

THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SESSION 1950-51

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 3rd October, 1950.

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

Present:

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

Prayers were read.

Mr. BETHELL entered the House and took his seat.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting which was held on the 12th September, 1950, having been circulated were taken as read and confirmed.

Mr. BRYAN entered the House and took his seat.

DOCUMENT

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that I have received the Financial Report of the Colonial Treasurer for the month of August, 1950.

PAPERS LAID

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

Report of the Commissioner on the Department of the Architect and Town Planning Officer.

Statement showing Gross Customs and Excise Receipts for four months ended 31st July, 1950.

Post Office Advances for payment of Money Orders to 31st August, 1950.

Statement showing amounts advanced by the Government of Barbados and the amount received from His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom under the provisions of the Colonial Development and Welfare Act for the period ended 30th June, 1950, in respect of the several schemes sanctioned by the Legislature.

Barbados Blue Book 1946-47.

NOTICES

Government Notices were given as follows:—

Dr. CUMMINS: Resolution to place the sum of \$4,200 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. 23, which form the Schedule to this Resolution.

Dr. CUMMINS: Resolution to place the sum of \$15,000 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to supplement the Estimates 1950-51, Part II, Capital, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1950-51, No. 24, which form the Schedule to this Resolution.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: Resolution to approve the allocation of the balance of the stabilisation fund fixed on the 21st of September, 1950, by the Governor-in-Executive Committee on the advice of the Fancy Molasses Control and Marketing Board under the provisions of section 10 of the Barbados Fancy Molasses Production and Export Act, 1937.

Mr. COX: A Bill intituled an Act to provide for the importation into this Island free of duty for a period of one year of goods made from Sea Island Cotton.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: A Bill intituled an Act to provide for the Management, Control and Supervision of the Seawall Airport.

Dr. CUMMINS: Of my intention to move for the suspension of Rules 88 and 89 in order to deal with the Resolution for \$4,200 of which I have just given notice.

Dr. CUMMINS: Of my intention to move the House into Committee of Supply at its next meeting to consider the other money Resolution of which I have just given notice.

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME

On the motion of Mr. Cox, seconded by Mr. F. L. WALCOTT, a Bill intituled an Act to provide for the importation into this Island free of duty for a period of one year of goods made from Sea Island Cotton was read a first time.

On the motion of Mr. F. L. WALCOTT, seconded by Mr. Cox, a Bill intituled an Act to provide for the Management, Control and Supervision of the Seawall Airport was read a first time.

LEAVE TO THE CHAPLAIN

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that I have received from the Chaplain a letter which I will now ask the Clerk to read.

The Clerk read the letter as follows:—

Crab Hill

St. Lucy,

September 25, 1950

His Honour the Speaker,
The Honourable House of Assembly,
Public Buildings,
Bridgetown.

Honourable and Dear Sir,

I have obtained leave from my duties as Rector of St. Lucy with permission to leave the Island from October 10 to November 16. I beg therefore that I be granted leave from my duties as Chaplain to the Honourable House for the same period.

I beg also that the Reverend F. C. Pemberton, Vicar of St. Paul's Church, be allowed to act during my absence.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

A. E. SIMMONS.

Mr. ALLDER entered the House and took his seat.

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to move that the Chaplain be granted leave from October 10 to November 16.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT seconded the motion which was agreed to.

On the motion of Dr. CUMMINS, seconded by Mr. F. L. WALCOTT, Reverend F. C. Pemberton was appointed to act as Chaplain for the period from October 10 to November 16.

SUSPENSION OF RULES 88 AND 89.

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to move that Rules 88 and 89 be now suspended in order to deal with the Resolution for \$4,200 and that it be an instruction of the House when in Committee of Supply to deal with that Resolution of which I gave notice earlier this afternoon.

Mr. Cox seconded the motion which was agreed to.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

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

At this stage Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER took the Chair.

On the motion of Dr. CUMMINS seconded by Mr. COX, Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER left the Chair and the House went into Committee of Supply, Mr. SMITH being in the Chair.

REPRESENTATION OF BARBADOS AT THE OPENING OF THE NEW CHAMBER OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Dr. CUMMINS: The first Resolution, Mr. Chairman, with which I propose to deal is one of which I gave notice earlier this afternoon—a Resolution to place the sum of \$4,200 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. 23, which form the Schedule to this Resolution.

Dr. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman—This Resolution is before us a result of an Address passed by this House at the last meeting relative to meeting the expenses in connection with His

Honour the Speaker and Mrs. Husbands attending the ceremony of the re-opening of the House of Commons. Honourable members are very well aware of the details in respect of this amount of money and I do not think it is necessary for me to make any speech on this occasion. I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Mr. COX: I beg to second that.

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

Dr. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman,—I promised honourable members that I would deal only with this Resolution today. I beg to move that you do now report the passing of one Resolution in Committee of Supply and ask leave for the Committee to sit again.

Mr. Cox seconded the motion which was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN reported and Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On the motion of Dr. CUMMINS, seconded by Mr. Cox, the Resolution passed in Committee was read a first time.

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to move that this Resolution be now read a second time.

Mr. COX: I beg to second that.

Mr. DOWDING: Mr. Deputy Speaker,—before we come to finality where this Resolution is concerned, I would like as the senior member present on this side of the House to-day, to express my feeling on this auspicious occasion. To-day we received in our midst those who have been successful ambassadors of the West Indies in England, and today we are passing a Resolution for another ambassador in the person of our Honourable Speaker to leave our shores and represent us at the opening of the new House of Commons. We wish him, as we wished our ambassadors in cricket, *bon voyage* and a happy return. I go further and say that we have seen today co-operation in the welcome which we have given to those of whom we are justly proud and it is a fact that this meeting this afternoon has been made possible through that same co-operation. One of whom we are justly proud—the honourable senior member for St. Thomas—was responsible on a public holiday for getting together the members whom you see before you. I feel it is but fitting that on this occasion we on this side of the House should join wholeheartedly in wishing His Honour the Speaker and his wife *bon voyage*. May they return to us safely in the near future!

Dr. CUMMINS: I made the motion that this Resolution be now read a second time and therefore I am entitled to reply. I feel very glad to hear the sentiments which have been expressed today by the honourable junior member for St. George. I am very glad to see that the spirit of co-operation has extended so far; as the honourable member has said, it is co-operation which has made this meeting possible today and which will make it possible for His Honour the Speaker to make this trip along with his wife to the United Kingdom. We hope that this spirit of co-operation will continue. I welcome it and I will always hold out the olive branch to honourable members on the left.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I should like to associate myself with the sentiments which have been expressed on this occasion. I have every confidence that the traditions of this ancient colony and this ancient House will not only be upheld and maintained, but that lustre will be added to those traditions by the distinguished representation of our Speaker at this ceremony of the opening of the new House of Commons. (Cheers).

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

On the motion of Dr. CUMMINS, seconded by Mr. Cox, the Resolution was agreed to.

Dr. CUMMINS: Mr. Deputy Speaker,—As far as I am concerned, Government Business for to-day is concluded, except that the honourable senior member for St. Peter wants to lay the Reply to a Question. I understand that honourable members are willing to allow the honourable junior member for St. Joseph to deal with a Vestry matter and if that is so, I have no objection to its being dealt with.

REPLY LAID

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to lay on the Table the Reply to Question No. 23 standing in the name of the honourable junior member for St. Lucy.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Deputy Speaker,—I beg to move that Order No. 50 under Private Members' Business be taken as the next Order of the Day.

Mr. Cox seconded the motion which was agreed to.

ST. JOSEPH PARISH LOAN BILL

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the honourable junior member for St. Joseph:—Second Reading of a Bill to authorise the Vestry of St. Joseph to raise a loan of £2,000.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Deputy Speaker,—This Bill is a very simple one. It seeks to give the Vestry of St. Joseph permission to raise a loan not exceeding £2,000 to be applied by them in enclosing a piece of land recently procured for the purpose of providing an additional burial ground for enlarging the Churchyard of the parish Church and in erecting a latrine for use at the Church, and in completing the enclosure to the burial ground of St. Anne's Chapel. I do not think I need say anything more in connection with this Bill: I beg to move that this 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.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Deputy Speaker,—As I will be in the Chair when we go into Committee on this Bill. I am asking leave that the honourable senior member for St. Michael be allowed to take charge of this Bill in Committee.

There being no objection, the leave asked for was granted.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Deputy Speaker,—I beg to move that you do now leave the Chair and the House go into Committee on this Bill.

Mr. COX: I beg to second that.

Mr. MAPP: I do not think that the honourable junior member for St. Joseph should take the Chair as Chairman of Committees on this occasion because some question might be asked about this Bill and the honourable senior member for St. Michael will not be able to answer it.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I think the honourable member should have taken objection when the House was granting permission for the honourable senior member for St. Michael to take charge of the Bill in Committee.

Mr. MAPP: I bow to Your Honour's ruling.

The question that His Honour do now leave the Chair and the House go into Committee on this Bill was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER left the Chair and the House went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. SMITH being in the Chair.

On the motion of Mr. Cox, seconded by Dr. CUMMINS the Preamble was postponed.

Clause I, the title Clause, was read and passed.

Clause 2 was read as follows:—

2. It shall be lawful for the Vestry of the parish of Saint Joseph and they are hereby authorised from time to time as they require the same to borrow from any person or persons body or bodies politic or corporate willing to lend them the same, a sum or sums of money not exceeding in the aggregate the sum of Two thousand pounds to be applied by them (a) as to the sum of One thousand pounds in enclosing the piece of land recently procured by them for providing an additional burial ground for enlarging the Churchyard of the Parish Church of Saint Joseph, and (b) as to the sum of Two hundred pounds in erecting a latrine for use at the said Parish Church, and (c) as to the sum of Eight hundred pounds in completing the enclosure to the burial ground of Saint Anne's Chapel in the said parish of Saint Joseph, and the sum or sums so borrowed with interest thereon at a rate not exceeding Four pounds per centum per annum shall be a charge on the rates of the said parish of Saint Joseph until paid.

Mr. COX: I beg to move that Clause 2 stand part of the Bill.

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to second that.

Mr. MAPP: In this Clause it is stated "and (c) as to the sum of eight hundred pounds in completing the enclosure to the burial ground of St. Anne's Chapel in the said parish of Saint Joseph..." I am wondering if the honourable member who is now in charge of this Bill can tell me what it cost to erect that part of the enclosure which has been completed, how much of the enclosure has been completed and whether the Vestry of St. Joseph has properly estimated that it will require this sum of £800 to complete this enclosure. It is obvious that if the Vestry have overstepped the previous estimate they might be just as careless as regards this estimate. I would like to know if the honourable member is convinced that on this occasion the Vestry are more nearly correct than they have been on the former occasion.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I understand that there is nothing to prevent me from giving information from the Chair. The present enclosure has been erected for over 50 years and the remaining part has been there awaiting completion for all this time.

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

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

The Preamble was read and agreed to.

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

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

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

At this stage, Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER left the Chair and Mr. SPEAKER took the Chair.

THE ADJOURNMENT

Dr. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker,—We have concluded the business of the House for to-day. I beg to move that this House do now adjourn to Tuesday next, the 10th day of October, 1950, at 3 p.m.

Mr. COX: I beg to second that.

The question that this House do now adjourn to Tuesday next, the 10th of October, 1950, at 3 p.m. was put and resolved in the affirmative without division and Mr. SPEAKER adjourned the House accordingly.