance of this thing that I am saying what I am saying. Mr. Speaker, as I said, I do not feel that I have had sufficient information about this Bill to be able to vote for it now. Who were the representatives of Barbados at this Conference? I do not know who they were. I feel that this Bill should be referred to a Select Committee for, at least, a week. There are lots of things which take place at a Conference that are not written in the Report and a person who has been associated with the proceedings should be able to come and tell you something about the scheme. There are lots of things that are going through very fast and the principle of Federation has not even been settled yet. We should not do these things just for the sake of aping other people. We should show some responsibility and that we have some undersanding about them. There is not an honourable member who would vote for this Bill that would be able to understand it; he may think that it is something very good but he does not understand it, and I feel that that is not the way to pass legislation in this Country. If we had representatives at this Conference they should be able to account for what was done. Sir, I might be taking my responsibility too seriousy in this House but it does seem to me as if I am doing right in this instance not to vote for this Bill now and I think I should say so. I am about to do away with Barbados Notes, am having certain coins thrust upon me and I do not understand it at all. Years ago when you went to Barclays Bank or the Royal Bank of Canada—I do not know if it was a form of advertisement—you would not be able to get a note from either of those Banks without the particular Bank's name being on it. You go to the Royal Bank of Canada and ask them to give you a couple of dollars and they take up a Trinidad Note or a British Guiana Note and give it to you and the people of Barbados do not know the reason for that. The Manager of Barclays Bank, among others, sat on this Conference. I am not saying that anything is wrong but in the absence of an attempt to tell me what it means I am at liberty to say that I have a reason for holding it back. We get talks over the Radio about all sorts of things. This matter is either too technical or there is something to hide. I feel that we are a responsible people and long ago we should have demanded the reason that made some Notes legal tender in Barbados and not in St. Lucia or Montserrat. Those Banks that are withdrawing their Note issue may be willing to get out; we want to know the reason. We have a Financial Secretary in this colony who is drawing a good salary and instead of making budget speeches this is a matter on which he could give a simple talk over Radio Distribution and let us know what we are doing. Honourable members should get an elementary knowledge of what this Bill means. Mr. Speaker, I am making these remarks for the purpose of the Record because I can assure the honourable member who is trying to interject remarks that he is entirely wrong in what he has just said. I do not remember this House agreeing in principle to any Uniform Currency. I read every debate that takes place in this House and that is not in the debates. But if the honourable member remembers correctly, he will remember this—Federation Conferences, Unification of Services, Customs Union and Uniform Currency—those are the things going together: we never pick on one without the other; these things follow behind the Closer Association Committee Conferences and they are linked up. I defy any member of this House to say that I have said one single word on this Eastern Caribbean Uniform Currency before. I am saying that this is of sufficient importance that we should know something about it, The senior member for St. Joseph is saying that you cannot change this Bill. I go so far as to agree with him that if it is the result of an Agreement, the provision must be universal in the area but the question is for us to understand what we are doing and the fact that you cannot change it is all the more reason why you should understand what you are doing. I do not expect that the senior member for St. Joseph or any of the other honourable members of the Executive Committee would be *au fait* with a matter of this sort. I do not think that any of them represented us on this Conference and whoever did should come to our assistance. Especially now that we have a Financial Secretary he could have been asked to write a memorandum on this Bill. They will have the benefit, as far as I have been made to understand, in the Other Place of the knowledge of the financial expert of the colony and the delegate to this Conference and we shall have to be content with what they have been able to communicate to the members of the Executive Committee; that is the type of thing we have to put up with. As I have said, honourable members have had this Bill circulated among them only yesterday and it would be a good thing if the Government would accept a motion for its postponement. If I could get some indication that the Government is willing to postpone the further consideration of the Bill I would make a motion to that effect. Mr. Speaker, in order to safeguard my position I beg to move that the further consideration of this Bill be postponed. I am doing that, so as to safeguard my position that at least I have made a motion in accordance with the views I hold on this matter.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker,—I am going to second the motion for the postponement of the further consideration of this Bill because I agree with my colleague when he said that we received copies of it only yesterday. I understand that there has been some argument on this in this House before but it might have taken place while I was absent from the island. I understand the senior member for St. Joseph to say that we cannot alter this Bill but be that as it may it would still be a good thing to give us an opportunity to study it. I should like to know what I am voting for and that is the reason why I am seconding the motion of my colleague. I do not think there is any hurry for this Bill.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, — I am asking honourable members not to postpone the consideration of this Bill. The idea of a Uniform Currency began before the Montego Bay Conference. In 1946 in this island the Currency Conference sat and reported. I go further. Every Legislature concerned has, by Resolution, approved of the Report, including the Legislature of Barbados. This is only putting in legal terms what this Assembly has already approved of. The senior member for the City has forgotten. In 1946 the Currency Conference took place in Barbados—the Montego Bay Conference took place in 1947—and decided on a uniform currency for these islands and most of the Legislatures have approved of it. The form of this Bill was agreed on by another Conference that took place earlier this year; so that if honourable members are following events taking place under their very eyes they should know all that happened as far as this Bill is concerned. The Conference took place here in April at which Barbados was repre-

sented by the present Acting Colonial Secretary and the Honourable H. A. Cuke. The Financial Secretary of Trinidad, Mr. Robertson, came up—honourable members who saw him will remember him, a man 6ft. 2ins. in height—and Mr. Spence, Mr. Cools-Lartigue and others were in attendance at the Conference. In short, not only Legislators but the Law Officers of the Eastern Caribbean territories to which this applies have given their alteration to this Bill. The present Attorney General of Barbados drew attention to the possibility of its clashing with Barbados laws as regards the penalty for forging Notes, so as to get uniformity with regards to the penalty. If honourable members would read the penultimate paragraph of the preamble of the Bill they would see that it says this:—

> "And Whereas the Legislatures of the respective Colonies comprising the Eastern Group of the British Caribbean Colonies have, by resolution, approved of the establishment, in accordance with the recommendations contained in the Report of the Currency Conference, of a unified system of currency notes and coin for the Eastern Group of the British Caribbean Colonies. . . . ."

British Guiana, St. Lucia, every other colony has already passed this Bill which, in short, is merely putting in legal language what we, as a Legislative Assembly, have already approved of and what the Government of Barbados, through its Law Officers, has agreed should be the legal form of it. Therefore, I fail to see that any useful purpose can be served by postponing the consideration of this Bill. If I thought that the two honourable members for the City were going to read the Bill in the meantime I might postpone the consideration of it; they are two busy men and have no time to read a technical thing of this sort and no useful purpose would be served even if they do read it; they would come back and say that it is all right. I suggest that the Bill is as all right now as it would be when we come back to consider it. It has been threshed out by not only one Attorney General but by all the Attorney-Generals in the area. They went through it line by line. We have approved of the Report and left it to be put in legal form by the Attorney-Generals of the area and this is the form. The two honourable members for the city would only have done what I have done when I was in their stead that is, vote for the Bill and then go home and read it.

Mr. REECE: Mr. Speaker,— If the Governments of these islands and British Guiana, through their Law Officers have accepted the form of this Bill it follows that we can only accept it or throw it out *in toto*. But be that as it may, there is something in what the two honourable members for the City have said because no member should vote on the question unless he really knows the substance of the matter. The Bill cannot be altered; we have to accept it. I myself would have wished the senior member for St. Joseph to explain, in his second reading speech, exactly the nature of this Bill, not for my benefit because I have read it. But here is the honourable member on my left who said that he has not received his copy of the Bill. I would like to say for the information of the House that after the passing of this Bill local currency notes would be of no value. The Bill seeks to create a Board on which there will be representatives of Barbados, British Guiana, the Leeward Islands, Trinidad and Tobago, Grenada, St. Vincent, St. Lucia, and Dominica, and they will be the sole authority for using currency notes in this area. The junior member for the City has said that the Banks have authority to issue their notes and that the Banks are withdrawing their issues and if this Bill is passed the sole authority to issue currency notes will be the "Board of Commissioners of Currency, British Caribbean Territories (Eastern Group)." This Board will issue notes and coins in the following demonstrations:— 100 dollars, 20 dollars, 10 dollars, 5 dollars, 2 dollars, and 1 dollar notes, respectively, 50 cents, 20 cents, 10 cents, 5 cents, 1 cent, and ½ cent coins respectively. I do not intend to go through the provisions of the Bill because, as the senior member for St. Joseph has said, it is a matter which we have to accept. But I think the senior member for St. Joseph should elucidate certain points for the benefit of honourable members, especially those honourable members who have not received their copies of the Bill. There is one point I should mention and it is in connection with Clause 8 of the Bill which provides that the Government of Trinidad and Tobago, having undertaken to advance the necessary funds to repay preliminary expenses and initial expenditure in connection with the establishment of the unified currency, the Board shall reimburse the Government of Trinidad and Tobago the amount of such advances. In other words, Barbados is not going to advance any money. When it comes to sharing the profits, Trinidad and Tobago will receive 55 per cent., British Guiana 25 per cent., Barbados 10 per cent., the Leeward Islands 4 per cent., and the Windward Islands 6 per cent. When it comes to the losses, Barbados will also share in them.

The question that the further consideration of this Bill be postponed is put and resolved in the negative without division.

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

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to move that Your Honour do now leave the Chair and the House go into Committee on this Bill and that it be an instruction to the Clerk to call each Clause in Committee but not read it.

Mr. COX: I beg to second that.

The question that Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair and the House go into Committee on the Bill and that it be an instruction to the Clerk to call each Clause in Committee but not read it, is put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

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

Clauses 1 to 8 inclusive are called and are agreed to.

Clause 9 is called.

Mr. COX: I beg to move that Clause 9 stand part of the Bill.

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

Mr. LEWIS: I am going to take the opportunity to point out that the Secretary of State will be controlling everything in connection with the issuing of these currency notes. You are going to have a Federation, Dominion Status with a Governor General, and a Board of Commissioners of Currency and everything in connection with that Board will be solely in the hands of the Secretary of State for the Colonies. There are one or two things I intend to point out later on for the information of hon. members, so that they cannot say that they were not pointed out to them.

The question that Clause 9 stand part of the Bill is put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Clauses 10 to 15 inclusive are called and are agreed to.

The first Schedule is called.

Mr. COX: I beg to move that the first Schedule stand part of the Bill.

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

Mr. LEWIS: With respect to this schedule, this is one of the provisions of the Bill to which attention has been previously called. Sub-paragraph 2 of paragraph 5 says:—"The participating Governments shall be entitled to share in the Surplus Account according to the following scale:—

Trinidad and Tobago		55	per cent.
British Guiana		25	„ „
Barbados		10	„ „
LEEWARD ISLANDS:			
Antigua	1.8		
St. Kitts	1.6		
Montserrat	0.6	4	„ „
WINDWARD ISLANDS:			
St. Lucia	2.4		
Dominica	0.9		
St. Vincent	1.2		
Grenada	1.5	6	„ „
		100	per cent.

I am drawing attention to the fact that you have Trinidad and Tobago sharing in the profits of this undertaking to the extent of 55 per cent. Now, there may be some reason for that. I do not know that we are so poverty stricken that we cannot advance an amount but if that is the reason for Trinidad and Tobago sharing in the profits to such a large extent I say that at least a little point like that should be of interest to us and we should know something about it. I do not know if these percentages have been fixed on the basis of population or what. I am just asking for an explanation as to how they arrive at these percentages.

Mr. WARD: I think we should get some information on that point. If Trinidad and Tobago is to get 55 per cent. and Barbados only 10 per cent. we should have some explanation of the basis on which it is done. I presume that the honourable Leader of the House would be able to give us some enlightenment on that point.

Mr. ADAMS: I regret, Mr. Chairman, that I do not have with me my copy of the Conference's Report. The reason is set out in the Report. Unfortunately I took too much for granted. I thought that honourable members were satisfied that they had read the Report and had agreed to this principle. However, that is no excuse for my not having the Report with me but the reason is set out in it as to why it should be done in this way.

The question that the first schedule stand part of the Bill is put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

The second and third schedules and the preamble are called and are agreed to.

On the motion of Mr. Cox, seconded by Mr. F. L. WALCOTT the CHAIRMAN reports the passing of the Bill in Committee.

The House resumes and on the motions of Mr. Cox seconded by Mr. F. L. WALCOTT in each case, the Bill is read a third time and is passed.

WILD NATIVE COTTON ERADICATION BILL, 1950.

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the hon. senior member for St. Peter:—Second reading of a Bill to provide for the eradication of native wild cotton.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: In moving the second reading of this Bill I should like to say that we all realise the importance of keeping Sea Island Cotton pure, and there is evidence that Wild Native Cotton has been found mixed with Sea Island Cotton. The object of this Bill is to give the Director of Agriculture or any person authorised by him, permission to order the destruction of Wild Native Cotton. It is a question of preserving Sea Island Cotton; there is the danger that if any wild native cotton is found in the Sea Island Cotton when it reaches England, the whole bale of cotton is lost and no payment is made for it. This Bill seeks to remove that danger and I beg to move that the Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. COX: I beg to second that.

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

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

The nine Clauses of the Bill were read and passed.

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

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. F. L. WALCOTT, seconded by Mr. Cox in each case, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

ORDER POSTPONED

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day is to resume debate on the second reading of a Bill to amend the law relating to Separation and Maintenance.

Mr. ADAMS: I ask leave to postpone the consideration of this Order.

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

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Mr. MILLER: I ask leave to proceed with Order No. 2 standing in my name under Private Members' Business as the first Order of the Day under this Head.

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

ADDRESS *RE* HARDSHIPS INFLICTED ON OCCUPIERS OF AGRICULTURAL LANDS.

Mr. SPEAKER: The first Order of the Day under Private Members' Business stands in the name of the hon. senior member for St. George:—To move the passing of an Address to His Excellency the Governor relating to the hardships inflicted on occupiers of agricultural lands rented on a weekly or monthly basis when called upon to give up possession.

Mr. MILLER: In moving the passing of this Address I would like to say that I do not think it

is a controversial matter. This Address reads as follows:—

The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency the Governor

The House of Assembly respectfully ask to draw to Your Excellency's attention the hardships inflicted on occupiers of agricultural lands, rented on a weekly or monthly basis, when called upon to give up possession of such land with valuable crops thereon within a period of a week or month.

The House of Assembly would ask Your Excellency to send down legislation to provide that such notice should not be operative until after the harvesting of the crop, in order that the occupier may obtain the maximum benefit from his investments in fertilisers, seeds and labour.

The House would ask that such legislation should include the alternative compensation of valuation of the crops on the land, as if they had been fully matured and calculated on the basis of the previous year's market price, this valuation to be done by a Valuation Committee, comprising of one person nominated by the owner of the land, the second by the occupier and the third who will be chairman to be the Director of Agriculture or his nominee, with the right of appeal by either party to the Executive Committee.

This question of land tenure has created difficulties for centuries in this colony; I believe that this question of land tenure placed on a weekly or monthly basis was brought about immediately after the abolition of slavery where the slaves were forced off the plantations and they were asked to pay small amounts for the land which they occupied. Any rational human being would be opposed to slavery and I think it is time that we relieve the suffering masses of this hard obligation imposed by the employer and land owner. The position is made more difficult for an occupier who has cultivated valuable crops and is forced to remove his house which usually happens to be in a rather shabby condition, and I am impressed that we would be happy to remove these conditions. I do not think it is necessary for me to say very much in connection with this Address; it is the type of Address which should have an enthusiastic appeal to all honourable members and I feel that it should receive whole-hearted support. I suppose that all honourable members would be willing to agree that there are occasions on which an individual for some simple reason disagrees with a manager of a plantation, and that individual is forced off land on which he has cultivated crops. I know of a case in St. George where a person occupied half an acre of land for about 16 or 17 years and had fully-developed trees on it and he was asked to remove his old, broken down house. You can imagine the plight of a man who has created a little environment for himself and then he is suddenly asked to remove his house which really cannot stand removal; that is really harsh and uncouth on the part of a landlord. I think that members of this Assembly who possess social views must sympathise with the suffering masses, and I ask honourable members to regard this Address as a serious one. Earlier this afternoon we were dealing with dogs and honourable members held on doggedly and the honourable Leader of the House was asked to postpone the matter. I repeat that this is a serious Address; think of a man who has cultivated valuable crops on land which he occupies and suddenly he is asked to quit the land! Think of a person who, after several years of toil in creating a little environment for himself, has to remove somewhere else! Mr. Speaker, I am asking honourable members to be very sympathetic with this Address; it is one which deserves real action to be taken in connection with it. I ask honourable members to pay proper attention to this Address and see that we bring some measure of relief to people who have been suffering for centuries.

Mr. ALLDER: I beg to second the motion for the passing of this Address. I feel that when this Address is implemented and the necessary legislation is passed, that will put an end to the suffering which people in agricultural districts undergo. I feel that this state of affairs has been allowed to continue for too long in this colony; I have heard about cases where some labourers have been living and working on estates for over 50 years and I have also heard of cases where a little disagreement takes place between the manager and a worker and the worker is immediately told to remove his house off the land within a very short period. Another wrong which exists under the old law is that a manager is allowed to select his assessor when it is a question of assessing land which had been rented by a labourer. That has always been a one-sided piece of legislation on the Statute Book and the position has become worse by the fact that some people have been unable to get anywhere to remove their houses and on many occasions they have had to bow to the manager when there is a dispute. I hope that within a short period the Government will see its way to implement this Address because I feel that the legislation requested in it is long overdue and I must congratulate the honourable senior member for St. George on being so thoughtful as to bring this Address before the House Every honourable member should know the conditions under which many renters of land in the country districts suffer. There have been cases in which a manager goes to an estate and he might have a dispute with a labourer and he forgets all about that labourer having worked on that particular estate from the early part of his life. I have had to intercede in some of these cases; sometimes you do get sympathy from managers after they are approached, but we should not allow a situation to remain where workers are in such a position that at any time they may be asked to remove from land which they occupy. This Address is in respect of a piece of social legislation and I hope that the Government will have it implemented in a short time.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: It is not usual for members of the Government to be taking any active part in Addresses to the Government, but the honourable senior member for St. George should be told at an early stage that the views of the Government on this matter are well known. I will go further than honourable members who have already spoken in dealing with the essentials in this matter have gone. In connection with the agricultural industry you are asking for protection for workers and if you want to fully protect everyone in the industry you should go further than this Address goes. This Address refers to the valuation of crops, but that is not enough; you are thinking of the livelihood of the workers. No worker in the agricultural industry should be in the insecure position in which he does not know if next week he will still remain in the place which he now occupies because some plantation owner might dislike his point of view in asking for better conditions of work. Legislation has gone so far as to exempt tenantries from certain things and if you go so far as to protect them you should go so far as to protect the people who live in those tenantries and not regard them like houses which can be removed at the whims and fancies of people.

I hope that the honourable member who moved the passing of this Address will see that the two

Addresses which he has on the Order Paper should be incorporated into one, inasmuch as they deal with the same matter. Honourable members must see that in the 20th century you have to give the workers in the industry proper protection; the backbone of the industry should be protected and the employers will also have protection. We do not mean that a person can live on a spot for ever despite any offence he might commit. This House has continually given substantial protection to the sugar industry which has been rehabilitated and I say that the workers must be given every just right. There is one solitary representative of the sugar industry in the House now that this Address is being dealt with—I understand the honourable junior member for St. Andrew is here too—and I hope that honourable members will support this Address and see that the workers are given more protection. I am sorry that other representatives of the sugar industry are not here now but they must realise that the time has come when more protection should be given to the workers in the industry. No better protection can be given to any worker than for him to know that he is protected in a place for at least a year. As the Secretary of a Trade Union I know that a worker asked a question about her wages and she was given notice to quit. This woman owns a double-roofed house with a shedroof attached; she built it on the land of an estate and honourable members must know what it has taken that woman to build that house. She accumulated money out of the wages paid in the sugar industry and built that house on that land and because of a dispute in respect of her wages she is told that she must remove her house within seven days. Honourable members must realise the expense which she would have to undergo to remove that house within that time. At some of these plantations they have ready-made forms and they only have to fill in the names of those to whom notice is to be given. Seven days' notice to quit is so much in the air that the plantations go to the expense of having the forms made out. The workers in the coal-mining industry are given protection, but in the agricultural industry work is still of a casual nature and it does not give permanent employment to the 22,000 workers. With this casual nature of employment, those who own houses in the sugar industry have not only shown thrift but a lot of real sacrifice so as to own those houses at the rate at which they own them. I feel sure that when you give workers protection in an industry, they themselves will realise what that industry means to them.

I hope that honourable members, even those who are in the sugar industry, are not against the principle of giving security to workers, and they should say that they would not have a factory or estate with conditions which did not give workers security. If the Government still maintain the system of rehabilitation in the sugar industry we feel that the time has come when these employers who still have the mentality of those of 1650 should realise by now that an agricultural worker is more than a chattel house. I say that apart from the agricultural industry it should spread through the colony as a matter of principle that people are more than chattel houses. There are those who rent houses in tenantries like Carrington's Village and others where the density of population is very great. I do not know if all honourable members are aware of the density of population in places like the Orleans, Chapman's Lane and Delamere Land, and of the fact that in these places people live in shacks which are tumbling down and many people are called upon to remove these shacks; some people are called upon to remove their houses for political and other reasons and I feel that the honourable senior member for St. George has done a good service in focussing public attention on this matter. From the point of view of being a right policy, this is a matter with which I agree. I hope that when this Address is implemented and the necessary machinery is brought forward, it will find unanimous agreement with the people concerned. We are asking employers to give more protection to workers in the industry; with a progressive spirit we feel that greater protection should be given to those workers. The honourable senior member for St. George should have no fear about members of the Executive who are members of this House being in favour of the principle of this Address. I do not agree with the phrasing of the Address but the principle of it is sound and it commends itself to us as members of the Executive Committee.

Mr. LEWIS: While it may be said that this particular Address does not concern my constituency, I feel that it is an Address which has a bearing on rent restriction or rent control. (Laughter). It is not surprising to me that no Barbadian legislator knows about rent control which is something to do with ejectment. I think that the honourable mover has two Addresses on the Order Paper dealing with the same matter, and he should add a paragraph to this Address which would incorporate the other Address which is on the Order Paper and so save the House another debate on a similar issue. I fail to see why the honourable member in bringing forward this Address did not at the same time include some suggestion to the Government to control rents as well; because it is of no use extending the period for ejectment to a year or until after the crop on the land has been reaped and then the landlord charges so much rent for the land that the whole crop will have been lost. I feel that in addition to providing some security for an occupier you should also protect him against exploitation, otherwise the whole object of the legislation which is brought down will be defeated by unscrupulous landlords. In my opinion this Address should be slightly improved by saying that the Valuation Committee should be comprised of three persons, one nominated by the owner of the land, one by the occupier and the Director of Agriculture or his nominee who shall be Chairman, with the right of appeal to the Executive Committee. I suggest that such a wording would make the Address less cumbersome and the first paragraph of the first Address on the Order Paper could be included in this Address before us. What I am suggesting is that while you are extending the period of ejectment you should, at the same time, make some provision for the control of rents generally. My opinion is that if you can bring forward legislation to extend the period of ejectment and to control rents as well, that would be a good piece of legislation. I beg to move that a new paragraph to be numbered 4 be added to this Address to read as follows:—

"4. The House of Assembly would also draw Your Excellency's attention to the situation which has developed through the operation of the law which confers on landlords the right to eject within seven days or a month, occupiers of lots on which are chattel houses and suggest that legislation be enacted to provide for an extension of the present period for such ejectment." And that paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Address be numbered; that the words "comprising of one person" occurring in lines 4 and 5 of paragraph 3 be deleted and the words "comprised of three persons" inserted in place thereof; that the

words "the second" occurring in line 5 of Clause 3 be deleted and the word "one" inserted in place thereof; that the words "the third who will be Chairman to be" occurring in line 6 of Clause 3 be deleted; and that the words "who shall be Chairman" be inserted after the word "nominee" in line 7 of Clause 3; and that the words "Governor in" be inserted after the words "to the" occurring in line 7 of Clause 3.

Mr MILLER: I accept those amendments.

Mr. WARD: I do not believe that this Address will make very much difference as far as I am concerned. I have a good many renters on my land but I suppose honourable members may know that a good many people do not have any renters on their land at all. I can assure you that those who do not have any renters on their land get their work done as well as I get mine done and probably with less trouble. Nobody who has a good labourer on his premises will be willing to dispose of him because it is not easy to get good labourers on your premises today. Another thing which has to be borne in mind is that land which is rented to people on estates today is rented very cheaply, and if you make them pay more rent you would be giving them something with one hand and taking it away from them with the other. I do agree that seven days' notice to quit is not sufficient time to allow an occupier to find somewhere else to remove his house; even in the case of a person renting a house it would be difficult for him to find another house to rent. However it must be borne in mind that at some time or other a person will give trouble on an estate and he should be called upon to remove because he will always cause friction between himself and other people on the same estate. You will find that if you do not ask the individual to quit, two or three other labourers on the estate may quit because they may say that they cannot live along with that particular individual; in that case it is a question of saying whether you will lose one renter or three renters. I do not believe that any employer would be willing to dispose of good labourers who will work for him, because a good labourer is an asset to him and also to the sugar industry.

Although the honourable mover has sympathy whether politically or socially with labourers, he must be cautious in what he is doing before he plunges into doing things, because he may find that while he is doing something good for one person he may be doing a disservice to many. As I have said, there are those who do not have any located labourers at all; many people have planted grass on their tenantries. There are many people who work on my estate but they do not live there, and there are a good many people who live on the estate but they do not rent any land because the tenantry is all taken up, unless we cut up some of the agricultural land. The honourable mover must bear in mind that although this Address may have a social idea about it, he may find that eventually harm may come out of the same bad managers whom he is getting after; the honourable member may find that in protecting one or two people, harm may be done to many others. If you give protection to one you also have to give it to others.

On the question of the appraisement of crops, a man may say that after a certain time he will have to give up land which he occupies and he will get his crop appraised. If he does not like the appraisement which is made, he goes to the Court and the other man who rents the land pays the appraisement. I would say that although you may have a few cases where you may find that a manager is fairly rash to some people, yet I do not think that there is very much dissatisfaction with regard to renters being turned off without being given any proper time limit or anything of that sort. I have not had any occasion to send away anybody because they generally leave. I should like to say that there are more ways of getting rid of a man than giving him notice to leave; you can make things so rash for him that he will leave. I repeat that you may feel that you are doing something good for individuals, but that might not be so. A man may be renting land from me and his wife may be working with me and it would not pay me to eject him because in ejecting him I may lose two or three more labourers. I am not opposing this Address because, as I have said, its passing does not make very much difference to me. However, there are a good many estates in the island where land is rented today, and this Address may force reckless people to stop renting land to individuals or they may charge individuals more rent for the same land. As far as I know, the land rent which is charged on the estates is the same as when I first went out to work and that is nearly 30 years ago. The facilities which are given to renters on an estate are different from those allowed to people who rent outside; a renter on an estate can get help in repairing his house, he can get his canes hauled free of charge and he can get his fertilisers and pay for them when he reaps his canes.

Mr. ADAMS: I must thank the honourable member who has just sat down for the remarks which he has made: he has relieved my mind of a lot of doubts and worries. As the hon. senior member for St. Peter has said, ordinarily the members of the Government would not speak on a private Address to themselves and would not remain in the House when the motion is being put; but if we were to do that frequently, the House might find itself without a quorum. Therefore if members of the Government remain in the House when the motion is being put, that is not to be taken that we are taking part in Addresses to ourselves. This matter which is before us is one which is fundamentally Socialist; it is a matter which will arise in any community which started in a feudal state. I do not intend to go into any historical disquisition on this matter now, but hon. members will agree with me that the question of a landless proletariat has been the cause of more wars and civil strife than anything else in the whole history of mankind. It is only within comparatively recent times that the nations have shifted from the desire to grab land to a desire to grab world markets. One of the chief reasons for the last War was that Germany should get back her colonies. Everybody wants something out of which to get wealthy and it is inevitable that in every community there are a few people owning all the land when you feel that the land should be owned by the State and that individual holdings should be of the smallest possible quantity. Every individual should own the land on which his house stands and a small portion out of which he can feed himself; but we believe that all the rest of the land in any country should be owned by the country and no individual should have freehold although the leasehold should be indefinite. I ask this House to believe me when I say that it is the intention of the Labour members of the Government to work speedily for the attainment of the things which I have just mentioned. I want to thank the hon. senior member for St. Lucy for clearing my mind of some doubts. For some months I have been engaged in drafting my conception, with the intention of putting it up to my Party of course, of what land tenure in this colony should be, and I have made investigation at the International Labour Organisation as to similar bits of legislation in other parts of the world. In any event, we can go much further than this Address has gone; if there is one

thing which we, as a Party should agree to bring about as speedily as possible, it is the abolition of the weekly or monthly tenancy in respect of land. Everybody knows that the Irish Revolution was a land revolution; the possession of land was at the bottom of that Revolution. I am suggesting that if a man is renting an acre or half an acre of land—perhaps the minimum should be below that—it should be held on a yearly tenancy and the notice to give up possession should be a six months' notice.

On the question of proper compensation in respect of crops on land of which possession is to be given up, we want to make things more comfortable for tenants. The Police Magistrates could deal with the question of proper compensation to be paid. A man may go into a landlord's land and plant a most valuable orchard; all he is doing is adding to the value of that land. If the landlord chooses to tell you that you are a monthly tenant, you have a month's notice to quit; the position should be tenancy for a year or a lease for a long period. I have been working out some things in my mind for months and anticipating some of the objections of landlords. I regret that the hon. junior member for St. George is not here now because we would hear a little more from him. The Bill which it is proposed to bring forward will make it compulsory for every owner of land to set aside some of it for renting purposes, and provision will be made for the question raised by the hon. senior member for St. Lucy about a man making himself a nuisance. If a man who is a tenant fails to cultivate the land properly, that will be justification for going to the Court for an ejectment in respect of that man and the Court will make that man get off the land There is the question of making provision for depriving an owner of the use of his land if he does not cultivate it or making a tenant abandon land because he is not cultivating it. All these questions have to be threshed out before the Bill comes before the House. A couple of offences committed under the Petty Trespass Act would be justification for a landlord to give a tenant notice; but what this Party is aiming at is to provide security of tenure for tenants as much as it has provided security for workers in the Public Service. You see that somebody has paid carpenters to put a house on a spot and then he has to find somewhere else to put it. Let us put ourselves in the position of some of these people; suppose we had been given a month's notice to remove our houses, think of what it would mean to us. The hon. senior member for St. Lucy has a heart although he is a planter, and he will agree with us and will act on the principle that harsh methods do no good. It is not every owner of land who thinks so. I wish to assure the hon. senior member for St. George that the Government is going to abolish weekly or monthly rentals for agricultural land. There will have to be variation as regards the size of the land and this Government promises, or rather the Officers of this Party promise as soon as possible to present to the Party for their consideration a draft Bill, which will be forwarded to the Government, to cover security of tenure in respect of land; it will be a real, new land policy for Barbados.

The Government approves of the principle of rent restriction, but it is difficult to find somebody to take charge of the working of a Rent Restriction Board because it is a wholetime job necessitating legal ability. I would not like any honourable member to think that the Government is turning a deaf ear to appeals for a Rent Restriction Act; the Government has certainly made enquiries to get somebody with a legal mind to take charge of the working of a Rent Restriction Board. I repeat that the Government approves of the principle of rent restriction and as speedily as possible, honourable members can rest assured, provision for rent restriction will be brought down to the House. I want to say now that we either mean what we say or we say things because it suits the moment to say them. If the people in the sugar industry mean what they say about cooperation, then they must see that, however novel it may appear to them to hear about legislation such as that I have outlined, what some will call honest legislation, they owe a duty to the community to let labourers who make the wealth for them on their plantations realise that when they go to bed overnight they will not have any fear of their being given seven days' notice to leave the plantations. This Government is determined to put an end to all of that and it is determined to anticipate all the hitbacks which the plantocracy of the island will attempt to make. This Government is not so stupid as not to prevent the last state of the labourer from being worse than the first; the last state of the labourer will be better than what he has ever seen or dreamt about. The draft Bill which I have mentioned will be presented to the Executive Committee for its consideration and will, in due course, find its way to this House. I shall be asked: what about the Other Place? I give the assurance that the Other Place will be dealt with soon.

Mr. CRAWFORD: In so far as this Address seeks to remove the hardships from which people suffer, naturally it has our unqualified support. In spite of the liberality of some planters like the hon. senior member for St. Lucy, many agricultural workers are unduly oppressed in this matter of land which they rent from employers with whom they work. To my mind, this question goes further than merely removing the likelihood of oppression on renters of land by landowners in this colony; to my mind, the underlying situation is that more than two-thirds of the arable acreage of land rests in the hands of a few dozen planters while the majority of the population remain land hungry. This is a matter to which I have been addressing myself throughout all the years that I have been a member of this Chamber, and I would welcome the action of any Government which took it upon itself to do more than merely talk about removing the possibility of oppression on land renters by land owners, because that is not sufficient. What is more important is to make more of the land of the colony available to the people of the colony, or at least to make provision for ensuring that the profits from a greater portion of the land in the colony are distributed among the landless people rather than among 100 or 150 plantation owners. In my opinion, the first step which should be taken is to prevent any corporation or individual from owning more than a certain amount of land in a colony like this. When appreciable large portions of land are for sale or when plantations are for sale, the Government should own them rather than allow individuals or corporations to own every available acre of land in the colony and further extend the land monopoly which I have decried. Within the last five years a merchant in Bridgetown has acquired nearly 3,000 acres of land; he must own about 10 plantations by now and it is not fair for any Government to sit idly by and allow one individual to acquire so much land in a colony. When the *Simon Bolivar* got sunk in the War and Dunscombe Plantation in St. Thomas was for sale, I suggested to the Government that they should acquire that plantation for the purpose of land settlement. Of course I had better addressed my remarks in those days to the Nelson Statue; but the present Government should take steps to prohibit people from owning more than a certain amount of land. If it can be proved that by fragmentation we will seriously interfere with the economy of the colony then let us

set up our Land Development Corporation which will acquire land with the specific understanding that the profits obtained from such land will be divided among the workers who work on it. I feel that landless people should be given the opportunity to acquire land in the first instance or the land should be worked under conditions which guarantee that the profits derived from it will be divided among them. If the land proprietor who owns approximately 3,000 acres were allowed to own only 500 acres, of the remaining 2,500 acres people could own smaller portions or the land could be worked in such a way that at the end of the year the workers would be entitled to the distribution of the profits made from this land. Elsewhere in the Caribbean an agricultural worker has received as much as $40 as his share of the profits derived from the working of land by a Corporation for a year. While I support any attempt to make the tenancy by small holders more secure and less liable to the hardships which existed in the past and which still exist today, I am more conformed to the point of view that the more important thing to do is to make more of the land of the colony available to the people in it, or have a Government Corporation managed and run in such a way as to guarantee that the profits derived from the land which is acquired, are divided among the workers who have produced the profits from such land.

Mr. MAPP: Much has been said in connection with this Address and I do not intend to say much more on it in view of the remarks made by the honourable Leader of the House. There is one thing I would like to question and it is about the third paragraph of the Address; I am wondering why the honourable mover has suggested that the calculation of the compensation in respect of the crops on the land should be made on the basis of the previous year's market price. It is impossible to ascertain whether the market price of the crops this year will not be higher than that of last year and by putting that provision in this Address the honourable member might be defeating the very object which he has in mind. I think that the compensation in respect of the crops should be calculated on the same year's market price; when a man reaps his cane crop in one year, the price of canes may be higher that year than it was in the previous year. In my opinion, I would not put in the Address any basis of calculating the compensation at all.

Mr. REECE: I would just like to say a few words in connection with this Address; this Address as worded by the honourable senior member for St. George does not at all convey the thoughts, impressions and opinions as expressed by the honourable senior member for St. Joseph; it really applies to all land tenure under a weekly or monthly basis. What the two honourable members of the Government have spoken about is in connection with holders of land in the districts where sugar is produced, and they have expressed the view that the workers in the sugar industry should have security of tenure and they should not have any fear of being ejected from their holdings under a week's or a month's notice. That is an entirely different basis from that on which the honourable senior member for St. George has put the matter; and at first I could not understand how the honourable senior member for St. Peter was speaking along the lines on which he spoke. I would like to say that it is not only the tenant who has to be considered, but also the small landlord; I know of cases where landlords have great difficulty in receiving their rents and in ejecting tenants who fail to pay. It is not for me to repeat what the honourable senior member for St. Lucy has said: he has put the point of view of the plantation owner, but this question which is before us is a big one—one which it is difficult to solve. I hope that when the honourable senior member for St. Joseph is dealing with this question he will not forget that it is also the small landowners who have difficulties. These small landowners are far removed from the sugar industry, they are entirely dependent upon what they collect from their small holdings and their case also has to be considered. I know that tenants have been distrained upon and they have been successful in finding somebody using a fictitious name to interplead and the poor landlord has never received his rent. When this Address comes before the Executive Committee the two members of the Government who have spoken will have to explain exactly what the honourable mover wanted the Address to contain.

As regards the question of rent restriction, I am sorry that this matter has come up so late. Two or three years ago it was a difficult thing to get a house to rent, but to-day you see people having to wait for months before they can get tenants. I am glad to see that the situation is getting easier for the middle-class man because a lot of houses have gone up all over the island. The honourable junior member for St. Philip has struck another note in this matter; if you carry his argument to its logical conclusion it comes to a question of our wanting more land. Since the taking of the last census the population of this colony has increased and if it continues to increase, Barbadians will not be able to live here. The people of this colony are land hungry and if we continue to increase as we are increasing, no matter what we do we will not be able to satisfy the needs of our people in respect of land. I do not think it is necessary for me to say anything more, honourable members having already expressed themselves; but I would like to repeat that this Address even as amended does express a view which is entirely different from what members of the honourable mover's Party have expressed. This question of land tenure is a difficult one; as a mater of fact, it seems to me that we are going back to the state which obtained in Africa, that is to say, the land belonged to the tribe and a person is given a licence to live on it as long as he is a member of the tribe and he behaves himself properly. The idea is now developing that the land should belong to the State and everyone should use it for the benefit of the State and not for his own benefit. On the question of the Landlord and Tenant Act I could talk for a long time; it is an interesting subject. I will just say in conclusion that if and when this Bill to which the honourable senior member for St. Joseph has referred, does come down to this House I take it that the Bill will be in connection with tenants who are workers in the sugar industry as apart from other tenants; that is the impression which I have gathered from the remarks of the honourable senior member for St. Joseph and the honourable member for St. Peter.

Mr. FOSTER: I am not opposing the Address; I am supporting the remarks of the honourable senior member for St. Lucy and the honourable junior member for Christ Church. No landlord would want to get rid of a good tenant. I have all my land in tenantry and the only tenants whom I would like to get rid of are those tenants who will not pay the rent and if you have to wait for six months before you can get rid of them you will be put in a very precarious position. The honourable senior member for St. George and the honourable senior member for St. Peter do not seem to be very well acquainted with the Landlord and Tenant Act; I am sure that the honourable Leader of the House could tell them that if you want a tenant to leave

your land you have to give him a legal notice and then if he fails to leave, application has to be made to the Court. It takes three or four weeks before the case is heard and if there is an appeal it takes another ten days before the matter reaches the Assistant Court of Appeal. There is also the matter of the appraisement of crops; I am sure that poor people would prefer appraisements to be made by two or three of their brethren. I speak about myself as a poor man (Laughter). I was born poor and I will remain poor as long as I live. To-day most poor people are landowners and they are the people whom the Court will send to appraise crops; I do not think a more equitable appraisement could be made of a person's crop than by his poor brethren. These people would know more of the value of crops than a Police Magistrate; some Police Magistrates do not know the value of crops. I think it is fair that the position of the small landowners should be put to the honourable Leader of the House. I want to say that I have come from the bottom of the ladder and I will remain there; I do not expect to go any further. The principle of this Address is a good one; it is necessary to protect the labouring classes in this island and I will give this Address my wholehearted support. I would like to see the Bill referred to by the honourable Leader of the House come before the House in a good form, but I am still asking that a Rent Restriction Bill be brought down because some landowners are extortioners. Land will always bring a a big price because our people are land hungry and landowners are demanding big prices for their land. I will give such a Bill my wholehearted support.

Mr. MILLER: In replying to honourable members who spoke in connection with this Address I do so with mingled feelings. When I moved the passing of this Address I was somewhat impressed that to-night would have been the happiest night for me since my entry in politics. I must say that I am left with mixed feelings when I think of the speech made by the honourable senior member for St. Lucy who, I am sorry, is not now in his seat and who started off with a virtual threat. The honourable member said in the course of his remarks that this Address might have the effect of landlords refusing to rent land to people, and I accept his remarks as a savage attack on this Address. He referred to the Located Labourers' Act, an Act about which I would not imagine that any honourable member would have reminded this House. Long after the abolition of slavery the Located Labourers' Act inflicted hardships on the working classes, the very people who produced the wealth for the landlords; the people who produced the landlords' wealth were the ones who suffered most. I think that landlords should be kind to their tenants; I am rather sad about the attack which has been made on this Address and I am wondering if the honourable senior member for St. Lucy has drawn the conclusion that it is the privilege of landlords to force dissatisfied workers into submission. I feel that the passing of this Address to-night will bring joy to people who now live under the fear that they will be forced off the land which they occupy. People with their children suffer at the hands of uncouth landlords; it is true that we have some decent landlords, but at the same time it is necessary to legislate for those who would bring pressure to bear on those who are least able to bear it. I think that an Address such as this should be passed to-night so that people who occupy land can be given the opportunity of enjoying a little freedom. As I understand the position in this colony in the early days, there were a few rich people as against the thousands of slaves who were brought to the colony. I think that after 300 years this colony should be in the hands of those who have toiled and produced the wealth of the colony. I am very grateful to those honourable members who have shown much interest in this Address; I am thankful to the honourable Leader of the House and to the honourable senior member for St. Peter for their contributions. I also want to thank the honourable junior member for Christ Church although he concealed his true feelings when he spoke about the landlords. The honourable junior member for St. Andrew supported the remarks of the honourable senior member for St. Lucy. I do not think that in this age we should continue with the old feudal system; and as I speak on this question I think of Oliver Cromwell whose portrait appears in the stained glass window behind me. I feel that we should pass this Address and take the opportunity of bringing some relief to the thousands of people who have been suffering at the hands of landlords for three centuries. I repeat that I am grateful to those honourable members who have supported this Address and for the sympathy which they have shown and the sentiments which they have expressed in connection with it.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that this Address as amended 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. George to present this Address.

Mr. MILLER: As Your Honour pleases.

ORDER WITHDRAWN

Mr. MILLER: I ask leave to withdraw Order No. 1 from the Order Paper—To move the passing of an Address to His Excellency the Governor relating to the right of landlords to eject within seven days or a month occupiers of lots on which chattel houses are erected.

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

ADDRESS RE INSTALLATION OF A PUBLIC SLOT SYSTEM TELEPHONE AT TENT BAY

Mr. SMITH: I ask leave to proceed with Order No. 22 on the Order Paper as the next Order of the Day.

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

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the honourable junior member for St. Joseph:—To move the passing of an Address to His Excellency the Governor relating to the installation of a public slot-system telephone in the vicinity of Tent Bay in the parish of Saint Joseph.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker,—This Address reads as follows:—

The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency The Governor

The House of Assembly are of the opinion that the installation of a public slot-system telephone in the vicinity of Tent Bay in the parish of St. Joseph would serve a useful purpose and satisfy a crying need, and respectfully request Your Excellency to send down to the House at an early date legislation to implement this suggestion.

I do not want to speak for very long in moving the passing of this Address because; to use the words of the honourable junior member for Christ Church, I have not got the stomach of an ostrich. It is time that one should see after his stomach and not intrude on it. The wording of this

Address clearly indicates that there is a crying need for a public slot-system telephone in the vicinity of Tent Bay. Bathsheba is one of the greatest health resorts in this colony for the majority of the poor clerks of the City and other people who are not enjoying the best of health. There are a very large number of seaside houses as well as guest houses and small hotels at Bathsheba and at present there is only one telephone in the district installed at a particular house, and that house is not always open to the public for the purpose of getting through a telephone message. I have been told that when the occupants of this house are there, it is only during a certain time of the day that you can dare go to that house to get a telephone message. As I have said, Bathsheba is one of the greatest health resorts in this colony; we have the Atlantis Hotel, the Fleet View Guest House and other places where people take resort. The relatives of these people would want to know how they are getting on and the only way they can have that knowledge is by hiring a motor car and going down to St. Joseph. I have been told that the proprietor of one of these guest houses approached the Telephone Company about the installation of a telephone and the Company charged $1,000 to install a telephone in that district! Honcurable members know that $1,000 is a lot of money to spend only for the installation of a telephone. I know that during the month of August last year a poor man had to install a telephone at his place and he had to pay $614 for installing it. I am only pointing out that the people with whom you have to deal in this matter are those of the Telephone Company and how unscrupulous they can be. This telephone was installed about August and about the month of December after the changeover to the automatic system took place, that individual was told that he would have to pay $15 per month rent instead of $13.50, and if he was not in agreement with paying $15 per month he could let the Company know and they would take out the apparatus.

Mr. ADAMS: On a point of order. Is the honourable member speaking from hearsay or does he know that personally.

Mr. SMITH: You have to pay $614 for installing the telephone and then you are told that if you did not agree to pay the increased rate, the apparatus would be taken out. What will then become of the $614? There is a crying need for the installation of a public slot-system telephone in this district where these guest houses are situated, and it would be an easy matter to install such a telephone. I believe that the Telephone Company should be called upon to install this telephone; at Seawell Airport there is a telephone in the office and there is another one in the building installed on the public slot-system. You have to pay 12 cents before you can get a message through. I do not know if that is a Government telephone or what, but 12 cents is a lot of money for getting through a message. It is easy for the Government to speed up legislation for the installation of a public slot-system telephone in the Bathsheba district; all poor proprietors are in that area and they are not in the position to pay $1,000 for the installation of a telephone. I will not say anything more about the matter; I beg to move that this Address do now pass.

Mr. FOSTER: I beg to second that. The installation of such a telephone in this district is a necessity; and as the honourable mover has said, it is the duty of the Government to install this telephone. In the United States of America the Government will supply a necessity and you pay so much for the use of it. Let us take the East Coast Road, for instance; that Road can be constructed and people can pay a small amount before they use it and the road will pay for itself. I think that what is requested in this Address is an easy and simple matter for this Government to carry out, and I hope it will be done overnight.

Mr. BRANCKER: Everyone will congratulate the honourable junior member for St. Joseph for having brought this matter before this Chamber. It particularly shows that he realizes that in so far as the parochial taxpayers are concerned ,it would be more onerous for them to have to bear the burden of this taxation in respect of the installation of this telephone, than for the taxpayers of the island as a whole, everyone of whom would be using this telephone. There is one thing which I would like to mention about this Address and it is that the honourable mover is looking at the matter from the standpoint of St. Joseph or of those who frequent Bathsheba wholly and solely. I am going to move that a few words be inserted in this Address so as to make it as appreciable and as far-reaching as possible, so that it will not appear that the constituency of St. Joseph is being favoured. I beg to move that after the words "of St. Joseph" occurring in line 3 of the Address, the following words be inserted: "and in every other district of this Island for which there is an equally crying need for such an instrument". This is an Address which will commend itself to the entire island; until the Government decides, as it must inevitably do, to nationalise the Telephone Company we will have to tolerate having to pay the excessive rates which this Company is charging. Five or six years ago this Company charged $1,375 for installing a telephone in St. Lucy and the Company has written various people stating that as from a certain date the rental will be increased by a substantial percentage. I have seen the letter which was sent to the Parochial Medical Officer of St. Lucy. This Company is taking advantage of the monoply which it possesses and the Government is apparently overlooking what the Company is doing. I hope that this Address will bear fruit as promptly as the honourable junior member for St. Andrew has envisaged, and we will have a comprehensive system of public telephones in all populous districts throughout the island. It is hard in these days to have poor people going around to houses asking for the use of the telephone; they are asked whether they supported Mr. So and So politically or if Mr. So and So is their friend. If they are not supporters of a particular person the use of the telephone is not granted. The Telephone Company is not interested in doing pioneer work; it is interested in making as much money as it can. We want to see the installation of these public slot-system telephones wherever they seem to be necessary until the Telephone Company is nationalised. I have no doubt that the Executive Committee will appoint a Committee to go around the island and choose the necessary sites for the installation of these telephones.

Mr. MAPP: Some time ago an Address dealing with the nationalisation of the Electric Company was being considered in this House and the honourable junior member for St. Lucy moved an amendment incorporating other concerns with the result that we got no concern nationalised at all.

Mr. BRANCKER: On a point of order. It was the honourable junior member for the City who made that motion.

Mr. MAPP: I beg to second the amendment which has been moved by the honourable member in

the hope that the honourable junior member for St. Joseph will accept the amendment.

Mr. SMITH: I beg to accept the amendment.

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

Mr. SMITH: As Your Honour pleases.

Mr. BRANCKER: As Your Honour pleases.

THE ADJOURNMENT

The Order Paper having been fixed.

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to move that this House do now adjourn to this day week, the 25th day of July, 1950, at 3 o'clock p.m.

Mr. Cox seconded the motion which was agreed to and Mr. SPEAKER adjourned the House accordingly.