THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SESSION 1950—51

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 20th March, 1951.

Pursuant to adjournment, the House of Assembly met at 4 o'clock p.m. today.

Present:

His Honour Mr. K. N. R. HUSBANDS (*Speaker*), Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS, M.D. C.M., Messrs. G. H. ADAMS, B.A., M. E. COX, F. L. WALCOTT, F. E. MILLER, O. T. ALLDER, R. G. MAPP, F. C. GODDARD and J. H. WILKINSON, O.B.E.

Prayers were read.

Mr. BRYAN entered the House and took his seat.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that the Minutes of the last meeting are not yet ready for confirmation.

NOTICES

Government Notices were given as follows:—

Mr. ADAMS: Resolution to place the sum of Nine Hundred and Seventy Six dollars at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to supplement the Estimates, 1950—51, Part II—Capital, as shown in Supplementary Estimates 1950—51, No. 46 which form the Schedule to this Resolution.

Mr. ADAMS: Resolution to place the sum of Five Thousand, Two Hundred and Eighty dollars at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to supplement the Estimates 1950-51, Part I —Current, as shown in Supplementary Estimates 1950-51, No. 47 which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

Mr. ADAMS: Of my intention to move for the suspension of Rules 88 and 89 in order to deal today with the Resolutions of which I have just given notice. These Resolutions are somewhat urgent and I am asking the House to deal with them later in the day.

ACTING CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to move that the honourable junior member for St. Thomas be appointed as Chairman of Committees for today's sitting.

Dr. CUMMINS seconded the motion which was agreed to.

RESUMPTION OF COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY—

ESTIMATES FOR 1951—52

Mr. SPEAKER: The first Order of the Day is to resume Committee of Supply to consider the grant of sums of money for the service of the Government as provided and set forth in the Estimates for the financial year 1951-52.

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

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

HEAD XLII — CONTROLS, SUBSIDIES, ETC.

The Items and the respective amounts to be voted under this Head were read.

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to move that the sum of $1,140,059 be voted under this Head.

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to second that.

Mr. WILKINSON: Item 3, "Control of Prices, Supplies and Currency", item 4, "Food Production", and item 5, "Miscellaneous", provide for the salaries of the Officers of the Control Department. I have taken the trouble to count the number of persons who are working in this Department, and the number appears to be 41; that seems to be an undue staff for the control which we have to carry on in this island. I agree that as long we have the conditions which exist in the island today, it is necessary for us to carry on some control; but I do not agree that it is necessary to have a staff of 41 people to look after that control. When I spoke on these Estimates some time ago, I said that there were several Departments which were top-heavy, and this Department is one of them. I do hope that the "Minister" in charge of matters in connection with this Department will look into this matter and see whether these officers are fully employed. I do not think that any hardship would be created if the services of some of these Officers were dispensed with. I appreciate that subsidisation cannot be taken off all at once; that it must continue as long as we have existing the abnormal conditions which exist today—conditions which,

I am afraid, are likely to exist for some time. On the other hand there are items in respect of which there should be some decontrol; in the Report of the Committee appointed by the Governor to go into the question of the mark-up on items I think it was recommended that there should be a certain amount of decontrol. I hope that the honourable member in charge of affairs relating to this Department will give us some promise that he will go into these questions thoroughly and see whether it is not possible to reduce the number of the very large staff of this Department.

Messrs. SMITH and MOTTLEY came into the Committee and took their seats while Mr. WILKINSON was speaking.

Mr. MILLER: I am particularly concerned with item 6, "Subsidisation of Foodstuffs". It is a source of gratification to me to find that the amount to be voted under this item is over one milion dollars. I am aware that the primary object of subsidisation is to defeat inflation of prices through the high cost of essential commodities, and I am very satisfied in looking back to theWar years to see that the Government found it necessary to create a Department for rationing necessary items, fixing maximum prices and inflicting severe penalties for breaches of the law. It is true that no Government would be willing to carry on the policy of subsidisation for longer than it is really necessary to do so, and the fear that obsessed me within recent months was whether the decision had been taken to bring the policy of subsidisation to a close abruptly. That would be a shock to those people who earn small wages. I think that the Government should be willing to really examine the Price Control Department and the question of the reduction of the present mark-up on items should be considered. I want to bring home to the Government that they should really examine the Price Control setup and see that there are many cases in which the price of items should be reduced. Subsidisation is necessary in colonies like Barbados where there is a large number of unfortunate people surviving on small wages and where they are always up against the aftermath of War which brings inflation in its path. You can, of course, produce an artificial scarcity of essential products and ask people to believe that it is a question of importation. I am saying that this Price Control Body should go through all the items and see whether it cannot make a serious reduction in the mark-ups. If a commercial concern has large overhead expenses to carry, you have to see that those expenses are taken care of, and you must allow that concern some profit; but where articles have been arriving in large quantities that particular margin of profit should be reduced. Capitalism has always thriven on wars and that is why we always have wars. I say that this Control Department is one Department of which great care should be taken and we must encourage the gradual removal of subsidisation of foodstuffs. I have a very strong feeling that the mark-ups on items can be reduced and I am convinced that the Government is operating along this line. I repeat that the primary object of this Control Deparment is to defeat inflation, but if we are subsidising essential commodities without paying the necessary attention to the control of prices and profits and the question of mark-ups we will be defeating our own cause. As regards the small retailer, I feel that the profit which goes to him is not enough; we should really reconsider the position of the small man who bears the brunt of the commercial business and who is left alone.

Mr. GODDARD: The Report of the Price Control Committee has been in our hands for a week and the honourable member who has just sat down does not understand the Report or he would not have said the things which he has said today. We all want to see some relief given to the retailer but it cannot be brought to him at the expense of the wholesaler. Nine months ago the percentage which the wholesaler got on foodstuffs was 6.6; to-day I think that percentage would be nearer 5.5. One only has to know the duties and responsibilities of the wholesaler to realise what the position is. The amount of work entitled in the wholesale business to-day is as great if not greater than at any time in the history of the business; while the expenses have gone up, the percentage of mark-ups has gone down. The wholesaler has to borrow money from the bank and he has to pay interest on it; all that has been reported in favour of increasing the percentage of profit to the wholesaler and, incidentally, to the retailer. When one talks about taking away from the wholesaler and giving to the retailer, that is an empty prophecy; the retailer cannot be relieved from that source. The honourable senior member for St. Philip was bold enough to say during Election year that if the wage-earner is getting an increase in wages he has to be satisfied to pass on some of that increase to the people who are rendering him their services. I admire the honourable member for having spoken the truth; to promise the shopkeeper that he will get some relief at the hands of the wholesaler is to make him an empty promise. I am anxious to see some relief given to the retailer, but, I repeat it cannot be given to him at the expense of the wholesaler. As regards the control of prices I should like to see the position return to what it was before, that is, free competition which kept prices down. I feel that the Controller should be given a greater measure of responsibility than he has now; he should be allowed to fix prices in his way and we should not direct to him a certain policy of which we know nothing. The present holder of the office is versed in matters of price control; he has had years of experience by working under Dr. Saint and today he is doing an able job. He knows the commercial community and he is out to protect the consumer; he should not be directed against his will and wish which has often been the case. I repeat that he should be given a greater scope to deal with price control in this colony. I appeal to the members of the Government to review the question of price control; the percentage of mark-up as regards the wholesaler is inadequate for the services which he is rendering the colony, and to bring down the cost of living at the expense of one section of the community is wrong. You cannot tell the people on the other side what they must charge for their commodities; whenever they increase the price of the commodities we have got to buy them. I think that a gradual relaxation of control is necessary. I do not see why the fisherman should not be allowed to sell his fish at his price; I do not see that if a fisherman brings in 100 fish you should tell him that he must sell them at six cents each. I think that fish is a commodity which should be decontrolled. Let the present Controller be given a greater scope to exercise his authority and he will give more satisfaction to the public and the commercial community.

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

Mr. ADAMS: Let me tell the honourable member that we of the Labour Party have been elected to this Assembly in such numbers that we form the Government of the Colony, and we will do all we can to keep down the cost of living. No one is going to abuse his power by squeezing wholesalers out of existence; the Government has not considered anything more than what we have already told the House

after we got this Report of the Price Control Committee. In a small community with a small distribution of trade, you have the commission merchant who is a parasite in the business; let people realise that before they attack the Government. The honourable senior member for Christ Church is sincere, but he is still youthful, and his opinion is that the working classes are getting a few more cents and they must, out of gratitude to the distributors, pay them for the services which they are rendering. The merchant opens his doors to make a profit—not to render services; he opens his doors to buy as cheap as possible and to sell as dear as possible. I am sorry that I have to speak with some warmth, but I want to assure the honourable member that it is of no earthly good to appeal to the Government to consider wholesalers except in the sense that we must do justice to everybody, and we must not do anything to squeeze those people out of business. If you look around you will see bungalows going up; things went on during the War as if there were no War. Nobody could say that the distributing trade is in any way badly off; an excellent indication as to the position is the fact that there has not been a case of bankruptcy since 1940—a thing which used to take place in Barbados before. Can you say that the merchants are really suffering? You will have to say that they must live and let others live. If they are not really suffering let them not cry "Wolf, Wolf", because that cry will fall on deaf ears.

Mr. MILLER: The honourable senior member for Christ Church has referred to certain remarks having been made in this year being Election year: but I do not know if there is any question of fear because this year is Election year. As regards the Report of the Price Control Committee, the honourable member made mention of it, and I suppose he has thought of it; but I would like to brand this Report as a dishonest document. Representation is being made on behalf of suffering people and in this Report we find a paragraph which reads as follows:

"The figures submitted by the small shopkeepers were not considered by the Committee to be a true reflection of the financial position of this group and no conclusions on profits could be reached."

You appoint this Committee to consider the position of the small shopkeepers and they tell you that the figures submitted by the small shopkeepers bore no reflection of truth, and, as a result, there was no conclusion reached with regard to profits? What is this Report? Why did the honourable member refer to this Report?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I feel that the honourable member is going too far in quoting from the Report; I think he would get on much better without doing that.

Mr. MILLER: This Committee enquired into the position of the retailers and small shopkeepers and in their Report it is stated that in connection with this group no conclusions on profits could be reached. You will see the retailers and small shopkeepers closing down their shops one after the other, but the reverse obtains where the wholesaler is concerned.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I will begin by saying that I had no intention of making any reference to this Report. I object to the remarks of the honourable senior member for St. George about this Report being a dishonest document. The colony owes more to Sir John Saint, who was Chairman of this Committee, than it owes to any other man in the colony; there is no Barbadian who could have given that real honest service and do the job which Sir John Saint has done. I doubt whether any member of the Government could associate himself with the remarks of the honourable senior member for St. George. As a matter of fact, you must come to the conclusion that the Government made the selection of this Committee which submitted this Report. I might not agree with everything that is stated in the Report; I did not agree with everything which the Commissioner, Mr. Justice Vaughan, found in respect of Mr. Crowe. However, I did not say that the Report of the Commissioner was a dishonest Report. I attacked Mr. Crowe in his office as Architect and Planning Officer. Let us be grateful; I do not know if the honourable senior member for St. George was thinking when he said that this Report is a dishonest report. In Sir John Saint the Government had a man of character; he would not do what one or two merchants would do, but he protected the interest of this colony. People coming from all over the West Indies paid tribute to Barbados in having the services of a man like Sir John Saint, and every man in this colony rich and poor alike, realised that Sir John Saint had the interest of the people at heart. From all appearances the honourable Leader of the House does not agree with all the recommendations in this Report, but I am sure he would not say that the Report is a dishonest one. I do not agree with the remarks of the honourable senior member for St. George as regards this Report; Sir John Saint fought every possible merchant in Bridgetown in the interest of the small shopkeeper. He was always strong enough to have a will of his own.

On the question of subsidisation, I made passing reference to it during my second reading speech on the Estimates. I do not pretend to be like the honourable senior member for St. George; I cannot speak *ex cathedra* on matters of this sort. There are some things on which I can speak with authority, but I cannot be my own physician, my own lawyer and my own everything. The man who thinks that he can be an authority on everything is a fool in respect of many subjects. There are a lot of things in connection with which I would listen to the honourable senior member for St. George and would be prepared to go all out with him as against the honourable senior member for Christ Church or anybody else; but I would like honourable members to weigh this matter of subsidisation carefully. I will refrain from offering any undue or destructive criticism of the Government; many honourable members have read this Report and I do not envy the Government on this question of carrying on controls, subsidisation and the like, because it is not an easy job. We know that controls and subsidisation must go on for some time: that is how I see the position. I would like to say that money or the value of money in commercial circles depends upon the name of the person to whom you can get; some commission merchant may not have any money, but he may have a very good name. What we are up against in Barbados is being able to do business through a bank or banks with manufacturers abroad. I do not agree that the commission merchant is purely a parasite, as the honourable seni r member for St. Joseph has said, because in truth and in fact the commission merchant makes contacts and tries to put something on the market; he uses his good name with the banks to be able to get recommendations for getting goods in Barbados, and in many instances he pays for them and then sells them to the wholesalers at a profit. I have never been a shopkeeper, but what I have been worried about is this; how is it that the shopkeepers cannot get together and buy direct from the commission merchants? That is one thing which I have always felt should be done. When the honourable senior member for

St. Philip was pointing out the great difficulties existing among the shopkeepers, I was thinking that where a shopkeeper is able to buy in sufficient quantities from a commission merchant, he has the right to do so. If, as a shopkeeper, the honourable senior member for St. Philip is able to buy 200 bags of flour for his bakery I see no reason why he should not be allowed to buy that flour direct from a commission merchant. I have always been alarmed that the shopkeepers have never insisted on buying direct from the commission merchants.

The honourable senior member for St. George seemed to have rambled over the question of lowering prices of food and so on. Everybody who is interested in the welfare of this colony would like to see the price of food as cheap as possible and I know that the Government has no control over this matter If I were in the Government I would say that the best way of preventing people from coming into the market is to continue certain controls for a period. With the increased cost of living every human being wants to have a better standard; and the increased cost of living is something alarming. As far as the Report of the Price Control Committee is concerned. it would appear that the recommendations are to the effect of allowing a greater percentage of mark-up. What I am concerned about is that the wholesalers and retailers employ a considerable number of people in this colony————

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The honourable member has already dealt with the question of price control. He is now speaking on the question of subsidisation of foodstuffs and I hope he will confine his remarks to that question.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I cannot speak about subsidisation of foodstuffs without speaking about price control; I do not promise to speak on one without speaking on the other.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Will the honourable member listen to my ruling?

Mr. MOTTLEY: If you are speaking to me you should speak in a different tone.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: When I am giving my ruling you listen to me.

Mr. MOTTLEY: You should respect my position and I will respect yours. I am speaking on subsidisation and controls.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Is the honourable member prepared to listen to my ruling? My ruling is that he will confine his remarks to the question of subsidisation; he has already dealt with the question of price control. The honourable member may proceed.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I am speaking on item 6, "Subsidisation of Foodstuffs." I was saying that I am concerned about the number of people who are employed by wholesalers and retailers and not only with the reduction of mark-ups. I should like to see the Leader of the House and those who are responsible for trade sit down for a period of two or three weeks with nothing to do but make this question of subsidisation, controls and so on, a special study; because it will take some time to study this matter from every possible angle. No one could say that the salaries and wages of workers have been increased with the increased cost of living; I feel that few people could say that their salaries and wages have been increased in proportion to the increased cost of living. This matter affects the white-collared workers because they must feel the result of mark-ups, and so on. On the one hand you have the merchants asking for increased mark-ups and on the other hand there is the lamentable cry of the retailers; it is a most pathetic thing to hear the plight of the small retailers. The other side of the story is that if the merchants could get better mark-ups, they could pass on better salaries. That is why I say that I would like to see the Leader of the House and whoever is responsible for trade, given the opportunity to sit down for a period and discuss the matter; because if you merely take the Report of the Price Control Committee and read it. that will not give you satisfaction. If we did anything harmful having regard to this Report and thinking in terms of the people in a year like this which is Election year, we would be committing suicide. I do not think it can be said that there has been an increase in salaries and wages commensurate with the increased cost of living. I am in sympathy with people and I do not like the idea of saying that under no circumstances will the Government do so and so. I still feel that there are some reasonable people who will be able to see things in their true perspective.

In my second reading speech on these Estimates I said it was by considered opinion that there are some items of wearing apparel which should be subsidised. I referred to the working man's dungaree and his khaki, because I contend that the cost of living has risen much higher than the figures which have been published by the Labour Department. I feel that sufficient notice has not been taken of the necessities of life of the working man: I suggest that these items of wearing apparel should be subsidised and that very careful thought should be given to the matter. One wonders, if you were to compare some of the items which are subsidised, items like flour and salt pork, with the items of wearing apparel which I have mentioned and which should be subsidised, whether greater benefit would not be derived from the working man. I do not say that that is a fact because it would have to be proved by figures; but the matter is worth while going into.

Referring again to the Report of the Price Control Committee, I say that this document is one which is of paramount importance in this year. This Committee was appointed a long time ago and every interested Barbadian has been awaiting it. Of course, there are things in this Report which should be criticised, and I do not think that any member of this House would say that this Report is something on which we can make any decision to-night. We have in this Party a young man who has a little knowledge of affairs, but it must be appreciated by honourable members that that little knowledge is still more than what honourable members on that side of the Table have. I do not think we should just say that there will not be any increase in the mark-ups; there are some items which people use and in respect of which an increase in the mark-ups might be justified. Some honourable members seem to think that as soon as you talk about increasing the mark-ups you are attempting to put money into the hands of five or six people, but I disagree with that; it is not merely a question of increasing the mark-ups, I maintain that this whole question of subsidisation is interwoven and linked with the general economy of the island. The honourable senior member for St. George cannot be an authority on the question of subsidisation and controls; you cannot be an authority on everything. I should like to say that the labourers are being ably defended in this House, and somebody must point out that the white-collared worker is under a grind. The man who is earning $60 or $80 a month must be under a grind; I think that some evidence should be taken so that those in authority will be able to see what relief should be given to the white-collared worker. Finally I want to say that careful consideration should be given to the questions which have been raised and do not let us

make wild statements to the effect that such and such a thing cannot be done or that such and such a man is a parasite.

Mr. BRANCKER came into the Committee and took his seat while Mr. MOTTLEY was speaking.

Mr. ADAMS: I am making an appeal to honourable members. When we have finished the Estimates there are several other items which have to be done to-night, including the reading of the Appropriation Bill. The Government is not deaf and I hope honourable members will realise that they have a responsibility and that Government work has to be done before the 31st March. I do not see that we can possibly get through with this business before the 31st March if we go on as we are going on. If honourable members want what has happened once before to happen again—if they want the end of the financial year to come without the House and the Other Place considering the Estimates and the Appropriation Bill—they may allow it to happen; but honourable members should not make the same point twice. In reply to the honourable senior member for St. George, the honourable senior member for the City has seen fit to say more than once something which the Government has not said. I appeal to the honourable senior member for the City to see that merely talking across to the honourable senior member for St. George does not get us anywhere. I agree with all that the honourable member has said about Sir John Saint and what he did during the War and it was suggested by the Ministry of Supply that the same thing should be done in every part of the world. I do not think that the honourable senior member for St. George feels the implication of his saying that the Report of the Price Control Committee is a dishonest Report; there were times when Sir John Saint was very strong with some merchants during the War. Nobody could really begin to accuse Sir John Saint of being dishonest; nobody could accuse him of signing his name to something which is dishonest. The position has now changed and no Government which has any sense could possibly say, with the uncertainty of supplies in the world, that it is going to make an increase in mark-ups, unless a case is made out that it is impossible for the distributors to keep alive except an increase is made. I appeal to honourable members to ask questions and make their constructive criticisms but not to make any second reading speeches. In reply to the honourable junior member for St. James I say that while a staff of 41 persons might seem to be large, it covers a range from the Currency Control Officer down to Price Control Inspectors. However I will bear all that the honourable member has said in mind and bring it to the notice of the Executive; if we can economize in the Control Staff we will do so.

Mr. BRYAN: I have listened attentively to what the honourable senior member for St. Joseph has said; I am speaking on behalf of other honourable members sitting around this Table and also on my own behalf. We have no desire to adopt any delaying tactics as far as the Estimates are concerned, but we desire to discuss the Report of the Price Control Committee. I am asking the Leader of the House to put this Report as an item on the Order Paper and give us an opportunity to discuss it. In that case we will proceed with the consideration of the Estimates and send them up to the Other Place and we will have an opportunity to air our views on this Report.

Mr. MILLER: I understand that we want to get through with the Estimates, but I want to say this: In referring to this Report as a dishonest document, I was accused by the honourable senior member for the City as if I pointed to Sir John Saint, but there are three members of this Committee. I have great respect for Sir John Saint; I regard him as a scientist of very high standing. This Report is now a document of the House and I say that I am not thinking so much of Sir John Saint; I am thinking of this Report. We can discuss this document of the House at any time and what I say about it still remains.

Mr. SMITH: I am not going to discuss this Report at all this afternoon; I want two hours to discuss it. I think that the honourable senior member for St. George was a little too mild in his reference to this Report. The honourable senior member for the City can praise Sir John Saint as much as he likes, but if a man saved 99 people yesterday and to-day he wantonly killed one person, what has he done? I have no praise for a man of that sort. I was late this afternoon to resume my duties as Chairman of Committees because I had to attend a meeting of the Estimates Committee of the St. Joseph's Vestry, and they are also of the opinion that the shopkeepers stand a rosy chance. Some people seem to think that shopkeepers are semi-millionaires; somebody said to me: "I bet you will not show me your bank balance." I have no money at the bank of my own. (Laughter). I had an interview with St. John Saint and I pointed out that the margin of profit allowed the small retailer is inadequate. I managed to convince him in a way that the small retailers' profit is inadequate and he said that the matter was one for consideration by the Government. If putting on half cent more on an item will make the retailer get a little more than Sir John Saint wants him to get, before he puts on that half cent he will take it off, so that the retailer will lose. Imagine your having to deal with people of that sort. I am not discussing this Report because if I started to discuss it you, Mr. Chairman, would stop me. I was in that Chair last week for about four hours when it was pointed out that age-grouping was creating a hardship on people and we were trying to put right something which is wrong, and now I am trying to put right something else which is wrong. If honourable members do not want to hear me let them leave the Chamber. The percentage which the retailer gets today is the same which he was getting before; he was allowed five cents on $2.00 before and he is allowed the same five cents today. Is that fair? Let us give everyone a square deal; let us go into figures carefully and render to Caesar the things which are Caesar's. I do not want anything to be taken from the wholesalers and given to the retailers; whatever is done, I want it to be fair. When the retailer employs a mason or carpenter he has to pay that mason or carpenter his wages, and the retailer is allowed the same profit now as he was allowed in 1939; he has to pay his attendants more money and they work for fewer hours, because in 1939 they used to work 20 hours a day and nobody would say anything. I was among those were instrumental in seeing that the attendants did not work for more than 42 hours a week and that has entailed more expense for the retailer. Nobody has considered that matter at all and I say definitely that the retailers should be compensated. I am not blowing any trumpet for the wholesalers; I cannot say anything for them because I do not know what their mark-up is. If the wholesalers' mark-up were put in the Defence Regulations so that the public could see it, I would be able to say something about them; but everybody knows what the retailer's goods cost him. I really cannot say anything for the wholesaler because I would not be able to justify it; but at a particular store in Broad Street you are told: "The price of this item is 29 cents, come to us and you will get it for 20 cents." You buy from them and make a profit. That is something

to make me believe that the little extra should be passed on to the retailer. I will discuss this Report, but, to my mind, it is something more than dishonest.

Mr. ALLDER: I beg to move, Mr. Chairman, that you do now report progress and ask for leave for the Committee to sit again.

Mr. SMITH: I beg to second that.

The question that the Chairman do now report progress and ask for leave for the Committee to sit again was put and resulted in a "tie", the division being as follows:—

Ayes: Mr. SPEAKER, Messrs. SMITH, ALLDER, MILLER, BRYAN and MOTTLEY—6.

Noes: Messrs. COX, ADAMS, GILL, BETHELL, GODDARD and WILKINSON—6.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The question has resulted in a "tie," six honourable members voting "Aye" and six honourable members voting "No". I vote with the "Noes."

Mr. ALLDER: I am discussing item 3, "Control of Prices, Supplies and Currency" and item 6, "Subsidisation of Foodstuffs." All down the ages we have had the feudal system, the slave system and the industrial system, and the industrial system must eventually destroy itself. It was not surprising to see that the members of the Opposition who are expected to defend big business, were arguing as strongly as they did in connection with this question of controls. There is no individual in this colony who would allow himself to be convinced that the time is opportune for higher mark-ups to be given to the wholesaler, the importer or the commission agent. It is a fact that within the past ten years. things have been such that the system of the survival of the fittest in commerce existed: the strongest liquidated the weakest and that is still going on. If one were to throw his mind back he would see that when labour was cheap, commodities were plentiful, and, as a result, the cost of living was considerably low; expansion was limited only to a few big concerns. Nowadays we have noticed that sometimes within a year business houses which might have been considered relatively small in the past, are being taken over one after the other, and the business is not confined to what it was originally. How in the name of things that are true and honest can the public be convinced that giving permission for an increase in mark-ups is justified? I do not think that the cost of living should be reduced at the expense of the small man, but at the expense of the big importer who has been successful in getting things as he wanted them. We hear statements about overhead expenses, the willingness of employers to pass on extra profits to employees and what not? Just a few years ago employees were given bonuses so that the employers would avoid the payment of income tax. Of course the employees benefited, but they benefited at the expense of the consumers many of whom were unemployed and were experiencing great hardships. Now today, in the face of all the expansion, we are getting a demand for the release of controls so that the consumers can be further exploited. I am saying that this small state of ours has reached the stage which was reached in New York some time ago when people had to be forced to turn away from the corrupt practices which only kept down the prosperity of the country. That is what we want done here right now. How is it that one firm within five years can take over ten businesses and a dozen hotels, and most of the plantations in this island are owned by the commercial concerns? Today Barbados is becoming too limited for them to expand their business, and I have read and heard that they are stretching their commercial domain to other West Indian colonies. They collect the money here and spend it outside to provide a better standard of living than we can obtain here. Those people do not want any consideration at all. Whatever you might think of the different businesses in Bridgetown, they are only disguised by different names being placed on the sign-boards; but they are one big family. Wherever you find a redundant population in a colony with limited resources, there is the tendency for wealth to be concentrated in the hands of the few by virtue of the opportunity which they have had to establish themselves in the main industries which the colony affords. You will find that only a few firms are responsible for the high cost of living or the low cost of living in a colony. The trouble starts in the Chamber of Commerce and I am wondering if the Government should allow Heads of Departments to affiliate themselves to that Body; however social or otherwise an individual might be, as long as he is allowed to become a member of an institution, he shares the policy of that institution. I felt somewhat unhappy that the Chief of Police and other Heads of Departments are members of the Chamber of Commerce; they could do justice in preventing any undue hardships from being caused to such an institution without affiliating themselves to it. The business houses in Bridgetown are responsible for what comes to this colony and there is one policy adopted and carried out by the various business houses; that is why we see small businesses being closed down. Many coloured families were reared up in a decent way by virtue of the fact that the doors of small businesses could be kept open; but within the last ten years these business have been liquidated and have come under the power of the big chiefs. You will find that there is one big employer and the others must be employees subservient to their master, expecting low salaries from him. I agree that the shopkeeper suffers the most because he caters to the hungry people; he cannot refuse to help a woman who is accustomed to buying her milk and sugar from him, and who comes to him one morning and says: "My children did not have any tea and therefore I am asking you to give me some credit." He has to give that woman that credit, but the unfortunate shopkeeper does not have any security for the payment of his money. On the other hand, the big merchants have so controlled affairs that many a shopkeeper has to deposit his papers or his wife's papers with the solicitors of the big merchant as security for his money. Therefore the shopkeeper has always been obliged to pay his debt, but he is never in a position to force payment for goods which have been credited from him.

There is the question of the percentage of mark-up which should go to the big business as against that which should go to the small trader. Things might seem to be all right to people who have not been doing business, but what do you find? Messrs Cave Shepherd & Co. will import about 10,000 items and on each item that firm is permitted to get so much profit; the small dealer has to find his way to the counter of that firm and buy a dozen items and before he can sell one of them he has to give credit for which he does not get any payment. On the other hand, Messrs. Cave Shepherd & Co., can dispose of all their goods because there are always distributors who will collect them from the wharf. You will be surprised to know that the small trader might take over a month to sell a dozen cakes of soap and so it could not be right to say that the retailer suffers less than the wholesaler. You have to consider the matter from the point of view of the number of things which the big firm disposes of within a short time as compared with what a small

trader can dispose of. I feel that the present situation will not be relieved unless you tell the merchants that their profit must be reduced and add to that of the shopkeeper; a re-division of the total mark-up on the items between the wholesaler and the retailer should be carried out. As regards the Report of the Price Control Committee, I must say that the honourable senior member for St. George was extremely mild in his reference to it; but regardless of what honourable members might feel about the personnel of this Committee, when this Committee tells you that it has no confidence in the statements made to it by the delegation which represented the small traders, and therefore it cannot arrive at any conclusions as to profits, there has been a waste of the taxpayers' money, and it shows that this Committee was partial. This Report does not worth the paper on which it is written; all the weight has gone down on the side of the big business. The Committee is repeating some of what I have heard repeated by some honourable members of this Chamber, that is, that the shopkeepers must be well off because there are several shops in Baxters Road and Roebuck Street; but it is not of any real assistance to the whole situation. Due to the fact that they were able to get some money through emigration channels, a few people decided to open shops, but in the case of many of them, you could buy their whole stock for $5.00. The fact that these people have opened shops is no true indication whatsoever as to the situation; what happens is that a shop is opened to-day and in three months' time it is closed, and the person who opened it falls back on the list of the unemployed.

There is another point which I would like to make, and it is on the question of the removal of controls. It might be correct up to a point to talk about removing controls, but it cannot be done in the way in which some honourable members have been suggesting. I notice that due to certain locally-produced articles of food being plentiful on the market, there has been a willingness to sell them at competitive prices, but because of the fact that there is a scheduled price, the producers have stuck to that price. I feel that if you were to release control as to the price of these articles, you would permit competition to take place among the people who produce them, and that would build up an incentive among the peasants to produce more of these articles. Even if the price of the articles rose to half cent a pound above the present control price, the situation would be met by the fact that more people would be willing to turn their hands at greater production, since we have not reached saturation point where the local production of food is concerned. There is still much land areas left undeveloped, but if any incentive was given, people would put their land to better use than that to which it is being put at present. I regret that the amount in respect of item 4, "Food Production" has not been increased; the amount of that item is $5,591, and the most of it is paid to the Officers who are employed to see that the scheme is carried out. In other colonies in the West Indies various committees and commissions have sat in connection with an intensive scheme of local food production and they have already started to allocate larger sums for the purpose of subsidising, if necessary, the local production of food. When I heard that we are to have a milk depôt I had hoped that a sum of money would have been released so as to make loans to workers to assist them in buying animals for the production of milk. It is a fact that when we are asked to pay 27 cents for a tin of condensed milk in this island, we are only subsidising labour in Australia, Holland and other places. I would prefer to buy locally produced milk than imported milk because you do not get the necessary protein content in the imported article. I feel that we should not reduce the vote for subsidisation unless the items which we now subsidise are replaced by locally-produced items; so that any shock which might be felt as a result of taking off controls and reducing the vote of subsidisation, would be cushioned by the increased amount of food which would be produced locally. I feel that these are points which should be considered and unless they are implemented in some way or other, the people of this colony will continue to be consumers and not producers. I still feel that it is not too late for granting a tidy sum of money for the purpose of carrying out an intensive local food production scheme. We have placed all our hopes on the few Agricultural Stations which we have at present set up in this colony, but I feel that besides trying to improve the quality of the stock at these Stations we should also strive to get a greater increase in milk production. There is something wrong in that all these Stations which cost a tidy sum of money to run them, cannot produce as much milk as is consumed in one of our institutions. We have had a lot of high-salaried, technical men attached to these Stations, but we have failed to get the benefit as we should have got from them. There are some local planters who have so intermixed the breed of their stock that they have benefited by a greater milk yield; I have read of a private individual owning a breed of animal which could produce 60 pints of milk a day, but I have not been able to hear of one of these animals being found at any of the Agricultural Stations. I am concluding my remarks by laying emphasis on the necessity for greater assistance being extended to the peasant proprietors and also to the agricultural workers by way of loans; if a peasant proprietor owned a bit of land and did not have the means to cultivate it he would be able to obtain a loan and pay for cultivating the land, and the agricultural worker who may not be in a position to purchase a head of cattle would be able to get a loan and purchase it. By that method we would be able to bring about a greater distribution of that necessary item of diet on which the health of the community so much depends, and that is milk. If an individual is able to produce 10 or 12 pints of milk he will be in a position to help his neighbour to purchase half a pint and the supply would be regular. The reason why people prefer to buy condensed milk than cows' milk is due to the fact that the provision of cows' milk is not guaranteed. If a worker was able to go next door for his daily half pint of milk he would not buy any condensed milk; all we have to do is to put the peasant proprietor in the direction in which we want him and he will do the rest. As regards the housing loans, we are told that the people are repaying them well; as regards loans to fishermen, they are also being repaid and in respect of the loan scheme which I have suggested, the peasant proprietor must repay the loan and the worker who is assisted in owning a cow would feel proud of having been placed in a position of owning something which will make him feel that he is a true citizen. Whether he owns a cow, sheep or bit of land, the worker gets a sense of independence, and I am hoping to see some action taken in this matter even if our efforts are limited. I see that Trinidad is embarking upon a development plan and they intend raising a big loan to carry it out, while we have always satisfied ourselves and we are not taking any chances, which, in many instances might bring us great benefit and put the community to greater ease than it has ever been able to enjoy. I hope that my suggestions are being taken seriously and will be given the consideration which they deserve. Having regard to the condi-

tions existing in the world to-day and our own problems including our increasing population which is pressing harder and harder on our slender resources. we should put ourselves in a position to bring about the conditions which should be brought about.

The question that the sum of $1,140,059 be voted under this Head was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

On the motion of Dr. CUMMINS, seconded by Mr. ALLDER, the CHAIRMAN reported progress with leave for the Committee to sit again.

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

Dr. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker,—The honourable junior member for St. Thomas was appointed to act as Chairman of Committees for the day's sitting. The Chairman of Committees is here to carry on now, but I do not know how we can get around the position. However, I beg to move that the honourable junior member for St. Thomas be relieved of his duties as Chairman of Committees.

Mr. SPEAKER: I do not think that there is any need to make that motion.

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to move that Your Honour do now leave the Chair, and the House resume Committee of Supply.

Mr. BRYAN seconded the motion which was agreed to.

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

HEAD XLIII—CONTRIBUTION FROM REVENUE

The items and the respective amounts to be voted under this Head were read.

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to move that the sum of $400,000 be voted under this Head.

Dr. CUMMINS seconded the motion which was agreed to.

ANNEXED ESTIMATES

HEAD I—POST OFFICE

The items and the respective amounts to be voted under this Head were read.

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to move that the sum of $204,010 be voted under this Head.

Mr. COX: I beg to second that.

Mr. BRANCKER: In connection with item 20 "Postage Stamps", I would like to say that at the last General Elections the Postal Authorities did not remember that the Elections were coming off and sufficient stamps were not ordered. I suggest that the Authorities be reminded that this is the year when very substantial provision should be made for additional postage stamps so that we will not run the risk of falling short of stamps. As regards item 29, "Travelling allowance for Postmen," I will not discuss this matter at length because the Executive Committee must be considering giving assistance to postmen who have to travel in the hilly districts; the postmen might well be allowed to use some motor vehicle for travelling in those districts. In these days when we show tangible interest in the welfare of the humble employees, the Government should set an example to private enterprise and provide a more reasonable form of transport for these unfortunate employees who have to deliver mails to people irrespective of weather conditions. Relative to item 34, "Purchase of Motor pick-up $2,200," the note says in part; "For the purchase of a motor pick-up for transportation of mail to sub-post offices at St. Lawrence and Black Rock." I am in favour of that and I congratulate the Government on having made that decision. There is in existence a contract for the transport of mails and I am wondering if when the period of the contract has expired, this work will be taken out of private enterprise and taken over by the Government. Whatever saving is effected in this way, it will be in the interest of the taxpayers.

Mr. ALLDER: I share the view of the honourable junior member for St. Lucy that it is time that the Government should undertake the transportation of mails to the country itself instead of paying private contractors for doing it. The Government has a lot of vehicles at its disposal and if it wants more, it can get more. As regards item 22, "Uniforms", I have had an interview with some of the postmen and they have said that they would be willing to have a change in the kind of uniform which they now wear. They have been permitted to wear khaki jackets with the same heavy woollen pants, but they would not mind if they were allowed to wear khaki pants made in the style of uniform. I feel that a saving would be effected if this change were made, especially since the price of woollens has gone up. I think that this suggestion is a good one coming from the postmen themselves; they will be satisfied with a light uniform. As regards the question of travelling allowance, I do not think that we are doing right to give the postmen only 6/- a month; we should give them something more than that, and those postmen who have to travel in hilly districts should be given a greater allowance than what is given to those who travel in the metropolitan areas. It is a sorry state of affairs when postmen have to encroach upon their private incomes so as to keep their bicycles in order. It has been mentioned to me that it is left to the country Postmasters and Postmistresses to stipulate the salaries of some juniors who are occasionally attached to the postal set-up in the country areas, and I have been told of the payment of wages which can be considered as being horribly low—wages which were paid before the War. I feel that an investigation should be carried out at the Head Office to see if these employees are given due consideration.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I would like to support the remarks of the honourable member who has just spoken in connection with the question of travelling allowance for postmen. I have been thinking that the Government would do well to follow the lead given by the Commissioners of Health of St. Michael in respect of their inspectors and give an increase in travelling allowance to postmen. About a year or so ago an increase in the rate of travelling allowance was given to people who had to travel by car, and if the postmen were given a travelling allowance of $1.44 before, they should be given $2.00 a month which is given to Sanitary Inspectors today. I have to supply tyres for some bicycles and I notice that the quality of the tyres is not what it used to be in the past.

Mr. MILLER: I have had the same experience myself as regards the parish of St. George. I do not want honourable members to think that I am being parochial, but, as honourable members know, some parts of St. George are hilly. I would mention that the postmen have asked me if I could persuade the Government to allow them to wear khaki shorts. These men have to push their bicycles over the hills and they are found working late in the afternoon when the shadows of night are falling. They are bound to carry out the duties of the Government.

Mr. COX: As far as the question raised by the honourable junior member for St. Lucy about making adequate provision for the supply of postage

stamps is concerned, that is an important question; but I think the Colonial Postmaster realises that with adult suffrage coming into existence, many more voters will be added to the list, and therefore adequate provision should be made for the supply of postage stamps. However, I promise the honourable member that I will make mention of this matter in the proper quarter. I will also mention the question of travelling allowance, but as regards the question of motorized transportation for the hilly districts, the honourable member will realise that some of the postmen who now work in these districts are old and it would be difficult to get them to appreciate the use of motor cycles. At present they get around in many instances by means of their horse-drawn carts and I feel that if you make it compulsory for postmen to use motorcycles, the old men would be pushed out of existence because they would be unable to learn to use motor cycles. The question of a change of uniform for postmen has been under consideration for some time and I promise honourable members that I will make some enquiry about it and represent their views in the proper quarter.

The question that the sum of $204,010 be voted under this Head was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD II—SEAWELL PLANTATION

The items and the respective amounts to be voted under this Head were read.

Mr. ADAMS : In moving that the sum of $8,862 be voted under this Head, I should like to say that in the course of the debate on this Budget honourable members seemed to have forgotten what was said a few meetings ago as regards the policy of the Government in respect of Seawell Plantation. Let me say that the Government has declared its intention of working out a scheme for the co-operative leasing of Seawell. With the object of preventing a speech suggesting that the Government should carry out such a scheme, I have repeated what I said a few weeks ago. I beg to move that the sum of $8,862 be voted under this Head.

Dr. CUMMINS seconded the motion which was agreed to.

HEAD III—DODDS PLANTATION

The items and the respective amounts to be voted under this Head were read.

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to move that the sum of $38,034 be voted under this Head.

Dr. CUMMINS seconded the motion which was agreed to.

PART II—CAPITAL

HEAD I—PUBLIC BUILDINGS

The items and the respective amounts to be voted under this Head were read.

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to move that the sum of $341,948 be voted under this Head.

Mr. COX: I beg to second that.

Mr. ALLDER: Under Sub-head (b), Post Offices, the note to item 10 in respect of Christ Church says: "Construction of combined Post Office and Library." I notice that whenever an extension of the library service is made, it is made in those parishes which have the means of purchasing books for the population to read. If reading facilities are to be given, they should more be given to the people in the remote country areas, because the people in those areas are in the greatest need of those facilities. Those people do not know what it means to go to a library and borrow a book and read it; therefore the earlier you carry the means of inculcating in them the necessity for spending their spare time in such a useful occupation as reading, the better it will be for them. I have raised this question already and I was told that certain parishes are now carrying out an extension of the library service. I know that in the parish of St. John the Rector's wife was given some books to be kept for the purpose of lending them to the people of the parish, but, unfortunately, the Rector's wife is in such an isolated district that the average person who is really in need of a book cannot reach her to obtain it. I do not think that we should give books to persons who are going to keep them in the confines of their homes; I think we should rather set up along with the Post Office and the Savings Bank, a Department to which any worker can go any morning or evening and obtain a book without any embarrassment. I know what happens when unfortunate people have to approach big mansions like the vicarages which you find in the country areas for anything, and I hope that my suggestion will be considered. It would be in order to have a Post Office, a Savings Bank and Library combined in the country parishes because in each parish one person could control the three Departments.

Mr. MOTTLEY: In connection with item II, "Sub-Post Office at Welches," I should like to say that when the Government came down with the Resolution for the money to purchase this site I was convinced that they had a case: but I am persuaded by the argument of the honourable senior member for St. John. Especially since the Government have actually taken over the new premises and relieved some of the congestion there. I really do not see the necessity for building a Post Office on this site. Considering big countries where you expect to have a most efficient service, walking from Welches down to the General Post Office is just a stone's throw. I do think that with other pressing matters before us, we should postpone the building of this Sub-Post Office.

Mr. BRANCKER: Item 2 is "Parry & Coleridge School." I congratulate the Government on having placed the completion of the construction of this school in the hands of the Public Works Department. There is a certain amount of improvement which is noticeable in this building, and I hope that they will soon bring it to completion. As far as the Half Moon Fort School is concerned, I would throw out the suggestion that it should be so constructed as to provide a sort of verandah which will look on to the playingfield and which will offer facilities when games are being played.

Mr. GODDARD: As regards item 9 "Christ Church Foundation School" I am wondering if I can be given any information as to what progress is being made about the formulation of the school building programme of which mention is made in the note to this item. I would like to draw to the attention of the Government the fact that land is being sold and the Government might take steps to acquire a suitable site for this school. I would like to know at what stage in the formation of the school building programme have the Government arrived.

Mr. ADAMS: I am sorry that I have not got the file before me, but my recollection is that we were getting advice of two or three kinds as to the building of this school, but none of it has been accepted or rejected and the matter is still under consideration. The School Managers themselves have been putting up a suggestion which naturally deserves serious consideration. I will get the information and pass it on to the honourable member. Before

I sit down, I want to say that I will bear in mind what the honourable senior member for the City has said about the site for the erection of a Sub-Post Office at Welches, but we were strongly advised by the Colonial Postmaster that a census of houses and reports of postmen convinced him that it was essential to have this Sub-Post Office there, although we have one at Eagle Hall and we have the General Post Office.

Mr. COX: The Committee will remember that when this site at Welches was purchased, it was purchased not only for the purpose of a Sub-Post Office to serve that area, but also as a Department at which the payment of Old Age Pensions could be made.

The question that the sum of $341,948 be voted under this Head was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to move, Mr. Chairman, that you do now report progress and ask for leave for the Committee to sit again.

Mr. Cox seconded the motion which was agreed to.

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

On the motion of Mr. ADAMS, seconded by Mr. Cox, the House was adjourned for fifty minutes.

RESUMPTION OF COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY—

ESTIMATES FOR 1951—52

On re-assembling,

Mr. SPEAKER: On the adjournment the House was in Committee of Supply on the Estimates for the year 1951-52.

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

PART II—CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

RECOMMITTAL OF HEAD I—PUBLIC BUILDINGS

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman,—I apologise to the Committee for having missed the point. According to the form in which the Estimates are prepared nowadays, we show in this volume (Barbados Colonial Estimates) a detailed comprehensive statement of the financial position of the colony. But when we vote we are voting, not merely sums of money which are to be paid out of revenue already existing, but we are also voting sums of money from expenditure which has to be made from loan funds. In some cases the loans are not yet there, so that it is necessary to advance money out of the Treasury pending the raising of loans.

In my budget speech I mentioned that certain remaining loan funds were to be utilised by the St. Leonard's School, the Waterworks and so on. We have made the mistake of voting these sums of money to which I have referred just before dinner; but they will not appear in the Appropriation Act, they will appear in separate Resolutions, like the one which was circulated to hon. members on the 15th of March, and notice of which was given today.

I therefore, now ask leave to recommit Part II, Capital, Head I, Public Buildings.

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

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman: I beg to move that the sum of $115,752 be voted under this Head.

Mr. COX: I beg to second that.

The question that the sum of $115,752 be voted under this Head was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD III — ROADS

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman: I beg to move that the sum of $225,195 be voted under this Head.

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to second that.

Mr. MOTTLEY: There is much that could be said on this question of Roads. But instead of criticising the Government I shall just make a few observations hoping that they will take some notice of them.

It is true that the programme of Tenantry Roads has been going on with some success; and if there is a tendency on the part of honourable members to be parochial in this matter it is because of the set up which we have. I wish to suggest that if you vote $124.000 on Tenantry Roads, it is right that you should cover the tenantry roads of the Island as a whole. Where the parish of St. Michael is concerned, I am not satisfied with the mileage covered during the past year, having regard to the amount that has been spent on Tenantry Roads. In making this remark, I cannot be accused of being parochial, because in my capacity in the House of Assembly, I am not a representative of this parish. The Government, through the Housing Board, made a proper repair job of the Bay Estate. Be that as it may, I am appealing to the Government when they are looking after the roads within the next twelve months to see the wisdom of giving greater consideration to the parish of St. Michael, bearing in mind that the density of population is very much greater here than in any other parish. I am sure that the honourable senior member for St. Michael who is responsible for roads will agree with me in this matter; The Government's request to the Housing Board to put the recently owned tenantry roads of the Bay Estate in order, was influenced by that same factor—density of population. I am not asking them to consider the proportion of taxes that are collected in this parish, although that point could be argued with advantage. But in view of the fact that several petitions have been sent in, let us leave off some of the Government tenantries for the time being and give some consideration to other areas so that all concerned may be in a better position to appreciate what the Government is doing.

Mr. BRYAN: Mr. Chairman, I myself have been forced to criticise the lack of progress in this programme for Tenantry Roads. In the 1949—50 Estimates the sum of $124,000 was voted under this Head, and there is a road in Bank Hall and some other roads that have been omitted from the recommendations. It seems that the Department of Highways and Transport never intended spending one cent of this money on the roads in St. Michael. The major part of the money which has been spent seems to have been spent on the roads of the Bay and Pine Estates. But according to the hon. senior member for the City, that is the Government in its private capacity. There are other tenantry roads in St. Michael and I feel that they should be given a fair share of the $124.000 which has been set aside for Tenantry Roads. This year, I notice that the vote is again $124,000. We have areas like Richmond, Spooners Hill, Hindsbury, Tweedside, Starving Lane —I could go on calling tenantry roads in St. Michael probably *ad infinitum* — roads which beggar description. Residents in these areas have sent in petitions which have been forwarded to the Governor-in-Executive Committee, and I hope that the promise which has been held out to me, in so far as these tenantry roads are concerned, will be honoured.

I feel, Sir, that the Government should take serious view of this matter. I have a duty to perform on behalf of these suffering people. I made them a definite promise to assist them to obtain good roads, water etc., and I intend to honour that promise. The reason why I warn the Government to take a serious view of this matter is because I know that the people feel that, in so far as the Tenantry Roads are concerned, they have been neglected.

Mr. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, I can sympathise with the last speaker. The same thing happens to me in St. George. That parish has not a special vote, and it has to be given a further $240 to repair some bridges that have broken down. I am sorry that my colleague is not in the House to-night. I think that I have a right to speak about the roads of St. George. What I am concerned about in the vote for Tenantry Roads is not with reference to any particular parish, I am thinking of tenantry roads in relation to the whole Island, for the reason that most of the Island is suffering to a greater or less extent.

The hon. senior member for the City has mentioned the Bay and Pine Estates; and while this may have been a worthy step in the development of the programme for Tenantry Roads, I also feel that attention should have been paid to some other roads. I am not criticising. I am only making an appeal in the hope that it will produce some good results for the sake of suffering people, including myself.

Mr. COX: Mr. Chairman,—Before the question is put, I think I should say something on this question of Tenantry Roads. The three roads mentioned by my colleague are nearing completion, and we are hoping that they will be finished within three weeks. I have for some time been pressing the question of Tenantry Roads, and I should like to say that although they have not progressed as far, and as fast as we had hoped, the Government has given careful consideration to the matter, and that is why, for instance, that within the past three months those three roads have been repaired.

The question that the sum of $225,195 be voted under this Head was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD V—LOANS

Total to be voted, $494.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman: I am asking leave to alter that to $20,494. The sum of $494 represents repayments by fishermen. The Revolving Fund is $30,000. The $494 has been paid into the Treasury to the credit of General Revenue. We are, therefore asking for $494. But before and since these Estimates were printed, the Government considered that while what we are doing on behalf of fishermen may be considered fair and reasonable, we feel that we should do more. Hence we have agreed to add $20,000 to the $30,000—Revolving Fund, to make this Fund $50,000 instead. I am therefore, asking leave to change the sum to be voted from $494, to $20,494.

I beg to move that the sum of $20,494 be voted under this Head.

Mr. COX: I beg to second that.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman,—I am wondering if I have been thinking aloud. I have always felt that something more than what is being done should be done for the fishing industry. That is why I say, I wonder if I have been thinking aloud, and the hon. Leader of the House must have heard me. Anybody taking a serious interest in the affair and knows what the fishing industry means to this Island would think the same thing. Every now and then when the price of fish has been increased, you are confronted with a problem something like this: your constituents argue on the one hand that the price of fish is exorbitant, and on the face of it you are inclined to agree. Then the fishermen argue on the other, that this is unavoidably due to the rising cost of material and fishing implements, and you come to the conclusion that the price is reasonable. You must come to that conclusion, because material which used to cost, let us say, two to three dollars before the War (World War II), to-day costs ten to twelve dollars. In other words the price has risen by 400 per cent. and in some cases; 600 per cent; and I am rather inclined to think that if the price of the materials relative to this industry continues to increase the Government may have to consider subsidising them. These things are manufactured abroad and we can have no control over the rise in prices. From what I have seen in a neighbouring colony, I think that the Government have done well to increase the Revolving Fund to $50,000.

There is only one other point I have to make and it is this: I hope that everything possible will be done to make the terms of payment as easy as possible. It must be remembered that while, as the saying goes, every day may be fishing day, every day is not catching day. I intended raising the point this afternoon.

Mr. MILLER: Mr. Chairman,—Although my constituency has no coast line, I am still very concerned about the fishing industry. I have noted the opinions of the honourable senior member for Christ Church expressed earlier this afternoon. In recent months there has been a temptation to build motor craft for fishing, particularly deep-sea fishing; and I am wondering if the Government would formulate some plan to encourage the idea. If motor craft could be used in large numbers it would provide an incentive to the average fisherman. It would benefit the community more, since the fishermen would be able to take in bigger catches of fish. I am asking the Government to discuss the matter with the appropriate Department and get their advice. I think, too, that at this stage it would be advisable for the Government to reduce the control price of some kinds of fish.

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

Mr. ALLDER: Mr. Chairman,—Whatever may be done by way of assisting the fishing industry, the full benefits will not be derived until something has been done to improve the beaches for the convenience of the fishermen. Sometime ago I raised the question of the bad conditions existing at Martin's Bay beach and I daresay, the reply which I got was recommended to the Administration by the Fishery Officer. I have discussed the matter with the Fishery Officer myself, and while he agrees that there might be some boulders which should be removed, he feels that the fishermen could remove them themselves. Some boat owners whose boats are always in jeopardy, have said that they are not against removing them, but that they cannot bear all the expenses of removal. I feel that the Fishery Officer should spend a couple of dollars and have the channel cleared. I was up there last Sunday afternoon, and, judging from the attitude of the men, they are still dissatisfied. While I respect the views of the Fishery Officer, I cannot disregard the attitude of the fishermen and I am asking the Government to interview the Fishery Officer and ask to have these boulders removed. It may be true that the men could remove them themselves. But it requires organisation and this organisation is difficult to achieve on account of the peculiarity of the circumstances. For instance; boat owners from the other parishes make use of the beach sometimes, and nobody seems to know exactly who should contribute or who should not. The problem could easily be solved by spending a few dollars and stop the complaints of the men which have been going on for more than two years.

In the Government's reply to my questions it was stated that at certain periods of the year when the sand has rushed in, the beach is then quite safe. But the men argue that the sand is soon cleared away and the boulders are again exposed jeopardising life and property.

Mr. BRYAN: Mr. Chairman, I too should like to commend the Government for the increase made in this vote. I feel that the fishing industry deserves every assistance that could be given to it, and that the fishermen themselves deserve every encouragement. I should also like to take this opportunity of enquiring from the Government what progress, if any, has been made towards implementing the Address which was passed in this House some time ago on the question of a scheme for life insurance for the fishermen—the provision of life-saving devices, and cold storage facilities on the various beaches. I feel now as I felt then, that these three facilities would be of considerable benefit to the industry. The sooner the Government implements this Address, the better it will be for the industry.

The question that the sum of $20,494 be voted under this Head was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Mr. BETHELL entered the Committee and took his seat.

HEAD VI—MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman,—I beg to move that the sum of $214,442 be voted under this Head.

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to second that.

Mr. MILLER: Mr. Chairman,—I would like to draw attention to item 3 "Cultivation of Trees Act, 1950." Last year under this Head, I expressed the hope that the Government would extend the planting of trees to include breadfruit trees; also that they would plant flowering and other ornamental trees all along the country roads to provide shelter for the tired traveller and to add somewhat to the beauty of the Island generally.

The breadfruit tree was imported here during slavery and was cultivated extensively in order to provide nourishment for the slaves; but after the abolition of slavery the value of this kind of tree was overlooked and its cultivation was deliberately neglected by the big plantation owners.

I hope that my remarks will reach the proper authorities and that cultivation will be resumed with a view to meeting food shortages in emergencies such as War.

Mr. MAPP: Mr. Chairman,—I want to draw attention to Item 8, "Agricultural Development." It will be remembered that, some time ago, the House passed an Address asking that the facilities of a Livestock Station be made available to peasants. I am wondering if the Government can inform us as to how far they have got in the formation of the the scheme. I also notice that since Mr. Halcrowe left the Island the work which he started has receded badly. There used to be what was known as an "open day" for peasants, when literature was distributed and peasants were instructed in modern methods of agriculture. I hope that the new Head of this Department will not allow such useful work to remain in abeyance.

I notice that a farmers' club has been formed in St. Lucy. I hope that this idea will be more energetically pursued and developed in other areas.

I have not heard much of the activities of the Co-operative Officer recently. Such officers make it their job to preach methods of co-operation, distribute literature among these clubs and give them all necessary help. It is a good work and the Government would be well advised to develop its policy in connection with it.

Item 12 is a new item. It has to be given some name and I suppose that "Windows in Bay Street" is an apt name for it. Barbados, to me, is one huge window. You do not have to develop windows in Barbados. You can see the coast from many points of travel. This idea of windows started, I think, with the last Acting Governor and it is probably a good idea to have, in a long area like Bay Street, some place to look on the sea. But I hope that it really does not become a kind of fetish.

If these sites could be made into say, public bathing beaches, that, to me, would be better than having them really as patches of beauty. I hope that the Government will soon tell us something more about these sites; that is, whether they intend to leave them open or whether they will take steps to make them into something more useful.

The question that the sum of $214,442 be voted under this Head was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD VII—SPECIAL EXPENDITURE

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman: I beg to move that the sum of $1 be voted under this Head.

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to second that.

The question that the sum of $1 be voted under this Head was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD VIII—COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT AND WELFARE

The items and the respective amount to be voted under this Head were read.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman: I am asking leave to add another item—that is Item 5. The following are the detailed Heads:—

"Authority" will be "D 1294", Construction of new runway at Seawell Airport. Second Column, $1,420, Third Column, $1,420, "Revote of Provision previously authorised," $200,000, "Total to be voted", $200,000.

The total under this Head will now be $376,806.

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

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman: I beg to move that the sum of $376,806 be voted under this Head.

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to second that.

Mr. REECE: Mr. Chairman, I should like to get a little further information from the honourable senior member for St. Joseph as to the present condition at Seawell. I understand that the work up there is almost completed and I should like to know if it is proposed to make any changes in the terminal building and what the proposed changes, if any, will cost. I understand that the terminal building is at present too near the runway, and therefore, it will not conform to the International Regulations. Well, if that is so, it means that a considerable amount of expenditure will have to be incurred in the construction of a terminal building which would conform to these Regulations. I should be very grateful if the honourable member would inform us as to whether or not this is so. I think it is but fair that the taxpayers of this island should know at an early stage exactly what a completed Seawell will cost. Up to now, I still hold this view: that after having spent quite a large sum on the construction of a proper runway, we cannot avoid the liability of having another terminal building which would serve the needs of the community.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman: I have already distributed the Report of the Seawell Airport committee; therefore, I can only refer honourable members to that Report. The honourable member was probably not in his seat when this Report was distributed.

The Committee recommends that the Terminal Building be extended at a cost of $40,000, that $3,500 be spent on alterations of the existing building, $5,000 to provide accommodation for staff and so on

The danger of which the honourable member speaks was due to an overturned object that was in the landing radius which had to be removed.

Mr. MAPP: Mr. Chairman,—The scheme, Colonial Development and Welfare, as the honourable member has pointed out, will come to an end in 1952. I think the Government will agree that we have not utilised Colonial Development and Welfare funds to any appreciable extent. There is an estimated expenditure on the 31st of March this year, of $927,495. It is advisable that the Government should prepare to take over the various schemes initiated with the help of Colonial Development and Welfare, and to this end they must plan first to increase their resources in order to be in a position to take over the management of those schemes. Considering the limited financial resources at our disposal, I feel that the Government would be well advised to take advantage of any funds available under Colonial Development and Welfare to further our productive capacity. Honourable members will agree that small colonies like Barbados, which are dependent almost entirely upon sugar for their economy should readily seize upon any financial help from any source to assist in raising the standard of living of their peoples. I hope that the Barbados Government will follow this policy where the Colonial Development and Welfare Organisation is concerned. I think it was the honourable senior member for St. Philip who said that to get out of debt was to go further in debt. That should be our attitude towards Colonial Development and Welfare.

Mr. ALLDER: Mr. Chairman, I have been thinking along the same lines as the last speaker. If financial support of Colonial Development and Welfare will be withdrawn at the end of 1952 it is right that we should be in a position to take over schemes which have been started with their help without experiencing too great a financial jolt. I think that we have been given sufficient time to make these various schemes as self-supporting as possible and it should now be the aim of Government to work to that end. I am wondering too, if there could not be a gradual withdrawal instead of a sudden stoppage of such grants.

The question that the sum of $376,806 be voted under this Head was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD I—GOVERNOR

Mr. ADAMS: I ask leave to change the amount to be voted under this Head from $17,503 to $15,651.

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

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman,— I beg to move that the sum of $15,651 be voted under this Head.

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to second that.

Mr. ALLDER: Mr. Chairman,— I have noticed another increase under this Head, which increase is in the form of a new item namely: "Furniture and Fittings, $2,346." The Explanatory Note reads: "For replacement of the following items which are urgently needed:—

> Plate and Cutlery $300, Linen $300, Refrigerator $960, Upholstery Material $100, Curtain Material $70, Furniture for Domestic Staff Quarters $616."

That has nothing to do with the Lawn Mower.

I will discuss this Head. I am wondering if it would not have been better when during the last couple of weeks we considered a Supplementary Resolution under this Head to have inserted these items, so as to give us a completed picture as to how much would be the total expenditure under this Head. Three years ago the cost of running Government House was only about $26,000. To-day, that expenditure has risen to $40,000 and who knows how many times during the present financial year we are going to get Resolutions asking for further sums of money. I do not like that. For Government House to stand in need of all these items at any one particular time they would have had to suffer a burglary or be holding a fair; I wonder what has become of all those unused or outworn fixtures at Government House? Is any account ever taken of them? You cannnot, just for instance, ask for say, another refrigerator without saying what has become of the old one. Some account should be given of these fixtures.

Unfortunately for the present Head of the Administration we are being asked to replace practically every item. Besides Item 17, there are other items which are definitely questionable. We are told that such matters should not be discussed openly; but whatever may be the feelings of other hon. members I firmly hold that some regard should be taken of the unscrupulous attitude of people for whom we are being asked to vote money.

Item 10 (Flags) still calls for $120. Take for instance the Department of the Harbour and Shipping Master. That Department has a grant of $40 for flags. They have a greater use for flags than any other department I know. The Government Water Boats must have flags. There are flags.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN: What items are you speaking on?

Mr. ALLDER: I am speaking on Item 10, Mr. Chairman. I am just comparing. The Department of the Harbour and Shipping Master has to keep flags of ships of every nationality calling here.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: You are referring to the Harbour and Shipping Department again. I warn you not to do it.

Mr. ALLDER: I find that dozens of flags have to be used in this Department. It might sound jocular; but I want hon. members to view the matter seriously. You don't have to use more than that big Union Jack up at Government House and why should we continue to give them a grant of $120 a year when other departments are only given $40? I cannot see the point . I happen to know that the flags are durable. A flag does not wear out in one day.

Item 8, "Maintenance of Furniture and Equipment", I notice has been reduced. It should have been reduced ever since. But upon reflection one finds that it still is not really a reduction.

Item 18 reads: Motor Lawn Mower, $760. I should like to know whether or not an inventory is taken of these items which are being replaced, or whether Government considers setting them up for sale so that some money can be realised for them. It is definitely hard to believe that all these items become unfit for use all at once.

Mr. MILLER: Mr. Chairman,—I am speaking on Item 18. Bearing in mind my plea for the reduction of prison labour at Government House, I support the vote for the Motor Lawn Mower. I think it is necessary. As I said earlier in the discussion of these Estimates I should like to see the withdrawal of prison labour from the grounds of Government House. People from all over the world should not be able to go to Government House and find prisoners in those unsightly clothes knocking all over the grounds. I am asking that this practice be discontinued. I would feel better if they were taken to cut stones in a quarry. I hope that my remarks will reach the Head of the

Administration and that one day I shall go to Government House and not see them.

Mr. WILKINSON: Mr. Chairman,—I am sorry that I was not in here when the hon. senior member for St. Joseph introduced this Head. I understand that he has amended item 5.

I wish to draw the attention of the Committee to Items 14 and 17. Item 14 is Travelling Allowance which is an old arrangement. But when you have got the car that will have to be abolished. As regards Item 17, that has to do with expenditure on cutlery, linen and so on.

Government House, of course, has to be kept up properly but it has become an expensive luxury. It will be remembered that we are spending over $4,000 on painting. Naturally, we have to spend something every year to keep the buildings in order. When it comes to cutlery and linen that has always been a subject for argument in this House. The loss of cutlery and the wastage of linen, and so on, is a matter for concern. When the hon. senior member for St. Joseph was a member of the Executive Committee along with myself, it was suggested that the Recurrent Expenses should include a Housekeeper. At that time the Governor happened to be Sir Grattan Bushe, and he refused to have a Housekeeper. But I think the time has come when we should have Housekeeper to look after and be responsible for the linens and so on up there. I do not want to dwell on Item 17, which is only part of what is required and is likely to continue for a year or two. I agree that we must replace cutlery, linen and so on, but I think that there is a lot of wastage up there. I am going to ask the hon. senior member for St. Joseph to consider whether it would not be very satisfactory and cheaper to the taxpayers if we had a competent Housekeeper to look after the entire furniture of Government House. You know, Sir, it is only human nature. New Governors are constantly coming to the Island. They have wives who can say I do not like these cretonnes, I do not like these shades. They may prefer to have something like what they have seen in New York and insist on having it. As far as I can remember, one of these ladies went so far as to select a carpet. That, of course, might not happen in many cases.

We must furnish Government House nicely; but we cannot have Governors' wives coming here and saying I do not like this, that and the other. No one particular Governor can be blamed for wastage.

We must have somebody, I repeat, to take charge of the material furniture. That is the solution to the problem, and that is why I am appealing to the honourable senior member for St. Joseph to consider that point with his fellow members of the Executive and if necessary, to insist on it and do not let anybody dissuade them from doing what they think is the right thing to do.

Mr. REECE: Mr. Chairman,—I was a member of the Executive Committee in those days which we went right through Government House and examined all the furniture and fittings. We found that the furniture and fittings were in a very disgraceful condition. As a result, a Resolution was sent to this House and the furniture and fitttings were put in order. But as the hon. junior member for St. James has said, this item gives rise to much argument, and the reason is a simple one. There is no one at Government House to look after the furniture and fittings. One cannot ask a governor's wife to be a Housekeeper at Government House. Government House is a public place at which the Governor has to give State receptions; and if his wife were called upon to perform the duties of a Housekeeper I am afraid that she would find time to do little else. I am asking the hon. senior member for St. Joseph to see that some person be appointed whose duty it would be to look after these things. If there is no one to make a check of these items, particularly after a big function, the likelihood is that the items will be missing and the taxpayers will be called upon to replace them.

Now, what is the best method of dealing with the situation? I do hope that the Executive Committee will pay heed to the suggestion which has been outlined by the hon. junior member for St. James, and appoint a Housekeeper at Government House.

We have got to spend this money now because it is absolutely necessary that Government House should be maintained in a fit and proper state. It is the property of the Island but we must see to it that there is no undue expenditure because of a lack of supervision. We owe a duty to ourselves and to the people of this country to see that there is proper protection and supervision of the furniture and fittings at Government House.

I should like to refer to the remarks of the hon. senior member for St. George relative to prisoners working at Government House. He expressed the hope that some day he would not see them there; but from what I know they prefer rather to work in the gardens of Government House than to work in the quarries. The hon. member has not got the experience in these matters as I have. I have spoken with many of these prisoners on this subject, and I have discovered that they prefer to work in the cool and shady gardens of Government House. Instead of being something which they dislike, it is an opportunity which they welcome. It takes them away from the drab and sordid routine of prison life and the hard work of the quarries with the heat and rain. In short, it provides them with a bright spot in their prison life and for this reason the practice should be continued.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman,— I must congratulate the hon. senior member for St. John. I thought that he was going to drop an atom bomb. If any hon. member in here were Director of Medical Services or Governor of Glendairy Prison, for instance, and he had to provide himself with every new replacement, he would feel like resigning the post.

I was just reading a letter by Sir Grattan Bushe which describes the state of affairs at Government House when he was Governor of Barbados four years ago. He begins by referring to the unanimous exception which the Estimates Committee took regarding a certain item which he had included in his estimate for Government House. He says :

> "I understand that the Estimates Committee took exception unanimously to the opinion regarding a certain item which I included in the estimates for Government House."

I was on the Executive Committee in those days. It was not that we felt that those things were not needed, although, as the hon. junior member for St. James has said, all of us had objected to the inclusion of the carpet; and in this connection part of our advice was that the House of Assembly was not going to pass those items to which the Committee had taken exception. In ordinary parlance, we knew that they would set up a howl if the Estimates were sent down as they were. In those days, one would see a piece of furniture at Government House, and if perchance you turned back the upholstery you would be astonished to find that the woodwork was not mahogany or any other expensive wood—a mere packing case!

The Governor's letter went on to say that he did not entirely understand the attitude of the Com-

mittee, that he had no desire to press the matter against their wishes, but that it was his wish that the Committee should understand his attitude. He then went on to give a detailed description of the conditions of Government House as a whole, pointing out that the place is old, that the furniture is in need of constant attention, that there is hardly a week where there are not workmen painting and polishing, and finally he wound up by reminding the Estimates Committee that he had no personal interest in the vote, and requesting that the Executive Committee have the matter placed on record.

It is indeed a thing worthy to be recorded, because the condition has not really improved. Properly speaking, the vote under item 17 which originally included cutlery, linen and so on, is now divided into two. When the hon. senior member for St. John, said that the item Furniture and Fittings has apparently been reduced by $400, but that it is not really a reduction, that is perfectly true. The $800 now represents what usually used to be spent under Item 17,—Maintenance of Furniture and Equipment, which covers maintenance by the workmen of the Public Works Department.

With the non-recurrent expenditure, a very careful estimate was made of the items which fall under this sub-head. It would surprise hon. members to know that the Governor has to use his own linen. That does not happen at Government House in any other part of the world. A Governor may use his own things if he cares. He may have some that might be considered better than the ones at Government House.

Of course, at Government House there are some very ancient beauties of furniture which first saw the light of day some two hundred years ago in the West Indies. But these are unsuited to the wear and tear of everyday life. Take the linens, for instance. Some of them might not be what you would like to have put on your beds on holidays or occasions when you might feel to make an extra splash. It is not reasonable to ask a Governor to use these things.

Fearing that the House might not be as responsive as it should be, the sum necessary for putting the furniture and fittings of Government House on a proper basis has been spread over a period of three years. What we actually proposed to do is to pay for absolute essentials now and to ask for additions next year and the year following. A new bed is needed and we are not asking for that this year. We are leaving it for the year 1953-54.

The sum necessary to replace the cutlery is $600; but the Estimates Committee allowed us to ask for only $300 this year.

It would surprise hon. members if I told them that the servants are at present sleeping on planks. It is the result of the reluctant attitude of this House over a period of years to spend money on Government House. Consequently things have gone from bad to worse.

As regards the refrigerator, some years ago, in the 1947-48 Estimates one was actually ordered the cost of which was £155; but for some reason or other which I cannot now remember, it was decided to cancel the order. I think it was that the House objected to the sum asked to be voted which was less than half the cost price of the refrigerator.

As regards the Motor Lawn Mower, the Department of Science and Agriculture lend Government House a motor cutter, but they cannot do it very regularly. We are therefore, asking for this sum to buy a lawn mower.

Referring to the question raised by the hon. senior member for St. George about prisoners working in the gardens of Government House, you must give prisoners some kind of work to do. Some are capable of cutting stones, while others are capable of gardening. I do not quite follow the argument of the hon. member. Prisoners are not brought out and paraded at garden parties; nor do I see where the shame comes in.

There are a great many other items which have been left over until the beginning of the next financial year. We are not even asking for them next year, unless the House so changes next year that we feel we might ask for them. (Laughter).

I want hon. members to see that these things are necessary. After all it is our Government House and we should see that it is kept in good order. It is the property of the Government and not the property of the Governors.

An explanation is due to the Committee as to why the car has not been purchased. We were considering getting one out of a number that were built for Their Majesties the King and Queen; but the manufacturers said that they could not supply us with a car of that sort. Otherwise we would have come back to the House with a Resolution for money to buy a car. But as the hon. junior member for St. James has said there is no suitable car, and therefore, it will be necessary to spend £150 a year on Travelling Allowance for sometime yet, which is the reason for leaving that item in the Estimates.

Mr. MILLER: Mr. Chairman,—I find that during the past three years there has been an over—all increase of $10,000 under this Head. In 1940 the amount spent was $29,000; and to-day we are spending $40,207. I should dislike very much to pass this Head without making some comment. Think of the domestic servants of Government House sleeping on planks when we are spending $40,000 ! That is a colossal sum for Barbados.

Mr. ADAMS: Including "Miscellaneous".

Mr. MILLER: $40,000 even with prison labour! It is hard to believe that the domestic servants of Government House would have to sleep on planks with that. It is a very ugly thing to happen with a socialist Government in power. One would think that after an increase of some $20,000, they would be able to find at least a couple of thousand dollars to buy some mattresses.

Mr. ALLDER rose to speak, but gave place to Mr. ADAMS.

Mr. ADAMS: Perhaps the honourable member is rising to remind me that he asked about the $120 for flags. I have said on several occasions, at least three times, that Government House, by colonial regulations all over the British Empire, must fly a flag just as a governor has to fly a small flag on his car when he is in it. It is taken off when his wife or somebody else is in it. A flag lasts two months, if it is made of durable material. The cost of flags has risen considerably over the past few years. The flying of a flag on a governor's car is part of his duties, just as he is supposed to do this, that and the other. For this purpose six little flags are provided to last for a year.

In the tropics you get winds strong enough to tear flags to pieces and the average life of the type of flag that is flown at Government House is two months. I do not think it necessary to tire the House with any more explanations.

Mr. ALLDER: Mr. Chairman,—I was expecting to hear some explanation as to what is done with the old flags.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman: From time to time, an inventory is taken of all Government property which is deemed as unserviceable. What can be sold is sold and the proceeds placed to the credit

of Revenue Account. What cannot be sold is dumped in the sea—policemen's boots, horse boxes, lawn nowers and so on. The inventory goes before the Executive without fail and we scrutinise and question the items, if necessary.

Mr. ALLDER: The honourable member has also notified us that he will be forwarding Supplementary Resolutions under this Head to the House during the current year, for other items such as dressing tables and so on.

As regards the Item "Flags", there is no argument at all to justify the expenditure of $120 on flags at Government House. The honourable member has said that a flag normally lasts two months; but I have an old flag in my yard which was out there for over two years, discarded and every time I step into the yard I see the old Union Jack waving! It is a compliment to Mr. Churchill.

Even if the Head of the Administration has to use a couple of flags on his car——

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I am going to ask the Leader of the House when they are going to sell those old things to take you up with him.

Mr. ALLDER: If we do vote this money we will have to vote it with apprehension—with the feeling that we will not be asked to pass any more grants for the replacement of furniture at Government House for the next couple of years. That is my feeling about it. It is very easy to say that Government needs an extra this, that and the other; but that is not all that it means. As the honourable senior member for St. George has said, the vote for Government House has been increased to $40,000, and is only for the independence of two or three persons. Government House is not a Government Department which performs such great services as to warrant such heavy expenditure. That is my feeling. I would excuse the expenditure if they did not have to come to this House for replacements. I cannot conceive of any political institution approving of the present state of thing up there. What I should like is to be able to get enough members around this table who would be willing to support a reduction of this vote.

Mr. Chairman, Item 17 is "Furniture and Fittings $2,346". I am going to move that the sum be reduced by $2,000. I know that some honourable members may be afraid to support my motion; but I want the Administration to know that an attempt has been made to reduce the vote, so that some stoppage might be put to the wastage that takes place at Government House.

The question that the sum of $15,651 be voted under this Head was put and resolved in the affirmative on a division as follows:—

Ayes: Mr. F. L. WALCOTT, Mr. MILLER, Mr. MAPP, Mr. BRYAN, Mr. COX, Dr. CUMMINS, Mr. ADAMS, Mr. GODDARD, Mr. WILKINSON, Mr. REECE and Mr. BETHELL.—(11).

Noes: Mr. ALLDER.—(1).

RECOMMITTAL OF HEAD XXVIII SUBSIDIES AND GRANTS

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman: I beg to move that Head XXVIII be recommitted.

Dr. CUMMINS seconded the motion which was agreed to.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman: I am asking leave to amend Item No. 40, B.W.I. Meteorological Services, by adding $144.

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

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman: The recommendations of the Meteorological Conference have now been received.

The Previous Annual Expenditure is £34,565.
The immediate proposals are as follows:—

(a)	24-hour Reporting Station at Waini Point, British Guiana	£1,100
(b)	One extra Forecaster	1,375
(c)	Bringing Barbados up to 24-hour Reporting Station, ..	835
(d)	Directorate, ...	4,000
	Total	£7,310
	Headquarters at Trinidad ..	£144,000

Reporting between the United Kingdom is as follows:—

United Kingdom, £14,000, Social Welfare, £15,375, Colonies £13,000. That makes a total of £42,375 of which £14,000 is chargeable to the Colonies. Of this sum the Barbados share is £780 or $3,744.

The amendment to Item No. 40 makes the new total for Subsidies and Grants $209,667.

I now beg to move that Item 40 be amended to read $3,744 and that the total sum of $209,667 be voted under this Head.

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to second that.

The question that the sum of $209,667 be voted under this Head was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman: I beg to move that you do now report the passing of several Resolutions in Committee.

Dr. CUMMINS seconded the motion which was was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN reported the passing of several Resolutions in Committee of Supply on the Estimates 1951—52 amounting to $8,413,957.

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

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

FURTHER ORDERS OF THE DAY

Mr. ADAMS: I ask leave that Orders Nos. 9, 10 and 11 standing in my name on the Order Paper be taken as the next Orders of the Day.

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

COUNCIL'S AMENDMENTS TO THE QUARRIES BILL 1951

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the honourable senior member for St. Joseph:—To move the consideration of the amendments of the Honourable the Legislative Council to the Bill to make provision for the registration and supervision of quarries and for the safety of workers employed therein.

Mr. ADAMS: If honourable members have the amendments to this Bill before them, they will see that the Other Place has suggested that Clause 3 be amended by leaving out the words "by regulation" occurring in the last line of Sub-clause (1), and merely using the word "prescribed": and by putting in the interpretation Clause the words " 'prescribed' means prescribed by regulations' ." It is not right to be critical of our elders, but that amendment does not seem to be very much of a change from what the House passed. There are also amendments suggested to Clause 6 (1) which are reasonable; we passed the Clause saying that the owner or occupier of every quarry shall operate in

such a manner as not to cause risk of bodily injury to any person employed or working there, but we did not say what he should operate. It is better to put in what he should operate and the Other Place has inserted the words "the said quarry" after the word "operate," the words "any undue" after the word "cause," and changed the word "there" to the word "therein." In paragraph (b) of Sub-clause (2) the Other Place has added the words "as specified in the Order for remedying the danger complained of" to sub-paragraph (i) and deleted sub-paragraph (ii). In Sub-clause (1) of Clause 9, it has inserted the words "if required by the Labour Commissioner" after the word "shall" in line 5, and the words "to the satisfaction of the Labour Commissioner" after the word "fenced" occurring in the last line. The final amendment is the insertion of the words "for registration and for" after the word "application" occurring in paragraph (c) of Sub-Clause (1) of Clause 10. I beg to move that these amendments be now read a first time.

Dr. CUMMINS seconded the motion which was agreed to.

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

COUNCIL'S AMENDMENTS TO THE IMMIGRATION OF PAUPERS (PREVENTION) (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1951

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day also stands in the name of the honourable senior member for St. Joseph:—To move the consideration of the amendments of the Honourable the Legislative Council to the Bill intituled an Act to amend the Immigration of Paupers (Prevention) Act 1909.

Mr. ADAMS: The amendment suggested by the Other Place to this Bill is a simple one; it is an amendment to Clause 4, commencing that Clause with the words "Unless the context otherwise requires". I have not seen the debate on the Bill but, doubtless, this amendment implies that in a particular Clause the word "ship" does mean "ship". It is possible for the word "ship" not to admit of a reference to aircraft, so that the amendment clarifies the position. I beg to move that this amendment be now read a first time.

Dr. CUMMINS seconded the motion which was agreed to.

On motions of Mr. ADAMS, seconded by Dr. CUMMINS in each case, the amendment was read a second time and agreed to.

COUNCIL'S AMENDMENTS TO THE ACCOUNTANT GENERAL'S BILL, 1951

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day also stands in the name of the honourable senior member for St. Joseph:—To move the consideration of the amendments of the Honourable the Legislative Council to the Bill to consolidate and amend the Acts of the Island relating to the Colonial Treasurer.

Mr. ADAMS: I suppose that the honourable junior member for Christ Church will say that there is nothing in this amendment. The Other Place has suggested the deletion of the word "bi-monthly" in line 3 of Clause 6 (1) of the Bill, and the substitution therefor the word "fortnightly". I am told that the Other Place said that the word "bi-monthly" is ambiguous and might mean every two months. Frankly, I find it extremely difficult to see the force of that; "bi-weekly" means twice a week, and "bi-monthly" means twice a month. However, if the Other Place says that the word "bi-monthly" is ambiguous and changes it to "bi-weekly" we cannot object to that. I beg to move that this amendment be now read a first time.

Dr. CUMMINS seconded the motion which was agreed to.

On motions of Mr. ADAMS, seconded by Dr. CUMMINS in each case, the amendment was read a second time and agreed to.

THE APPROPRIATION BILL, 1951

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to move that Order No. 13 on the Order Paper be taken as the next Order of the Day.

Dr. CUMMINS seconded the motion which was agreed to.

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day also stands in the name of the honourable senior member for St. Joseph:—Second reading of a Bill to grant a sum of money out of the Public Treasury and to appropriate the same for the service of the year ending on the 31st day of March, 1952.

Mr. ADAMS: In moving the second reading of this Bill, it is unnecessary to say anything except that I am asking when the House goes into Committee on the Bill, that it be an instruction to the Committee that the Heads and the totals under each Head be read instead of each item. I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

Dr. CUMMINS seconded the motion which was agreed to.

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 Committee when the House is in Committee, that on the Heads and totals under each Head being called, they shall be taken as read.

Dr. CUMMINS seconded the motion which was agreed to.

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

The six Clauses of the Bill were called and passed.

The two Schedules were called and agreed to.

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

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

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

EXPIRING LAWS CONTINUANCE BILL 1951

Mr. ADAMS: I ask leave to deal with Order No. 8 on the Order Paper as the next Order of the Day.

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

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day also stands in the name of the hon. senior member for St. Joseph:—Second reading of a Bill intituled an Act to continue various expiring laws.

Mr. ADAMS: This is the usual Expiring Laws Continuance Bill which is passed every year. I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

Dr. CUMMINS seconded the motion which was agreed to.

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 Committee when the House is in Committee,

that the Schedule of the Bill be taken as read on its being called.

Dr. CUMMINS seconded the motion which was agreed to.

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

The three Clauses of the Bill were read and passed.

The Schedule was called and agreed to.

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

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

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

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Mr. ADAMS: I ask leave that Order No. 2 on the Order Paper be taken as the next Order of the Day.

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

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day also 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.

Dr. CUMMINS seconded the motion which was agreed to.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY VOTES FOR VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS

Mr. ADAMS: The first Resolution, Mr. Chairman is a Resolution to place the sum of $23,769 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. 45, which form the Schedule to this Resolution. I propose to take the Heads of the Schedule one by one and the first Head is Head VI, Customs. I beg to move that that Head stand part of the Schedule.

Dr. CUMMINS seconded the motion which was agreed to.

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to move that Head XVIII. Commissioners' of Currency, stand part of the Schedule.

Dr. CUMMINS seconded the motion which was agreed to.

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to move that Head XXIII (2), General Hospital, stand part of the Schedule.

Dr. CUMMINS seconded the motion which was agreed to.

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to move that Head XXIX, Miscellaneous Services, stand part of the Schedule.

Dr. CUMMINS seconded the motion which was agreed to.

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to move that the Resolution for $23,769 do now pass.

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to second that.

The question that the Resolution for $23,769 do now pass was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

ADVANCES TO MEET CERTAIN CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

Mr ADAMS: The next Resolution, Mr. Chairman, is one to grant the sum of $491,384 from the Public Treasury (to be subsequently refunded from Loan Funds) to be placed at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to meet expenditure incurred to the 31st of March, 1952, on the Capital Works included in the Estimates, 1951-52, Part II—Capital, Head I, Items 1 to 9, Head II and Head IV, in excess of the sum of $250,000 made available under Head XLIII of the Estimates 1951-52, Part I.

As honourable members will see from the addendum, this Resolution gives formal approval for the issue of advances to meet certain expenditure for which provision is made in the 1951-52 Estimates Part II—Capital, which have already been approved by the House. The expenditure will in due course be covered by the authority of a Loan Act and the advances will be repaid when the loan or loans are raised. It is proposed that unexpended Loan Balances amounting to $111,898 should be utilised to finance a part of the Capital Works mentioned in the Resolution to the following extent:—Under the Education Loan Act, 1935,—$11,971 in respect of the St. Leonard's Boys' School; under the Waterworks Loan Acts, 1935 & 1941,—$75,076 relative to Additional Mains and Standpipes; under the Public Loan Act, 1928, and the Local Loan Act, 1941,—$851 and $24,000, respectively, in respect of Houses, 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.

INTEREST-FREE LOAN TO NATURAL GAS CORPORATION

Mr. ADAMS: The next Resolution, Mr. Chairman, is one to place the sum of Seven Thousand Dollars at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee for the purpose of making an interest-free loan to the Natural Gas Corporation. I should like to say that as far as we can see at present, the arrangement with the British Union Oil Company expires on the 31st March and will not be renewed. We have no reason to suppose that the B.U.O.C. will carry on for any longer and it will be necessary to have a Natural Gas Corporation set up. Under Clause 18 of the Act the Corporation is authorised to borrow money with the approval of the Legislature. The addendum states: "It is proposed to set up the Natural Gas Corporation in the near future and Working Capital will be required immediately. The amount of $7,000 is estimated to be sufficient to cover recurrent expenditure for a period of two months and immediate capital expenditure together with a small reserve for Working Capital." The two Preambles to the Resolution explain the position; approval is being sought for the Corporation to raise an interest-free loan of $7,000 for the purpose of the provision of Working Capital and this sum is to be advanced from the Public Treasury. As has been pointed out, the Corporation is authorised to borrow money by way of a loan with the approval of the Legislature. I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Mr. COX: I beg to second that.

Mr. MILLER: Before the question is put, I would like the honourable member to explain why this loan is to be free of interest.

Mr. ADAMS: The Natural Gas Corporation is only an adjunct of the Government to run the natural gas wells, and we hope that the Corporation will be as profit-making as any other concern. It

is proposed at present to advance this loan to allow the Corporation to begin running these wells. We hope to sell gas as cheaply as possible without selling it at a loss, and without necessarily making the 40 per cent profit which is made in Broad Street.

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 Dr. CUMMINS, the CHAIRMAN reported the passing of three Resolutions in Committee.

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

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

SUSPENSION OF RULES 88 AND 89

Mr. ADAMS: In accordance with the notice which I gave earlier this afternoon, I beg to move with the leave of the House, that Rules 88 and 89 be now suspended in order to deal with the two Resolutions of which I gave notice earlier in the afternoon.

Dr. CUMMINS seconded the motion which was agreed to.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

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 deal with the two Resolutions of which I gave notice earlier this afternoon.

Dr. CUMMINS seconded the motion which was agreed to.

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

ADDITIONAL GRANTS TO THE HIGHWAY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOSEPH AND ST. GEORGE

Mr. ADAMS: The first Resolution of which honourable members have cyclo-styled copies, Mr. Chairman, is a Resolution to place the sum of $5,280 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. 47, which form the Schedule to this Resolution. The Adendum says:

"The Commissioners of Highways for the parishes of St. Joseph and St. George have made application for additional grants to enable them to make urgent repairs to roads and retaining walls which were damaged by flood water. The repairs to certain roads in St. Joseph are very necessary to enable the reaping of the sugar crop to continue; the Director of Highways and Transport has recommended that the amount of $5,040 requested for the repairs is both reasonable and urgently necessary, and represents the estimated cost of the repairs. The Highway Commissioners for the parish of St. George require a grant of $240 to repair a guard wall contiguous to a watercourse on lands of Brighton Plantation on the Brighton-Windsor Cross Road. This wall has collapsed as a result of the heavy rainfall and the situation is reported to be dangerous to the public. The Director of Highways and Transport has also recommended that this grant be made to enable repairs to be effected immediately. These grants will be made on condition that the work will be subject to frequent inspection by the officers of the Department of Highways and Transport, and that the Commissioners of Highways of each parish will submit a Completion Report supported by detailed accounts of expenditure."

The Committee should be reminded that the boulders which are to be put down in St. George will be of the required size, weight and density, and the Highway Commissioners of St. George will see that the bridges are properly built. I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Mr. WILKINSON: I beg to second that.

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

MATCHING GRANT RE BARBADOS WELFARE LIMITED

Mr. ADAMS: The next Resolution which has also been cyclo-styled, Mr. Chairman, is one to grant the sum of $976 from the Public Treasury (to be subsequently refunded as a free grant under the provisions of the Colonial Development and Welfare Act on the terms and conditions stated in the Message from the House of Assembly to His Excellency the Governor, dated the 14th of December, 1943) to be placed 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. 46, which form the Schedule to this Resolution.

In 1943 it was agreed that for every dollar which Barbados Welfare Limited collected by way of private subscriptions, the Government would give a dollar. Honourable members will see from paragraph 2 of the addendum to this Resolution that "Barbados Welfare Limited has gone into voluntary liquidation and the Liquidator has made application for a 'matching' grant amounting to $975.30 equal to subscriptions and donations received during the period from the 1st July, 1947, until the Company went into liquidation in March, 1948." This amount is still due and the Liquidator has applied for it. I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to second that.

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

On the motion of Mr. ADAMS, seconded by Dr. CUMMINS, the CHAIRMAN reported the passing of two Resolutions in Committee of Supply.

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

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

RESOLUTION *RE* OFFICER TO SERVE AS BIOCHEMIST

Dr. CUMMINS: I ask leave to take Order No. 12, standing in my name on the Order Paper, as the next Order of the Day.

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

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the honourable senior member for St. Thomas:—To move the passing of the following Resolution:—

Resolution to authorise the Governor to enter into an Agreement with a person to serve in the Medical Department in the office of Biochemist.

Dr. CUMMINS: The office of Biochemist was recently established at a salary of $4,320x240—5,760. It is difficult to get a qualified man to come out here

at that salary and on a permanent basis, and the purpose of this Resolution is to obtain authority for engaging the services of an officer at a salary of $4,800 x 240—$5,760 and on a temporary basis. This is an urgent matter because we need the services of such an officer; the holder of the office of Bacteriologist and Pathologist is going on leave very soon, and it is difficult to get somebody to act for him. 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.

THE ADJOURNMENT

Mr. ADAMS: I am going to move the adjournment of the House until 4 p.m. tomorrow. Although we have done so much work today, the Order relative to the division of the parishes into Registration Districts for the preparation of the new Voters' Lists must be got through before the end of the month. It is intended that the Island Supervisor should begin his duties on the 1st April and for that reason I am asking honourable members to come here again tomorrow. I wanted to deal with this Order tonight, but honourable members have not had any chance to look at the division of their particular parishes and see if there are any suggestions to be made. The House need not sit for more than two hours tomorrow afternoon and if we get through with these Registration Districts, I propose to adjourn over the period of a week. I ask honourable members to come prepared to say whether they agree with the divisions or not; some upset might be caused if the divisional lines have to be altered. I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until tomorrow, Wednesday, the 21st instant, at 4 p.m.

Dr. CUMMINS seconded the motion which was agreed to, and Mr. SPEAKER adjourned the House accordingly.