THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SESSION 1953—54

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Wednesday, 10th March, 1954.

Pursuant to adjournment, the House of Assembly met today at 12 (noon).

Present:

His Honour, Mr. K. N. R. HUSBANDS (*Speaker*), Hon. G. H. ADAMS, B.A., C.M.G., Q.C., (*Premier*); Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS, M.D., C.M., (*Minister of Social Services*), Hon. M. E. COX, (*Minister of Communications, Works and Housing*), Hon. R. G. MAPP, (*Minister of Trade, Industry and Labour*), Hon. C. E. TALMA, (*Minister of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries*) Mr. A. E. S. LEWIS (*Deputy Speaker*), Mr. F. L. WALCOTT, Mr. T. O. BRYAN, Mr. F. E. MILLER, Mr. J. C MOTTLEY, and Mr. V. B. VAUGHAN.

Prayers were read.

MINUTES.

His Hon. THE SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that the Minutes of the last meeting are not yet ready for circulation.

MR. SMITH and MRS. BOURNE entered the House and took their seats.

RESUMPTION OF COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

His Hon. THE SPEAKER: The first order of the day is to resume in Committee on the Colonial Estimates for the year, 1954-55.

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

HEAD XXVII—GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS

The Head and the total amount to be voted under it were called.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I beg to move that the sum of $38,012 be voted under this Head.

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

HEAD XIX—ECCLESIASTICAL

The Head and the total amount to be voted under it were called.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I beg to move that the sum of $10,200 be voted under this Head.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to second that.

Mr. LEWIS: Mr. Chairman, I take this opportunity to enquire of the appropriate minister whether we may expect some move in the direction of disendowment of the Anglican Church during the coming year.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I cannot give the honourable member any specific date, but I can tell the honourable member that the files on it are now in circulation and we are working on it.

Mr. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, I wish to speak on Item 5, Cost of Living Allowance against which $6,240 is to be voted. Like the honourable junior member for the City, I can well understand the awkward position of the Government when its members, themselves, are the moving force in the disestablishment of the Anglican Church. There is no doubt that the Anglican Church has done a considerable job in the community during the past century but what is worrying me is the question of discrimination which is practised by that body up to today although its ministers enjoy payments from all the taxpayers. Sir, a great many of the taxpayers are not in agreement with the payment of ministers of the Anglican Church by the State; they would prefer Government to give to it a grant-in-aid as it does to the various religious denominations in the island.

I think it is only fair that I should for purposes of the record point to two regrettable incidents in the Anglican Church, one occurring at the St. George's parish Church and the other in the same parish at the St. Luke's Church. It was brought to my notice recently that the incumbent at St. Luke's Church lost his temper in the said church with one of his parishioners and held her collar bone in his effort to throw her out of the Church and in the melée between them one of the heels of the lady's shoes was broken off. I am told that some hours later, the priest made satisfaction with the girl's parents and admitted that he had lost his temper and offered to give money for replacement of the shoes. While that in itself is regrettable, we have still yet another incident which I consider is more regrettable. At the Parish Church which should set the standard of example in that parish, we have the Revd. C. C. Conliffe, the Rector, calling the Lord Bishop at the Church twice in one week to perform the rites of confirmation to candidates of two groups. I think this House should be told of ugly happening like these in this century in

the Anglican Church of Barbados. In the first half of the week in question, a group of sixteen coloured folk of that parish had the opportunity of enjoying the sacred rite of confirmation by His Lordship the Bishop and most unfortunately, if I may put it this way, His Lordship was called to administer the rite of confirmation at that same church to two people of another group later in the same week, because in the mind of the Rector it was not convenient to handle both sections of the community at the same time. This is an ugly state of affairs and while we do not expect the Government to do anything about it, we should show some resentment to it and for historical reasons comment on it, giving a plain, unexaggerated picture of the matter.

Sir, we have other denominations which are doing good work in the community but which only receive a small sum under this Head by way of grant-in-aid. I can mention the Salvation Army which is doing much social work among the people and is only receiving $1,200. That body is doing work which is expected of the Anglican Church. I hope that the Minister of Social Services will give some more consideration not only to the Salvation Army but the other denominations such as the Wesleyan Church which make a tremendous contribution to our community by way of social services.

I hope and pray that in the very near future, Government will be able to bring about disestablishment and disendowment of the Anglican Church even if it be by gradual means. I think it is time that Government should be ready with some plans to bring about this change.

Mr. BRANCKER entered the Committee and took his seat.

Mr. VAUGHAN: I would be the last person in the world to say that the Anglican Church has not been of some influence in this community in the past but I would be the first to admit that its influence is almost non-existent today. Now that we have a new Government in power and it is not like former Governments which looked upon the Anglican Church as an adjunct for the preservation of the old social order, I feel that the time has come when instead of our voting for this $111,000 on the Ecclesiastical set up of the colony that we could spend a great amount of it on some social measure of a more lasting purpose. I will not take the popular trend of public opinion by saying that religion is the opium of the people. That is nonsense to my way of thinking, but I must say that religion as practised by the Anglican Church in this colony does not deserve the State's subsidy which is annually given to it.

I am made to understand by certain coloured students now in training at Codrington College for a theological career that it is the avowed policy of the Church in this colony that they would not be ordained unless they vow to go abroad to take up their ministry. I do know that at one time. the Anglican Church of Barbados was exclusively staffed by Englishmen and if this information is true, it would appear as if the present authorities of the Church would like to re-establish that practice of having all English priests here again. As the present Government does not in any way resemble past governments as to its policy towards the Anglican Church, I think it is its bounden duty to see that by the time that the next Annual Estimates will be computed that this amount of $111,000 will not be included for the Ecclesiastical Establishment. It is a disgrace in this day and age in this colony that the Anglican Church should be practising racial discrimination in our parish churches. In the one place which should set a standard of racial tolerance it is sorry to say that you can discover an open practice of it. It seems to me as if its ministers have forgotten what they must have been taught in the Holy Scripture, that Christ died not only for the sins of the Jews but for the sins of the whole world. Sir, in the one place where you would not expect to find it—the Anglican Church—you find one Rector taking one set of coloured people up to the Bishop for confirmation and another set of white people to the same Bishop for the same rite on two separate days in the same week, because there should be no mixing. There can possibly be no excuse for that. It is true that this is not the only racial discrimination that one sees practised by that Church. I have seen with my own eyes the practice of the white-complexioned set of the congregation in a church going up first to the Altar to take communion and then the coloured set going up afterwards. Surely that can take place in South Africa or in some parts of South America but it should not take place in Barbados. If the State must contribute to the Ecclesiastical Establishment, the Anglican Church should satisfy the State that it is a shining example in every respect of progressive tolerance of the community.

Sir, glebe lands attached to rectories in the various parishes of this island are sufficiently large that if they are properly cultivated and administered would contribute as much as would provide a substantial fund for the upkeep of the Anglican Church. It is unfair to the other religious denominations—Wesleyan, Moravians, Roman Catholics, etc. — to have all the citizens contributing to the revenue for the upkeep of the Anglican Church exclusively. I am really recommending to the Government of the day to make it a decisive policy that this would be the last year of its subscribing to the upkeep of the Anglican Church in its entirety. Disestablishment and disendowment of this body is long overdue. We had the late Bishop of this Church leaving the Diocese because he realised the evil of State subsidy. He was an admirable man. He returned to his homeland before he would consent to go on with this State subsidy of the Church. I want the Government to take example from him and cease this evil. Sir, as I have said, the time is long overdue for the disestablishment and disendowment of the Anglican Church. I do not say that the State should disassociate itself from the Anglican Church. Sir, this is the first time I have spoken on this matter and I have done so mainly because corruption in the Anglican Church is becoming too abundantly perceptible and because I think it is high time that the State should cease to be a partner in the corruption.

Mr. BARROW and Mr. GODDARD entered the Committee and took their seats.

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, if the majority of the members of the Anglican community in this island were self-respecting, they would be the first to agitate for disendowment of their Church and the first to put their hands in their pockets to upkeep that institution. They would spurn the notion that persons outside of their Church, persons who do not believe in their faith or faiths, should be required by law to contribute to the running of their Church. Sir, I know that you take great care in seeing that we deal with items on which we are required to vote money. I therefore would draw your attention to the fact that I am dealing with Item 5, Cost of Living Allowance for which the sum of $6,240 is to be voted in respect of these employees of the Anglican Church. and that is entirely apart from the $6,000 which goes to the Bishop. As I see it, the Rector of St. Michael is paid $3,000 and the other ten rectors are paid $25,-200 per annum and for the other 28 Vicars who are in receipt of $2,160 annually, there is the sum of $60,480 fixed by law. All these sums are over and above the sum of $6,240 which we have to give our

approval to for a cost of living allowance to be paid to them.

Sir, very many people of the island were shocked when they heard of the recent incident at the Parish Church of St. George but those of us who have longer memories were not so shocked because we know that it is only typical of the Anglican Church in this island from its history. Up to a quarter century ago the ministers of this Church were selected from a particular race of people; people like myself were spurned as ministers and were not permitted into the ministry. They said that the ministry was for persons of Anglo-Saxon origin. We find that the former Bishop of this colony was brought here for the expressed purpose of assisting in the disendowment of that Church but after a period of years of useful ministry, he left in disgust because he saw no single move made to rid the taxpayers of this burden of $6,240. Sir, do you realise how many hotmeals this amount would purchase for elementary school children in a year? Do you realise how many school children would receive secondary education if this amount were earmarked for the purpose? Sir, it is seen that the members of the Anglican community are not desirous of making any move in the direction of disestablishment of their Church and that is why we must make the move ourselves between now and the time that the next Colonial Estimates are underway.This incident in the St. George Parish Church has only surprised me because it was so openly done. In the space of one week, there were two confirmation services at this Church. When the various candidates who were prepared by the same Rector for confirmation came to the actual ceremony, he thought fit to separate the sheep from the goats. And the Rector is no less a person than the Revd. Clement C. Conliffe, M.A. He thought it fit that the candidates who were born of Anglo-Saxon race, should not be confirmed on the same day as those born of the African race. Bear in mind that this Church is supported by the taxpavers in this island and the greater proportion of the taxes is contributed by persons of African origin; yet they were not permitted to be confirmed on the same day as two white ladies, one of whom came from the feudal baronial hall at Rowans. I wish to say that the people of this colony should not be called on to contribute to a Church which discriminates in that way. People who wish to have their own separate confirmations and such sacraments of the Church, should be made to provide their own churches and upkeep them and to pay their own priests. The cost of living allowances to those priests should not be paid from the Treasury. It is surprising to see that this incident has occurred in the parish of St. George which is so ably represented by members of the Labour Party. During the last World War, the honourable senior member for St. George was out fighting for people regardless of race, colour or creed.

We have ten Rectors who are getting something out of this cost of living allowance. I feel, Sir, that it would not be fitting for me to sit down without marking my displeasure to this incident. I am aware that there is some official explanation of the incident to the effect that one of the ceremonies was arranged through pregnancy of one of the candidates. Instead of one other candidate being asked to come along, probably for company, I am sure the other sixteen candidates would have been perfectly willing to be confirmed on the same day and would have put themselves to any inconvenience to be prepared to receive the rite three or four days earlier. I think the Rector of St. George should be ashamed of his performance. There is no question about it, his actions were a very, very poor show. I feel that His Lordship should call him to board and remonstrate with him about his actions. As I have said, it would be inappropriate for me to resume my seat without indicating my displeasure and I, therefore, am going to move a reduction of the amount of cost of living allowance which we are required to vote. I move that the amount be reduced by $10. Sir, it is a matter for your ruling whether you are disposed to accept that motion or not, as I understand that it is controversial whether it is possible to do so or not. It is my view that it can be done. I, therefore, move that instead of the sum of $6,240 to be voted under Cost of Living Allowance that the sum be $6,230, which would represent a dollar less for each Rector.

Mr. HOLDER and Mr. WILLIAMS entered the Committee and took their seats while Mr. BRANCKER was speaking.

Mr. J. C. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, I feel that a good case has been made out for the curtailment of this support of such a big sum of the taxpayers money of this island to the Anglican community. I also feel that the priests of these Churches should not be allowed to do as they like with the collections they take up in their respective churches; but that these collections should be accounted for to this Government. I feel this Government should also have power to disagree with those priests who behave in so unchristian a manner as to cause rebuke and displeasure on the Anglican Church. This Government should have the power to disagree with such priests because they are Government servants; they are paid from the Treasury. They should not be allowed to do as they like.

Sir, it is known that churches in this island are supposed to be business concerns and I feel that some sort of supervision should be paid to the activities of ministers, not only of the Anglican Church, but to the many other ministers in the other denominations. I think there is too much looseness in what is called religion today. All manner of religious organisations are springing up in our midst and I think their advent is making our people worse. The records of the Courts of this Island show that our people are growing worse in spite of the $2,500,000 spent on education and the $111,000 spent on our ecclesiastical establishments. Besides all this, the various Vestries in the Island subscribe to the claims of the churches in their parishes. As far as I can see, it is unknown what this island contributes to the Anglican Church. I think that the Government should have some measure of control over the activities of priests in the Anglican Church.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, I do not share all of the views that have been expressed here on this matter. I do know that it is the policy of the Labour Party to aim at disendowment of the Anglican Church but even while that is the aim of the Labour Party, it is unknown what the cost of disendowment of the Anglican Church would entail and I am wondering if honourable members are of the same opinion as some honourable member has suggested, that by the time that the next Estimates are prepared, there should be some adjustment in the expenditure under the Head, Ecclesiastical, by taking some steps to disestablish and disendow the Anglican Church. I, Mr. Chairman, do not believe in the State paying the Anglican Church according to the method set out here. I believe the Anglican Church should be given some subvention like the subventions given to the Salvation Army, the Wesleyan Church and the other denominations. If the Government feel that would be a better way of doing it, I would be in favour with it because I believe in the biblical injunction as enunciated by St. Paul that he who preaches the gospel should live by the gospel.

I may say that there are too many people who are really not christians who say they belong to the Anglican Church. Many only attend church services of that denomination because of its name and that is the reason why you get most of the vilest practices obtaining in the Anglican Church. If you take a census of the various churches in the island, you will find the largest number of people going to the Anglican Church as well as you will find that it has the highest illegitimacy rate among its numbers and the worst type of moral behaviour.

If Government is considering at this stage the disendowment of the Anglican Church and what it is going to cost, I would suggest to the Government to carefully consider the cost and before it comes to a decision to compare the cost with what it would cost to take over the Barbados Electric Corporation and see whether it would not be easier to nationalise electricity than disendow the Anglican Church. In my humble opinion, I feel, so far as this island is concerned, it would be a greater asset to have the Electric Company owned by the people of Barbados if the disendowment of the Anglican Church is going to cost any great amount of money. We must bear in mind that the latter is a productive element, and you need not be a Socialist to know that it would pay you better to own the public utility. Even in countries where the Government is Conservative, electricity is owned by the State. The State of New York owns transport and electricity and that State does not pretend to be a Socialist State. In certain parts of Great Britain, you will find all public utilities owned by the municipality. There seems to be a popular move on foot to disendow the Anglican Church but that should be balanced by the cost and if the cost of disendowment would mean a heavy annual expenditure so far as liquidating the assets of the Church, then I would say it would be wiser for Government to take over some productive element like the Electric Company rather than disendow the Church.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: Are you going to condemn a lot of people because one of them acted unconventionally? I do not think you will address all barristers or lawyers as crooks because one lawyer acted dishonestly or unconventionally. Why then condemn the whole group of Anglican clergymen because one of them may have acted unconventionally. We know that some carpenters are lazy especially when they are called upon to work by the day but to say that all carpenters are dishonest is not good enough. I am sorry that the honourable junior member for St. John in his reference to this matter used the word 'corruption'. We know that racial discrimination to a greater or lesser extent exists in Barbados, even in other West Indian Islands, although I will say that it is not as evident here and in some other Colonies of the West Indies as it is in Bermuda or the Bahamas. In a most important matter like this we should not condemn a whole group or body for the sins of omission of one or two. I think it is my duty not as Premier but because of the circumstances to draw to the notice of the House the other side of the picture in respect to the incident at the St. George's Parish Church. I think the *Beacon* Newspaper published something about it although I do not remember reading it myself. In a conversation with His Lordship the Bishop, he expressed the desire to tell me the facts concerning it and he had even prepared a letter which he proposed should be published in the *Beacon*. It would have been published had it not been for the fact that I assured him that the matter would be dropped and it was not going to be raised in this House. Because honourable members have raised the question today I will read in part the letter which His Lordship desired to publish in the *Beacon* Newspaper. It is dated 15th January, 1954, and is as follows:—

> "During the years 1951 to 1953 inclusive twenty-two confirmation services were arranged to meet the needs of 29 persons who were confirmed separately or two together or, in one case, three together."
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> "Those confirmed were taken in the following places: St. Michael's Cathedral, the Chapel of the Convent of the Good Shepherd, the Chapel of Bishop's Court, the General Hospital, Glendairy Prison, St. Michael's Infirmary and in private homes."
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> "The reasons for these special confirmations were: sickness, departure from the island, expressed desire for a quiet service or for some similar reason. In no case was a request made to me to administer the rite of confirmation on the grounds of race, nor would I consider such an application."

As far as the recollection of His Lordship at the time he spoke with me, he said that four of those twenty-nine persons who were confirmed under such circumstances were white. Mr. Chairman, I do not think it is necessary for me to do more than read that letter. It does not do honourable members' case any good, because of our added responsibility, when we are on the floor of this House, without careful consideration to say something exists because it is said to exist if we cannot prove that it does exist.

Several honourable members were not in their places when I said that the files affecting disendowment are now in circulation. This Government agreed with the then Bishop that this matter should be brought before the House as quickly as possible but as honourable members should know, in any legislation to affect a group of people, one must ask questions so as to get the opinions of various persons. It is known that the Anglican Synod for one reason or the other has managed to get an adverse vote on the question of disendowment. The Government had appointed a Committee of the honourable senior member for St. Philip, and myself and as far as I remember, the former junior member for St. James, (Mr. Wilkinson) who were the three leaders of the three parties in the House at that time, to go into the matter of disestablishment and disendowment of the Anglican Church. I do not now that if it were not for that adverse vote of the Synod, the Anglican Church would today have gone on with it. This Government has not changed its policy and I do not see anything that would make any one of us change but I do say, knowing that and having the assurance that the present files are in circulation, whether the Synod likes it or not, Government is going on with its plans for disendowment and disestablishment. I cannot say whether this Government will go about it in the same manner as British Guiana.

However, Sir, in whatsoever way we may feel about individual members of the Clergy, we must bear in mind as ordinary human beings that it must be a very difficult thing to be a christian let alone to be a clergyman. It is a very easy thing to fall from the high standard of christianity even though one might be a minister of the gospel. It is easy to find fault with the Clergy. Do not let us, because we feel as a body of politicians that it is right to have the Anglican Church disestablished make rash statements of its ministers. One statement which was put forward by an honourable member seems very amusing indeed. It is notorious that Roman Catholic countries generally have the greatest amount of

illegitimacy. It is so in Spain and Portugal let alone South America. Again, let us bear in mind that the easiest people to throw bricks at are the Clergy because clergymen, being human beings cannot help falling from grace. We have heard it said often that if a clergyman smokes, it is an offence; if he drinks a little alcohol, that is also an offence. It is very easy to throw bricks at clergymen.

I wish to assure honourable members that with all that Government wants to do for the people, it still is strong on this matter of disestablishment and disendowment of the Anglican Church. I am not revealing any inside secret when I say that I have got more prompting on this question of disendowment and disestablishment from the people of the said Anglican Church than from the two papists in this House; therefore, it is not a matter at all of ignoring the question. It is a matter which is constantly before us but we have a lot to do.

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, the honourable and learned Premier is a little confused when he says that it is difficult to be a christian let alone to be a minister of the Gospel, but one should not find it so difficult if he is a Minister of religion to be a christian and that is all we are suggesting in respect of Ministers of the Anglican Church. Difficult as it may be even for the honourable and learned Premier because he belongs to a profession which has christianity personified or because of necessity he has lost touch with that profession that he is not a christian yet it should not be so in respect of a Minister of the Gospel. I am more than grateful to him for reading that letter which I presume has already become a document of this House explaining the reason for those twenty-two private confirmations involving twenty-nine persons. One of the reasons His Lordship gave was the expressed desire for a quiet service. Well, that is how one can get around it. Any of the few barons from the feudal baronial halls of Barbados not wanting to be associated at the altar with persons of African descent can simply ask for a quiet service and that is what happened in the parish church of St. George.

Mr. Speaker, reference has been made to the adverse vote of the Anglican Synod on disendowment. The Anglican Synod will always vote against this; its vote will always be adverse on disendowment, therefore there is no point in making anyone believe that we are not supporting disendowment because we are paying attention to that vote. It always will be adverse. Mention was also made of illegitimacy by the honourable and learned Premier in referring to remarks by the honourable member on my right. If one will go into that matter carefully as it affects the Anglican Church as against the the Roman Catholic Church, one would see that one branch approves of birth-control, abortions and things of that sort while the other does not, and in my humble opinion, illegitimacy is by far the lesser of the two evils.

I have made a motion for the reduction by $10 of the amount to be voted to cost of living allowance. I will like this to be known. If practical moves are not made in respect of disendowment and disestablishment between now and the next Estimates I am going to propose a motion for the entire elimination of this $6,240 that would be voted for cost of living allowance.

Mr. VAUGHAN: I am sorry that the honourable Premier got the impression that I accused the clergy of corruption. I was never so uncharitable. I said there was corruption in the Church which is an entirely different thing.

Hon. Mr. ADAMS: I am sorry I misquoted the honourable junior member for St. John. Whether he said that only in the Church there is corruption, I would say there is corruption at the Bar but that is not general corruption, therefore, it is not right for the honourable member to address that remark in general.

The question that the sum of $10,200 be voted under this Head was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XX—EDUCATION

The Head and the total amount under it were called.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I beg to move that the sum of $1,121,993 be voted under this head.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to second that.

Mr. BRYAN: Mr. Chairman, Under this Head, Item No. 29, Relief Teachers, I notice that there is an increase of $3,375 over the amount in last estimates. I am hoping that the increase represents the increased salary provided for these relief teachers in the last revision of salaries. I have been informed that these relief teachers were not considered eligible for that increase because of the fact that they are only part-time personnel. I am hoping that information is incorrect, and if it is correct, that it will be remedied. Whether relief teachers are wholetime or part-time personnel, their duties remain the same, therefore, they should be eligible for the same increase as is provided for wholetime teachers.

Under Item, No. 45, Janitors for Elementary Schools, I would like to say that on more than one occasion, I have drawn attention to the considerable difficulty which janitors experience in drawing their salaries. As is seen, their salaries are provided in the Estimates, therefore, they are paid from the Treasury. I cannot see the reason why janitors should wait until the following month for payment. They should draw their pay at the same time as any salaried officer except in the case of those schools to which the salaries of the teachers are taken in cars. I feel that the salaries of these janitors should be paid on the same date as school teachers, and I hope that the delay in paying these people will cease.

With regard to Item No. 46, Nutrition Scheme, I know that many honourable members will wish to speak on this matter. I take this opportunity to say that during the discussion on the Five-Year Plan I mentioned that I regretted Government did not include in the Plan a system of compulsory education and a scheme to provide a daily hot meal to children in the elementary schools. It is very good to see some provision here for a nutrition scheme but I feel the time has come when the Government should pay serious attention to the institution of some system of compulsory education and the provision of hot meals for elementary school children. The system has just been started in Jamaica. Right here in Barbados, at the Roman Catholic school in Jemmotts Lane, children get a hot meal every day and Government would do well to emulate the example set by that charitable institution. I want to ask the honourable Premier who is in charge of Education what progress has been made with regard to an address which was passed by this House on the 26th May last year relative to the provision of ten Coronation Scholarships at secondary schools for boys and girls born of Barbadian parents. On that very date an address was passed in connection with the establishment of a T. B. Sanitorium and the Government has sent down a reply in connection with it. I do not know for what reason Government has not seen fit to reply to this address dealing with

what I consider is an important phase of our education and one which would be readily acclaimed by the public. I would like the Minister in charge to give me some information as to what is Government's intention on that point.

Mr. VAUGHAN: I have some radical views on the educational set-up in this island. I must confess that I am afraid to express them because there is a certain amount of public prejudice prevailing here. However, I would say that it is my firm opinion that half of the money spent on education is wasted. The results from examinations are not by any means satisfactory and there must be fundamental reasons for it. Our teaching profession is fairly well paid, with but a few exceptions, one being supply teachers whom I think are unfairly treated. My father was a school-master and before he died he was recognised as one of the best but he was only receiving the handsome salary of $26 a month if that can be called handsome. How come these complaints nowadays about education? I think, in the first place, there is that absence of public responsibility on the part of the teaching staffs both in the secondary and elementary schools of this island. I personally feel that academic qualifications are not enough to qualify one as a teacher or for the public to get the best for the money spent on education. There are some people who are in the teaching profession who should not be teaching at all. They have no sense of responsibility either to the pupils whom they teach or to the parents in general. There should be some means just as in the Civil Service for people to pass a test to see if they possess the aptitude for teaching. I understand that in England a man may have the best academic qualifications, yet before he can be engaged in the teaching profession he has to pass a panel of examiners who are there to say whether he is suited for the post. There should be something similar here; there should be some means of discovering whether certain people are fit to undertake the tremendous responsibility of teaching. I will readily admit that the homes from which children come have something to do with the ultimate product which you turn out but I am convinced from what I have seen, particularly in secondary schools, that after five years which a boy or girl takes to pass through those schools, they are not turning out more refined products than what were taken in. When a school has not done that, it has failed. I may say that when I went to Combermere which was during the time of the late Mr. C. R. Burton, some what I would call very raw pupils went to school there, but I can say that when they left that institution, they were gentlemen in every sense of the word. Today, that is not happening. I may say that I have watched carefully boys who have attended the Lodge School, a school which I have the honour to be a member of the Governing Body, and I have discovered that the pupils of that school have much better manners and are more polite than children of any other secondary school. I do not wish to be personal but it is heartening to see the manners which prevail among the boys at the Lodge School and distressing to see the manners which prevail among the boys at Combermere and even Harrison College.

Sir, academic qualifications are not enough for a school teacher. It is distressing to spend $100,000 on Combermere School and then to see the results of the London School Certificate of 1953 which are as follows:—

Ordinary Level —

Candidates entered	64
No of subjects taken	386
No. of passes	149
Percentage of passes	38.6

As can be seen, that is less than 50% passes. Sir, I am not satisfied at spending money on education when it cannot be spent to the best advantage. We have had Commissions of Enquiry in this, that and the other thing and I think the time has come when we should have some Commission of Enquiry into our setup of Education to recommend what is best to give us greater results for the money we are spending. I am aware that I have not the figures to prove it, but I have been made to understand that the secondary schools of the smaller islands of the British West Indies are getting much better results than we are getting. Why in other smaller and lesser important Caribbean islands should there be the ascendancy over Barbados in the turning out of their educational products? Is their system better than Barbados now? Sometime ago, I brought into this House a resolution—but was prevented from discussing it at the time—with regard to the frequent absence of the Headmaster of Combermere School from School which resulted in unfairness to the pupils and parents. On the last occasion of Empire Week when he was getting the school hall ready for an Empire Exhibition, he sent home all the children of the preparatory forms. I would not go into the matter now but I consider that is a matter which concerns the Governing Body of that School and the Government. Never mind that on many of the occasions that the Headmaster was absent, it was because he was engaged in some public-spirited business, yet, it must be borne in mind that he is not paid for his public spirit; he was not paid to take part in a Coronation pageant; he is paid to educate the children of Combermere School. He therefore has no excuse for making any preparation for a pageant or for Empire week.

When it comes to country schools — and what I am going to say concerns both the Minister of Education and the Minister of Agriculture,—I would like to see a much larger plot of land attached to each school for the teaching of agriculture and vegetable gardening. A little handkerchief plot of land is by no means sufficient to inculcate in the pupils attending those schools the value of farming. Sir, we in this country have a habit of looking down on the man who tills the soil but those country elementary schools should also provide the elementary foundation necessary to give the importance to the value of the land. As I see it, the whole land policy of the Caribbean in this generation will have to change to that of concentrating on plantation economy. Plantation economy from the economic angle has up to now been taken for granted to be the best type and best use of land, yet in some communities it does not seem to be that, or it is not looked at from that angle. It is time that we become alive to the value of the better education of our pupils attending country schools in the system of scientific farming.

I do not believe that anybody is more alive to education than the honourable Premier who is Minister of Education, but he has a heavy responsibility. I do hope he will find time, busy as he is with other responsibilities to pay the greatest attention to our education setup because on it depends the whole future status of our people. It is not enough to build secondary schools every five years. It is not enough to

increase the education vote by $171,450 on salaries for teachers. That is only what I would call an adjunct to the importance of education. It is time for us to watch results and see that what we get is satisfactory from our multiplication of schools and the increase in salaries to teachers. Sir, I am firmly convinced that we are not getting anything comparable to what we are expending on education in this colony. Of course, I am by no means an educational expert. It is true that I have not read certain reports published by various educational experts both American and English, but I have read enough to know that our educational vote is much too big for the results which we are getting from it. I do want the honourable Premier to pay great attention to this department of his and concentrate on it with a view to seeing that we get better results for the money which we are spending on it.

Mr. WILLIAMS: I would begin with a word of praise to the Education Department for the way in which it has compiled its Estimates. I must say that I was forcibly impressed when I saw how the grant-in-aid to Secondary Schools had been set out One should, probably, not compliment a man for the job he is doing but when it is well done I feel it is decent to say it is done well.

I would like to make reference to Item No. 37 Practical Education; Item No. 60, Adult Education, and Item No. 61, Housecraft Centre. Speaking on these items, I will say that it is a general feeling that in the country districts there is not sufficient adult education and that various institutions of education like the Richmond centre and the Housecraft Centre not only that they all are concentrated in St. Michael but their benefits are not passed on to the country areas as much as they should be. I can say that people in the northern parishes have been asking me about these matters and discussing them seriously. They feel that the time has come when the Housecraft Centre with the good work that is done there for the small subsidy should make itself felt in the country districts of the Island. I feel that the Housecraft Centre is doing two good things. It is teaching people domestic science and it is also teaching elementary school teachers who go back to their schools and teach the courses that are suitable to elementary school children and in that way the advantages of the centre are passed on. But there are certain people who would like to have the opportunity of education in domestic science but by their living in the country districts they do not have the opportunity. That feeling has been voiced from people living as far as Speightstown and St. Andrew. Those people feel that they should be given some sort of centre like that of the Housecraft Centre, even if it be just something attached to some existing elementary school.

As far as the Evening Institute is concerned, I cannot say very much of what is the scope of the curriculum there. I do know that at one time, it was only teaching along the technical side, about combustion engines and diesel engines. I feel if the authorities there dig deep enough, even with the City Guilds, London, they would be able to give more attractive courses which would be turned out to people at a small fee. If we hope to industrialise, while we are giving the necessary training in elementary and secondary schools, we have to follow up with adult education. Mr. Chairman, you will be surprised at the number of people in Great Britain who are working their way through college on technical subjects. The good that you can do to industrialisation is to bring to a state of perfection your adult education.

As regards the nutrition scheme in elementary schools. I think that it is about time that the Government get down seriously to details about giving the children a hot meal daily. The giving of a hot meal daily to children in elementary schools has been set down in the manifesto of the Labour Party since 1951. I think the actual expenditure shouud be gone into fully and if necessary, you should start a pilot scheme so that you would be able to find out exactly what it would cost. In Jamaica, the giving of a hot meal to school children has now been started. We in Barbados boast of our strides in things dealing with education, Jamaica never boasts of theirs but if one balances the revenue at their disposal with ours as well as their popoulation with ours, one would see that Jamaica has gone ahead of Barbados and making tremendous strides in education.

The honourable Premier has a tremendous responsibility so far as this particular portfolio is concerned. It seems to me that some of his colleagues should lighten his labours in other respects so as to let him devote almost all of his energies to this portfolio. It is a portfolio which would take up all of one's time. The honourable junior member for St. John just said that as far as he is concerned, the examination standard of the secondary pupils of this island has gone down but I think, if we consult the latest reports by the Minister of Education in Great Britain, we will see that in England, they are up against the same problem. We talk of modern methods of teaching. The old schoolmaster was not schooled in modern methods, but they were noted for being severe on the children and more earnest and they seemed to have got better results than we get with our modern methods of teaching. It is our duty to keep our eyes open wide to see that we get value in return for the money we spend on education.

One other thing which I would like to make mention of is in regard to the Coleridge-Parry School. I notice that no provision is made in these estimates for the building of a headmaster's residence for that school. I am almost sure that if the headmaster of that school was not a Barbadian he would have had a headmaster's residence already. We should not approach this matter in the light that the headmaster of that school may not be *persona gratia* with those dealing with education. The question which we should ask ourselves is: whether a residence is necessary for a headmaster of a secondary school so that he could be in a position to be commonly alive to the needs of the pupils of that school. I feel that is the approach which should be taken to the matter and I think it is time that a conclusion should be reached as to whether the Coleridge-Parry School should be given a headmaster's residence or not.

Mr. GODDARD: In connection with item 36. "Educational Apparatus and Material", I have been told that the furniture at some of these Elementary Schools is very short and what is there is in such a bad condition that often a teacher has to put two boys to one desk. I have heard about two people in one bed but this is the first time that I have heard about two at one desk. I see that the vote is the same as last year; I am drawing this matter to the attention of the Minister for Education so that he can investigate the possibility of speeding up the repairs and additions to these desks in these Elementary Schools. In the note to this same item 36 I see that reference is made to replacements and repairs of furniture. I know that under Capital Expenditure provision is made for this matter, but at St. Matthias there is a school which, whenever we get a shower of rain, is surrounded by water. This school is somewhat in the wrong spot and I believe that it should either be removed to some other site or at least the

drainage at the school should be taken care of. I think my colleague can substantiate what I have said and I would like the honourable Minister to pay some attention to this matter at the proper time.

Under item 38, "Visual Aids", I know that this Department has only been going on for about two or three years but the vote is still somewhat on the small side. I would like to know what progress is being made with this Department. Personally, I feel that this Department should be doing good work and that more use could be made of it if the vote were increased. In modern education there should be a sufficiently large number of educational films which could be used in teaching in the lower forms.

As regards item 46, "Nutrition Scheme", I saw in a newspaper recently, where one of the Organisations of the United Nations had offered a large amount of milk to Trinidad and many other Caribbean islands. I did not notice that any mention was made of Barbados and I am wondering if the honourable Minister of Social Services can tell us whether any application has ever been made by Barbados to the same Organisation because we are in as great a need of outside help as any of the other Caribbean islands. A very large sum was allocated to Trinidad and the Minister of Social Services there said he hoped to get just as large an allocation next year. The amount was in the vicinity of half a million dollars and I am wondering if we can be informed as to whether any application in this regard has been made on behalf of this colony.

In connection with item 48, "Second Grade Exhibitions", I should like to say that a year ago a question was asked as to whether the Government would provide these exhibitioners with a hot meal at the schools. Many of these boys are drawn from very poor parents all over the island. At Combermere the Nutrition Scheme has gone to the extent that hot meals have been provided for the boys; the Vestry has increased its grant to its exhibitioners so that it includes provision for a hot meal which is paid for by the Vestry. It is time that the Government increase its vote so as to provide for an increase in the very necessary nutrition in the middle of the day. These boys come from all over the island and it is a strain on the parents to get them there; I think therefore, that a hot meal in the middle of the day should be provided for them by the Government. I hope that a note will be made of this matter so that in the very near future we will hear that the Government has come down to the House for the necessary amount.

Mr. J. C. MOTTLEY: I am speaking in connection with item 37, "Practical Education". As we think of the word "education", the thought of education and its benefit springs uppermost in our minds. We ask: "What is the benefit of education?" And we arrive at the conclusion that the benefit of education is beyond man's power fully to assess. We can only give expression to the benefit of education as it affects us individually, and we can try to give expression to that effect for the benefit of our fellowmen. As leaders, we are called upon to make the best prescription educationally for the improvement of the minds of our people, and that prescription must come after a wide, deep and broad examination for the benefit of the people.. From the primeval day down to this time there was always that desire and urge for higher and better things, and that desire and longing will continue as long as people are found on this earth.

We want to know to what use is the teaching of handicraft, and so on put? Is it only a question of having a pastime? Is there any practical purpose behind the spending of this money or is it a question of all the effort and time which are used in the achievement of anything having gone for nought? We all have to express our views on matters. I do not know if I am in order at this particular time, but as regards the repairs of schools, the Government is proposing to spend $36,000 for the establishment of a school with the property which has been recently acquired at Six Roads, St. Philip. I have tabled questions here asking the Government to explore the possibility of utilising Summervale for the establishment of a secondary school. I also suggested that the Government in collaboration with the Trustees of the Hutchinson Trust Fund, should seek to establish a secondary school in St. Philip for the benefit of the children of that parish; but now the Government had an opportunity to do that, they propose to establish a primary school instead. We do not need any primary school there; I would like to know by whom was the Government advised to establish this primary school when I have repeatedly stressed the need for the establishment of a secondary school in St. Philip for the benefit of the children of St. Philip, St. John and the upper parts of Christ Church and probably St. George. The Government had a golden opportunity to bring this desire into fruition; however, I am hoping that this Government will re-consider the possibility of establishing a secondary school there and so give the people up there what they are clamouring for and what they should have.

There must be something radically wrong with this whole matter; I think we should take a comprehensive view of the whole question of primary and secondary education with a view to making it more to the benefit of the people of this island. We, as leaders, should see that the education which our people get is more applicable to the conditions which obtain in this island, not those obtaining in Germany or anywhere else. If we could really step along that line, we should be able to make a considerable improvement to the whole educational set-up in this island.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: At this stage, Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that you do now report progress and ask for leave for the Committee to sit again.

Hon. M. E. Cox seconded the motion which was agreed to.

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

LUNCHEON ADJOURNMENT.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker,—I beg to move that this House do now adjourn for three quarters of an hour for lunch.

Hon. M. E. COX: I beg to second that.

Mr. LEWIS: Speaking on this motion I would like to comment on a commendable innovation which I have observed during the consideration of these Estimates. I think, Mr. Speaker, that in conjunction with yourself and the Ministers of the Government, perhaps that arrangement could be made more serviceable to the Ministers, so that the persons who may come here to give some information to the Ministers might be available to them without contravening the Rules of the House. I think you understand what I mean, Mr. Speaker. I commend the innovation and I am sure that we can get together without breaking the Rules of the House, to facilitate a very laudable purpose.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I would like to suggest that we arrange this horse-shoe differently and then what the honourable member has in mind could be more properly done.

The question that this House do now adjourn for three quarters of an hour was put and resolved in the affirmative without division and Mr. SPEAKER adjourned the House accordingly.

ACCOMMODATION SOUGHT FOR SECRETARIES OF MINISTERS IN THE HOUSE

On re-assembling,

Mr. SPEAKER : Before the business of the House is resumed, I would like to ask, with the permission of the House, that the Secretaries or Heads of Departments who wait on the Ministers, be allowed to remain in the House in order that they may be in close contact with their respective Ministers. If that meets with the approval of honourable members, it will be done; if it does not meet with their approval, then it will not be done. I have consulted the Premier and the Deputy Speaker in connection with this matter and although we would observe the sanctity of this Chamber and the fact that strangers are not permitted to come beyond the Bar, with your approval I shall have the House so arranged that Heads of Departments and Secretaries to the various Ministers may have accommodation within the Chamber. I would welcome any remarks by honourable members on that suggestion.

Mr. SMITH: I do not know anything about the law, therefore I cannot cite any law in connection with this matter. However, I do not think it would be legal for us to allow strangers to come amongst us in this honourable Chamber. This Chamber is to be occupied by members of the House; I do not think that the Governor could come in here without our approval. The only strangers we should admit in here are the Reporters and the Clerks. Regardless of what inconvenience may be caused I do not think we can allow any other strangers to come in this House.

Mr. MILLER: I do not agree with the remarks of the honourable member who has just spoken; it is unfortunate that he should view the matter in that light, because we are told that in other places the Secretaries sit within easy reach of the Ministers. I have seen that taking place elsewhere and I am satisfied that it is necessary for these Secretaries to be here. They are not going to sit within the horseshoe; they will sit behind the Ministers.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: I am glad that the honourable junior member for St. Joseph has spoken first because if I had spoken first we would have heard something of what we have been hearing already. I would like to say that the Secretaries to the Ministers are in the closest proximity to the Ministers you could ever get; they are right here behind the Bar of the House. To say that they should come within the precincts of the Chamber itself will only lead to confusion. In Great Britain there are more Ministers than there are here and I do not know if it was in the Chamber in Mars that the honourable junior member for St. George saw the Secretaries sitting next to the Ministers. I have seen the Legislature in Trinidad, Jamaica and other places sitting and it has always been the practice that wherever the flow of information comes from, it comes from people who are not within the Chamber. I think the present arrangement whereby seats are reserved behind the Bar of the House for the Secretaries is about the best arrangement that we can have. You do not want to have the Secretaries sitting behind the Ministers; you do not want them to prod the Ministers; they are only wanted to give the Ministers information. The sanctity of the Chamber should remain as it stands. I do not see that the Ministers have any difficulty in getting the information required from their Secretaries; I really do not see what is wrong with the Marshal going to the Secretaries, getting documents and handing them to the Ministers. I really cannot understand what is wrong with giving the Secretaries seats behind the Bar of the House.

Mr. GODDARD: I have seen Ministers take their respective Secretaries into the Lobby and get whatever information it is necessary for them to have. We want the Secretaries to be in a position where they can supply the Ministers with information, and I prefer to allow this matter to await the amendments to the Rules of the House when it can be gone into fully. However, I do not see that the Ministers are so inconvenienced in this matter of getting information either by going into the Lobby and getting it or getting it through the Marshal. Personally, I prefer to allow this matter to remain over until other things are dealt with.

Mr. CRAWFORD: I cannot see on what ground it could be contended that this innovation should be put into effect. If it is claimed that the Ministers need to be facilitated in their work, we have to recall that quite recently only one honourable member was responsible for the presentation of the Estimates to the House.

Mr. SPEAKER: One honourable member?

Mr. CRAWFORD: I am speaking about the past. Then we went from one to four and now we have five honourable members doing the work which one honourable member did formerly. All that is necessary is for these five Ministers to prepare their work beforehand and be informed of what they have to present to the House. If one individual just five years ago could present all the information which the House required, why cannot five men do it now unless they are surrounded with Civil Servants to tell them what to say? When the Estimates are being considered in the Other Place, only one person has to be responsible for giving the information requested; you have the Clerk there and no debate begins and ends without the members being able to get the information required. The only thing I would say is that the Ministers should have pockets large enough in which to put their Secretaries or let the Departmental Heads come in and when we want information we ask them.

The position is not like the old days when one individual had to be completely conversant with everything; there is responsibility on the part of each of the Ministers for his particular portfolio so that the responsibility should not fall on any particular Minister or the Premier to answer everything during the consideration of the Estimates. If it is a question of education, that will be the province of the Minister for Education; if it is a question of social services, that will be the province of the Minister for Social Services, and so on. I did not conceive that you would have one Minister being responsible for answering everything which is asked in the Estimates and that you would have to bring the departmental Heads and Secretaries here so that the Ministers could discharge their duties efficiently.

By all means let the departmental Heads and Secretaries be within the confines of this Chamber, but not within the Bar of the House; by all means cultivate the practice by your Ministers assuming absolute responsibility for their respective Departments and the Premier interfering only if it is absolutely necessary to do so. Those are the lines along which we should develop rather than begin now to insert the thin end of the wedge, because we do not know where that will end. Only eight years ago a Governor of this colony thought it fit to suggest that

there should be a Government Official in this Chamber to explain Government measures—the 25th member and nominated one to present Government measures —and the suggestion made here to-day is not too far removed from that proposal.

Mr. LEWIS: Mr. Speaker,—I highly commend you for the attitude you have taken towards this matter in asking the House for its opinion as regards not a *fait accompli* but a suggestion. I myself observed what was happening; the Rules of the House were being broken but what was intended was, I think, a good idea. I have had the privilege of visiting other Legislatures in the Caribbean while they were sitting and I am not saying what they did or what they did not do as regards this particular suggested arrangement, because I did not see those Legislatures sitting at the time of the Estimates: therefore I cannot be held down to any futile relation of what took place. I can understand honourable members being jealous of their privilege and I think what we should understand is that this set-up is something new which has come to us; it is not very old and when it gets older honourable members may find themselves in an awkward position. We may find, if we develop this state of affairs, that no honourable member will be able to suggest five, six or eight amendments to Bills or ask questions of which he did not give notice before; honourable members will then discover what it is to learn to debate. I do not think that after a Minister has listened to a debate on this particular Head he should leave this Chamber to ask about a point which has been made and miss a most important point which is made right after he leaves and then somebody has to indicate it to him second hand. If I ask a question, I want the answer to it and I should welcome a Minister being prompted with the correct answer. I must say that if what has been proposed offends against the sensibilities of honourable members I would be the very first person to abandon what I think might be a matter of expediency, but it was a very worth-while suggestion.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: Sometimes one has to maintain a great hold of himself not to be conscious of the fact that he may appear to be priggish. I heard one honourable member say that this proposal was against the law; he has been searching for the law and has not found it, and he is not going to find it in the Rules of the House either. Another honourable members says that what has been suggested does not happen in the House of Commons, but the opposite is true. In the House of Commons just behind the Speaker's chair are seats which are occupied by Civil Servants and Secretaries who would be concerned with a particular Ministry and who constantly have documents with them. Anybody with his eyes open can see that happening over and over again in the House of Commons; therefore to suggest that this should not be done because it is not done in the House of Commons—I repeat that the reverse is true. I did not have any preliminary talk with the honourable junior member for the City; I suggested that in order to carry out what he wanted done, we would have to abolish this horse-shoe table. In the House of Commons a back-bencher can pass a document to a Minister, and to put this matter on the footing that it does not happen elsewhere is just nonsense. However, if it does not meet with the unanimous approval of the House I think the suggestion of the honouarable junior member for Christ Church should be agreed to.

RESUMPTION OF COMMITTEE ON THE ESTIMATES FOR 1954-55

Mr. SPEAKER: On the adjournment, the House was in Committee of Supply considering the Estimates for the financial year 1954-55.

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

HEAD XX—EDUCATION

Mr. CHAIRMAN: On the adjournment, Head XX of the Estimates was being considered.

Mr. LEWIS I am suggesting that secondary education should be made free with the accommodation which is at present offered. I would really like to know whether that suggestion has been discussed by the Premier with anybody else, or whether he has any view of the matter so that he could let us know when he is replying to other matters under this Head. If such a thing were done now, the Labour Party of Barbados would be forever proud of it; we would assume something new in the Caribbean and we could do it for about £140,000 or £150,000 per year. We would be giving the people of this colony something back for the burden of taxation under which they are living and at least they would see that without increased taxation they were getting something in the form of free secondary education; they would see that all the education provided within the island would be free and that would be something of an intercolonial and international matter. I make that suggestion because I feel that it is within our ability to supply free secondary education now, and even if we cannot supply it for all time, at least we have a sufficient reserve now that we could earmark a certain amount to supply it for as long a period as the effect of it could be felt among the people.

We have in the secondary schools today just a mere "upper ten" or "upper twenty-five" children, we have people of all walks of life endeavouring to give their children of the best and it would be a great help to them if secondary education were supplied free. You cut down the subsidisation vote and any little increase in the cost of food is taken as an infinitesimal amount of what you get in the the form of the payment of fees in the secondary schools. With the revenue from the schools being as low as it is now, undoubtedly you will get suggestions made to the effect that, after all, you are only paying so much a term for this school and so much for that, those were the fees for such and such a time and therefore it is time to increase them. When recruitment was started there was no compulsory military service in Barbados, but even in the case of voluntary recruitment the young men who were offering to fight in the services were required to have a certain standard of education; you had to have a certain standard of education so as to die for your country, and if you asked the country how you got that education, it would not know. The country would be surprised to know that some distant relatives might have had to put themselves on the poor rates so as to send you to school, and you have to hold a School Certificate or something like that in order to die for your country, while the country is saying at the same time that it is nothing to do with how you got that School Certificate. I agree that when things get hot they have to take these people as cannon fodder. Here you say that people should be educated so as to fight in a modern War, you make a great provision and spend a colossal amount on armaments for educated people to

use and you do not have as a corollary to that, the spending of money on education so that people may have the qualification. We want to get rid of our population in such a way that people can go outside of Barbados and be a credit to it and send back some money, which has been a feature of life in this community and a very beneficial one too.

I do not know of any major project which would have to be abandoned because of the abolition of the payment of fees in secondary schools. I would like the Honourable Premier to feel that this is a suggestion for which I do not claim any credit; I throw it out for what it is worth and I think it is worth something. It would be a most worthy object on which the Honourable Premier should spend some of his time and implement as soon as possible, otherwise he will feel the pressure of the argument that the fees are low and should be increased; but if you abolish these fees you will find other means of getting the addition without re-imposing them. I say; get active now while the riding is good; you have a buoyant revenue and to supply free secondary education is to spend the people's money in a most laudable way. In the absence of a bachelor's tax it is also an excellent thing which could have nothing but good to commend it.

I think it must be one of the worst things in the world for a proud man or woman, proud enough to make a sacrifice to educate his or her child, to have to go with bended knee to a politican and beg him to vote for his or her child getting a scholarship. We know the conditions under which people behave due to the conditions of getting scholarships and things of that sort. I say; let the parochial authorities get together with the Central Government and supply meals, but let us get rid of this patronage whereby somebody who was a member of the Vestry having done something for your son so many years ago, you feel you belong to him both body and soul. It is of no use educating people and leaving them with a slave mentality; let them feel that they were born in this country with the right to certain things and they will accept their responsibility. It is of no good to tell me that a cheap thing is no good and if people do not pay any school fees they will not appreciate the education; it is not the children who pay the school fees and when there is greater competition to enter the schools, those who get in the schools will see to it that they keep there, because under the superannuation scheme the schools are supposed to eliminate the pupils who give the greatest amount of trouble and cause time to be spent in trying to teach them things which they will never learn, whereas somebody outside will benefit from the teaching which is given. I commend this matter to the consideration of the Government as a whole and to the honourable Premier in particular.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: I am speaking on items 60, "Adult Education" (Evening Classes) and 61, "Housecraft Centre." I understand that some other honourable member has spoken in respect of the Housecraft Centre. This Institution is doing some valuable work and it is hoped that the scope of this work will be extended to other districts. I think it is admitted especially in the domestic service that there are a lot of untrained young women who enter this service and many housewives complain about the lack of ability of these servants. I think, therefore, that it would be a good thing if more attention were to be concentrated on the work of the Housecraft Centre so as to give a better opportunity of these young women being trained and eventually it will mean that housewives will have to give better conditions of employment than those which now obtain.

As regards the evening classes, I was looking forward to see an attempt being made to spread adult education along lines similar to those obtaining in the United Kingdom. This education should be more widespread; it has been drawn to my attention that many of the people who attend the Evening Institute are those who have not had any secondary education and it is their intention to further their education in that way; but adult education should be spread more widely than that .

I would like to know if it is the agreed policy of the Government not to provide information for people in so far as radio broadcasts are concerned; if that was done as a war-time measure, the Government needs it more to-day. Especially now that the Rediffusion Service has been extended to some of the country districts, it would not do any harm for the Government to spend money so that people can hear broadcasts. What is the use of a Minister making a speech over the Rediffusion Service and only those who have the service installed in their homes can hear that speech? I have mentioned before that the people of this colony want to know what the Government is doing; they do not merely want to hear at six o'clock in the evening about a War in Europe. I would like to know if it is the intention of the Government to introduce something better than what now obtains; with the advent of Ministerial Government I would expect intensive work to be done in this direction.

As to the question of equal pay for men and women, the Premier is a member of the International Labour Organisation and he is aware that I.L.O. Socialists all over the world have agreed to the principle of equal pay. I think that this is the proper Head under which to raise this matter and I feel that the Government should not delay the implementation of equal pay in the teaching profession. There are no special examinations set for a girl, who is taking the B.A., degree, we make no distinction as to a doctor's wages whether it is a man or a woman and in the legal profession if you put a woman on the Bench you make no difference as to the salary which is paid for the post. I feel that in the teaching profession where people must have the same standard, the principle of equal pay should be applied. In an article in the *International Labour Review*, a copy of which I have here, this is what is stated.

"In Great Britain attention is focussed on equal pay in the public service because this is the only sphere in which Government action on a wages issue is possible. Wages in private and nationalised industries are fixed by negotiation or by independent wages councils; there is nothing, therefore, to stop arguments for equal pay being negotiated as indeed they have been, and are being negotiated. The argument put forward by the advocates of equal pay is that until the Government moves, industry and commerce will hang back, and once the Government takes action, action will be taken in private employment."

We know here that there is a matter of neglect in so far as private industry is concerned; the Government is regarded as a kind of employer and if the Government does not make a move, private enterprise will not do anything. There are women who are paid the same salaries in their respective groups as men and I do not feel that that is wrong in principle. This principle has been adopted throughout the world and I feel that some attempt should be made to examine the cost: we should examine the question of equal pay in the teaching profession. I do not think that the teach profession should be regarded as the Cinderella in this matter; it is a question of equal pay for equal qualification.

Mr. LEWIS: I think the Government has some scheme by means of which there is equal pay; in the Civil Service there is equal pay even if people are not asked to do equal work. The policy as regards female clerks might be changed, but they are in the grades and they get equal pay with the male clerks. If there are any female clerks employed at the Customs they are not sent to the warehouses to remain there and receive cargo; but if there is one department for equal pay the teaching profession suggests itself. Do not tell me that a female headteacher with a school of 300 girls is in any different position from a male headteacher with a school of 300 boys. In the very thing that equality would automatically suggest itself, the Government makes a difference; if they are going to suggest equal pay in the Civil Service generally, then the female clerks must understand that they will have to take their turn with an unpleasant job. They may earn some overtime pay but they may find it very difficult to work for it. The Government gives the same salary to a female clerk as a male clerk in the long grade, but in the teaching service it makes a difference; I cannot possibly see the reason for that. In the Legislature you would not countenance any difference between a female and a male member of the House; you would not do that even although a female member may exercise a discretion for talking which you could not associate with her sense; you would still give equal pay for thought at least. I feel that in teaching profession the honleast. I feel in the teaching profession the honground in this matter of equal pay.

An honourable member has said that the Housecraft Centre might serve only the people in the City; but if you have to serve people, in what better place would you have it? In arranging for the Local Government Bill it was said that it would be easier to pay taxes in the City of Bridgetown than to pay them to a Parochial Treasurer in the country. That and other things would suggest that the Housecraft Centre is really in the place where it can be used to the advantage of the people. It has been said that the function of this Housecraft Centre should be carried out by the Social Welfare Department; our nutrition scheme takes up the time of the teachers and we can find something for the Social Welfare Department to do. If that is the practice abroad I am wondering if the Government has given the matter the attention it deserves.

Mr. CRAWFORD: The views of the Minister for Education on the general question of equal pay are already well known, and one doubts whether he will change them in so far as the female members of the teaching fraternity are concerned. Speaking for myself, it would cause a lot of heartburning elsewhere in the Public Service even although special circumstances might recommend it, if you were to single out these individuals and remunerate them equally with the men and not do the same thing in other branches of the service. On the question of females employed in the Government Service, teachers and others, I think we have to begin to weed out married women teachers and married women generally in the Service. It is a well-known fact that the holders of very good posts in the teaching profession and the Public Service are married women. Nobody denies the fact that some of these people are well-trained and highly efficient and their financial needs may be such as to warrant their working so as to assist the family budget; but there are large numbers of girls leaving the schools annually without any prospect of employment and when there will be for some time so few avenues for employment, it is high time that the Government send these married women home There can be no justification even in the most exceptional cases for permitting this abnormally large number of married women many of whom have married to men who are in comfortable financial circumstances, to remain in teaching and other posts to the detriment of the needy and well-qualified single women and girls. Nobody who knows of the situation where girls are leaving the elementary and secondary schools every year in a community like this where there are so few opportunities for employment, could feel satisfied in his mind over the present state of affairs in respect of the retention of married women in Government employment indiscriminately. There are of course, a few hard cases in which the married women who are working are the bread-winners in their family; their husbands are physically incapacitated and the responsibility devolves upon their shoulders to work for a living for their husbands too.

The general principle is bad. In England before the War, married women were debarred from Government appointments and then during the War when the men were in the active services, both Government and industry had to fall back on female power to man a number of public and other services at home. After the War it became particularly difficult to dispense with the services of women who rendered such great services to the country in time of War; but we have not had any special circumstances like those here. I am not suggesting that if it came to a crisis we could not depend on the services of women in the same manner as they did in England; but we have never had to mobilize their services in any emergency, and the places filled today by married women are filled at the expense of deserving citizens. The teaching service especially and almost every other Government Department has its quota and more than its quota of married women. I submit that in the interest of the increasingly large number of unemployed women and girls in the community, some step should be taken to deplete the ranks of the Government Service and the teaching service of these married women in order to allow their places to be filled by more deserving people who are yet unmarried and therefore are presumably responsible for their own welfare and maintenance. It is the responsibility of a husband to maintain his wife and his family, but that is not always possible; there are cases in which the female partner is more qualified to obtain a living than the male partner, but those technicalities should not concern us at all. We have to see to it that married women who are teachers and married women in the Government Service remain at home and leave their places to be filled by the unmarried.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: In reply to the honourable junior member for St. Michael, I should like to say that the remuneration of janitors was increased from April, 1952; we came down with a Supplementary Resolution in respect of several people and relief teachers were included in that on the basis of $600 in respect of men and $576 in respect of women. If there is a short period of illness for a week, no relief is provided; you may get through if it is only a week's illness. On the question of equal pay you could go on arguing for ages; the Union of Teachers in Great Britain has said in conference that there should be equal pay for equal work and when you read the debates in the House of Commons you have arguments on both sides. A Police Magistrate, whether it is a man or a woman, does the same work, but you assume that a man can do more work in a day than a woman and therefore you do not give equal pay unless there is equal work.

When we all have gray beards every adolescent society will still be debating this question, except in the country which the honourable junior member for St. George says I know so well. However, this is not a question on which you can be dogmatic and say that in all cases women should have equal pay with men. As a Police Magistrate, Miss Bourne does the same work as Mr. Walwyn, but when it comes to teachers, except in co-educational schools, it cannot be accurate to say that a female teacher does the same work as a male teacher.

I do agree that in the case of a headmistress, because of the added responsibility for having a school, if it be of the same strength as a boys' school, say each carrying 500 pupils, her responsibility would be the same as that of a headmaster running the same type of school. Here, in the Civil Service, a stenotypist may have easy work as regards other people therefore, there is no justification for paying her the same as somebody else but if a lady is in the Post Office selling stamps and a gentleman is there too selling stamps then they are doing the same work. There is no question about that, she should receive the same pay. I do hope by these illustrations that honourable members will see that this matter is not so easy to solve as one would wish.

As regards to janitors of elementary schools, the honourable junior member for St. Michael said there is a delay in paying them. I remember quite well that somebody did approach me over this matter and I told them to see the Department of Education. I am told on enquiry into the matter that a janitor receives payment as soon as a certificate of employment has been received from the particular school. I believe in the case of the Richmond School the Headmaster was acting for somebody and the janitors could not get to him to get the necessary authority that they had worked and that is the reason why they were kept back from receiving their payments. Some years ago, the Labour Party which is always very careful to make promises which it can keep put in its manifesto that it believed in the necessity of providing school children with a hot mid-day meal free to all who were unable to pay for it and to the extent of its ability will pursue that policy. To say that you should do it and then find out, say, that you have no finance to do that and other things, that is, if you do that , you will have to discontinue the supplying of books, etc., you will have to give that matter very careful consideration on those grounds. I am asking honourable members to believe that the Government has not departed from its policy, but when it began to calculate the cost it found out that it is tremendous. The first time we investigated the cost of supplying a hot meal was during the war-time about ten years ago—and we found that it would have taken a sum of $44,000 to start. It may be said that that estimate was made in the war-time when saucepans and such articles as would be needed for the purpose were hard to get but as honourable members know, the present nutrition scheme to provide for approximately 24,000 school children a year at an average of 2.7 cents per day is now costing us $124,000 a year. And it will be remembered that the main object of the present nutrition scheme was because of the vitamin contents of the milk. It was felt that many school children in this Island suffer because of not having a balanced diet. Dieticians say that most of us eat too much yam and sweet potato. It is estimated that this hot meal would cost 16 cents a day for a child which would mean an annual expenditure of $418,000. Government has not embarked on it yet but that is the Estimate of what it would cost. And I think it is the honourable junior member for St. Lucy who said that Government should try out a pilot scheme. As a matter of principle, the obvious place to go with pilot schemes is St. Lucy. That parish has the distinction of not merely being the most law abiding but also the hungriest parish of all. I will promise the honourable member when Government fully decides to try out a pilot scheme in one or two schools to try it out in schools of that parish. It is a fact that a hot meal for school children is needed in some districts more than in others.

The honourable junior member for St. Michael asks for information in respect of an address which was passed relative to provision of ten Coronation Scholarships at Secondary Schools. The honourable member would remember, in the first place, that Government did not understand whether the House meant ten Scholarships for every year or ten specific scholarships, and I believe the honourable member was approached by the Colonial Secretary on the question and he expressed the view that the address meant ten scholarships to mark the Coronation and that those scholarships would last for two or three years and not for perpetuity. This is a time when Government is spending very much money on education. Honourable members will note that the cost for repairs and minor extensions to elementary school buildings, let alone building other schools is $40,500. Government felt that owing to the number of free scholarships that already exist, it should not embark on it. Since then, especially as all the masters and mistresses of secondary schools think it is a good thing to adopt, we, the members of the Executive from this Chamber, are giving more consideration to it but it is one of the matters along with other matters which we have to make reference and should investigate most carefully before suggesting to the rest of the Executive whether we should adopt them. I know that there is a possibility that more money for scholarships may be available from interested Barbadians who are living abroad in America and who have not forgotten their country. I am very glad to know of that because money which we would have to spend on that would be released to spend on other things such as giving school children free books or things such as that.

Of course as a matter of principle, nobody would object to compulsory education, neither do I think any of us would disagree with the statement that our educational attendance at elementary schools is so great at present that it does not make a tremendous difference from having compulsory education. In effect, it is the same as when we reduced our franchise qualifications to eight shillings a week. That reduction roped in practically everybody so there was not very much difference by not having adult suffrage on the Statute Book.

The honourable junior member for St. Lucy made some mention of the Evening Institute. Of course, it is a good point to make that a sufficient number of qualified instructors should be available but the whole question of technical education to which the question of the Evening Institute is bound up is how to run it in conjunction with the scheme of technical education at the Technical Institute. It is also a matter of more money to be spent on education and also the question of getting capable people to teach the subjects. We have been told that just as some years ago we found it difficult to get veterinary officers although nowadays they are not in short supply, that can be said to be taking place with recruiting heads for technical institutions. British Honduras and Jamaica are offering more than we can offer for heads of technical institutions and I know that in the case of British Honduras

two years have passed and it has not been able to fill the place. The Colonial Office has pointed that out to us.

The question of a residence for the headmaster of the Coleridge-Parry School is still being discussed. Unfortunately, it has been left out of the Estimates again for the same reason that while it is desirable in itself, when you think of the mounting cost of education, especially salaries, something would have to wait back for a later period and that is one of the things that has to wait back.

The honourable junior member for Christ Church mentioned about the awful conditions which prevail at the St. Matthias Girls' School and I agree with him. For years I too have noticed the awful conditions of the grounds of that school when rain falls, but recently the grounds have been built up and drained and it is proposed to go through the schools of the Island where conditions of that sort exist and remedy them immediately before the rainy season starts. I think it is the same honourable member who made reference to furniture in the schools. Some time ago, as far back as 1950, a scheme estimated to cost $110 was put up to pay for furniture. Since then Government has decided to do away with this scheme for extra building of furniture and has decided to spread it over a period of years. Frankly, it was not drawn to my attention that this furniture question was a pressing problem but I will take note of the honourable member's criticisms. I was surprised to hear of what he said about two at a desk. There may be some justification for two in a bed at the General Hospital but not two at a desk at a secondary school. The honourable member also asked about visual education. The Government has reasons to believe that it is going to get some help with films of an educational value which would save large sums which it would otherwise have to spend in buying films of an educational nature. I think this much abused department is quite conscious of the value of the increased use of visual aids to education. I think the same honourable member also made mention of providing mid-day meals for Government exhibitioners. I would like to say that the scheme affecting the whole lot of Government exhibitioners is being considered. Government is considering what the granting of an exhibition should carry with it. Speaking for myself, from my general knowledge of the situation, I think that the whole matter should be reviewed in the light of the money we are spending on education. You may find that while you are giving free education and free books, you may need some of that money to spend on something else, probably such a thing as paying half fare for bringing country school children into town to secondary schools. The honourable junior member for Christ Church also asked whether Government was trying to obtain a free gift for nutrition in the schools from U.N.I.C.E.F. I may say that I was a bit surprised when I read that Barbados was not in that list. Actually, as I understand it, U.N.I.C.E.F. has agreed to give us milk to the tune of $20,000 but with respect to the procedure of getting it, the Secretary of State for the Colonies has to notify U.N.I.C.E.F. of our acceptance of the offer and then it will be released to the Executive Committee. I understand that the matter is only waiting for the necessary procedure to be carried out between U.N.I.C.E.F. and the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

The honourable junior member for St. Lucy asked a question with respect to the Housecraft Centre. I may say that while opportunities are afforded to girls who belong to clubs and different organisations at the Housecraft Training Centre, the course are also open to individuals. Whenever the Centre is about to start its courses, a notice appears in the Press inviting applications.

With regard to the points raised by the honourable senior member for St. Philip with respect to the senior school which the Education Department proposed to erect on the Admiralty grounds that Government has taken over, I must say in the first place that I am extremely grateful for the kind sentiments and encouraging words of honourable members who have pointed out the responsibility and the opportunity which I have as Minister of Education of trying to do something for the improvement of education in Barbados. I am quite aware that it is a tremendous task but I can say that I have already, laboriously perhaps, gathered some information on some of the most fundamental points that should be looked into the general educational policy in the island and on specific things such as how this and that work. Naturally, at this stage, you would not expect me after a month to say that such and such a scheme should be scrapped. Well, with regard to this St. Philip scheme, the Department of Education suggested a senior school, but I am not satisfied in my mind—and this is no adverse reflection on the Director—that our needs are for that particular type of secondary school. One thing I can say and which must be very much appreciated, the Director has collected a mass of statistics as regards to population of the children, working personnel of teachers and such things. From this mass of statistics, I can find out a lot, but as you know, it will take a great deal of time to digest and to analyse so as to form an opinion as to what and what is going wrong or right. To get back to the senior school to be erected at Six Roads, it might appear as if we approve of this particular school, but I would just ask one question. Would it hurt if we put in the estimates the erection of a school on that site? I went to the Director of Public Works and I asked him: could you build an elementary school which if it is decided to make it into a senior modern school or even a secondary school, you will have to do nothing more to it than to add to it? He said "Yes." And that is the reason why this money is here in the Estimates. It would appear as if it is proposed to erect an elementary school at Six Roads, but if when I have examined the proposals carefully for approved senior schools and am satisfied that they should become elementary schools or secondary schools I will come back to the House and say that now I have gone into the matter, I propose that senior schools should be secondary schools.

With regard to the question of secondary schools, of all the figures which I have gone into, it seems to me as if it may be better and cheaper to double the size of Combermere School. In so doing, you will be able to get the administration under one head, even if you have to increase the assistant masters to 40 instead of having 27 as at present. If you erect another secondary school in St. John or St. Philip, it would mean another headmaster and possibly another 27 assistant masters to teach the boys. Bear in mind that I have not gone into the figures thoroughly yet but it may be cheaper to do that even if you have to aid parents in the country districts by way of subsidisation of transport to bring their children into Bridgetown and back to their homes to attend school at Combermere. I am also sure that the Alleyne School can be developed by additions to it so that it could cater to another hundred or so pupils from that part of the island. Let me say that if we do not appear to come down with something comprehensive at this time, it is because it is impossible to do so in a few months. Let

me also say that writers in the Press who have had some connections with teaching in schools but who really know more of wielding a pen have criticised Barbados from stem to stern on its educational policy. With all that, I have never met an elementary school teacher who did not praise the system of our elementary education. It is true that some people are saying that things are not what they used to be and will never be what they used to be. I am asking honourable members to believe that I am as conscious as they are of the huge task of keeping, or if you like, of restoring Barbados to the prominence which it had in the outside world in education. One honourable member quoted examination results, but normally, it is not sufficient proof when you go by examination results. I am not saying that examination results are not a useful guide; they are useful. If you direct your criticisms against a school by saying that it is not getting good examination results, in order to get such results, the masters of that school may stuff their pupils at the expense of producing proper citizens to take their place in the life of the community.

It may sound strange coming from me, perhaps, but I have approached elementary school teachers with a completely open mind on the question of age-grouping in the schools. I asked them to give me their views on it, and I think they know me well enough to know that they could speak freely and that I would respect their views. Something like 90% said 'yes' to the question whether they believed in age-grouping, and those who did not say 'yes' said that it would work but with certain modifications. If they had said to abolish the system and gave the reason, we would have abolished the system already, or if they had said to lop off this or that, provided the reason was given, we would have followed their advice. I cannot help saying that whatever way you may group children, whether it be according to their age, according to their appearance, according to their colour, according to their size, or whatever it may be, you will get some above the average. Personally, I think it is more a question of having properly trained teachers than any particular system you adopt, whether it be by age or by ability.

With regard to the question of free education in secondary schools, — a point raised by the honourable junior member for the City — there again that is a question of pounds, shillings and pence. The honourable member gave figures in support of giving secondary education free, and pointed out by them that we were not now depending on the present revenue from the schools to run them, but it is a matter which you must take into consideration with the other incidentals of maintaining a high standard of education. I do not think it calls for a Commission on Enquiry because some people went down at Kensington Oval and some of them were inclined to think some school boys behaved like hooligans. We who are about 40 or 50 years of age have recollections of the time when we were going to school and are inclined to view ourselves in a better light than youngsters, but it is a personal reaction of the spectators when they say that schoolboys of today are more vociferous than they used to be.

I will not commit myself any more. I will not promise a Commission of Enquiry into our educational system as was urged by some honourable members, but I do feel that our educational policy needs completely revamping as to how this, that or the other thing should be administered, and getting somebody, who will be interested to administer it. I do not believe that we should get somebody just because he may be the senior or junior member for St. Joseph, or because he may be the Attorney General or the Solicitor General to administer it because such persons may be interested in law but not in education. What is worrying me personally is to again read Mr. Hayden's "Policy on Education" to see how it fits in with our policy and to see if Mr. Hayden's schemes can work with people who may be different from him in their outlook or in their ability to cooperate with others. You may get somebody far more able than Mr. Hayden as regards education but he may not be able to convince the public of Barbados that he may be better. Mr. Hayden did put up certain suggestions on education which were accepted by way of trial but since he has left, we have just been carrying out that policy. Whether it may be an excellent policy or not, I think we should examine it most carefully now to see whether we are on the right track or not. I do promise that I will look into that particular point most carefully. Because a thing may be excellent in France, Germany, Great Britain or even Russia, it does not necessarily follow that it would be excellent in this colony. I do promise honourable members that I will give most careful consideration to all the points that have been raised.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: The honourable Premier has not answered the question which I asked about the termination by Government of the contract with Rediffusion in respect of the public loudspeakers However, before the honourable member replies to the point, in answer to what he said about equal pay for men and women who perform the same work, I would just like to say that I did not ask the Government to deal with it in all of its ramifications. I only wish to say that the honourable Premier is an expert on I.L.O. conventions and a convention on equal pay was made in 1952 by I.L.O. Equal pay for men and women who perform the same work has been accepted as a principle, it is no more a political issue. Governments from all parts of the world have accepted it as a principle. The point I made was that in the Civil Service, there may be some justification for not promoting women to the highest jobs, but with regard to male and female teachers in the Teaching Service, there can be no question that there is not equality; therefore, there should be equal pay. The honourable Premier raised the question of agricultural workers in regard to equal pay for men and women. I regard that as not analagous with the question because in agriculture, women normally do not perform the same work as men, but there are rates of pay in agriculture for the various types of work and where a woman performs the same work as a man, such as heading canes, she gets the same pay as a man. There is no question that there is not equality in the teaching service between men and women. It has been admitted by all debating societies that it is the one service in which you can say without question that there is equality of work.

Mr. BARROW: With regard to the question of equal pay for men and women, and with my limited association with such organisation which the honourable Premier is actively associated with and with which he has been paying frequent visits to during the last three years, I would have thought that the honourable member was aware that this was one of the issues which is now considered as non-controversial. The principle has been accepted by governments of every political faith.

I do not agree with all the points which the honourable Premier made. What I would like the honourable member to assure this House is that he would not emulate some example but that he would emulate the best system of education that is suited

for this colony. What I mean is that there is no point of introducing age-grouping and superannuation if you are going to teach the wrong things or do not teach them at all. I cannot subscribe to that at all.

The honourable Premier tried to disarm this Committee in his reply by talking in nebulous terms. The honourable Premier made some reference — a reference which I consider has no right to be made in this Chamber—about Harrison College school boys behaving like hooligans. I do not know if the honourable Minister of Education found sufficient time, or if his normal duties allowed him, to go to Kensington to watch any of the cricket. At any rate I had the opportunity and I sat in the stand next to the schoolboys stand and on the occasion when some complaint was made of their ill-behaviour. From the position where I was sitting, I was able to analyse the be haviour of the school boys.

Hon. Mr. G. H. ADAMS: I rise on a point of explanation. I expressed no opinion on the behaviour of the school boys. I said some people said they behaved like hooligans. I never said Harrison College at all.

Mr. BARROW: I understand the honourable member to say that Harrison College schoolboys behaved like hooligans. He may not have said so, but it is unfortunate that the honourable member should have raised it because it might give the wrong impression when members of the public read it in tomorrow's daily newspaper. I do not think any schoolboy behaved like a hooligan while watching the recent cricket matches at Kensington. If Englishmen cannot take defeat but try to explain it away by attributing it either to the behaviour of schoolboys or something else, we should take no notice of what they say. Why did they not say that Hutton behaved like a hooligan when he sat down on his bat and did things which one would not expect from a renowned cricketer? I think it is slander on the cricketing public of Barbados to say that the schoolboys behaved like hooligans, therefore, I hope that the honourable Premier did not say so.

I would like the honourable Premier, now that he is in the position of Minister of Education to see to it that frauds no longer are perpetuated against the people of this colony by the West India Committee sending people out here to draw Government money when they are not entitled to it. I am referring to the bogus master who was appointed at Harrison College some time ago through the Secretary of the West India Committee in London. I notice that nothing has been done to indict the person or to recoup the money which he received under false pretences. Mr. Chairman, I think it is far more important that the public should know something of the several matters which confront us in our educational system rather than to have a general statement of hooliganism on innocent school boys, therefore, I am asking you to bear with me if it seems as if I have spoken at length on the matter.

I just want to say again that the honourable junior member for St. Peter made mention about equal work, and I am quite in agreement with the principle. It is an accepted convention by I.L.O. I will also say again that Barbados could have the best educational system in the Colonial Empire, but if the teachers are not teaching the children anything, we are wasting money. It is the concensus of opinion that children are leaving our elementary schools more ignorant than when they went in.

The other point which I want to draw to the attention of this Committee is that in the memorandum which came to the House on ministerial status, it was pointed out that in some of the neighbouring colonies, the post of Director of Education had been abolished and the post of Education Adviser has been substituted therefor. I do not see how you can have two captains running one ship. Either the honourable "Premier is Minister of Education and as such is in charge of the educational policy of the island or the Director of Education is in charge. We cannot have both in charge. I feel that an excellent opportunity has presented itself for relieving the taxpayers of paying out this additional salary by placing the authority formally into the hands of the Minister of Education. I presume that the inspectors and other officers in the Education Department would be directly responsible to the Minister and not the Director of Education. If the Director of Education is only running the Department, I suggest that we get an Office Superintendent but if he is in charge of our educational policy, then I suggest that the honourable Premier give him the portfolio for education and let him come into the House of Assembly. Jamaica found that it could not work and an Educational Adviser was appointed in place of Director of Education. We cannot have two captains running a ship. To continue with a Director of Education when you have a Minister of Education is something which is obnoxious to ministerial system.

Mr. LEWIS: Mr. Chairman, I would like to refer to two points raised by the honourable Premier and the first is on the question of large schools. I think it is rather unusual for people living in small communities to have the idea of vast numbers in their minds. They should be conditioned by the surrounding circumstances. I think the idea of large schools in Barbados would definitely destroy your educational system. I will ask the honourable Premier to make this little investigation in the case of Combermere School. I have taken the interest to ask how are they managing with the teaching of that school now that the school has been divided with the senior part remaining at Combermere and the juniors carried to the Garrison. I have had it confirmed by no less than three persons that the teaching at that school in both sections has improved immensely. The teachers of the seniors say that they find it much easier to teach now that they do not have what they call the small fry bundling around and the teachers of the juniors say that the atmosphere at the Garrison seems to be more conducive to teaching them there. They say that you can now get into the heads of the pupils something. I would really like the honourable Premier to make this query himself. I believe that the criticism by the honourable junior member for St. John on the teaching at the School has also produced some good effect on that school. We do not want any public mindedness to take charge of us in such a way, laudable as it may be, to make us pay less attention to the jobs for which we are paid. And it is known that those who have to teach, if they are putting their whole energy into it, have an onerous task to perform.

The next thing is that I am glad to hear the honourable Premier assure us that he will take some interest in the selection of Governing Bodies for Secondary Schools. I do not know what the newspapers of this colony are coming to but it seems to me as if they are afraid to offend people. You do not want people because they went to some particular school to be put on a Governing Body. You do not want people who have no commonsense, or intelligence or lack interest to be members of a Governing Body of a school. It seems as if some mem-

bers are only chosen purely out of social attachments. It is a disgraceful state of affairs that some of those members only sit on Governing Bodies merely to enhance their social prestige. When they are there, they do not know what is going on at all; people besides them have to tell them what is happening at the school. Sir, just reflect on the St. Michael's Girls' School. Who put it there? The people who put it there were people who were interested in education, probably because they themselves had none. It does not take great educationalists to be members of Governing Bodies; what we want is members on them who are Barbadians with a sense of getting things done; to see that they do not employ frauds; or other people do not defraud you by their actions.

I am very pleased that the honourable Premier said that if a Commission is necessary to go into our educational system, he will have it done. It appears that some of our people are so dissatisfied over our system that they are calling for a Commission. In my humble opinion, you do have some aspects of it that the people do not appreciate and probably if you get a Commission to tell the people that what you are doing is right, they would be more satisfied. There may be nothing wrong with your system, but the people do not believe that. The evidence put before the people has given them the impression that something is wrong and as a result, they cannot see clearly what is happening. I am going to suggest to the honourable Premier —if he feels that way about it—he would be instilling a sense of satisfaction into the people if he gets a Commission of capable persons to make an investigation into our system of education. I would like the honourable Premier to look at the matter not as if it is something which he knows all about; I would like him to satisfy public demand. I must confess that I am unable to help him in this respect because I know nothing of the subject. However, I feel that if we get the right type of Barbadians on Governing Bodies of schools and give them a free hand in running the school that we would get better results .

Mr. WILLIAMS: Mr. Chairman, I would just like the opportunity of speaking on two points which the honourable Premier brought out in his reply. The honourable member had me somewhat amazed when he apparently said that the Director of Education was at the helm of things concerning education and I do not agree with it at all. We are trying a new experiment and we want to feel that the Director of Education is just there to give advice on technical problems, but that the honourable Premier should say what should be done. My contention as to the relationship of the Director of Education with the honourable Premier has been raised by the honourable senior member for St. George and I would not repeat what he said, but I will say that if the Director is in the position which he held formerly or continues to remain in that position, then ministerial status would be a frightful flop.

The honourable Premier also talked of having a large secondary school at Combermere. I would like the honourable member to know that educational experts think that secondary schools based on an average of 500 pupils are the best to teach. Headmasters of secondary schools will also tell him that they feel quite at home in charge of a school up to a maximum of 500 pupils. I do not think that an experiment with a school to hold more than 500 pupils should be tried out in this colony. Although I do not want to help the honourable senior member for St. Philip with his argument for a secondary school in St. Philip, his argument is a reasonable one if there are seven elementary schools in that area. Maybe, the Government feels with the new idea of having junior and senior schools, it should have a senior school there and fuse it with a junior.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I was at pains to say that I was going to examine the question of whether there should be a senior or secondary school at Six Roads. I only mentioned about the question of large secondary schools because the honourable senior member for St. Philip said that Government had decided on putting an elementary school on the former Admiralty site. I particularly said that we would go into the conditions of this, that and the other. It may turn out that a secondary school to accommodate 1,000 boys may be preposterous; it may turn out to be a profit. Let me say again, that we are not saying at this stage that there should be an elementary or secondary school at Six Roads.

The question that the sum of $1,121,993 be voted under the Head was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: I am going to suggest that the honourable senior member for St. Andrew take the Chair to relieve Mr. Chairman for a few minutes.

Mr. LEWIS: I think the better thing to do is for the honourable member to move that Mr. Chairman report progress and ask for leave to sit again. It would be more dignified if all honourable members leave this Chamber for a brief respite together. We have been more or less sitting from 12 o'clock (noon) and I do think that honourable members need a break now. I think it would be in the interest of everyobdy if the honourable Minister make a motion to that effect.

I therefore move that the Chairman do now report progress and ask for leave for the Committee to sit again.

Mr. BARROW seconded the motion which was agreed to.

Mr. CHAIRMAN reported to Mr. SPEAKER who resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to move that this House do now adjourn for twenty minutes.

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

On re-assembling,

LEAVE FOR DEPUTY CLERK: MR. CUMBERBATCH TO ACT.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker, I am asking that the Deputy Clerk be granted leave for the rest of the day and if there be no objection that Mr. H. O. St. C. Cumberbatch would act as Deputy Clerk in his place.

There being no objection, leave was granted the Deputy Clerk.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to move that Mr. H. O. St. C. Cumberbatch act as Deputy Clerk for the rest of the day.

Hon. C. E. TALMA seconded the motion which was agreed to.

RESUMPTION IN COMMITTEE

His Hon. THE SPEAKER: On the adjournment, the House was in Committee.

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

HEAD XXI—DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND AGRICULTURE

The Head and the total amount under it were called.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I beg to move that the sum of $465,042 be voted under this Head.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to second that.

Mr. LEWIS: Mr. Chairman, I have been asking Government to look into the matter of propagation and distribution of ornamental and useful plants, which comes under Item No. 63, for some time, but I believe my complaint has been misunderstood. I have asked the Government to give the specific instances in which people have gone to get ornamental and other useful plants from this Department and could not get them. I think some of these plants are imported and, now, to my surprise, I see that the vote has been reduced. I must confess that I have not made enquiries as to whether this item is in lesser demand than before which caused the Government to think it fit to cut the vote down, but I must tell honourable members that I consider this is a most useful piece of money that is spent by Government, because people can go to the Department and get the ornamental plants they require. As you know, Mr. Chairman, ornamental plants are different to cocoanut seedlings which can be obtained from many people who deal in that type of business even al though you may pay a dearer price when you buy that way. I am sorry indeed to see that the vote has been reduced and I would like the Minister of Agriculture to tell me, if he knows, why the vote has been cut down. If he does not know, or if he has not the information now, it will not matter. If he finds out that it was reduced purely because of a mistaken idea, I hope he will come back with a supplementary vote for the amount required as soon as possible. The Department of Science and Agriculture is performing a useful service in this direction and I know at one time that the department had a list with hundreds of names set down for these ornamental plants which they could not get. I do not know if the situation has improved but I would like an investigation into it.

Mr. Chairman, I did not notice in former estimates Item No. 81, General Running Expenses, against which the amount of $169,900 is to be voted. I imagined when I saw it in these estimates that I would have seen something in the appendix to explain it but I have seen nothing about it. Do you mean that no details are given for the expenditure of so large a sum of money? Do you mean to say that to put down "General Running Expenses" is sufficient to explain that item? From the note, I see that it has something to do with the general running expenses of the Pine Plantation and the Central Livestock Station as well as to provide for artificial insemination and a pig breeding scheme, but there should be some appendix to explain it.

I take this opportunity to bring to the notice of the honourable Minister of Agriculture that quite recently, a watchman was dismissed from the Central Livestock Station and I have been trying to get both sides of the story to find out whether the watchman was right or wrong. I have tried to get information from the head of the Labour Department and he is taking the longest possible time merely to tell me if this employee is entitled to certain treatment. This watchman was suspended in November last and has not been asked to defend himself. He is not given half-pay as is customary in such cases, nor has he been called upon to show cause why he should not be dismissed. I have been informed that this watchman is some sort of unestablished casual employee. Sir, can you imagine that you put somebody in charge of your stock and somebody who is expected to turn up on all occasions and you say that person is only a casual employee. When a casual employee does not turn up for duty, he cannot be charged for direlection of duty. I do not know if 'unestablished casual employee' is just a term and does not mean literally what it says. Here is it that you have an employee who should turn up on certain nights and you call him a casual employee. I am hoping to see the day when people like watchmen would be better provided for even to the point where they could be treated with a pension when they retire through old age.

As I was saying, Sir, I consider the sum of $169,900 too large a sum to be given out as a block vote. I regard this Department as top heavy and much too big for Barbados. In my opinion, it is large enough to serve the whole of the West Indies. There is a long list of technical officers and a lot of money is spent in buying various stuffs, like something for breeding this parasite and that, yet, when you are confronted with the mealy bug pest, nobody knows what to do with it. Honestly, I hope that some day we will have an investigation into this department to see whether or not we are employing too many people there. I know that as soon as anything strange turns up, we have to take up the entomologist there and send him to Puerto Rico or sometimes as far as New Zealand to discover what it is and what we can do to remedy it. We do not stint this department out of anything. It has a great deal of equipment and a fairly good office. Sometimes, one wonders if this Department is contributing anything to the sugar cane crops or to something else, particularly when one realises that the whole method of breeding canes was discovered by a layman. I hope this is not something like education and that we are getting something for the money which we are spending on it.

Mr. Chairman, another thing that surprises me is that the very year that we reaped the largest crop —187,000 tons—was the very year that the mealy bug pest was declared to be at its worst. We have got a bigger crop last year than was expected and yet the mealy bug pest is doing considerable damage. Sir, I do not know, but I only hope that this mealy bug pest is not something to make us give back to those people what they give to the Treasury.

Mr. BARROW: Mr. Chairman, when the Central Livestock Station and the Agricultural Stations were set up I believe their Chief function was to improve livestock among the peasantry in the island. I am therefore taking the opportunity of saying a few things in that respect by speaking on Item No. 81, General Running Expenses. Now, I think among the regulations at the Central Livestock Station and other agricultural Stations, there is one which states that pigs will be raised at the various stations until they weigh 60 pounds and then they will be sold to peasants at a price of one shilling per pound or that a pig will more or less cost $14.40 when sold from any of those stations. There is also a regulation to the effect that the pigs will be sold to peasants in order of priority of the making of application for such a purpose. I think the scheme was applauded on all sides but some wise genius in the Colonial Secretariat seems to have bypassed these regulations and have made other regulations to the effect that instead of priority, these animals would be sold by auction and as a result, within the last twelve months all saleable livestock at the Central Livestock Station were sold at fantastic prices and to everybody but to the very persons that they should be sold. I am sure that the

honourable Minister of Labour would agree that this method would defeat the very purpose for which the Central Livestock Station and other Agricultural Stations were instituted which is that of improving the standard of livestock among the peasantry of Barbados. Today, instead of a pig being sold for $14.40, it is sold for such fantastic prices as $30 or $40 and you also find that one plantation owner is buying eight or nine such pigs. I know that my colleague attended one of these sales and I hope that he will give some information on what goes on at these sales. As far as I have discovered, no peasant was able to compete with any plantation owner in the buying of any of the stock that was sold at the Livestock Station. I think the Government should be appraised of these facts and that it should draw to the attention of the officer in charge of the Livestock Station that selling livestock by auction and not in accordance with former regulations is defeating the very purpose of the scheme which as far as I have been made to understand was set up with the assistance of C.D.&W. funds.

That is making a laughing-stock of Barbados because we say we are minded to assist the peasantry and the small man in this country, but in our practice we do everything to discourage him from improving the standard of his agriculture and his livestock breeding. I do not want to say anything about the matter now because I would like to hear a statement from the Minister of Agriculture.

We are spending over $615,000 on this Department alone. The plantocracy are complaining about high taxation and so on, but the whole tendency of legislation in Barbados and the Government set-up has been to lean over backwards, to perform functions for the agricultural community for which they themselves should be paying. The rationale is that this island is so dependent upon the sugar cane industry that we are assisting the island as a whole, but I do not necessarily subscribe to that view. There are no financial worries about equipping the factories; the agricultural community have all the experiments carried out for them by this Department, we do everything possible to accommodate these people and yet they slander the Government and say that the Government is imposing high taxation as if they have some God-given right to the wealth of this island. I think it is high time that the Government revise its attitude towards these people and not allow any one section of the community to blackmail the rest of the community on the grounds that we are economically dependent upon that section of the community. That is a view which was reinforced by the last Administrator of this colony, who seemed to put himself out of the way to give the people of Barbados the impression that they are beholden to the plantocracy of the island.

You read the Speech of the last Governor at the opening of the Legislature. No one has any prior right to the wealth of this country, and we as Socialists ought to see that we are not bamboozled into the position of believing that we must spend large amounts of the taxpayers' money in order to carry out research for people who, if they are efficient industrialists, would be carrying it out themselves. In England the situation is the reverse; in England the research work is done by private enterprise and any benefits which they discover they pass on to the Government. An example would be the I.C.I. Research Department and in the drug business there is Burrowes and Welcome John, Belle and Croydon and others; anything they make in research they pass on to the people. However, in Barbados, we give everything to the Agricultural Department. I am asking the Government to revise its attitude towards this problem. One man is doing the analytical work in respect of sugar and the Government has lost that source of revenue in return for the gigantic benefits which people are getting from the Government; the Government pays people in Barbados to do the thinking for them. This sum of over $615,000 is too much to be spent on one Department because it is there to do the work which private enterprise should be doing. I do not expect the Government to make any pronouncement as to this matter at this stage, but I would like them to make an explanation as soon as possible about the livestock being sold at auction at the Pine Plantation for the benefit of the members of the House and the public.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: In order to avoid repetition of this burning question of the sale of pigs by auction with which the Government is entirely in disagreement, I will say that this matter has been brought to the attention of the Director of Agriculture. (Cheers); he has been told in no uncertain terms that this practice of selling pigs by auction should be discontinued. (Hear, hear). The points made by the honourable senior member for St. George are the very points which occurred to the minds of this present Government and it is for that reason that the Director of Agriculture was instructed at the first meeting with himself and the Government that that practice should be discontinued. I will mention that this pig-breeding scheme was instituted so as to improve the breed of stock, to introduce new blood into the herd of the island, to rear these young pigs up to a certain level scientifically and to educate people along the lines on which pigs should be reared. These pigs would be sold at three months of age and at the inception they were sold to peasants as was originally intended; but owing to the long waiting list and the fear at the District Stations that discrimination was being practised and that the peasant Instructors were giving the pigs to their friends, it was thought that the method of sale by auction should be adopted as being a fair means of distribution. However, that method defeats the object of the whole scheme and the people whom it is intended to benefit are not getting the benefit.

A report has been made on this entire scheme and it is set out that at the last sale of pigs 60% went to the peasants and 40% were bought by other people. There were three sales which took place quite recently—on the 26th, 27th and 28th January—at the Central Livestock Station, 37, the Home Agricultural Station, 22, and at Jerusalem, 21. At the Central Livestock Station the average sale price was $19.00, at the Home Agricultural Station, $17.22 and at Jerusalem, $16.92. That is beyond the economic means of the average peasant, but the Government will see that the people who were designed to benefit from this scheme will receive the benefit. I can assure honourable members that this pig-breeding scheme will be conducted along the lines and in the manner in which under a Socialist Government it would be expected to function. (Cheers).

Mr. VAUGHAN: The honourable senior member for St. George has spoken about the subsidisation of agriculture in this colony, but I happen to know that in England agriculture is substantially subsidised equally with the food policy. I have no worry about the heavy expenditure at the Agricultural Stations because I know the benefit which will be produced as a result; I happen to know that if it were left to the plantocracy to carry out research in agriculture for the purpose of increasing the production, this island would not be so well off. We have conferred on a former official—Sir John Saint—the

status of one who is to be worshipped and his influence is so great that it is very often contradictory to the best interests of the country. I believe that it is mainly his influence that has caused the transfer of Government technical research to private enterprise. However, in so far as the expenditure on the Agricultural Department is concerned, I know the inestimable value of that expenditure, but I feel that there could still be more benefit accruing from the expenditure incurred.

The Livestock Station at the Pine is costing us $169,900 and against that there is a revenue of $97,500. I think the cost of running that Livestock Station and the Pine Plantation is heavy; if you take into consideration that they may be increasing the quality of stock throughout the island, then that expenditure may be considered as justifiable; but I would prefer to see this Government Plantation run as a dairy farm from a place like New Zealand. There are four issues in respect of agriculture on which the Government must concentrate. As regards irrigation, we have a lot of information on this subject and there seems to be a prejudice among some planters in respect of irrigation. I spoke to a very experienced planter last week and to my surprise he admitted that irrigation would be of inestimable value to the greater production of the country, and when I went into the question of the cost, he told me that the average cost of £100 per acre would repay any planter to invest in irrigation. I would advise the Government that they begin and set an example in their own plantation problems. The intensification of agriculture in this country is the great hope for the future; we can scarcely hope for much emigration and therefore we have to go back to the land. The intensification of agriculture will, for a time at least, reduce the urgency for greater industrialisation and also, for a time, relieve the necessity for urgent migration of population. There are countries which have turned deserts into orchards through scientific agriculture and irrigation.

Then there is the question of afforestation; this island is too much denuded of trees; we need to plant fruit trees and other trees for fuel throughout the island. In the country districts there is a pressing need for trees; I understand that this island was once very beautiful from the point of view of its trees. Afforestation is another urgent necessity upon which the Government should embark; when money is invested in afforestation and irrigation, that is money which is well spent.

On the question of the conservation of the soil in St. Andrew, a Committee was set up to consider that matter, and the delay is very distressing; if the Government cannot get one expert they should apply to the United Nations for another. However, the conservation of the soil in St. Andrew is a very pressing problem.

As far as the dairy industry is concerned, if we want to do anything in that connection in the near future, we have to begin importing young cattle to be sold at cost to the peasants and the plantations: I have read that that was done when they wanted to develop the dairy industry quickly in Seychelles. The importation of cattle with foot and mouth disease is inevitable, and the Government should search the world and see whence they can import these cattle so as to make the dairy industry something which will come about in the near future. I cannot condemn the expenditure on the Department with which we are now dealing; in the United States of America there is a modern phase of Agriculture whereby the farmer is subsidised to a tremendous extent by public funds. In Denmark the whole production was subsidised by the State in order to get it where it is to-day, so that the Minister of Agriculture will be quite in order if he undertakes even greater expenditure in the subsidisation of our local agriculture for the purpose of increasing substantially the production from the soil which will mean more employment for people and a greater food supply.

Mr. HAYNES: In connection with item 63, "Propagation and distribution of Ornamental and Useful Plants", I should like to say that many people are trying to improve the frontage of their houses and if they can get these plants at reasonable prices, that would encourage them to improve the roadsides. As to the question raised by the hon. senior member for St. George, he says that the planters are getting all the research work done through the Government; but I can say that the Sugar Producers' Association pays Sir John Saint to do the research. Perhaps the hon. member does not know that this research work it done at Edghill Plantation by Sir John Saint and his staff of assistants; they are paid by the Sugar Producers' Association — not by the Government. They are even doing the testing of the sugar up there; this work is done entirely by the Sugar Producers' Association under a ten-year contract.

On the question of the importation of seedlings, that is something which affects the small peasant as much as it affects the big landowner, because everybody wants to have sugar cane of a good quality. Unless this matter is looked after by the Government, I do not see how it can be done. The matter was looked after by private enterprise in British Guiana and it failed miserably; it failed at Codrington. Such a thing has to be looked after on a Commonwealth basis, not by individual places, and, as I have pointed out, it affects the man with the quarter acre of land as much as the big plantation owner.

Mr. BRYAN: I am speaking in connection with item 88, "Caretakers at Beach Shelters". Mr. Chairman, this Government has been commended on all sides and by people of all walks of life, for the erection of beach shelters, bathing cubicles, and so on. The Government is well satisfied with the use which is made of the shelters at Shot Hall and other places where these conveniences are afforded, and in view of that, I would appeal to the Government to supply similar conveniences at Brighton's beach which is used daily by a large number of people whom, I am sure, would appreciate these facilities just as they have been appreciatel by the people who use the beach at Shot Hall.

The question of Fisheries also comes under this Head and I would like to take this opportunity of making another appeal and this time it is in connection with the fishermen of Pile Bay. I understand that some time ago the Fisheries Department had the idea of erecting additional sheds at convenient sites; I have had some conversation with the fishermen at Pile Bay and they have assured me as to how very well a fishing shed erected in this area would assist them. I hope to see the result of this appeal in the very near future.

Mr. BARROW: The hon. junior member for St. Andrew has made a statement to the effect that the former Director of Agriculture has now undertaken the analysis of sugar himself, but the important factor which the hon. member has overlooked is this; the very Officer has also taken away fees from the Government on his having left the Department of Science and Agriculture, so that on Page 8 of the Estimates you will see that there is no revenue coming to the Government under this Head at all. There has been a special arrangement made by the Sugar Producers' Association and the particular persons

concerned. I understand that this revenue used to be something in the vicinity of £3,000, which would just go to underline the statements which I have made before as to the Sugar Producers' Association and their machinations. I am saying that all the research work is done for them by the Government and the purely analytical work has been taken away and given to one individual.

I would like to find out from the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries whether the fishing boats which were built at the Fisheries Office are completely acceptable to the fishermen. My information is that far from these boats not needing any ballast, they have to carry twice as much ballast as the old type of fishing boat carried. The accepted type of boat carried a big portion of iron inside and when the fishermen were "beating up" they would shift the ballast in order to balance the boat properly. As I have said these boats have to carry twice as much ballast as the other type of boat, so that there is extra expenditure on ballast. A lot was made about the excellent job which was done in making these boats, but the performance on the front page of the *Advocate* is very different from that on the front page of the shallow bank. The Minister of Fisheries should be able to give us some information as regards the expenditure which was made on these boats, how much has been paid by the fishermen and whether it was an economic proposition or not and whether the fishermen are satisfied with this type of fishing boat which has been inflicted on them or not.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: In answer to the point made by the hon. junior member for the City, the information is that the vote has been fully expended for many years. In connection with the Central Livestock Station, the increase expenditure was due to the carrying out of artificial insemination. In this respect the increase was $2,700 and in respect of the pig-breeding scheme, the increase was $9,800, making a total of $12,500. The increase for this year is in the vicinity of $5,400. As far as the breakdown of this $169,000 under item 81, "General Running Expenses" is concerned, there is Labour, $80,000; Transport, $9,000; Animal feeding stuff, $46,000; Artificial manure, $8,000; Livestock insurance, $5,000 and Miscellaneous, $18,000.

As regards the "Calvert" fishing boats, I have not got the information. On the question of irrigation, experimental work is being carried out at the Pine Plantation and among peasants, but owing to the heavy rainfall within recent years, which would be better than any type of irrigation, it has not been possible to carry through the test to the fullest advantage; the result is that the matter is still in the experimental stage. This Government will pay strict regard to information in respect of anything to which it has been already committed in the Five Year Plan.

With regard to the conservation of the soil, the question is being dealt with and in the not distant future I hope to be able to make a statement in connection with it.

As far as the subsidisation of supplies is concerned, the policy will be implemented in no uncertain manner.

The hon. junior member for St. Michael has brought to the attention of the Government that there is a need for the erection of shelters at Brighton Beach and Pile Bay and that matter will receive the attention which it deserves.

In so far as the question raised by the hon. junior member for St. Andrew is concerned, that will be dealt with in the right quarter.

Mr. LEWIS: I thank the hon. member for the information which he has supplied; but running through the Estimates you will find at different points items in respect of the replacement of the Fisheries Experimental Boat and the Upkeep of the Boat. I know that the hon. member was one of those who saw to it that the matter did not get out of hand and I have no doubt that he will pay great attention to it; but do not let us keep a toy at a very high figure. On the last occasion when a Supplementary Resolution in this connection was before us, we actually put down in a note that a gentleman was coming here from abroad and he would see that everything was all right. I think that some of these people should go into these "Calvert" boats so as to see what is happening; I have heard that the Fisheries Experimental Boat is kept in the Careenage so as to save it from retaliation. I asked the hon. member who was then in charge of matters relating to Fisheries, what was happening and he could not supply any information. These are things which can get out of hand and become toys and we have to make a show about them; there are too many things which need attention being given to them and therefore let us see that this particular thing does not become a joke. I know that it is the talk around the town that no new fishing banks have been discovered and so on; it is a good thing to have an Experimental Boat, but if it is going to cost too much money, I think that in the way in which we have aided fishermen before we can continue to do so and let the fishermen find the various banks on which they can catch fish; it is not necessary for us to go out to sea to tell the fishermen where to go so as to catch fish. This Experimental Boat can be a very expensive item and when we need over $3,700 to replace it, I believe that some of that money could be put to much better use by the fishermen themselves.

Mr. BARROW: I want to supply the honourable member who has just sat down with some information; he was wondering if the "Investigator" ever went to sea. My observation has been that it has been tied up for such a long time that stern members of the Landship Association are asking that it be made available to the Barbados Landship; the boat is completely land bound and it is more expensive to keep a boat alongside the shore than to have it working every day. I think it would be a good idea for the "Investigator" to go to each fishing village in succession around the coast of the island and let the the fishermen have free trips so that they will be able to see how a depth recorder works, see the maps and see where the fishing banks are. The fishermen know that when they get certain marks they will get fish and I repeat that if the fishermen are taken out to see and shown certain things, that will be very advantageous to them. The fishermen have some idea about these matters, but the fishermen at Bathsheba do not know the "Investigator"; therefore I suggest that this boat should be taken around the island and let the fishermen see what it looks like. The mariners on the "Investigator" should be able to prove whether they are like the ordinary fishermen or not; let the Fisheries Officer and his crew take the "Investigator" up to St. Joseph.

Mr. WILLIAMS: About two years ago we had a terrible calamity in which a number of fishing boats were destroyed; the Government came down to the House with a Resolution for the purpose of replacing those boats and we had the idea of the "Calvert" fishing boat. From an interview with the fishermen, their complaint is that the boats are too narrow across the beam and then they are not satisfied as to the cost of these boats. The cost of a boat is in the vicinity of $1,800 and they feel that pri-

vate enterprise would be able to build it under that amount.

Mr. E. K. WALCOTT: I do not know if any figures were given as to the irrigation scheme; the honourable Minister only seemed to have read a statement to the effect that sufficient testing had not been carried out for him to be able to say whether there were any true results. Am I not right in saying that after a year and a half or two years they should be in a position to report progress and tell us something with regard to what has been done? Anybody who has been around the Pine will know that they have been using sprinklers with the young crop for some time, even although the rain may have fallen, and the honourable Minister should be able to tell us something with regard to the cost, whether the experiment is justified, how much it would increase the productivity of the soil, the expenditure on the plant, how much the tonnage is expected to be increased and so on; the honourable member could give us a partial statement as to the success or failure of the scheme so far. If you are going to make a success of irrigation and it is going to be worth while to get land which turns out 50 to 60 tons of canes to the acre to turn out 100 tons to the acre and you limit your production of sugar, only one-half the amount of land would be needed to produce the full quota of production. In doing one good turn you may be doing five bad ones; you may be spending a great deal less on labour because you will spend more money on plant and machinery, and you will have no use for the extra land except you can use it for the purpose of supplying foodstuffs.

It is a doubtful advantage to have an irrigation scheme for increasing the production per acre of sugar cane when you are told that you cannot sell the sugar you have now without an irrigation scheme I am not pressing the honourable member to answer if he cannot answer at all, because he might like to do a little more research and in due course and at the earliest possible opportunity he will give us some idea and some figures as to how the position occurs to him and whether it would be worth while to continue the experiment. It would be very interesting, no matter how half-baked the idea was at present, if the honourable member could tell us in what direction the scheme was going, how much money has been spent, the results produced and whether or not it would be worth the money which we are spending. I say all that because I am not one of the firm believers in irrigation; I do not know at present what the irrigation scheme is going to cost and what it will produce.

In so far as the old system is concerned, I know it has been practically a failure; I also know that the system tried out in St. Philip has been a success with an individual. I believe that the experiment is now being carried out by Mr. Smith and I suggest to the honourable member that he get in touch with this gentleman and compare the experiment as has been carried out by him and what is being done by the Government. The Government has always suffered from the idea that funds were unlimited, that they could spend them just as they like and it was seldom left to them to turn out something which was a visible commercial proposition. If the Minister will examine how an individual has tried to work out a similar idea, he may be able to bring together two ideas—one by the man who has all the money at his command and the other by the man who only has his own money at his command—and have a scheme which might prove to be successful for the island as a whole. Can the honourable member help us with any information as to this matter?

Mr. VAUGHAN: Unlike the honourable member who has just sat down, I am a believer in irrigation, and what he regards as a disadvantage I hold to be an advantage. If you could release more land for irrigation you could release more land for the dairy industry; if you could release more land for that industry I regard that as an advantage. We cannot establish a successful and substantial dairy industry unless we have a release of land; if we can produce the required amount of sugar on less land so much the better it will be for the dairy industry. We can have varied crops by the release of land.

Mr. E. K. WALCOTT: We are relying on the Minister of Agriculture to examine his idea. Mr. Wakefield has said that the great handicap in the dairy industry would be that it would require two acres of land so as to keep one cow. I have had a conversation with Mr. Wakefield, I have tried to keep cows and I have used irrigation so as to produce the necessary forage for keeping two cows for the purpose of getting milk for myself and family. That took roughly two acres of land with irrigation. Even in the days when labour was cheap it cost me twice as much to produce a pint of milk as it cost the dairy keeper to produce it. If you use a windmill for irrigation you will find that the windmill does not always go around when it ought to be going around and therefore you cannot have your pressure when you want it. If you use Government water, the Waterworks vote would be more than double and they would have to use more wells so as to be able to get water for carrying out irrigation. I am not saying that it is not a good idea to try that particular scheme; I think that what we are faced with is so serious that the only way in which we can be saved is to go on trying until we find a solution to it. Dr. Herbert tried out what Mr. Smith is trying, Mr. Manning is trying it and I notice what they are trying out at the Pine with the sprinklers and at Codrington; but the only thing that worries me about the Government is that whereas we can ask these gentlemen to whom I have referred about this expenditure, we have to rely on the Minister for Agriculture to let us know what he estimates it will cost in machinery to supply the water and so on, and if he is going to cut grants how much can he save? We pay the Ministers as whole-time people and we give them time to work out these problems. We expect to get information from the honourable Minister as to these matters and we will be interested to know what is happening. I am not trying to cramp the scheme; I am the usual critic who has tried out irrigation on a small scale and failed and I want the honourable member to feel that the island's pocket may not be big enough for us to be able to embark on the scheme and we would like to know how it is getting on. We would be expecting information as to how the scheme is getting on; it is a matter of importance to us and I was merely asking the honourable member if he could help us in the matter. If he cannot help us now we will have to be satisfied.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: In reply to the honourable member, I presume he is aware that the amount of $500,000 has been set aside for irrigation purposes. The Irrigation Board which has been set up has approved in principle the work of investigation which is being carried out. I am not in a position to give details as to expenditure which the honourable member is entitled to demand, but I can assure him that I will do so at the earliest opportunity. Looking back at the breakdown, I see that the amount

of $3,000 was allocated to the Central Livestock Station under the head "irrigation" and a similar amount has been requested on this occasion. I do not know if that explanation is of any assistance to the honourable member at this stage; I hope he will accept it as some sort of explanation for the time being. At some subsequent date I will supply details as to the scheme.

As far as the item, "Replacement of Fisheries Experimental Boat" is concerned, this amount of $3,700 is a contribution to a common fund with respect to the watercraft kept by the Government. The Harbour and Shipping Master's Department, the Department of Science and Agriculture and the Police—each of those Departments contribute to this common fund which has a balance of over $75,000.

The question that Head XXI stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XXII—PUBLIC LIBRARY

Head XXII—Public Library—was called.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I beg to move that Head XXII stand part.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to second that.

Mr. LEWIS: In connection with item 16, "Upkeep of Speightstown and Oistin's Branch Libraries", I would like the honourable Minister responsible to explain how it is that when we had the upkeep of the Speightstown Branch Library alone we voted $600, and now that we have the upkeep of the Speightstown and Oistin's Branch Libraries, he has only added $37. I would like to know what miracle the Government is performing; is there a trick in this matter? I understand that in respect of this Branch Library in Speightstown, there was such a thing as a community centre, and I notice in looking through the Estimates that on page 101 there is item 42, "Maintenance of Speightstown Community Hall" and the amount in this connection alone is $500 and this whole place used to be operated on a vote of $600. You now want $600 and an increase of $500 for doing the same job and you add $37 for operating an entirely new Library; if the Trustees of the Speightstown Branch Library think that they can come under the Head "Miscellaneous Services" and get $500 for the running of a community centre down there, which used to be included in the maintenance of a library which used to be run for $600, I want to say that they are in a bad way. This is something about which the House has to be very careful; the Estimates have a great number of items in them and honourable members cannot be expected to go through the Estimates and see all these items. A number of tricks can be put on the Legislature. I would really like these things explained; I get very suspicious when I see things like these. If no explanation is forthcoming I will make my own conjecture.

Mr. BARROW: When I saw this item "Maintenance of Speightstown Community Hall, $500", I went to Speightstown to see where this Community Hall was; I discovered that in Speightstown under the jurisdiction of the Trustees of the Library, there is an Assembly Room and in connection with this item for which there was an amount of $600, the explanatory note in the Estimates under this Head last year says this: "Provision for upkeep of Library and the Assembly Room." Therefore the conclusion to which I have come is that the Assembly Room mentioned in the Estimates last year, is now called the Community Hall. A rose by any other name will smell just as sweet, but when it costs $500 more it has a bad odour. No Community Hall has been built in Speightstown; it is only that a new designation has been given to the Assembly Room. The Trustees of the Public Library have always been responsible for the upkeep of the Assembly Room and if any cultural organisation wanted to use this room they would have to apply to the Librarian and get permission to use it; there is not a single instance in which an organisation applied for the use of this Room and was refused. Now we have the item "Upkeep of Speightstown and Oistin's Branch Libraries" we are asked to agree to a total amount of $810 which is an increase on last year's amount. On my own analytical process I have come to the conclusion that this amount of $810 does not cover the Assembly Room and therefore they have to come for another $500 for the Assembly Room alone.

I should like to know whether the control of the Assembly Room has been taken away from the Trustees of the Library and vested in some other Body or Government Department; if that is so, the Government is throwing away a lot of money. It is now costing $500 to maintain the room upstairs when last year it took $600 to maintain the whole building, and this year it costs $810 to maintain the Speightstown and Oistin Libraries; the Government is making a mistake in transferring the control of this Assembly Room to some other Body. Are these premises going to be used now for purposes other than those for which they were used in the past? If so, why should we have, under miscellaneous expenditure on page 101 of the Estimates, to provide $500 for this purpose? I repeat; no Community Hall has been built in Speightstown and the only place they could mean is the Assembly Room; it is only the Health Centre and the Fish Market that have been built in Speightstown, and since the Market has been built, not one fish has been sold in it. The whole thing is very peculiar to me; I warn the Minister for Social Services that he had better be careful and act within the law because this property is vested in the Trustees down there and they must be a very good reason for taking away the control of this property from them.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: I think the honourable member has answered himself in that the Community Hall is no longer run by the Trustees of the Library; it is now run by a Local Committee of which Mr. Speaker is Chairman, and other members are the Rector of St. Peter, the Probation Officer, Mr. Marvelle and Mrs. Haynes. It was felt that this building would be more of a Community Hall for which it was intended, if it were run by a Local Committee as other Community Halls are run, than if it were run by the Trustees of the Library. The Community Hall in St. George is run by the Vestry, so is the one in St. Andrew and it would be more in keeping with the running of Community Halls if the one in Speightstown were taken out of the control of the Trustees of the Library and vested in the Local Committee.

Mr. BARROW: At what meeting was that done?

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: That was done this year, 1954.

Mr. BARROW: The honourable member's answer is not satisfactory at all. I have pointed out to the Minister of Social Services that they are now asking for $500 for the upkeep of this Assembly Room which they have disguised by calling it by another name. You have a Statutory Body which has certain property vested in it and you cannot take that property and vest it in a heterogeneous collection of nondescript people who have no statu-

tory authority and say that the Governor-in-Executive Committee did it. Which Government Department is controlling this property? I would like to know which Government Department is controlling this property and why? If the Trustees are so inefficient why didn't we sack them, because the innuendo is that the building was not being used for the right purpose. How can you vest public property in a Board which has no statutory authority at all? You cannot do that; you cannot set up a Board by a decision of the Governor-in-Executive Committee; you cannot turn over public funds to a Board which has no statutory authority or foundation at all. All sorts of funny things are happening today; I believe that the members of the Government are not as dumb as they are pretending to be; I believe that some Government Department has been put in control of the Assembly Hall, and the officer of that Department has appointed this Board. Nothing was put in the Press to the effect that this Board had been appointed comprised of the people who have been mentioned and one other person who has not been mentioned. What has happened?

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: I mentioned everybody.

Mr. BARROW: A name has not been mentioned. Under whose authority was this thing done and on what basis have they decided that the upkeep of this Assembly Room would cost $500 this year when last year it cost $600 to maintain the whole place? I doubt whether the other representative of the parish of St. Peter was aware of what was going on down there; this is the first time the public has heard that they have set up some sort of triumviri to run this place.

Mr. LEWIS: What really interests me is this; what difficulty has arisen to cause this matter to have been dealt with so differently on this occasion? Have the Trustees of the Public Library or the Central Librarian or the Branch Librarian been unco-operative? Is not this some insult to the Trustees of the Public Library or the Branch Librarian or the Central Librarian? This is a serious matter; are we taking the Departments in which Barbadians are Heads and treating them in this way? (Hon. G. H. ADAMS: He is not a Barbadian). Well if he is not a Barbadian he looks more like a Barbadian than the Heads of some Departments. Is not this building being used as a Library, an educational centre, is it not under dual control and one room will now cost $500 to maintain it whereas the whole building used to cost $600 to maintain it before? Are we snatching something away from the Head of a Department and giving it to a Committee to run? We would like to know what the position is, because it does not seem to savour of fair dealing with the Head of a Department at all. Do you mean to tell me that the members of this House have never been able to bring one single complaint before this House in connection with this matter? Let us know what is happening, which has not been exposed before so that it will not happen again. It looks bad when you see that more money is to be voted in respect of this Assembly Room, but when you see that another name has been put in and the sum of $173 has been put in the column "Fixed by Law", it really makes you take notice of the position. What sort of activity is going on there under a changed name? Some other activity is going on which is costing the people of the entire island this amount of money. Why can't the people of St. Peter look after the payment of this money or put it in the hands of the Vestry?

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, a blind man on a trotting horse would realise that this community hall should be run by local people in the area and not to be vested in the hands of the Public Librarian and that is why the Government, in order that this hall might serve the purpose for which it was intended—entertainment and things of that nature—thought it best and has resolved to put it in the hands of a local committee who would be responsible for it to the Government. So far as the voting of $500 is concerned with this community hall, it is on the same basis as is done with other community halls of this island, that is, in the first year or two, the Government will assist in running them until they can pay for themselves.

While I am on this, I am asking leave to reduce Item No. 16, against which a sum of $637 is to be voted by $50.

A VOICE: Why are you going to reduce that when you have reduced it already).

(ANOTHER VOICE: I think it is the $500 elsewhere which needs reducing).

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, the honourable Minister of Social Services usually tries to give the best explanations he can possibly give, but I am afraid he has been led into rather deep waters, or for reasons best known to himself, he is not trying to explain to us as fully as he should. This is ministerial status. It is no more a question of saying this is a question for the Executive or this is a question for the Head of the Department; the Minister of Social Services is responsible to us for this matter. It would be incorrect to say that the policy in regard to the Speightstown Community Hall is similar to that on which you set up the Christ Church Community Hall. Whenever you set up a comunity hall in a parish, your policy has been for the parish to administer the running of that hall out of the finances of the parish. That is the policy which you have effected in the case of the community halls in Christ Church, St. Joseph, St. Andrew and St. George. I do not believe the honourable Minister of Social Services is willfully trying to mislead this Chamber; I believe he is not acquainted with the situation. The honourable member has just taken over this office and now has the controlling authority over all of these matters. This particular thing is new to him. I am sure that there is more information on this matter than what is given us. Those of us who are on local Councils welcome the Government for spending money on this community hall but we cannot see how it can well budget something for this community hall in St. Peter and not give similar treatment to the other community halls that have been established. Without any reason at all being given, Government has taken this hall on the top floor of the Branch Library at Speightstown from under the control of the trustees of the Public Library and has cut off $710 from the amount which was voted under that head without saying anything to us. Of course, there are persons who certainly know of the working of the parish of St. Peter and will be very interested in the running of the community hall but the way in which this hall is to be run is quite different to that of the others. Again, Sir, the reduction is not strictly correct. Is it that the name of His Honour the Speaker was mentioned just to polish up something? I do not wish to say that His Honour should not be Chairman but his name might be mentioned to prevent us from further criticising the vote.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I object to the remarks that we are using His Honour the Speaker's name to polish up things. I only mentioned His Honour's name because he is one of the personnel on the Committee.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, are you controlling the way I should think? I do not think so. You may control the way how some honourable members on the other side of the table may think, but you

cannot control me. I am free to think in my own way. I do not want to generate any heated discussion. All that I wish to say is that the way in which you propose to run this community hall seems to be an isolated one and I challenge the honourable Minister of Social Services to say that the other community centres are all administered in the way that it is proposed to administer this one.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: I did not say that the others were run on a similar basis. I said the Government proposes to run the St. Peter community hall this way.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: If people express their desire that the other community halls should be run by these small committees or in the same manner of that of St. Peter, will the honourable Minister see about granting their request? It is common knowledge that a certain amount of prejudice exists in the minds of certain people. Although I have asked that question, I am really wondering whether the Minister of Social Services is really responsible for the policy in this matter. Can the honourable Minister tell us more of the matter? I repeat, even though the honourable Minister may not like it repeated, there are certain names he mentioned and I am going to challenge him that he never named any of those persons to form that Committee.

(A VOICE: Hoy! Hoy!)

Mr. Chairman, I agree that you should have your community centres but I do not agree that you should pick out St. Peter to run it in this way. The honourable Minister has intimated his desire to reduce the vote by $50. If honourable members are serious, I think it should be reduced by $710. I shall await to see what is going to happen in this matter of reduction. I do not think it has been fully explained.

Mr. BARROW: Mr. Chairman, my reason for rising again is because it does not seem to me that the honourable Minister of Social Services or the honourable member who has just sat down is clear about the nature of the enquiry which I made. I would like what I enquired to be absolutely clear to honourable members. I will therefore repeat what I said. In the 1953-54 estimates the sum of $600 was voted for the upkeep of the Speightstown Branch Library and the Assembly room. In this year's estimates—1954-55— there is another Branch Library at Oistin and the sum of $810 is being voted for the upkeep of the Speightstown and Oistin Branch Libraries which may or may not mean $405 each. In last year's estimates the explanatory note to the relative item stated that the amount was for the upkeep of the Library at Speightstown and the Assembly Room both of which are vested in the Trustees of the Public Library. Now, the honourable Minister of Social Services does not seem to understand the situation because he is asking for a reduction of the vote which bear in mind was $600 last year for the Branch Library and Assembly Room at Speightstown and this year is $810 for the two libraries, the Oistin Library having been included. Now they have left out of Item 16, or this vote, the Assembly Room. I became suspicious and starting to look for provision for that item and discovered that the sum of $500 was voted in a part of these estimates which nobody might notice for the maintenance of a community hall in Speightstown. I do not know if that was done with any deliberate intention on the part of the Government. What I particularly want to draw attention to is that a metamorphosis has taken place at the Speightstown Branch Library and Assembly Room for which $600 was voted last year. As can be seen, this year $405 is to be voted for the Library and there is no more Assembly Room but somewhere else $500 is asked for for the running of a Community Hall at Speightstown. Probably, the name Assembly Room has been changed to Community Hall because we have four people managing it now and not the Public Librarian and because it is no longer vested in the hands of the trustees of the Public Library. Community centres have been set up in various parishes, like St. Joseph and St. George and these have been put under the control of the Vestries in the respective parishes. Government has thought it is the best thing to have these organisations under the control of the local authority.

Now, the next position in regard to the matter is that the rooms above the Speightstown Branch Library was called Assembly Room advisedly because though it is used for community purposes,—such use has never been refused—it could never be recognised as a community centre because it is not strictly in keeping with the other community centres that exist in the surrounding parishes. Sir, for the first time we have known and under these peculiar circumstances that the Government has changed the running of this Assembly Room. No declaration was made by the Government that it intended to wave a magic wand over this place by driving up in a coach of four with His Honour the Speaker holding the reins to control this place and change its name. No declaration has been made that the activities that were carried on there would be more vigorous and enlightening in their nature. I am not going to mince matters. From what I have heard, the activities which went on there were much more vigorous and enlightening than those which prevail in the other parishes and it seems to me that somebody has angered somebody and that is the only reason for the change. I really want to know who is it that is responsible for this metamorphosis and for taking this Assembly Room out of the hands of the statutory body and giving it to four persons who were only known to the members of this Assembly a half hour ago. It is going to cost $500 for that privilege and this information can be found on page 101 of these estimates. I do not think that this Committee has been given a satisfactory explanation over the matter. Is something going to happen now that has not happened before? Is the Minister of Social Services going to take over this place from the trustees of the Public Library?

Before I sit down, Mr. Chairman, I want to ask the Minister of Social Services why he suggested reducing the vote by $50 when they have already increased it by $500 on page 101. It seems to me that the honourable Minister is going to run two libraries on an average which is less than what it ran that of Speightstown last year.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: I made a little lapse when I asked leave to reduce that item by $50. It was another item under another head that I had in mind. I am asking leave to withdraw that motion for the reduction.

Mr. LEWIS: Mr. Chairman, some honourable members have given expression in this Chamber on more than one occasion to the genial disposition of the hon. junior member for St. Thomas and one on whose word they can depend but I am afraid that he is going to lose his reputation on this matter because this is not straightforward dealing. This is something which has been put in which the honourable Minister is not right with his information on it. I think this is a matter which the honourable Minister should postpone until he knows all the facts Something is radically wrong. This is a serious thing and it seems as if somebody has put it on to ministerial system. Sir, you have taken over control of this Assembly Room at Speightstown. Are you going to

have dances on top of the Library now? If this were an honest transaction—

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I object to that statement. The honourable member is accusing the Government of dishonest acts. I object to that.

Mr. LEWIS: I withdraw the remarks "dishonest transactions." Sir, we have no note saying that something has been transferred to another place. If you look under the Head, Accountant General, you will see that the currency business which used to be placed under a separate head is now placed there, and this has been drawn to your notice by a note under Head 17, Government Industrial Schools. You know from that note that the currency business has been transferred to the Head, Accountant General. Why should not there be some note to tell you that this Assembly Hall has been changed to Community Hall and provision made for it some other place? That is what should have been done. I think an apology is owed to this Committee for changing that without proper explanation. How else can I characterise an action like that? The people who contract these estimates are familiar with that type of thing. I am going to tell the honourable Minister of Social Services, if he does not know, that there is something in this matter which he would be or should be ashamed of if he gets mixed up in it. Why were we not told that the expenditure on the Community Hall was placed somewhere else? Why did the honourable Minister ask for a reduction by $50?

While talking of community centres, I would say that the people contribute to the Labour Welfare Fund, so they are entitled to community centres out of that fund. These community centres should be established by themselves; they should not be attached to something else. This was voiced by someone in the Other Place. If you borrow the debates of the Other Place you will see it mentioned that community halls should operate out of the Labour Welfare Fund. I think this is an attempt to get around the situation. Again, we are giving an insult to the Head of this Department by this action and we should not countenance that. I do not kow all the facts but from what I have heard, this is an attempt to belittle, to disparage and everything else, the trustees of the Public Library. I feel that that situation should not be countenanced. The good names of the trustees of the Public Library should not be dragged in the gutter and any implied criticism or disparagement of them is doing them a disservice. I feel that the trustees of the Public Library had been running that place and giving satisfaction to everyone concerned.

Sir, I would like to know what the Government is getting at by changing over the management of this hall. Has something gone wrong with the running of community centres or because this hall is in Speightstown, Government must get somebody special to run it? Can the honourable Minister of Social Services say whether the people whom he has named are working in conjunction with the trustees of the Public Library or some other Government Department is looking after it? Could he also tell us if by using this room at the top of the Public Library at Speightstown it is going to rob the people of St. Peter from getting a proper community centre out of Labour Welfare Funds? Are the people of St. Peter going to be satisfied with that? I do hope that if the Government receive requests from other community centres for money to run them, before or after these estimates are completed, that such expenses will be included under Miscellaneous Services.

Mr. BRANCKER: I observe that there is an increase of $140 this year on Item No. 17, Upkeep of Reading and Lecture Room, but unfortunately that increase is for rebinding some old newspapers from the Government Newspaper File. I would commend to the honourable Minister of Social Services now that we are running our own show—and I hope we are running it from the West Indian and Barbadian standpoint—that this reading and lecture room would be open at nights. There is no reason why this lecture room should not be open until 10 p.m. We have a sufficient number of educated people who can be taken on as auxiliaries in order to relieve the staff. Let it not be stated that there is insufficiency of staff to carry it on. I think it will be in the interest of the educational and cultural side of this community if this room is opened until 10 o'clock so that people can do research work. I hope Government will treat this with priority. We know that in the past imported officials never liked the idea of this reading and research room to be opened to the people of this Colony at nights but there is no reason for that state of affairs to continue.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: I promise the honourable member that I will go into that matter.

Mr. LEWIS: I would like the honourable Minister of Social Services to explain why the assembly room at Speightstown is to be changed into a community hall and is to be operated by an entirely different system.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: I suggest we deal with that when we come to the other Head, Miscellaneous Services.

The question that the sum of $14,079 be voted under the Head was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

On motion of HON. DR. CUMMINS, seconded by Honourable M. E. Cox the CHAIRMAN reported progress and asked for leave for the Committee to sit again.

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker I beg to move that this House do now adjourn for three quarters of an hour.

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

RESUMPTION IN COMMITTEE

On re-assembling,

HIS HONOUR THE SPEAKER: On the adjournment, the House was in Committee.

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

HEAD XXIII—MEDICAL DEPARTMENTS. (1) DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL SERVICES.

The Head and the total amount to be voted under it were called.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to move that the sum of $35,075 be voted under this Head.

Hon. M. E. Cox seconded the motion which was agreed to.

HEAD XXIII—MEDICAL DEPARTMENTS. (2) GENERAL HOSPITAL.

The Head and the total amount to be voted under it were called.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to move that the sum of $754,219 be voted under this Head.

Hon. M. E. Cox seconded the motion which was agreed to.

HEAD XXIII—MEDICAL DEPARTMENTS. (3) MENTAL HOSPITAL

The Head and the total amount to be voted under it were called.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to move that the sum of $250.807 be voted under this Head.

Hon. M. E. Cox seconded the motion which was agreed to.

HEAD XXIII—MEDICAL DEPARTMENTS. (4) LAZARETTO

The Head and the total amount to be voted under it were called.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to move that the sum of $32,572 be voted under this Head.

Hon. M. E. COX: I beg to second that.

Mr. WILLIAMS: Mr. Chairman, I would like to enquire from the honourable Minister of Social Services what is the contemplated policy of the Government as regards this leper hospital. It has been mooted for some time that leprosy is almost non-existent at this institution and we are today saddled with the sum of $49,425 for keeping this institution open. I am not suggesting that we use that institution for something else because of local prejudice. There was a suggestion that part of it could be used as a T.B. Sanatorium but it is no secret that a T.B. Sanatorium is going to be part of the policy of the Government within the framework of the overall scheme for the General Hospital. However I hope that the Minister of Social Services will keep this matter with regard to the leper hospital under constant observation.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: That is the question: what is to be done with it? There are to-day 29 people who are suffering from leprosy and you can see very well that it would be more economical if you could very well find some smaller place to put them in. The Government has no policy yet as to what it can do with that institution because of local prejudice. It is true that at one time the institution could not be considered large because they were 130 patients there. It was suggested that part of it could be used as a T.B. Sanatorium but there again local prejudice was against it. If that building were to be thoroughly cleansed and disinfected anybody could go there and live without contracting the disease. As a matter of fact, the disease has a low incidence of contagion but whatever you suggest, local prejudice would be against it, so Government does not know yet what to do with it.

The question that the sum of $32,572 be voted under this Head was put and resolved in the affirmtive without division.

HEAD XXIII—MEDICAL DEPARTMENTS. (5) BOARD OF HEALTH

The Head and the total amount to be voted under it were called.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to move that the sum of $17,195 be voted under this Head.

Hon. M. E. COX: I beg to second that.

Mr. LEWIS: I am using Item No. 2, Expenses in connection with and for the prevention of the spread of infectious diseases to make this comment for the benefit of the honourable Minister of Social Services. It appears to me unfortunate—I say that advisedly—now that we have a regional organisation here to assist us in getting rid of this yellow fever mosquito and now that we are suffering from the outbreak of diphtheria that the Director of Medical Services should leave the Island on holiday. I suppose his department must have made the arrangements that the campaign for the eradication of this mosquito should take place at this time and I think it would be good to have the Director of Medical Services on the spot but just as these people have come to help, to see his picture appearing in the Daily Advocate sitting leisurely in a chair on board a ship just as if he were glad to get out of the diphtheria and everything else does not look well to me. I feel that a Head of a Government Department should make some sort of sacrifice at times. It seems to me peculiarly unfortunate that he should have left the Island immediately after people from the regional body have come to eradicate a mosquito. I say it is unfortunate and I wonder whether he deliberately fixed his time to fit in with when this campaign was to be started. Even if it is not so, he has arranged his holiday at the most inopportune time. This is a time when we have notification of 28 cases of diphtheria. The public is very agitated over this disease and as a matter of fact his department is claiming that is has inoculated very many hundreds of thousands of people against this disease in recent weeks but the Director of Medical Services has chosen this very time to go away.

The question that the sum of $17,195 be voted under this Head was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XXIII—MEDICAL DEPARTMENTS (6) GOVERNMENT BACTERIOLOGIST AND PATHOLOGIST

The Head and the total amount to be voted under it were called.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to move that the sum of $8,250 be voted under this Head.

Hon. M. E. Cox seconded the motion which was agreed to.

HEAD XXIII—MEDICAL DEPARTMENTS (7) HEALTH CENTRES

The Head and the total amount to be voted under it were called.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to move that the sum of $43,910 be voted under this Head.

Hon. M. E. Cox seconded the motion which was agreed to.

HEAD XXIII—MEDICAL DEPARTMENTS (8) MATERNITY HOSPITAL

The Head and the total amount to be voted under it were called.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to move that the sum of $33,182 be voted under this Head.

Hon. M. E. COX: I beg to second that.

Mr. J. C. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman I would just like to get a little information on Item No. 17, Training Grant for ten untrained pupil midwives. I would like to know from the honourable Minister of Social Services how pupils are selected for this training. From time to time enquiries are made to me from young girls of the parish of St. Philip in this respect and although I have tried to help some of them by giving them recommendations I have been unable to get any of them in at this institution for training. I have done every sort of thing to help them. I have advised them on filling out the application form and believe me, Mr. Chairman, not one from the parish of St. Philip has been selected. I would like to know if this maternity training school is only for the girls of the parish of St. Michael.

(A VOICE: Oh no).

Sir, This maternity hospital belongs to Barbados and no one parish should have the monopoly of furnishing these students because the women of St. Philip also have babies and they too want the services of trained midwives. I really would like some information on how these students are selected so that I can advise some of those who would like to be trained as a midwife how they can be taught. Certainly, St. Philip should have a supply of trained midwives.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: While I welcome the honourable member asking a question of that sort, I wonder if it is lack of intelligence on the part of the young girls of St. Philip that has prevented them from being successful in their applications. For the benefit of the honourable member and the young girls of St. Philip who are eager to become midwives, I would point out that about November or December a notice appears in the Press calling for these applicants to be trained as midwives. When they have sent in the application, they are then required to sit an examination and on the results of that examination they are chosen. If none has been chosen from St. Philip, it does seem to me that they have not come up to standard.

Mr. J. C. MOTTLEY: I know for a fact that some have sent in applications but up to now have not heard one word more. As I have said, I have advised some of those girls how to fill in their applications and have written recommendations for them. Certainly there is something wrong, else they should have received further word.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: The honourable member is often in the Bank Hall District and I am sure the Matron of that Hospital would welcome a visit from you.

Mr. J. C. MOTTLEY: I will avail myself of the opportunity.

Mr. LEWIS: I too would like to know the answer and for the simple reason that we have to be very careful over appointments when it comes to the people of St. Philip's parish. You will remember, Mr. Chairman, that on a previous occasion no applicant from St. Philip could get into the Police Force and something drastic had to be done about it. I do not anticipate that a question of that sort may be the cause for none of the applicants of St. Philip for maternity training getting in at the Maternity Hospital, but it may not be a bad idea to get a list of the successful applicants over a period of time and see whether they all really came from St. Michael. I would not like to think that one parish has any advantage over the other. I hope it is not a care that because the allowacne is small the authorities are confined to accept people who live near the Maternity Hospital. I am not saying that has anything to do with it but you might find that they are not accepting people from the country when the allowance is insufficient. I am merely throwing out this as a suggestion so that the honourable member might be apprised of more of the situation. It is these little straws that will help the honourable member to see where the wind is blowing and may enable him to discover something.

The question that the sum of $33,182 be voted under this Head was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XX|V—BARBADJS REGIMENT

The Head and the total amount to be voted under it were called.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I beg to move that the sum of $50,016 bt voted under this Head.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to second that.

Mr. WILLIAMS: With respect to Head XXIV —I cannot find a specific item that I can pick out to speak on—I would like to point out that it appears to me as if we are not going to contribute to the West Indian Regiment which the Secretary of State for the Colonies has invited us to agree to. I do not know the Government's policy in this respect but I presume Government still intends to keep our Regiment going.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: On what item is the honourable member speaking?

Mr. WILLIAMS: The motion is that Head XXIV stand part and any honourable member can speak on that motion. It is true that for sake of politeness to the Chair you pick out an item and say you are speaking on that but it is not always practicable, therefore, if there is anything on which you wish to speak pertaining to the Head in question you can speak on the general motion that the Head stand part.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: That policy is for a second reading speech.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, I suppose the last remarks were not intended for everybody's ears. I am appealing now directly to those honourable members of this House who should know that our system is not completely on all fours with that of Great Britain to follow the practice that is in this island, as far as I have been able to gather from reading the debates of this House. It is known that in Great Britain you have debates on a resolution while there is a Committee comprising of members from all parts of the House of Commons discussing and making recommendations for financial matters coming to the House just as we have our Estimates Committee which precedes our laying of the Estimates. I am therefore asking Your Honour to rule. I am not saying this offensively but I am asking Your Honour to take up the book on Constitutional Law, which has reference to principles and practices and for authority to assemblies, which says that you can speak on the whole Head while speaking on the principle of the Bill or Resolution but you are not entitled to do so while in Committee. What the honourable member is doing is attempting to make new rules which are not rules of this House. For that reason I am asking Your Honour to rule that honourable members speak on a specific item to be voted. It is no question of courtesy; it is a question of rules that an honourable member should say: "Under Head so and so and Item so and so I am going to speak", and then proceed to make his comment, therefore, to say that you are doing so out of politeness to the Chair is completely wrong.

Mr. LEWIS: Mr. Chairman, I would like to say that there is not such a thing as a second reading speech. When the honourable member brought this House into Committee on these Estimates the motion was that the House go into Committee to give consideration on the Colonial Estimates for 1954-55. You will have an opportunity of speaking on all the Items when you are moving the second reading of the Appropriation Bill. So far as this is concerned, we are not moving a resolution. If the honourable Premier insists upon this sort of procedure, he will have to get up and say: "I beg to move that Item 1 stand part" and all of that which I consider would be nonsense. There are a lot of things which have grown up through practice but which are entirely incorrect. We are now considering the Annual Estimates by which we provide money for running the various Government Departments. Even with those Items which are fixed by law, we have to find the money to meet the obligation by law. When we get Supplementary Estimates—this is my opinion—the principle should be confined to the particular item that the Government is asking for an additional vote on. I would like to see that procedure insisted on.

The honourable junior member for St. Lucy is in my opinion trying to suggest something for the improvement of the department and if there is no Item on it, how can he speak on it? How can he suggest an improvement if there is no item on which he can speak? You must lose the opportunity of making the comment. It is not fair. We are entitled

to see after the running of a department and this is the only time of the year when we have the opportunity of talking on the running of the whole department; therefore, to rob honourable members of speaking on that is to reduce this House to absolutely nothing at all. You are censuring debate if you confine an honourable member to talk on a particular item. If there are 47 items under a Head and an honourable member wishes to talk on all he should be allowed to do so.

Mr. BARROW: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, there is only one other country in the world—

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Allow me to speak.

Mr. BARROW: Are you accepting directives from other honourable members?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I ask the honourable member to take his seat. Will the honourable junior member for St. Lucy proceed?

Mr. WILLIAMS: Mr. Chairman, if we proceed like this, one day you will find that we are going to run it like a Nazi concentration camp. As far as I gather the motion is that Head XXIV, —Barbados Regiment— stand part.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Will you speak on it? Do not argue otherwise.

Mr. WILLIAMS: Mr. Chairman,— As I have been informed by one or two persons whom I believe have applied at the Colonial Secretariat to get information in connection with joining the R.A.F under the technical Officers Cadetship scheme, I have come to understand that this scheme is opened to boys and the object is to recruit technical and scientific officers. The recruits do a university course at the universities of Leeds and London. This has been published in the Press in Trinidad but was not published here. I think the information should have been published here also. I have been informed that several applicants have requested information from the Colonial Secretary's Office and that that office was not co-operative.

As regards the question of a B.W.I. Regiment, Trinidad has considered the question of the resusitating of the B.W.I. Regiment and has decided that it is not willing to embark on it because of its financial implications. It is thought that some pronouncement should be made by the Government of Barbados on this matter and I can only state that if Trinidad is not particular because of the financial implications, it is very unlikely we can do so.

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman,— I would suggest that we add the amount of $5,000 which is to be voted for arms and ammunition under this Head to a similar item under Police and the result would be that you will get a total of $8,120 being spent on arms and ammunition. It also includes repairs and maintenance of rifles belonging to the Police Force. I only throw this out for honourable members' reflection. Just fancy in this law abiding community we are voting $8,120 for arms and ammunition.

Mr. LEWIS: With respect to Item No. 34, for Camp Expenses, it seems to me that every year the Regiment has a number of camps or bivouacs at Belleplaine and afterwards come for supplementary Estimates for transport or some such thing. Last year the net increase under that Head was $10,200 and now there is the increase of $7,476.

Mr. BARROW: I think it is high time that Government should make a statement of policy as regards its intention to support the idea of a West Indian Regiment. I know what the concensus of opinion of many of my colleagues is on this matter, but I think that other West Indian Governments are now in the process of making a declaration of their intention either to support or not to support the idea of a permanent West Indian Regiment. I hope sometime in the near future this Government will make some declaration of the matter.

The question that the sum of $50,016 be voted under this Head was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XXV—PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

The Head and the total amount to be voted under it were called.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I beg to move that the sum of $207,707 be voted under this Head.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to second that.

Mr. LEWIS: Under Head XXV, I would just like to make an enquiry from the honourable Minister in charge with regard to the policy that is to be pursued in respect of this Department. If one looks at the Estimates one would see that this Department is charged with greater responsibility, greater expenditure and things of that sort. What I would like to know is when this department undertakes to construct the buildings that have been provided under capital expenditure if they would be done by the department or will be given out on contract. Is it the policy for this department to construct all these buildings or would it be supervising some while they are given out on contract? I think it would speed up the building programme if some were given out on contract and supervised by the department.

Mr. J. C. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman under Item No. 27, there is the meagre amount of $50 to be voted for life-saving apparatus at beaches. I would like to know from the appropriate Minister what life-saving equipment can be bought with that amount. I really would like to know because the little I know of these beaches I see no life-saving equipment at any of them. Up to last Sunday morning a young boy was drowned at one of our beaches. If there were life-saving equipment or a permanent life-guard at the more important beaches that could never have happened. Government should see to it that at the important beaches, there should be a permanent life-guard with life-buoys at their disposal so that immediately as someone gets into distress while bathing someone could go out to them. The amount of $50 to spend on life-saving at our beaches is scandalous. There are many physical culturists in this Island who would be glad for a job. Those persons would make excellent life-guards and Government should provide some money for this purpose. What can $50 do in the matter of life-saving? It cannot buy two skeins of rope. I suggest that this Government view the danger of drowning at beaches in its true light and make provision to cope with it.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: I am sure no honourable member in this House would allow the honourable junior member for St. Philip to sing a solo in this respect. I certainly agree with his views because I know what he is saying is correct. If we are trying to develop our tourist industry and one of the means of developing it is by our offering safe bathing at beaches, it is absolutely essential that we do everything possible to see that no life is lost while bathing at them. It is true to say that every now and then people get into difficulties while bathing at some of our beaches and no assistance is offered. The amount of $50 to spend on life-saving is rather parsimonious and I thoroughly agree with the honourable member that the Minister in charge of this Head should do something further about it. I think we have reached the stage where Government could provide better protection in some way or the other at some of our

popular beaches. It will be money well-spent. We have plenty people who come here from Canada and the United States and they do not know anything of the current of the sea while bathing. There was a case in which one of these persons was lost while sea-bathing and his body was not found until days afterwards. I offer the honourable member strong support on this matter and I think every right thinking member of this House would agree with what he said. Government should note this suggestion and do something about it before next year.

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman,— Item No. 4, deals with Superintendent of Works for which the sum of $2,880 is to be voted. I am asking the honourable Minister in charge if the policy of Government remains the same in connection with providing work for labourers in the district where the work is being performed; in other words whether the work is being performed under the supervision of the Superintendent of Works in the parish of St. Lucy, whether the workmen from that parish will be given the preference. I do know that this has been for many years the policy of the Government and it was reiterated by Government in reply to a similar question by me when this House was discussing the Five-Year Plan but the reason why I bring it up again today is because with the advent of an Indian gentleman from British Guiana who is employed by this department, some people have mentioned it to me that he is making it difficult for those who come from outside of the metropolitan parish to get work with that department. I wish the honourable Minister in charge would either now or at some convenient time give an authoritative statement in connection with its policy on providing every opportunity in a district for the local workmen in a district where public works are carried out to get work. I would like him to make it clear that while it is true that the system of Government has changed there is no change in the expressed policy of the Government. Even if there is a change in the person of Superintendent of Works, whatever my be his policy in regard to this matter, he must carry out the policy of the Government though it may not appeal to him.

Hon. M. E. COX: I just want to assure the honourable member that the Government is pursuing the same policy of employing people in the area where the work is being carried out. So far as that is concerned there has been no alteration. If the honourable member knows of any change in that policy I would like him to state the case specifically and I would go into the matter as quickly as possible with a view to remedying the situation.

With regard to the point raised by the honourable junior member for the City as to whether Government intends that all public works be carried ou by the Public Works Department or that some be done by contract, I want to assure him that it has always been the policy of the Government that all the work to be done should be carried out by the department. Government has always felt and has stated in its policy—and I intend to make it crystal clear to the Colonial Engineer—that where foremen are employed by that department to assist in expediting construction of various Government buildings that they should be employed under the control of the department. I deplore giving out this type of work on contract and am more against it since I have observed what has happened some time ago at one of the Government buildings as a result of the work being done by some contractor. I am quite convinced that with the present expert, Captain Tomlin, who is in charge of Public Works Department, Government can get good work done by that department and better than if it were done on contract. We have the masons, carpenters and technical people in this Island and as I have said, it only needs employing some more foremen, carpenters and masons to carry out these projects. I have already informed honourable members that the construction of the Post Office at Oistins was completed in eleven weeks and to my mind that is record time when compared with what used to take place before. With regard to the point raised by the honourable junior member for St. Philip relative to life-saving apparatus and the case of a boy who lost his life quite recently while bathing at one of the beaches, I would say that it was regrettable that no life-saving apparatus was at the beach where he was bathing. I understand that the youngster was holding on to some inflated tire which took him out to sea. However, the question raised by the honourable member is very important and I will promise him to go into the matter to see that more and better provision is made than at present. However, at the Rockley and Cattlewash beaches, there is some little life-saving appartus.

The question that the sum of $207,407 be voted under the Head was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XXVI—PENSIONS

Head XXVI—Pensions—was called.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I beg to move that Head XXVI stand part.

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

HEAD XXVII—CHARGES OF DEBT

Head XXVII—Charges of Debt—was called.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I beg to move that Head XXVII stand part.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to second that.

Mr. LEWIS: In connection with item 18, "Local Loan Act, 1953", there is an amount of $90,000. Is this amount in respect of a loan which was raised in 1953? This is the opportunity of asking whether they intend to spend this money or not. I do not think this loan was raised in 1953; they should let us know if it is their intention to raise this loan during 1954. In 1952 it was said that this is money which has already been advanced from the Treasury; it was said that the money was urgently needed. They wanted to repay money and make advances on a sum of $6 million; they have not raised but half a million dollars and they are now puffing up the Estimates, well knowing that they are not raising any loan.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: By an Act of 1953 we authorised the raising of a loan of $2 million; I do not think this discussion is in order.

Mr. BARROW: I am not going to allow the taxpayers of this colony to be swindled. Either the Financial Secretary or the honourable member....

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: On a point of order. The term "Authorised by Law" is used generally; this is an Act of 1953 which we passed and if you can discuss that, you can go back and discuss everybody's salary. I have been hearing some remarkable things; I have heard that we can discuss every item which is authorised by law including salaries.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: As far as the law is concerned, I am following the Clerk and I rule the discussion on this item out of order.

Mr. BARROW: I am speaking on the Head "Charges of Debt".

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I rule the honourable member out of order.

Mr. BARROW: Then no item can be discussed under this Head and the taxpayers are being swindled. In the Estimates for last year these items were put in the column "To be voted", and are you robbing me out of my privilege of speaking because somebody has put these items in the wrong column? Am I to be robbed of the privilege of defending the people of this colony? Look at the Estimates for last year and you will see in the column "To be voted", $528, and so on. If that is a mistake, then it has been a mistake for many years.

Mr. E. K. WALCOTT: Earlier in the Estimates we were dealing with an item which was authorised by law; we were allowed to speak and discuss the question as to whether we could take off the sum of $8,000 or not. What has happened is that somebody has put the special heading "Authorised by Law" instead of putting the heading "Fixed by Law" and putting these amounts in the column "To be voted" with an asterisk calling to our attention that these amounts are fixed by law.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: If I may add this, if honourable members had just taken the trouble to look across the page they would have seen it brought forcibly to the notice of the House that there was a mistake made last year, but not this year. Right across the page honourable members will see this note: "Sinking fund contributions and interest on Government loans are charges on the General Revenue and are authorised by law. The amounts are therefore shown under the heading "Authorised by Law."

Mr. E. K. WALCOTT: The money has not been raised yet.

Mr. LEWIS: If I am ruled out of order I will bow; but I feel it is my duty to say that you cannot authorise the repayment of, or interest on, a loan which has not been raised.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The question is.....

Mr. LEWIS: The House is not passing anything under this Head; there cannot be any Appropriation Act in respect of amounts under this Head. I have in my hand a Bill which was introduced by the honourable senior member for St. Joseph and which is for the purpose of appropriating sums of money which have been passed in the Estimates. You can only put in an Appropriation Act money which has been passed in Committee of Supply, and this Head with which we are now dealing is in the Appropriation Bill. You are being misled, Mr. Chairman, and the evidence of it is that of the very people who are misleading you.

The question that Head XXVII stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative, a division being taken as follows:—

Ayes: Hon. G. H. ADAMS, Hon. Dr. CUMMINS, Hon. M. E. Cox, Hon. C. E. TALMA, Hon. R. G. MAPP, Mrs. BOURNE, Messrs. HOLDER, BRYAN and VAUGHAN —9.

Noes: Messrs. BARROW, LEWIS, WILLIAMS, F. L. WALCOTT, J. C. MOTTLEY, E. D. MOTTLEY E. K. WALCOTT and ALLDER—8.

Mr. LEWIS: I beg to move that Head XXVII be re-committed. I think it would be a very good gesture for us to have a few words on the points which have been raised so that we can have the position regularised in order that this Head can be an item to be put in the Appropriation Act. Mr. Chairman, if you yourself have said that there is nothing to be voted under this Head, and we nearly did not vote on it at all, we will find ourselves in great trouble when we come to consider the Appropriation Bill. In making this motion I have no intention of making any row about this matter; it is merely a question of having this Head passed in the ordinary way.

Mr. BARROW: I beg to second that motion; I do not want to insinuate that anything dishonourable has been done by the Administration or otherwise. An amount of money is allocated for the payment of interest on a loan which has not been raised, thereby depriving the taxpayers of this money. I do not think we can condone any chicanery in this House.

Mr. E. K. WALCOTT: It is either that we were wrong in voting on what is authorised by law or we are right now in voting on something which we are not allowed to discuss. In the column "Fixed by Law" there is no voting at all, but in certain cases in which amounts are put in the column "To be voted", asterisks are put against those amounts, and there is a note drawing attention to the fact that the money is to be paid from the amounts to be voted. In the vote for Customs Drawbacks it was drawn to the attention of the House that although the amount of $80,000 was authorised by law, still we had to vote it; all these items under this Head "Charges of Debt" are authorised by law, and there is no doubt about it that once there is no mistake in the items we have to vote for them because they were authorised by law. If there is a mistake in any of the items, if more money is required than what has been put down, then we have to alter the Estimates because the amounts required would not be what has been put down in the Estimates.

The honourable Premier might remember that many years ago it was held that although amounts were authorised by law you still had to vote them because they were not fixed by law and they had to be put into the Appropriation Act. The Appropriation Act says that these sums of money are required in addition to what are fixed by law for the service of the island. If you must vote on these items you must be able to discuss them; how can you vote in Committee on something which you are not allowed to discuss? That would be a negation of the whole point of an Assembly. If it is true that the money has not been raised, anybody on the Government's side should welcome the matter being brought to his attention; the amounts authorised by law still have to be voted.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I agree with all that the honourable member has said; you cannot get anything in the Appropriation Act unless you vote on it. As I said when introducing the Estimates, we have to consult with the Colonial Office and the Crown Agents as to what we should do as regards outstanding debts before we can get the London lenders to give us a loan for the Deep Water Harbour. I must thank the honourable junior member for St. James for telling us what he knows is the law from his experience. In this matter I cannot say anything more than what I have already said when I was introducing the Estimates; we cannot tell what the money lenders will say unless we talk with the Crown Agents.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: Are you still maintaining, Mr. Chairman, that we cannot debate the items under this Head?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I have ruled on the advice of the Clerk.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: I should like to draw to your attention the fact that under the Head "Customs" we had a two-hour debate on item 21, "Drawbacks General, $80,000", and the amount was authorised by law. How is it that we could debate an item which is authorised by law yesterday and today we cannot debate such an item?

Mr. BARROW: I am speaking on the motion that this Head be re-committed; what the honourable senior member for St. Joseph has said has got nothing to do with the loan of $500,000 which was floated in

this island last year out of the $2 million. I do not care how many conferences he has with the Secretary of State for the Colonies; it does not alter the fact that if we raise any loan the money will not be due until next year, and we should not be asked to vote the interest on a loan which has not been floated at all.

Mr. LEWIS: I am trying to help this House out of a difficulty. If you look at the Estimates you will see the line "Total to be voted", and the total to be voted is the amount to be put in the Appropriation Act. We have just passed the Head "Pensions" and you cannot tell me how much we have voted there; when we passed that Head we did not vote anything at all and every item is in the Appropria tion Bill. There is no "Total to be voted" under the Head "Pensions" and nothing is shown; I am ignored and abused when I try to give help. In these Estimates you have both the headings "Authorised by Law" and "Fixed by Law"; I drew attention to this difficulty a week ago when I made my speech on the Estimates. I am asking that these Heads be re-committed and let the honourable senior member for St. Joseph make a definite motion, that so many thousand dollars be voted under these Heads and let us have the amounts clear so that they can be put in the Appropriation Bill. One of the worse Heads in this connection is the Head "Pensions"; no total to be voted has been put in respect of this Head and the position is very misleading. I repeat that the honourable member will have to make a motion that a certain amount of money be passed under this Head. (Hon. G. H. ADAMS: You are confused). Once the Attorney General says that they are right, you are not man enough to say that any of them is wrong; it is only that honourable members will let you off. I would like to know who has drafted this Appropriation Bill; what are we going to vote under this Head? You cannot put in the Appropriation Bill an amount which has not been passed. In every other instance the total to be voted is shown.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The question is that Head XXVII be re-committed.

Mr. E. K. WALCOTT: The correct way to put the motion is that this Head be re-considered because we are in Committee already. I beg to move that this Head be re-considered.

Mr. LEWIS: I accept that amendment.

The question that Head XXVII be re-considered was put and resolved in the affirmative.

A division was taken as follows:—

Ayes: Messrs BARROW, LEWIS, MILLER, WILLIAMS, F. L. WALCOTT, BRANCKER, CRAWFORD, J. C. MOTTLEY, E. K. WALCOTT, GODDARD and E. D. MOTTLEY—11

Noes: Hon. G. H. ADAMS, Hon. Dr. CUMMINS, Hon. M. E. Cox, Hon. C. E. TALMA, Hon. R. G. MAPP, Mrs. BOURNE, Messrs. HOLDER, BRYAN and VAUGHAN —9.

Mr. LEWIS: I am suggesting that the honourable senior member for St. Joseph should regularise his motion by stating the amount which is to be appropriated under this Head. It is not set out here that any amount is to be voted at all. I am asking for information as to how much more of this loan is to be raised this year so that we can have some idea as to whether this money will be spent; I should also like to know if the honourable member can give us any idea as to when they expect to raise this loan. I understand that there was some difficulty in raising the other loan; I am suggesting that the raising of the rest of the loan be postponed and the money which has been sent out of the colony or earmarked for the Revenue Equaliqation Fund be recalled. At the same time I would like to know, since this Head has not been made up like the others in which the total to be voted is set out, what amount is to be set apart under his Head.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I will make one speech; I have already appealed to the House. Even the honourable junior member for St. James in his speech on the Estimates showed an abundance of reason when he said that we ought to forget that we are members of different parties especially in our going forward now for funds for constructing the Deep Water Harbour. We cannot possibly say at this time what we ought to do in order to make our case as good as possible; no human being can possibly say exactly what we ought to do having regard to our outstanding debts. Very delicate negotiations may have to be made in some quarters in this island even before we go to the Colonial Office; I therefore cannot say how much money we may be raising now or in the next financial year. I can foresee ourselves going to the Colonial Office.

The utterance of the honourable junior member for the City as to whether I can stand up to anybody is just worthy of him. The question of these items being fixed by law was carefully gone into by the Auditor General and the Financial Secretary; honourable members will find that the amounts under the Head "Pensions" are put this year in the column "Authorised by Law" with asterisks where they are fixed by law. In the past we used to put asterisks where the amounts were authorised by law and put at the bottom of the page the words "Authorised by Law'. Honourable members will see the explanation which is given in italics across the page. It says: "Where the amount of the pension is specifically stated in the law, the item is marked with an asterisk in the column "Authorised by Law". When you come to the Head "Charges of Debt", the items are put in the column "Authorised by Law" because none is fixed by law; the law authorises the payment of these things. You may be paying in a particular year so much interest and sinking fund or you may be raising something out of this $2 million. It is not a question of any advice from the Attorney General; anybody who is forgetting politics and think ing of the financial position of Barbados will accept what I have told him. Nobody can say now what should be our proper course as regards getting more of this loan in order to do what the Government considers is an A-1 priority.

Mr. MILLER: We operate as a Party and any request by any member of the Government Party for further debate on any matter should be permitted without any vote. If there is any insinuation by the Premier which would have any effect on the Harbour Scheme, there will not be any debate whatever. I am aware that this $90,000 would probably lapse in the Treasury; if the loan were not affected there could not be any question of the payment of interest. The honourable member could have given the faintest insinuation outside the House and we would have supported his idea; anything about the Harbour Scheme would be accepted as a revelation on high. I want to say that there is nothing wrong in any supporter of the Government asking for further debate on any Head of the Estimates.

Mr. BARROW: I agree entirely with what my colleague has said; if the members of the Government Party had been taken into the confidence of the Cabinet we would have sat down here and be willing accessories to working out something about the Deep Water Harbour.

Mr. MILLER: To insinuate that the Government was working out something on the Colonial Office sounds very undignified in this House.

Mr. BARROW: I am not saying anything about what the honourable Premier has said; what my colleague has said has led me to the conclusion at

which I have arrived. If we had been taken into the confidence of the Government, we would have accepted the position if we were convinced that the objective which was aimed at would be achieved by going about it in this fashion. I do not want to embarrass the Government in any way; on closer inspection it appeared that a mistake had been made and I still have some reservations as to the manner in which the matter has been handled up to now. The position is such that we could not conclude they were saying what our financial state is. If they allow the Financial Secretary to present the Estimates in this way it may have the opposite effect of what they want to achieve. I do not see that any of the underwriters in the City of London would be so ignorant as not to do a little research into the matter and find out what the commitments of Barbados are; the lower our interest payments are, the better is the likelihood of our raising a substantial loan on the Deep Water Harbour. There is no point in indulging in recrimination and I think we should pass on to the next Head of the Estimates.

Mr. CRAWFORD: The Premier has said that the loan for the Deep Water Harbour will soon be launched. In one of the appendices on page 164 of the Estimates, the position is outlined with regard to the Barbados Savings Bank funds; we have in the hands of the Crown Agents over $12 million. We have to pay the Crown Agents to invest this money for us; in order to get a loan to finance the Deep Water Harbour, we have to pay the Crown Agents and I am wondering whether it would not be possible for us to use some of the Savings Bank's deposits in order to finance the Deep Water Harbour, and give the investors debentures for the amounts advanced from the Savings Bank's deposits. It seems to me that if we are going to pay money to the Crown Agents both ways when we have $20 million which they are playing with, some of the money might be utilised for the purpose of financing the Deep Water Harbour and give the local depositors first consideration. It seems to me that that is a point which the honourable Premier may well raise when he goes to London; there is no reason why the hard-earned savings of Barbadians should be utilised for development outside the colony and we should pay for its so being utilised. And the interest which we get will be far less than what we have to pay on the money which we borrow outside.

Mr. LEWIS: All that the honourable senior member for St. Joseph has said has nothing to do with the point which has been raised under this Head; it was pointed out that we were not passing anything under this Head at all and then the honourable member would have found himself in great difficulty when he came to deal with the Appropriation Bill. However, with all this strategy, I would like to ask; what is the object of putting in your Estimates that you are paying out $90,000 towards a debt which you have not raised? You are fooling people that you are paying out interest. To put down that you are paying $90,000 on a loan which you have not drawn is to show people that your commitments are so high that you cannot be given a loan. I hope that the Estimates will be made up in a better way in the future; if I ask what is the amount voted under the Head "Pensions", the honourable senior member for St. Joseph will not be able to give me the answer. He will know the amount which is voted under any other Head.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: When I am accused of not letting members of the Government Party know something, the "Advocate" newspaper carried what I said. When it comes to the question of how much money we would be borrowing this year, it would be impossible to say because of the Deep Water Harbour.

Mr. E. K. WALCOTT: I do not appreciate that you could raise interest before you get a loan. No one will refuse to do anything which the Premier might want done. If you are paying money half-yearly you would only want a half-year's payment. If you can have an advance you usually get it out of the balance which is in the Treasury, and having got it, you make the necessary application for the sum of money to pay the interest on the loan. It seems to me a most extraordinary procedure to ask for a sinking fund of 1½% on a loan of $2 million if you have not got the loan. What the law authorises is a sinking fund on a loan which has been raised; you must have the loan before you can know what the sinking fund is.

The question that Head XXVII stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XXVIII—SUBSIDIES AND GRANTS

Head XXVIII — Subsidies and Grants — was called.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I beg to move that Head XXVIII stand part.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to second that.

Mr. LEWIS: I would like to make a few remarks under this Head. As I said on a previous occasion, I hope that we are keeping a watch on this vote so that we will not allow it to go up. Some of the local institutions to which we are giving grants may be doing good work but we cannot leave them in here because they were here on a previous occasion. The Government is contributing $33,290 to the Publicity Committee which deals with tourism and it is claimed that the Government was not giving good assistance to the tourist industry. The honourable junior member for Christ Church can supply figures as to what private enterprise is doing for the tourist industry; when we are concentrating on building a Fire Station in Bridgetown, is that not a good thing for the tourist industry? I think that private enterprise together with the Government should pull its weight and let us have their figures as to what it is doing. In recent years I think the Government has puffed up this vote substantially.

Mr. BRYAN: I am speaking in connection with item 10, "St. Patrick's Roman Catholic School". I am glad to see that the Government has shown tangible appreciation of the valuable work which is being done at this School. There are over 900 pupils at this School and these pupils are not only of the Catholic Faith but of all denominations; these pupils are given a free, hot meal daily and about 80 of them are given bread and cocoa on mornings. I have had the privilege of seeing those meals being given and I am sure that they are of good quality. While I welcome the increase of the grant to this School, I am somewhat worried over the decision given by the Government when an application was made for assistance in the re-building of this School. This School was in such a very bad condition that some of it fell in and it was completely abandoned.

At the beginning of last term they adopted a shift system at the school whereby the junior children were taken on mornings and the older children were taken on afternoons. The result of that system was that on evenings the junior children were left on the streets and the beach and on mornings the older children were left on the streets and the beach. In order to take these children off the streets and the beach, the wood from the old school was used in the construction of huts and it is in these huts that these 900 children are being educated. I feel that the Government should have met this application on a 50-50

basis. I remember that in our Estimates we voted money annually to send out a shooting team to Bisley, we sent up a representative to Helsinki and in this case the Government has refused to help in building this school for these children. We have to bear in mind that this is a free school and the reason given for the refusal to help with its rebuilding, namely, that a precedent would be created, does not hold water. I want to make an appeal to the Government that they reconsider this case and do something tangible to assist this worthy cause.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: The honourable member has been comparatively mild but I cannot agree with him that the Government's refusal in respect of work of a capital nature would not be a question of a precedent being established. With a limited purse you do not want to open the door to other private schools in the island to come to the Government and say: "Build schools for us as you have built for the Roman Catholic people."

In respect of the tourist industry, I do not think the honourable junior member for Christ Church heard the appeal that was made, otherwise he would quote the figures. With the constant attacks which are made in the "Advocate" newspaper about the Government not helping tourism, I think it is the duty of the Government to quote some figures. According to the figures for this year, the estimated revenue contributed from hotels, residential clubs, guest houses and furnished bungalows is $1,269; from airlines and steamships, $520; and the estimated contribution from other sources make a total of $5,600. In one year we had to threaten private enterprise and yet day after day we are told that this Labour Government has not got sense enough to see that the tourist industry is our next best industry to the sugar industry because we would not do anything to help it.

Mr. GODDARD: Our organisation has just printed a booklet which costs $5,000 which has been contributed from the hotels in which we are interest- and the business which we have in Bridgetown. We invite people from Canada and put them up at our hotel; that is an expense to us and it is in the interest of Barbados that we advertise Barbados abroad in our own way. If you add all these things together the amount would probably be $15,000 which we are spending on advertising Barbados. In Jamaica they spend something like half a million dollars in this matter of advertising. When the honourable member talks about this $33,000 which we are spending, does he know what income tax the hotels are paying and contributing locally in Christ Church? It is about time that they wake up to the value of the tourist industry; even in the matter of employment we employ 175 people at our hotels. We will continue to press for the tourist industry.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: To suggest that the Government is doing nothing in this matter of tourism is to imply that we leave it to the poor hotel keepers who employ 175 people and the general merchants to pay a substantial sum as compared with what we are doing. This Labour Party has never said that it is opposed to tourism; this Labour Party says just the reverse in its Manifesto. What we have said is; "No Bahamas, no Bermuda"; from the birth of the Labour Party down to today you cannot find any statement to the effect that we are opposed to tourism as such.

Mr. E. K. WALCOTT: I am the oldest member of the Publicity Committee. I have been really surprised to hear what the honourable member has said tonight I cannot believe that he believes what he has said. The tourist industry is of value to people of every walk of life and to the country as a whole. I thought the honourable member would have said that they would turn the Publicity Committee into a Department and run it as a Government Department. The honourable member has said that the Labour Party is in favour of tourism as has been set out in its Manifesto; if the Government is in favour of tourism, it should support tourism to the limit of its ability irrespective of whether anybody else is contributing or not.

An attempt was made some time ago to draw to the attention of the Governments down here that when we get the tourists here there were about 10 to 15 different types of persons who were benefiting from the money; the money is brought to the country and all you have to do is to get it. I believe that the Premier is as hot an advocate of tourism as anybody else; one hears that the writer in the "Advocate" is in close contact with the Premier and we hope that is so; at one time he is praising him and at another time he is doing otherwise. But whatever the position is, do not let us injure the island on account of that. I believe that we should encourage tourism to the limit of our ability; I am trying to make an appeal; I believe the Minister of Communications went away as an opponent to tourism and he came back a hot advocate for it. Somebody says that that is the way to turn a man into an advocate; I suppose the honourable Minister is as strong an advocate of tourism now as he was when he came back. Do not let us bother about one class of people in the country failing to give a few thousand dollars more than the Government would like to extract from them; if tourism is for the good of the country, then let us encourage it, otherwise you would have to say that the planters must pay for the Agricultural Department.

I believe that the only reason why the Government has not granted more money to the Publicity Committee is because, at present, they have more urgent matters in front of them. First things must come first, but they believe that the question of tourism must be an early consideration and in due course we must tackle the question and spend a great deal more money than we are now spending in trying to get more people in this country. I believe that the hotels are full this year and we may not need more money until we introduce the legislation which has been introduced in other colonies, namely, a Hotel Aids Bill, to allow facilities for building new hotels. If there is this new trade to be made every facility should be granted to assist people in building hotels where they may be needed. I hope that nobody will discourage the Government from increasing this grant and I hope they will press on the Publicity Committee and find out how much money they think they should spend in encouraging tourists to come here.

Mr. CRAWFORD: In reply to the honourable senior member for St. Joseph, I would say it is a fact that the amount spent by the Government in promoting tourism is in comparison with the amount spent by hotel proprietors on the publicity of the Island abroad, but nobody in his right senses would say that hotels only stand to benefit from tourists coming here. Therefore, to say that hotels benefit from this money which government is spending on advertising the island is tantamount to saying that taxi drivers and stores in Broad Street should also contribute to any money spent on advertising the Island abroad because they too benefit from the tourist industry. I do agree with the honourable member who said that perhaps there are more important things which need attention and therefore, first things should come first, but I can think of no matter more likely to bring immediate improved economic conditions to the Colony than an increase in our tourist traffic. Every single island in the British West Indies is publicising itself abroad with a view to increasing its tourist industry. They have come to find out that

it can be one of the chief sources of increased revenue. Just the other day we had a Canadian Director of Tourism over here and he quoted figures of the millions of dollars which the Canadian Government spent annually to publicise Canada abroad and to attract tourists to its shores. Here we have the most natural advantages to be found in the Caribbean and there is no colony in the British West Indies which can offer what we can to the tourist. With what we have to offer we should be spending four times as much as we are now spending in publicising the colony.

Mr. BARROW: I know members are wishing for an adjournment now but just allow me to ask the Minister of Communications to shed some light on Item 20, British Caribbean Civil Aviation, for which the amount of $2,672 is voted. According to the note, this amount was formerly paid to the Director General of Civil Aviation, which post has been abolished by consent. I will really like to know if with all this amount of money that we are voting annually, if only one company or air-line, B.W.I.A. Ltd., is to be guaranteed the right of transport in this region. The post of Director General of Civil Aviation has been abolished and as far as I know, no substitute for that office or no successor has been appointed.

One other thing. I think that the $6,624 which is to be voted to the B.W.I. Meteorological Services is far out of proportion to the benefits which we get out of that station. As a matter of fact, the information which we get from the Codrington Experimental Station is of more value to us than what we get from the B.W.I. Meteorological Services.

Mr. VAUGHAN: I notice that the sum of $8,912 is to be voted to the Baby Welfare League, Christ Church Baby Welfare League and all those social services which are listed from Item No. 24 — No. 34. I would like to tell the honourable Minister of Soci Services that those organisations are all very worthy of what is to be given them and I do hope that the amount in each case will be more next year. I hope to see them increased by 50% by the time that the next Estimates are compiled.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: I did not hear clearly what the honourable junior member for St. John said just now. I would be glad if he would repeat what he said, but before he does so, I am asking the honourable junior member for St. Michael, to act as Chairman for a few minutes, in the absence of Mr. Chairman.

(Mr. Chairman left the Chair and the honourable junior member for St. Michael took the Chair.)

Mr. VAUGHAN: I was saying, Mr. Chairman, that Items No. 24—34 are all very worthy objects from the point of view of social welfare for the total sum of $8,912 which is to be voted to them. I would like to see the amounts which are voted to them increased at least by 50% and I hope that the increase will be put in next year's Estimates. There are also two baby welfare creches, one at St. Margaret and the other at St. Mark which deserve some contribution from Government.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: I did not want to speak on this occasion and particularly because any matter which concerns the Minister of Social Services and I happen to draw to his attention privately something pertaining to it, he usually listens and offers all the help he can. However, I cannot resist mentioning publicly that if you take the amounts from Item No. 24 to Item No. 34, you will find that the amounts to be voted are very meagre indeed for the particular social services that are rendered. If you look at the Item No. 34, New Haven Day Nursery, you will see the amount of $120 is to be voted. I think it is a shame that we should give so little to this organisation. I observe that the first lady of the land only just a few weeks ago in a speech suggested that more should be done in respect of social work in this community. It is public knowledge that unless a few ladies who have banded themselves to carry out this very difficult work do so, nothing will be done. You can see them day after day walking around begging for help. It is hurtful to say that we have a Social Welfare Officer who should be shipped out of the Island. Unless she can dominate the situation, she tries to wreck what is being done. It is publicly known that she is an avowed atheist Quite recently when the Y.W.C.A. came into being, she refused to take the oath and because she was not allowed a prominent position she tried to wreck it. These things should not be so. I hope that the Minister of Social Services would take a personal interest in these matters and would look into recommendations made on behalf of these social welfare organisations himself.

Mr. BARROW: I do not want to delay honourable members from going home but as every honourable member knows, the honourable Minister of Social Services was married to one of the most public-spirited women in the Island and I wonder if he is aware of the money it takes to finance these voluntary clinics. It is known that we cannot look to our present Social Welfare Officer for any good recommendations in this respect. As a matter of fact, she has gone on record to say that the one way to solve over-population of Barbados is to stop any two members of a family from getting Government Scholarships. I am suggesting to the honourable Minister of Social Services that the amount to be voted by the Government to these various social services should not be given on the recommendation of the Social Welfare Officer. Government should give an out-an out vote. I would suggest that a vote to cover double the amount that is set here for the purpose should be given. There should never be the idea of giving on a basis of the amount the organisation collects, that is you must collect $480 before you are given $480 by Government. All work of this nature is provided free of charge under the National Health Service. We should do as much as we can even although we cannot provide as much as a National Health Service. I cannot think the one stumbling block towards social outlook in this colony is the Social Welfare Officer and quicker we can remove the stumbling block the better would be our social service in this direction.

(The honourable junior member for St. Michael who was acting as Chairman, left the Chair and Mr. Chairman took the Chair.)

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: I, too, Mr. Chairman, wish to speak on Items 21 to 24. What comes to my mind about the working of social organisations such as those for which Government is voting money is that we have enough public-spirited people in the colony who can be of valuable assistance to the Government on social matters if they work together as a Central Council. I have visited some of these Councils while I was in England, and as a result, I have some experience of the work they do and the assistance they are to the Local Government in social matters. You will note, Mr. Chairman, that while there may be some system for granting money to these organisations, guessing from the differences in the amounts, if you ask any honourable member in this Chamber why the New Haven Day Nursery has been given $120, or why the Boys' Scout Association has been given $784, he will be unable to tell you definitely the reason. Even if you ask the Government about these things someone may tell you that the amounts were granted for the past few years, but would not be able to tell you whether in the light of what happened last year to either of them, whether the amount granted them should be increased or re-

duced. For reasons as that, some organisation of the people themselves is necessary. I well remember that Mr. Howard Hayden, the former Director of Education, made an attempt to do something of that nature but, unfortunately, he left the island before he could implement the scheme, I do feel, Mr. Chairman, that some consideration should be given to the formation of a Council out of these bodies so as to assist Government on matters pertaining to their functions. I would therefore ask the Minister of Social Services to take note of any suggestions.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I would like to tell honourable members who made comments cn these various social welfare organisations that I have already taken steps to re-organise the entire system as to the giving of grants to them by Government. (Cheers). I may also say that according to the information I have been given, these grants to organisations like, say, the Children's Goodwill League and Creche, are given in the basis of the number of children which they are helping.

(A VOICE: That's not true; you have been given the wrong information.)

As regards the point raised by the honourable junior member for St. John with respect to the St. Mark and St. Margaret centres in St. John being granted aid by Government, I have been informed that the Social Welfare Officer has made several visits in an attempt to find out if any social work was still carried on by them but could never find any person carrying on them and for that reason, she was unable to recommend anything for them. As I have said, I have already taken steps to reorganise these social services and I hope that the next time we come to deal with this head, honourable members will find things on a different basis. (Cheers).

Hon. M. E. COX: In reply to the question raised by the honourable senior member for St. George with regard to the services of the Directorate General of Civil Aviation, it is true to say that the office has been dispensed with but in its place an Air Transport Advisory Council of the West Indies has been set up. Sometime in October last a conference was held in Barbados which was attended by Controllers of Civil Aviation throughout the West Indies and they agreed to the formation of this Council, and as a result, it is still necessary to put some amount in the estimates under this Head to defray the necessary expenses which will arise from time to time when the people on that Council will have to attend various conferences.

The question that the sum of $381,869 be voted under this Head was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

On the motion of Hon. Dr. CUMMINS, seconded by Hon. M. E. Cox, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported progress and asked for leave for the Committee to sit again.

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

THE ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker, I have consulted several honourable members as regards our meeting tomorrow to continue consideration of these Estimates and some of them have intimated to me that they are desirous of attending the Races but probably can come at 5 o'clock in the evening. We are hoping to finish consideration of these Estimates tomorrow. I therefore move that this House do now stand adjourn until 3 o'clock p.m. tomorrow afternoon.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: I beg to second that.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I am making an amendment to that motion. I beg to move that this House do now stand adjourn until Tuesday, 16th instant at 12 (noon).

Mr. GODDARD: I beg to second that.

The question that the House do now adjourn until Tuesday next, 16th instant at 12 (noon) was put and resolved in the negative, the House dividing as follows:—

Ayes: Mr. LEWIS, Mr. ALLDER, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY, Mr. E. K. WALCOTT and Mr. GODDARD—6.

Noes: Mr. SMITH, Hon. G. H. ADAMS, Hon. Dr. CUMMINS, Hon. M. E. Cox, Hon. C. E. TALMA, Hon. R. G. MAPP, Mr. HOLDER, Mr. BRYAN, Mr. BARROW, Mr. MILLER, Mr. WILLIAMS, Mr. F. L. WALCOTT, Mr. Mr. BRANCKER, Mr. J. C. MOTTLEY and Mr. VAUGHAN —15.

The question that the House do now stand adjourned until tomorrow, at 3 o'clock p.m. was then put and resolved in the affirmative without division and Mr. SPEAKER adjourned the House accordingly.