

THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SESSION 1953—54

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 28th April, 1953

Pursuant to prorogation, the 1953-54 Legislative Session was opened by His Excellency the Acting Governor, Mr. R. N. Turner, in the Council Chamber, Public Buildings, at 2.30 o'clock p.m., today.

The following Members of the House of Assembly were present in their Chamber:—

His Honour Mr. K. N. R. HUSBANDS, senior member for St. Peter, (*Speaker*); Mr. J. E. T. BRANCKER, senior member for St. Lucy; Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS, M.D., C.M., junior member for St. Thomas; Messrs. W. A. CRAWFORD, senior member for St. Philip; A. E. S. LEWIS, junior member for the City of Bridgetown; M. E. COX, senior member for St. Michael; L. E. SMITH, junior member for St. Joseph; F. L. WALCOTT, junior member for St. Peter; E. D. MOTTLEY, senior member for the City of Bridgetown; T. O. BRYAN, junior member for St. Michael; F. C. GODDARD, junior member for Christ Church; O. T. ALLDER, senior member for St. John; F. E. MILLER,

junior member for St. George; J. A. HAYNES, B.A. junior member for St. Andrew; J. C. MOTTLEY, junior member for St. Philip; E. St. A. HOLDER, senior member for St. James; V. B. VAUGHAN, junior member for St. John; C. E. TALMA, senior member for Christ Church; Mrs. E. E. BOURNE, senior member for St. Andrew; Messrs. E. W. BARROW, B.Sc., senior member for St. George and L. A. WILLIAMS, LL.B., junior member for St. Lucy.

Honourable members being in their places, the Sergeant-at-Arms entered the Chamber and informed Mr. SPEAKER that His Excellency the Acting Governor was in the Council Chamber and was ready to receive the House.

Mr. SPEAKER preceded by the Marshal carrying the Mace cradlewise, and followed by other honourable members in pairs according to seniority, proceeded to the Council Chamber and waited on His Excellency the Acting Governor.

HIS EXCELLENCY'S ADDRESS

His Excellency then addressed the two Houses of the Legislature as follows:—

Mr. Senior Member Presiding and Honourable Members of the Legislative Council :

Mr. Speaker and Members of the House of Assembly :

In the middle of the last session, the Governor, Sir Alfred Savage, proceeded to the United Kingdom on leave, prior to relinquishing his appointment as Governor and Commander-in-Chief. For almost exactly three years Sir Alfred and Lady Savage worked selflessly, devotedly, and unsparingly for the good of this Island and I am sure that all present will agree that they achieved the only ambition that they sought for themselves — that of being accepted as "belonging" to Barbados. We all wish them a happy and successful term of duty in British Guiana and assure them that a very affectionate welcome will await them if ever they can arrange to pay a visit to this Island.

2. In succession to Sir Alfred, Her Majesty the Queen has been pleased to appoint Sir Robert Arundell, until recently Governor of the Windward Islands. Sir Robert is due to arrive by air on the 14th May, and Lady Arundell will follow by sea about a fortnight afterwards. We look forward to the opportunity of greeting them with the traditionally cordial Barbadian welcome.

3. In the absence of the Governor it is my duty to re-open the Legislature to-day. In doing so, I am deeply sensible of the honour of being privileged for the first time to address the full Legislature of the Island with all its long and honourable traditions. In view of the imminence of the Governor's arrival, it would be presumptuous of me to anticipate his courses of thought and action, and my speech must necessarily have a "caretaker" savour about it.

Mr. Senior Member Presiding and Honourable Members of the Legislative Council :

4. Towards the end of the last session, the time came for Mr. G. B. Evelyn and Mr. R. Challenor to retire from membership of the Council. Both these gentlemen, in spite of their years, remain prodigiously nimble in mind and limb, and both have rendered meritorious service to this Island. I should like to take this opportunity of thanking them publicly and of wishing them many more years of vigorous activity.

5. Within the last few weeks your President, the Honourable J. D. Chandler, who has also been a valued member of the Executive Council, and so of the Executive Committee, of this Island, since the beginning of the session, has left for the United Kingdom where he will be one of the Island's two representatives at the Coronation of Her Majesty the Queen. To fill the vacancy on the Council which has been caused by his absence from the Island, I have appointed Mr. H. A. C. Thomas to be a temporary member of the Council until Mr. Chandler's return.

Mr. Senior Member Presiding and Honourable Members of the Legislative Council :

Mr. Speaker and Members of the House of Assembly :

6. Since Sir Alfred Savage, in his addresses to the Legislature in April, 1950, and again in December, 1951, referred to the parlous staffing situation in the senior brackets of the Government Service, there has been a most noticeable improvement in the position. This is directly attributable to the improved conditions of service for senior administrative, professional and technical posts which were approved by the Legislature ten months ago, and which, I personally have not the slightest semblance of a doubt, averted a most dangerous breakdown in the administration of the Island. Barbados now again has the chance to fill vacancies in the senior administrative, professional and technical posts with officers possessing the appropriate qualifications and experience. Since the conditions of service attaching to these posts were improved, suitable candidates have been found for the following key vacancies, which previously had proved particularly difficult to fill :— Deputy Director of Agriculture, Assistant Veterinary Officer, Physician Specialist, Anaesthetist, and Sister Tutor at the General Hospital, Labour Commissioner, Executive Engineer, Highways and Transport, Commissioner of Income Tax, Matron, Maternity Hospital, Medical Officer of Health, Speightstown, and Accountant-General. Vacancies in the posts of Director of Highways and Transport and Colonial Engineer, which have occurred since the conditions of service were improved,—the latter caused by the most unfortunate resignation through ill-health of Mr. T. E. Went after forty years' steadfast service—have also been filled. The only posts which are still proving intractable are those of Chemical Pathologist, and Assistant Matron and Sister Tutor, Mental Hospital. In addition, the services of several holders of "key" posts who undoubtedly would have resigned or sought transfers elsewhere if the old conditions of service had continued much longer, have been retained. Of the vacancies which I have referred to as having been filled, all officers have actually arrived and taken up their appointments, with the exceptions of the Medical Officer of Health, Speightstown, the Colonial Engineer and the Accountant-General. As regards the first of these, it is particularly galling that it has not yet been possible to open the fine Health Centre which has been provided at Speightstown. The delays have been due to two causes, first, the impossibility of attracting a suitable candidate until the revised conditions of service attached to the post of Medical Officer of Health were approved by the Legislature, and, latterly, to the inability of the Trinidad Government to release the candidate who has been selected by the Secretary of State, until a replacement for him could be found. I have recently received the welcome information that he will be released in the middle of May, and he is expected to assume duty in Barbados at the beginning of June. I am glad to say that the Colonial Engineer, who is at present on leave after a tour of duty in the Seychelles and is due to arrive in Barbados in September, has the qualification of F.R.I.B.A. For some years the Barbados Government has badly needed the services of a qualified architect, and the coming of the Colonial Engineer will supply this deficiency. For a long time, too, the Government has been conscious of the need for a really good Accountant-General, and it was most unfortunate that the last substantive holder of the post was compelled to retire, on the grounds of ill-health, before he was able to carry through the reforms which he had in contemplation. He died shortly after his return to England. With the passage of the Government's Five Year Plan of Development and Taxation the need for a substantive Accountant-General of the requisite calibre has become more pressing than ever. I was accordingly very pleased to learn that the Secretary of State had made an appointment and hope that it will not be long before the officer is at his desk.

7. It has recently been announced that Captain G. J. Bryan, the Assistant Colonial Secretary (Establishment), who is at present acting as Financial Secretary, has accepted an offer of transfer to Mauritius as Principal Establishment Officer. His promotion is well deserved and I wish him the best of fortune in what would seem to be a rosy future.

8. Among the first measures to be sent down to the Legislature in this new session will be the recommendations of the Government arising out of the Report by Sir Errol Dos Santos on the lower brackets in the Government Service, which was laid in the Legislature towards the end of last year. It was considered best, in the first instance, for Sir Errol's recommendations to be considered in the Island Whitley Council, and deliberations at this level have necessarily taken some time. I am glad to say, however, that, through "give and take" on both sides, eventual agreement was reached in Whitley Council on all points at issue. It is proposed that the revised conditions of service shall have effect as from the 1st April, 1952, that is to say, the same date from which the improved conditions of service for the senior administrative, professional and technical posts in the Service became effective. The estimated additional cost of the Government's recommendations for salaries and allowances is not substantially in excess of the estimates prepared by Sir Errol.

9. It is the manifest duty of the Government Service to set a good example in efficiency and human productivity. In regard to this, it is gratifying to note that the Council of the Civil Service Association has recorded that "it will be relentless in its efforts to secure efficiency where it is wanting". For my part, I should like to repeat what I said at the last Annual General Meeting of the Association, namely that it is quite wrong to suppose, as many members of the Public do, that the Administration is indifferent to rudeness and inefficiency on the part of its employees, and if members of the public become aware of genuine instances of rudeness or inefficiency, I do hope that, instead of writing anonymous generalisations to the Press, they will report the specific cases at once to the Head of Department concerned so that investigations can be made and, if necessary, disciplinary action taken. Courtesy should, however, beget courtesy and while it is incumbent on the Civil Servant to be courteous at all times in his dealings with the general public, he is entitled to receive courteous treatment in return.

10. It seems to me appropriate, before I pass from Staff matters, to pay a tribute to the Public Service Commission, which came into being about a year ago in consequence of an Act passed by the Legislature, and which is more than fulfilling the high expectations that were entertained of it.

11. The first issue of \$500,000 of the \$2,000,000 loan authorised under the Local Loan Act, 1953, was offered for subscription during February. The issue was at par with interest at the rate of 4½%. The amount was over-subscribed. In view of the encouraging response to the first issue it is expected that a further issue will be offered to the public after the present sugar crop. I would draw attention to the fact that debentures have been provided at as low a figure of \$50.00 so that as many people as possible should be able to avail themselves of the opportunity not only of participating in a secure and remunerative investment but of having a further stake in the development of their Island.

12. The latest estimates of the sugar crop are much more optimistic than they were a few months ago, at the time when the Annual Estimates 1953/54 were in the course of preparation, and it now looks as if the crop will not, in fact, fall very far below the figure of 150,000, which was accepted as the average annual crop for the purposes of the Five Year Plan. This marked and very welcome improvement in the estimated tonnage of the crop will, of course, be reflected in the Customs revenue for the current financial year, which should prove to be more buoyant than the approved estimate, and in the Income Tax returns for the next year.

13. The main lines of the Government's proposals for development during the next few years are set out in the Five Year Plan of Development and Taxation which was approved by the Legislature in November, and it is not, therefore, necessary for me to recapitulate them. The priorities for the coming year were set out in the Annual Estimates for 1953/54, and I have recently given instructions to the Heads of Departments concerned that the accent must be placed on D for Development and that they must give top priority to the development items (expansion of the hospital, technical institute and so on) for which provision has been entered in the Estimates and which are so badly needed.

14. It was stated in the Five Year Plan that the Government accepted in principle the establishment of a Deep Water Harbour but considered that it should be self-supporting, and accordingly intended to set up a committee to report on its implementation. This most important Committee has been set up under the Chairmanship of the House of Assembly member of Executive Committee in charge of Trade and Commerce and has commenced its deliberations.

15. Another important Committee which has been set up in consequence of the passing of the Five Year Plan is a Committee to examine the marketing and provision of storage facilities for fresh fish, meat, and green vegetables. This is a matter that brooks no delay.

16. In the Five Year Plan an allocation of \$1,000,000 was set aside from Loan Funds for the establishment of a Barbados Development Board on the lines of the Industrial Development Corporation which has been set up in Jamaica. Legislation was drawn up accordingly and was under consideration when the Report of the Mission of the United Kingdom Industrialists was received. This report suggests that a better example to follow may be the less ambitious organisation suggested by the Government of British Guiana, and, while the urgency of establishing a Board is not being overlooked, it has been thought best to re-examine the proposals from this angle.

17. During the next five years much is going to be heard of that vital necessity — Water. Over a million dollars has been set aside in the Five Year Plan for the reorganisation of the water supplies of the island, and the provision of additional mains and standposts. It is expected that nearly \$300,000 will be expended during the current financial year on work, which is not spectacular, but whose benefit is readily appreciated by all sections of the community.

I am at last able to bring into operation the Underground Water Control Act of 1951, which was passed in the dying days of the last Session. The Regulations which were necessary before the Act could be proclaimed, have been drawn up and provision for the necessary staff and equipment has been provided in the Annual Estimates for 1953/54. It is accordingly possible for the Water Board now to be formally constituted, and for it to begin its task of controlling and regulating the use of the underground sources of water supply in the Island.

Last, but by no means least, I would refer briefly to the Irrigation Board, which has recently been set up for the purposes of carrying out research into the possibilities of increasing the productivity of land under sugar cane or other crops by means of irrigation, and of operating an Irrigation Fund provided from one third of credit balances which have accrued to Her Majesty's Government in respect of sales of sugar by the Ministry of Food to Canadian refineries during the years 1950, 1951, and 1952. With the proper use of irrigation there are good hopes that the average annual tonnage of the sugar cane crop may be substantially increased. Much, therefore, depends on the Irrigation Board, and its activities will be followed with lively interest.

18. The allocation of what I may briefly call the "Canadian windfall" to the Rehabilitation Fund, Labour Welfare Fund and the new Irrigation Fund in equal proportions was made with the concurrence of the Sugar Producers' Association, and it is fitting that at this point I should pay a tribute to the extremely co-operative and helpful spirit which animates that Association and its allied organisation, the Sugar Producers' Federation of Barbados. Not only in this respect, but in many others, such as the Domestic Sugar Agreement which was concluded in 1951, the Sugar Producers have set an admirable example of goodwill, which it is only right that the community as a whole should acknowledge. What I have said also applies to the Barbados Workers' Union, and the present excellent labour relations that exist in the Sugar Industry are in the main due to the moderation and good sense of both capital and labour. The Domestic Sugar Agreement is due to expire this year. When it was concluded towards the end of 1951, it was hailed as an outstanding example of what could be accomplished when there was an enlightened attitude on the part of both capital and labour in an industry, and the hope was expressed that it would be the forerunner of similar long term agreements in the future. Time is running out, but I am sure that it will be in the best interests both of the sugar industry and of the Island as a whole if the terms of a fresh agreement can be settled before the present one expires.

19. No specific provision in the Five Year Plan has been made for the Tourist Industry, but the Government stated in the Plan that it was willing to consider representations which might be made to encourage the industry. Moreover, during his recent visit Her Majesty's Trade Commissioner in the British West Indies pointed to many ways in which improvements can be effected, some of them being within the competence of the industry itself to adjust, and some requiring the co-operation of local government authorities and of the public as a whole. I understand that a Committee of the Chamber of Commerce is at present examining these matters. In the meantime it is most gratifying to see the improvement that has recently taken place in the appearance of Broad Street, and I feel that the money set aside for repainting and alterations to the Baggage Warehouse was well spent. To the visitor first impressions mean a great deal.

20. During the past year or more the Government has been seeking to obtain help and advice on several widely different matters, from the various agencies and organisations which now exist for the purpose. In two cases that help and advice are already being provided in a practical form. I refer to the important experiment in Aided Self-Help Housing which is being carried out at Clinketts, St. Lucy, and which, if it is as successful as we all hope it will be,

may well become the forerunner and exemplar of similar schemes elsewhere. I refer also to the visit of Miss Elsa Haglund, a Home Economist on the staff of the Food and Agriculture Organisation, which is one of the Specialised Agencies of the United Nations. She is at present with us to advise on the teaching of domestic science in the schools and the reorganisation and expansion of the syllabuses. Two matters which, regrettably, have not yet emerged from the stage of discussion and correspondence are the proposal to secure the services of a Soil Conservation Expert to advise on the erosion problems in the Scotland Area, and a proposed B.C.G. Campaign to combat tuberculosis. The delay over the Soil Conservation Expert is not due in any way to sloth or indifference on the part of the Barbados Government, but to procedural difficulties at the other end of the chain. I have recently been informed by the Secretary of State that progress has been made towards the solution of these difficulties and that a formal application has at last been lodged with the Technical Co-operation Administration in Washington. The B.C.G. campaign would be greatly facilitated by the passing of modern Public Health legislation which is one of the Island's most pressing requirements.

21. Among matters to which reference is made in the Five Year Plan but for which no financial provision has been allocated are Federation and Ministerial Status. It would be wrong for me at this stage to comment on the first of these matters, which is "sub-judice" at a momentous Conference in London, but whatever may be agreed upon at that Conference will only be provisional and subject to ratification so far as Barbados is concerned, by the Legislature of this Island. As regards Ministerial Status, I believe that it would be accepted that in practice Barbados already enjoys one of the most advanced constitutions among the Colonial territories. The absence of Reserve Powers and of any power to legislate by Order-in-Council, apart from orders under Imperial legislation, has given almost complete power so far as legislative matters are concerned, and this power is vested in a Legislature, the lower house of which is composed of elected members only. So far as the Executive side of the Government is concerned, the "Bushe experiment" provides for a form of "ministerial status" and of "ministerial responsibility", and, Sir Hilary Blood explained his position as Governor-in-Executive Committee in his speech to the Legislature on the 23rd November, 1948, as follows:—"In practice I accept as a general, though not as an absolute rule, the advice given by the House of Assembly members if they are unanimous." That, in a nutshell, is the practice that has been followed for over four years and it means that, by and large, the House of Assembly members of Executive Committee are responsible for the decisions of the Government. Nevertheless the many constitutional changes occurring in other parts of the Colonial Empire which have involved the introduction of full time ministerial systems have not passed unnoticed here, and it has not unnaturally been suggested that the time has come to transfer to the elected representatives of the people more responsibility than they at present enjoy in the executive and administrative aspects of Government in this Island. I have been engaged during the last few months in discussions on the subject with representatives of political parties and others and have been in correspondence with the Secretary of State. It is the intention that the proposals and the Secretary of State's views on them shall be laid before the Legislature in due course.

22. The very worrying problem of Population has many facets, has so far defied solution, and grows more serious with every day that passes. The subject is of such vital concern to the whole community that towards the end of the 1948-51 Session a Joint Committee of both Houses of the Legislature was set up to consider its various aspects and make recommendations. That Joint Committee was reappointed when the present Legislature assembled in December, 1951, and it is my earnest hope that it will now be reconstituted and will resume its deliberations as a matter of urgency.

23. Publication of the debates of the Legislature is a matter within the purview of the Legislature itself, but I should like to dwell on it for a moment, if I may do so without offending against the traditions of the Legislature. Ever since I came to Barbados I have been concerned at, and, on occasion, embarrassed by the long delays that occur before records of the debates in the Legislature appear in the "Official Gazette". Recently, for example, I received requests from several sources for copies of the Hansards of the debates in both Chambers of the Legislature on Federation, so that they could be studied before the opening of the present Conference in London. They were very natural requests, but the reply had to be that the Hansards were not available and that it was not possible to say when they would be available. I know that among the causes of the present predicament was the illness and death of one of the reporters of the Legislature and that in recent months the position in regard to the publication of debates of the Council has greatly improved. Nevertheless, much leeway still remains to be made up, particularly in regard to the debates of the House, which, of course, meets more frequently than the Council. The last of its debates for the 1951 Session has only just been published and debates for the present Session are only available up to the middle of last June. An Address was passed by the House during the session, but it is doubtful whether the provision of extra staff alone will solve the problem. I hope that ways and means of bringing the publication of debates up to date and thereafter keeping them up to date will be found early in the new Session.

24. I should be failing in my duty if I did not put you, and through you, the people of Barbados on guard against the infiltration of Communist propaganda into the Caribbean area. There are reliable indications that it is on the increase. As I have recently said on another occasion, the several freedoms, the freedom to say what one wants, which includes the freedom to grumble, the freedom to associate in groups, the freedom to worship as one pleases, the freedom from arbitrary arrest and indefinite detention, are never more precious than when they have been taken away. However honeyed the words of Communist propaganda may be the hard and inescapable fact remains that in no totalitarian regime can those freedoms, which we all take for granted as our birthright, survive. Communist propaganda may be expected to be presented in plausible and even disarming disguises; it is all the more necessary, therefore, to counter it with an undeceived and discerning eye. Experience elsewhere has shown that the worst errors that the community of this Island can commit are to delude itself with the fond—and false—notion that what has happened elsewhere cannot possibly happen here, and to permit its own cherished freedom to be abused and exploited by persons whose ultimate aim is the extinction of that freedom.

25. We stand on the threshold of the Coronation season and I feel that I cannot do better than commend to your consideration the following extract from our Queen's message to her peoples on this last Christmas Day:—

"Above all, we must keep alive that courageous spirit of adventure that 'is the finest quality of youth, and by youth I do not just mean those who 'are young in years; I mean, too, all those who are young in heart, no matter 'how old they may be. . . . On this broad foundation let us set out to build 'a truer knowledge of ourselves and our fellow men, to work for tolerance and 'understanding among the nations, and to use the tremendous forces of science 'and learning for the betterment of man's lot upon this earth. If we can do 'these three things with courage, with generosity and with humility, then surely 'we shall achieve that 'peace on earth, goodwill towards men' which is the 'eternal message of Christmas and the desire of us all."

These words constitute the challenge of our young Queen, who is shortly to take her Coronation vows. It is a challenge to which every one of us present to-day can spontaneously respond, with full hearts and without reservations of any kind. Let, therefore, the approaching Coronation season bring out the best in us, and let us suppress for good all those bickerings and prejudices which tend to cause divisions within the community. At cricket Barbados presents a united front to the world as many a visiting team has found to its cost. That is as it should be. Let us, from this Coronation season onward, "bury the hatchet" over old scores and, as an Island, present a united front to the world. Indeed, let it be said, (to adapt the closing lines of Shakespeare's "King John"), "Naught shall make us rue, if Barbados to itself remain but true".

26. I now declare the Legislative Session open and pray for the guidance of Almighty God in your deliberations.

Government House,
Barbados.
28th April, 1953.

R. N. TURNER,
Acting Governor.

At the close of his Address, His Excellency presented Mr. SPEAKER with a copy of it.

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

Prayers were read.

MR. SPEAKER REPORTS THE ACTING GOVERNOR'S SPEECH

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that on the last occasion when His Excellency the Acting Governor was pleased to receive the House in the Council Chamber, His Excellency was pleased to deliver a speech and to present me with a copy of it.

Dr. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker,—I beg to move that His Excellency's Speech be taken as read.

Mr. Cox seconded the motion which was agreed to.

SELECT COMMITTEE TO DRAFT A REPLY TO HIS EXCELLENCY'S SPEECH

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to move that a Select Committee be appointed to draft a Reply to His Excellency's Speech.

Mr. Cox seconded the motion which was agreed to.

Mr. SPEAKER: Subject to the approval of the House, I have the honour to appoint the following honourable members to serve as such Select Committee:—The honourable senior member for St. Philip (Mr. CRAWFORD), the honourable senior member for St. Thomas (Mr. MAPP), the honourable junior member for Christ Church (Mr. GODDARD), the honourable junior member for the City of Bridgetown (Mr. LEWIS), the honourable junior member for St. James (Mr. E. K. WALCOTT) and the honourable senior member for Christ Church (Mr. TALMA).

APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY SPEAKER

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to move that the honourable junior member for the City of Bridgetown be appointed as Deputy Speaker for the Session.

Mr. COX: I beg to second that.

The question that the honourable junior member for the City of Bridgetown be appointed as Deputy Speaker for the Session was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

SETTLEMENT OF THE RULES OF THE HOUSE

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to move that the Rules of the House for the last Session be the Rules of the House for this Session.

Mr. Cox seconded the motion which was agreed to.

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to move that the honourable junior member for St. Joseph be appointed Chairman of Committees for the Session.

Mr. COX: I beg to second that.

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

APPOINTMENT OF STATUTORY COMMITTEES AND MEMBERS OF BOARDS

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to move that the personnel of the Statutory Committees and Boards for the last Session be the same for this Session.

Mr. COX: I beg to second that.

Mr. CRAWFORD: Before the question is put, I should like to say that the appointment of these Committees and Members of Boards should be made separately. I therefore beg to move that these appointments be made separately.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: I beg to second that. I believe that there is the necessity for some changes to be made in the personnel of these Committees and Boards, more especially as Ministerial Status is around the corner.

The question that the appointment of these Committees and Members of Boards be made separately was put and resolved in the affirmative, the House dividing as follows,—

Ayes: Messrs. BARROW, LEWIS, TALMA, WILLIAMS, CRAWFORD, J. C. MOTTLEY, VAUGHAN, ALLDER, HAYNES, E. D. MOTTLEY and GODDARD—11.

Noes: Mr. SMITH, Mrs. BOURNE, Messrs. MILLER, HOLDER, BRYAN, F. L. WALCOTT, COX, BRANCKER and Dr. CUMMINS—9.

Dr. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker,—Since honourable members are not disposed to make the appointments of these Statutory Committees and Members of Boards as was done in the last Session, it is the usual custom to refer the appointments of these Committees and Members of Boards to a Select Committee comprising the senior members of the various constituencies. I therefore beg to move that a Select Committee comprised of the senior members of each constituency, be appointed to recommend who shall serve on such Committees and Boards.

Mr. COX: I wholeheartedly beg to second the motion made by the honourable junior member for St. Thomas. I think honourable members will agree that ever since there was a House of Assembly the custom has been as proposed by the honourable member. Whenever there is a new Session of the House the custom has been to appoint the Senior Members of the various constituencies to recommend to the House who shall be the members of these Statutory Committees and Boards. I think that that procedure will be agreed to by honourable members; even though there may not be any written Rule of the House to that effect, our customs and traditions are dearer to us than any written Rule. I think we should agree that what the honourable member has proposed is the right procedure.

Mr. CRAWFORD: It is most remarkable that the memories of the honourable junior member for

St. Thomas and the honourable senior member for St. Michael have only served them now that the original motion has not been agreed to. In other words, if the original motion had been agreed to, they would have forgotten everything about tradition and about our usual custom and they would have proceeded to appoint the members of these Statutory Committees and Boards as suggested by the Order Paper today. The custom to which reference has been made is the correct procedure at the opening of a legislative session; after a General Election all the Standing Committees and Boards are abolished and the Senior Members for each constituency are appointed as a Select Committee to recommend who shall be the members of the various Committees and Boards.

Mr. LEWIS: On a point of order. I would respectfully point out to you, Mr. Speaker, that the vote of the House is that these Committees and Members of Boards be appointed immediately and separately. I would like to say that the appointment of the senior members of each constituency to recommend the personnel of these Committees and Boards is of very recent origin.

Mr. SPEAKER: Is the honourable member saying that we should appoint these Statutory Committees and members of Boards immediately?

Mr. LEWIS: That is how I voted and what I understood would be done.

Mr. CRAWFORD: If the original motion made by the honourable junior member for St. Thomas had been carried, we should not have had this attempt to refer the appointment of these Committees and members of Boards—

Mr. SPEAKER: I rule that motion out of order.

Dr. CUMMINS: I want to correct an error made by the honourable senior member for St. Philip. He said that it is customary after prorogation to appoint a Select Committee for the purpose of recommending the personnel of these Committees and Members of Boards.

Mr. CRAWFORD: On a point of order. I said it was customary to do that after a General Election.

MEMBERS OF THE PRINTING COMMITTEE

Dr. CUMMINS: I have in my hand the Minutes of the meeting of the 25th April, 1950, which follows immediately after prorogation and this was the procedure; a motion was made that the personnel of the Statutory Committees and Boards except the personnel of the Fancy Molasses Control and Marketing Board, be re-appointed. However, I beg to move that the following members be appointed as the members of the Printing Committee: His Honour Mr. SPEAKER, the honourable senior member for St. Lucy (Mr. BRANCKER), the honourable senior member for St. Thomas (Mr. MAPP), the honourable senior member for Christ Church (Mr. TALMA) and the honourable junior member for Christ Church (Mr. GODDARD).

Mr. COX: I beg to second that.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: I beg to move that the honourable senior member for St. Philip (Mr. CRAWFORD) be also appointed.

Mr. ALLDER: I take it that the members of this Committee will have to be voted for individually and I therefore beg to move that the honourable junior member for St. John (Mr. VAUGHAN) be added to the personnel of the Committee.

Mr. VAUGHAN: I beg to second the motion of the honourable senior member for the City of Bridgetown.

Mr. HAYNES: I beg to second the motion of the honourable senior member for St. John.

Mr. SPEAKER: A motion has been made by the honourable junior member for St. Thomas; an amendment has been moved by the honourable senior member for the City of Bridgetown and a further amendment has been moved by the honourable senior member for St. John. I will put the amendment moved by the honourable senior member for St. John first and I hope honourable members will remember what that amendment is; it is that the name of the honourable junior member for St. John be added to the members already proposed by the honourable junior member for St. Thomas to be members of the Printing Committee.

The question that the name of the honourable junior member for St. John be added to the first proposed Committee was put and resolved in the affirmative, a division being taken as follows:—

Ayes: Messrs SMITH, BARROW, WILLIAMS, J. C. MOTTLEY, VAUGHAN, ALLDER, CRAWFORD, HAYNES, E. D. MOTTLEY and GODDARD—10.

Noes: Mrs. BOURNE, Messrs MILLER, LEWIS, TALMA, HOLDER, BRYAN, COX, BRANCKER and Dr. CUMMINS—9.

Dr. CUMMINS (Sitting): I should like to enquire whether the number of members of this Committee is limited or unlimited.

Mr. SPEAKER: It is unlimited.

The question that the name of the honourable senior member for St. Philip be added to the Committee was put and resolved in the negative, the House dividing as follows:—

Ayes: Messrs BARROW, WILLIAMS, J. C. MOTTLEY, VAUGHAN, ALLDER, CRAWFORD, HAYNES, E. D. MOTTLEY and GODDARD—9.

Noes: Mr. SMITH, Mrs. BOURNE, Messrs MILLER, LEWIS, TALMA, HOLDER, BRYAN, F. L. WALCOTT, COX, BRANCKER and Dr. CUMMINS—11.

MEMBERS OF THE VICTORIA EMIGRATION SOCIETY

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to appoint as members of the Victoria Emigration Society, the same members who served during the last Session, namely, the honourable senior member for St. Andrew (Mrs. BOURNE), the honourable senior member for St. George (Mr. BARROW) and the honourable senior member for St. James (Mr. HOLDER).

MEMBERS OF THE SUGAR INDUSTRY AGRICULTURAL BANK

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to move that the honourable senior member for St. Lucy (Mr. BRANCKER), the honourable junior member for St. George (Mr. MILLER), the honourable junior member for St. Peter, (Mr F. L. WALCOTT) and the honourable junior member for St. Michael (Mr. BRYAN) be appointed as members of the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank.

Mr. COX: I beg to second that motion and in doing so I would like to suggest that if the number of members of Committees and Boards is unlimited and honourable members feel that additions should be made, they should allow the appointment of these Committees and members of Boards to be recommended by a Select Committee.

Mr. SPEAKER: The honourable member is reflecting on a previous vote of the House. The House has decided to proceed in this manner with the appointment of these Committees and members of Boards.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: I beg to move that the honourable senior member for St. John (Mr. ALLDER) and the honourable junior member for St. Andrew (Mr. HAYNES) be appointed as members of the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank.

Mr. VAUGHAN: I beg to second that.

Mr. TALMA: I would like to draw to the attention of the House that in this case, the number of members of the Board happens to be limited, and the honourable member's motion, as I understand it, is to add to the number of members of the Board.

Mr. SPEAKER: The honourable member is not adding to the number of members of the Board. I may inform the House that in respect of this Board, four members must be appointed so that the motion made by the honourable senior member for the City of Bridgetown cannot be entertained because he has only nominated two members.

Mr. CRAWFORD: I beg to move that the following be the members of the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank:—The honourable senior member for St. John (Mr. ALLDER), the honourable junior member for St. Andrew (Mr. HAYNES), the honourable senior member for the City of Bridgetown (Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY) and the honourable senior member for St. George (Mr. BARROW).

Mr. VAUGHAN: I beg to second that.

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion made by the honourable senior member for St. Philip will be put first. The question is that the members as proposed by the honourable senior member for St. Philip be the members of the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank. Honourable members in favour of that will please say "Aye," those against will please say "No." I think the "Noes" have it.

A division was taken as follows:—

Ayes: Messrs. J. C. MOTTLEY, VAUGHAN, ALLDER, CRAWFORD, HAYNES, E. D. MOTTLEY and GODDARD.—7.

Noes: Mr. SMITH, Mrs. BOURNE, Messrs. MILLER, BARROW, LEWIS, F. L. WALCOTT, TALMA, HOLDER, BRYAN, COX, WILLIAMS, BRANCKER and Dr. CUMMINS.—13.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question has been decided in the negative, seven honourable members voting "Aye," and thirteen honourable members voting "No." The question now is that the members as proposed by the honourable junior member for St. Thomas be the members of the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank. Honourable members in favour of that will please say "Aye," those against will please say "No." I think the "Ayes" have it.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to move that the members of the Board of Agriculture for the last Session be the members of the Board of Agriculture for this Session, namely, the honourable junior member for St. Peter (Mr. F. L. WALCOTT), the honourable senior member for St. James (Mr. HOLDER), the honourable junior member for St. Andrew (Mr. HAYNES) and the honourable junior member for St. Joseph (Mr. SMITH).

Mr. COX: I beg to second that.

Mr. VAUGHAN: I beg to move that the following members be the members of the Board of Agriculture:—The honourable junior member for St. Philip (Mr. J. C. MOTTLEY), the honourable junior member for St. Andrew (Mr. HAYNES), the honourable junior member for St. Joseph (Mr. SMITH) and the honourable senior member for St. James (Mr. HOLDER).

Mr. ALLDER: I beg to second that. I have observed that the House is not reasonably represented on these Boards and I feel it would be wise to have a little more mixture among the members. Let us take a Board like the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank; there you have members who are all members of the Labour Party, and it cannot be said that on this Board there are the three separate bodies represented in this Chamber.

Mr. SPEAKER: Is the honourable member speaking on the matter which is before the House?

Mr. ALLDER: I am speaking on the motion which is before the House for the appointment of the members of the Board of Agriculture, but I reflected on the personnel of the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank just to show honourable members—

Mr. SPEAKER: The honourable member may not reflect on a vote of this House.

Mr. ALLDER: Each of the three Parties in this House represents a particular thought and when you look at the personnel of the Board and the opinion which represents the opinion of a large percentage of the population—

Mr. SPEAKER: Is the honourable member speaking in connection with the Board the members of which we are now appointing?

Mr. ALLDER: Yes, Sir. However, I again beg to second the motion of the honourable junior member for St. John.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: I do not intend to detain the House, but I would like to remind honourable members on that side of the House that the electorate have returned sixteen of us on this side of the House, and we are reflecting the will of the people. We have been sent back here in large numbers and we can select the members of the Boards. As long as we have a mandate from the people the honourable senior member for St. John may as well keep his mouth shut until he has been given a mandate from the people.

Mr. LEWIS: I would like to point out that one member's name appears in both motions. (A MEMBER: There is nothing to fear about that.)

The question that the members proposed by the honourable junior member for St. John be the members of the Board of Agriculture was put and resolved in the negative, a division having been taken.

On being called upon to vote,

Mr. LEWIS (Sitting): Before I vote, I should like to say this; if I vote on the amendment and then on the substantive motion I will be voting both for and against an honourable member who has been proposed for membership of this Board.

Mr. SPEAKER: That should not worry the honourable member; if the honourable member wants to retire he may do so.

Mr. LEWIS: If a member has already been proposed as a member of the Board, he should not be included in another motion before the House.

Mr. SPEAKER: The honourable member cannot question that.

Mr. LEWIS: It is not necessary for both motions to include the same member.

Mr. SPEAKER: I have already allowed the subsequent motion.

The division was as follows:—

Ayes: Messrs. J. C. MOTTLEY, VAUGHAN, ALLDER, CRAWFORD, HAYNES, E. D. MOTTLEY and GODDARD.—7.

Noes: Mr. SMITH, Mrs. BOURNE, Messrs. MILLER, BARROW, LEWIS, F. L. WALCOTT, TALMA, HOLDER, BRYAN, Dr. CUMMINS, Messrs. COX, WILLIAMS and BRANCKER.—13.

The question that the members as proposed by the honourable junior member for St. Thomas be

the members of the Board of Agriculture was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT OF THE AGRICULTURAL CREDIT SOCIETIES

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to move that the honourable junior member for St. Peter (Mr. F. L. WALCOTT) who was the member from this House of the Board of Management of the Agricultural Credit Societies at the last Session, be the member of that Board from this House for this Session.

Mr. COX seconded the motion which was agreed to.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF THE PEASANTS' LOAN BANK

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to move that the honourable senior member for Christ Church (Mr. TALMA), and the honourable senior member for St. Thomas (Mr. MAPP) who were the members of the Board of the Peasants' Loan Bank for last Session, be the members of that Board for the present Session.

Mr. COX: I beg to second that.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: I beg to move that the honourable junior member for Christ Church (Mr. GODDARD) and the honourable senior member for St. John (Mr. ALLDER) be the members of the Board of the Peasants' Loan Bank.

Mr. CRAWFORD: I beg to second that.

The question that the honourable junior member for Christ Church and the honourable senior member for St. John be the members of the Board of the Peasants' Loan Bank was put and resolved in the negative.

A division was taken as follows:—

Ayes: Messrs. J. C. MOTTLEY, VAUGHAN, ALLDER, CRAWFORD, HAYNES, E. D. MOTTLEY and GODDARD.—7.

Noes: Mr. SMITH, Mrs. BOURNE, Messrs. MILLER, BARROW, LEWIS, F. L. WALCOTT, TALMA, HOLDER, BRYAN, Dr. CUMMINS, Messrs. COX, WILLIAMS and BRANCKER.—13.

The question that the members as proposed by the honourable junior member for St. Thomas be the members of the Board of the Peasants' Loan Bank was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF THE PEASANTS' LOAN MARKETING BOARD

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to move that the honourable junior member for St. Lucy (Mr. WILLIAMS), Messrs. D. D. Garner, Nigel Reece and Sir John Saint, who were the members of the Fancy Molasses Control and Marketing Board for the last Session, be the members of that Board for this Session.

Mr. COX seconded the motion which was agreed to.

MEMBERS OF THE BRIDGETOWN HOUSING BOARD

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to move that the honourable senior member for St. Joseph (Mr. ADAMS), and the honourable senior member for St. Michael (Mr. COX), who were the members of the Bridgetown Housing Board during the last Session, be the members of that Board for the present Session.

Mr. COX: I beg to second that.

Mr. ALLDER: I beg to move that the honourable senior member for St. Joseph and the honourable junior member for the City of Bridgetown (Mr. LEWIS) be appointed as members of the Bridgetown Housing Board.

Mr. VAUGHAN: I beg to second that.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: I beg to move that the honourable senior member for St. Michael (Mr. Cox) and the honourable junior member for St. Michael (Mr. BRYAN) be appointed as members of that Board. I have made that motion inasmuch as the honourable senior member for St. Joseph has said that he does not want to go back on that Board.

Mr. J. C. MOTTLEY: I beg to second that motion.

Mr. BRYAN: I beg to decline my nomination to serve on this Board.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: I am very sorry for that.

The question that the honourable senior member for St. Joseph and the honourable junior member for the City of Bridgetown be the members of the Bridgetown Housing Board was put and resolved in the negative, the House dividing as follows:—

Ayes: Messrs. BARROW, WILLIAMS, J. C. MOTTLEY, VAUGHAN, ALDER, CRAWFORD, HAYNES, E. D. MOTTLEY and GODDARD—9.

Noes: Mr. SMITH, Mrs. BOURNE, Messrs. MILLER, LEWIS, TALMA, HOLDER, BRYAN, F. L. WALCOTT, COX, BRANCKER and Dr. CUMMINS—11.

The question that the members as proposed by the honourable junior member for St. Thomas be the members of the Bridgetown Housing Board was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

MEMBERS OF THE SUGAR PRODUCTION AND EXPORTS CONTROL BOARD

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to move that the honourable junior member for St. Peter (Mr. F. L. WALCOTT) the honourable senior member for St. George (Mr. BARROW), the honourable junior member for the City of Bridgetown (Mr. LEWIS) and Mr. H. O. Entage, who were the members of the Sugar Production and Exports Control Board during the last Session, be the members of that Board for the present Session.

Mr. Cox seconded the motion which was agreed to.

EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY WITH Mr. MAPP ON THE DEATH OF HIS FATHER

Dr. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker,—Since we began the proceedings at this meeting, it was brought to my knowledge that the father of the honourable senior member for St. Thomas was buried yesterday afternoon. In accordance with our custom, I beg to move that this House place on record its sympathy with my colleague on the death of his father.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: I beg to second that motion and in doing so I should like to say that we on this side of the Table beg to associate ourselves with the honourable member's motion. We share the sorrow of the honourable senior member for St. Thomas on the death of his father; it is a very sad moment for the honourable member and I hope that the expression of sympathy will be conveyed to him in the spirit in which it was moved.

The question that this House place on record its sympathy with the honourable senior member for St. Thomas on the death of his father was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, honourable members standing in their places on the passing of the motion as requested by Mr. Speaker.

PAPERS LAID

Dr. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker,—I am commanded to lay the following Papers:—

For Mr. ADAMS: Report by the Comptroller, Development and Welfare in the West Indies, for the year, 1952.

Statement of sums of money paid over to the Accountant General by the Commissioner of Police during the quarter ended 31st December, 1952.

Report on a survey of Friendly Societies in the West Indies by A. F. and D. Wells.

For Mr. ADAMS: The Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) No. 2 Order, 1953.

For Mr. ADAMS: The Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) No. 3 Order, 1953.

For Mr. ADAMS: The Civil Establishment (Leave Passages) (Amendment) Order, 1953.

Mr. COX: I am commanded to lay The Waterworks (General) Regulations, 1953.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: I am commanded to lay the Quarterly Return of transactions in rum to 31st March, 1953.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Government Notices were given as follows:—

Dr. CUMMINS (for Mr. ADAMS): Resolution to place the sum of \$5,040 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to supplement the Estimates 1953—54, Part II, Capital, as shown in the Supplementary Estimate 1953—54, No. 2 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

Dr. CUMMINS (for Mr. ADAMS): Resolution to place the sum of \$1,008 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to supplement the Estimates 1953—54, Part I, Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimate 1953—54, No. 3, which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

Dr. CUMMINS (for Mr. ADAMS): Resolution to approve the Order entitled the Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) No. 2 Order, 1953.

Dr. CUMMINS (for Mr. ADAMS): Resolution to approve the Order entitled the Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) No. 3 Order, 1953.

Dr. CUMMINS (for Mr. ADAMS): Resolution to approve the Order entitled the Civil Establishment (Leave Passages) (Amendment) Order, 1953.

Mr. COX: Resolution to approve the Regulations entitled the Waterworks (General) Regulations, 1953.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: Bill intituled an Act to amend the Customs Tariff Act, 1921.

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

PRIVATE MEMBERS' NOTICES

Private Members' Notices were given as follows:—

Mr. LEWIS: Of my intention to move the adjournment of the House to discuss the Report on the Barbadian Women Hospital Domestic Workers in the United Kingdom.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: Of the following Address:—

The House of Assembly

To

His Excellency the Acting Governor

The House of Assembly is of opinion that in view of the fact that Pan American Airways are operating an air service in the West Indies, that it is in the interest of Barbados that the company be invited to operate direct services from New York and Puerto Rico respectively to this island and the House of Assembly requests that your Excellency take the necessary steps to implement this Address.

Mr. TALMA: Of the following Address:—

The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency the Acting Governor

1. The House is conscious of the invaluable service which is being rendered to expectant Mothers at the Maternity Hospital in Bridgetown.

2. The House, however, desires to state that owing to its intrinsic value and the growing public appreciation of the benefits to be derived at such an Institution, apart from the growing demand, that the time has come when the said Institution is incapable of adequately coping with the present demand.

3. This House is therefore of the opinion that in order to avert the present inconveniences meted out to expectant Mothers of the rural parishes another (or other) such Institution should be erected in one (or more) of the rural parishes, and preferably in the District known as "Silver Sands" in the parish of Christ Church in this Island.

Mr. TALMA: Of the following Address:—

The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency the Acting Governor

1. The House deplores the neglect, which up to now, has taken place with respect to the provision of free dental care and assistance to adults, in cases where their economic position warrants such assistance.

2. This House is of opinion that pending the enactment and implementation of the Local Government Bill and the Public Health Bill, in which ample provision is made for the establishment of Health Centres in the various Districts, appropriate steps should be taken in the "interim" for providing such free dental aid and assistance.

3. The House is further of opinion that in any such scheme, the Parochial Medical Officers, the District Social Welfare Officers, the Churchwarden and the two Representatives of the parish should be co-opted to administer same.

4. The House respectfully requests Your Excellency to implement the terms of this Address as expeditiously as possible, having regard to the fact that the health of the community is of the first and paramount importance.

Mr. CRAWFORD: Of the following Address:—

The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency the Acting Governor

The House of Assembly desire to draw to the attention of Your Excellency its deep concern over the colony's housing programme with special reference to expenditure from Labour Welfare Funds and over the situation with regard to the construction and repair of tenantry roads.

2. The House would like to emphasize:—

(a) the high cost of construction of a wooden house; construction in stone being cheaper and more durable,

(b) the fact that people cannot be expected to construct in stone except in cases of secure land tenure,

(c) the unavailability of land for purchase for housing in every parish of the island.

(d) that the economy of the country benefits but little from the disbursement of the large sums accruing to the Labour Welfare Fund; the greater portion of the money being spent on building materials imported into the colony.

3. With regard to the tenantry road programme, on which, within the past four years fully three quarter million dollars have been spent; the House would point out that:—

(a) many of the roads repaired and/or constructed are in districts which are not easily accessible,

(b) the vast majority of such roads still remain to be attended to.

(c) the impracticability, for one reason or another, of installing water and electric light in these areas in the foreseeable future.

(d) the long distances which residents have to traverse in order to obtain bus transportation,

(e) the fact that the recurrent cost of maintaining these roads will constitute a burden on the central and local governments,

(f) that the selection of these tenantry areas in the past depended generally on the situation of the most barren land on the estate without any regard to its accessibility or to the provision of essential amenities such as water, transportation and light.

4. In order to improve the position the House respectfully suggest therefore:—

(a) the abandonment of the more inaccessible tenancies and the allocation of the expenditure which construction and maintenance of the roads would entail towards the acquisition of appropriate areas in the various parishes located alongside or near proper highways, such land to be made available to persons who want to purchase land for erecting a house.

(b) the lands to be acquired through negotiations with the owners thereof—or compulsory if necessary—either on a money basis, or should this be financially impracticable at the time, conditioned upon a remission of taxes on the rest of the taxable property of the owner for such number of years as may be necessary to pay the price thereof;

(c) that steps be taken to expand the production of block stone and the work, where possible, be made less laborious.

(d) that early attention be given to the recommendation in the Galloti Report proposing the local manufacture of white cement from limestone.

(e) investigation of the possibility of economically producing locally clay tiles for roofing, etc.

Mr. CRAWFORD: Of the following Address:—

The House Of Assembly
To

His Excellency The Acting Governor

The House desire to express their deep concern over the situation in the East African colony of Kenya and are of the considered opinion that a contribution of not less than £500 should be made from Government funds to the defence of Mr. Jomo Kenyatta, Honourable Fanuel Odede, member of the Legislative Council of Kenya and other officers and members of the Kenya African Union.

Mr. CRAWFORD: Of the following Address:—

The House Of Assembly
To

His Excellency The Acting Governor

The House of Assembly are profoundly disturbed over the reports of the repressive measures which are being taken by the Government of Kenya against sections of the native population which have not been proven to be in any way associated with the alleged terrorist activities in the colony, and respectfully request that Your Excellency will con-

vey to H.M. Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies its deep disquiet over the existing state of affairs.

Mr. MILLER: Of the following Address:—

*The House of Assembly
To
His Excellency the Acting Governor*

The House of Assembly is aware of the untold miseries of the people in the country villages in cases of emergencies, by the absence of a slot telephone service in these districts.

2. The House is of the opinion that the Government should introduce legislation to relieve the sufferings of country folk, by having such telephone services installed in the villages where the need is felt.

Mr. MILLER: Of the following Address:—

*The House Of Assembly
To
His Excellency The Acting Governor*

The House of Assembly is aware that the plantation tenantry system can no longer be regarded as a civilising influence upon a people yearning for social advancement; and will request Government to

survey the parish of St. George like other parishes, with a view to creating housing schemes, 'Self-Help' and otherwise.

2. The House further requests that in planning sites, attention be paid to bringing such homesteads within easy proximity of existing public utility services.

BILL READ A FIRST TIME

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: I beg to move that the Bill intituled an Act to amend the Customs Tariff Act, 1921, be now read a first time.

Mr. Cox seconded the motion which was agreed to.

THE ADJOURNMENT

Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until this day week, the 5th day of May, 1953, at 3 o'clock p.m.

Mr. COX: I beg to second that.

The question that this House do now adjourn until this day week, the 5th day of May, 1953, at 3 o'clock p.m. was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER adjourned the House accordingly.