

THE House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SESSION 1954—55

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 23rd August, 1955.

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

Present:

His Honour Mr. K. N. R. HUSBANDS, (*Speaker*); Mr. J. E. T. BRANCKER, Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS, M.D., C.M., (*Minister of Social Services*); His Honour Mr. A. E. S. LEWIS, (*Deputy Speaker*); Hon. M. E. COX, (*Minister of Communications, Works and Housing*); Mr. L. E. SMITH, J.P., (*Chairman of Committees*); Mr. F. L. WALCOTT, O.B.E., Hon. R. G. MAPP, (*Minister of Trade, Industry and Labour*); Mr. F. C. GODDARD, (*Leader of the Opposition*); Mr. F. E. MILLER, Mr. J. A. HAYNES, B.A., Mr. J. C. MOTTLEY, Hon. C. E. TALMA, (*Minister of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries*); Mr. E. W. BARROW, B.Sc., and Mr. J. C. TUDOR, M.A.

Prayers were read.

Mr. BRYAN entered the House and took his seat.

MINUTES

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

VACANT POST OF CLERK

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to remind the House that the last date for the receipt of applications for the vacant post of Clerk of this House was last Saturday, 20th August, and that six applications for the Post have been received.

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Speaker, may I enquire what you propose to do in this matter of the appointment of the Clerk?

Mr. SPEAKER: The appointment is one for the entire House. Some hon. member can have the matter set out on the Order Paper so that it can be dealt with on some future occasion.

Mr. ALLDER and Mr. VAUGHAN entered the House and took their seats.

PAPERS

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, I am commanded to lay Message No. 24/1955 from His Excellency the Acting Governor to the Hon. House of Assembly informing the hon. House—

Mr. LEWIS: I rise to a point of Order. I got the impression that this meeting was being held to-day for a particular purpose. I am asking that that matter be clarified, because it is not usual if the House meets for a special purpose to lay Papers and so on. I could have brought in a Question but I got the impression that it would not have been allowed to-day. It is true that an Order Paper has been circulated with all the Items on it, but I got the impression that this meeting was to be a special one.

3.25 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: I drew it to the Clerk's attention that the Hon. Premier had moved the adjournment of the House for a specific reason and I hope the Clerk's records contain that word. I asked the Clerk to note that the Hon. Premier had used the word "specific". I distinctly remember having heard him say that, and I remember distinctly asking the Clerk to note it.

Hon. M. E. COX: I do not want to object to Your Honour's ruling, but I want to know if Your Honour is objecting to a Message being laid on the table of the House to-day.

Mr. SPEAKER: If the House is meeting for a specific reason I will rule against it.

Mr. LEWIS: Mr. Speaker, if you will permit me to explain myself, I got the impression that we have a post to fill. We have mentioned in our advertisement that the successful applicant may be asked to assume duties as from 1st September. Now we entirely put ourselves in the wrong by appointing someone to act for the whole of September. If you ask the applicants to send in their applications by the 21st August and you are holding a meeting on the 23rd August, at least something relating to it should be on the Order Paper. I thought that this was the specific purpose for which the House had been adjourned.

Mr. SPEAKER: The last meeting of the House was adjourned for a specific purpose.

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, if I am permitted to speak at this stage—

Mr. SPEAKER: I rule that this meeting has been called for a specific reason and that no other business should be done according to former precedents of this Assembly.

Mr. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, if I am in order, I beg to move that the House do now adjourn for half an hour.

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

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

4.58 p.m.

On re-assembling.

Mr. SPEAKER: In order to give the House a resumé of what happened when the adjournment of the House was moved on the last occasion, I now have access to the record from the Acting Clerk, and it reads as follows:—

“Hon. G. H. ADAMS moved, seconded by Hon. M. E. COX that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday next, the 23rd instant, at 4 p.m. in order to deal with any amendments which might be made by the other Place to any measure.”

That is the motion. There is evidence that this House adjourned until today for a specific reason; and I specifically drew that to the attention of the Acting Clerk so that he might act accordingly, irrespective of what some honourable members care to remember, which is none of my business. Furthermore, the Reporter who took down the motion for

the adjournment was not here this afternoon, but he has promised me to get his notes as quickly as possible to confirm what I have just read out to honourable members. I hope that that satisfies this House.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker, may I ask if you have received any Amendments from the Other Place to any Bills?

Mr. SPEAKER: No Amendments have been received by the Acting Clerk. He has made efforts to discover whether there were any Amendments from the Other Place.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: In view of Your Honour's ruling and there being no Amendments sent down by the Other Place, I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday, the 20th September, 1955, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

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

Mr. GODDARD: May I suggest to you, sir, that the consideration of the appointment of the Clerk be put on the Order Paper for the next meeting of the House?

Mr. SPEAKER: That will be done.

The question that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday, the 20th day of September, 1955, at 3 o'clock p.m. was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER adjourned the House accordingly.

5.35 p.m.

THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SESSION 1954—55

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 20th September, 1955

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

Present

His Honour Mr. K. N. R. HUSBANDS (*Speaker*); Mr. J. E. T. BRANCER, Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS, C.B.E., M.D., C.M., (*Minister of Social Services*); Mr. W. A. CRAWFORD, Hon. M. E. COX, (*Minister of Communications, Works and Housing*); Mr. L. E. SMITH, J.P., (*Chairman of Committees*); Mr. F. L. WALCOTT, O.B.E., Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY, Hon. R. G. MAPP, (*Minister of Trade, Industry and Labour*); Mr. T. O. BRYAN, Mr. F. C. GODDARD, (*Leader of the Opposition*); Mr. O. T. ALLDER, Mr. F. E. MILLER, Mr. J. C. MOTTLEY, Mr. E. St. A. HOLDER, Mr. V. B. VAUGHAN, Hon. C. E. TALMA, (*Minister of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries*); Mrs. E. E. BOURNE, Mr. J. C. TUDOR, M.A.

Prayers were read.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that the Minutes of the Meetings held on the 5th, 12th, 14th, 19th and 26th July, and the 2nd, 9th, 16th, 18th and 23rd August, 1955 have been printed and circulated and unless there be any objection these Minutes will be taken as read and confirmed.

Mr. TUDOR. Mr. Speaker, with respect to the Minutes of the meeting of the 5th July, I am going to ask that they be postponed until the House meets next. There are one or two inaccuracies in them which I think should be straightened out before they are taken as read and confirmed.

There being no objection, leave was granted for the postponement of the Minutes of the meeting of the 5th July.

There being no objection, the Minutes of the other meetings were taken as read and confirmed.

BILL RETURNED

Mr. SPEAKER. I have the honour to inform the House that I have received the following from the Other Place:—

*The Legislative Council
To*

The Honourable The House Of Assembly

The Legislative Council have the honour to return to the Honourable House of Assembly the Bill intituled

“An Act to make provision with respect to the Housing of persons of the working classes and other classes and for the purposes connected therewith,” which was passed with an amendment which is shown written on the Bill.

J. D. CHANDLER

President.

Legislative Council Chamber, 1955.

VACANT POST OF CLERK

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that the following applications have been received for the vacant post of the Clerk of the House of Assembly:—

Mr. A. E. S. Lewis M.C.P.
Mr. Lionel C. C. Hutchinson (Librarian and Secretary)
Mr. J. Philip Brown (Solicitor)
Mr. J. M. Hewitt
Mr. H. O. St. C. Cumberbatch (Solicitor)
Mr. G. Rocheford

PAPERS LAID

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, I am commanded by His Excellency to lay the following Message No. 24/1955 from His Excellency the Acting Governor to the Honourable the House of Assembly informing the Honourable House of the offer to the 'bus concessionaires of 15% rebate of the cost of petrol per gallon consumed solely for operation purposes of the buses operating on service routes.

The Message reads as follows:—

Message No. 24/1955

*His Excellency the Acting Governor
to*

The Honourable the House of Assembly

His Excellency the Acting Governor has the honour to inform the Honourable House of Assembly that as the result of the recent negotiations with the bus concessionaires an offer of 15% rebate (subject to review) of the cost of petrol per gallon con-

sumed solely for operational purposes of motor omnibuses operating on service routes has been made to the bus operators. It has been made clear to them that the offer is subject to legislative approval and would have to be reviewed at stated periods of, say, three months, having regard to the following:

- (a) improved service;
- (b) cessation of competition from "pirate vehicles";
- (c) varying factors to be taken into consideration as they affect individual operators, e.g. the number of drivers and conductors employed, the frequency or otherwise of the service, the number of vehicles in use;
- (d) the production of proper accounts by the concessionaires to the satisfaction of the Director of Highways and Transport.

2. It is also considered that the 15% rebate and the cessation of "pirate" vehicles will enable concessionaires to take care of all operational costs including increased wages.

3. It is not possible at present to calculate the funds that will be required to meet the rebate which has been offered, but as soon as the figure can be arrived at, it is proposed to approach the Honourable Legislature for the necessary amount.

(Sgd.) R. N. TURNER,
Acting Governor.

Government House,
Barbados.

23rd August, 1955.

(M.P.—3025/S. 4 Vol. IV.)

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker, I am commanded to lay on behalf of the Hon. Premier the following:—

Message No. 25/1955 from His Excellency the Acting Governor to the Honourable the House of Assembly regarding the establishment of an Oceanographic Research Station in Barbados.

Statement showing Gross Customs and Excise Receipts for four months ended 31st July, 1955.

Statement showing Gross Customs and Excise Receipts for the five months ended 31st August, 1955.

Report of the Conference on Training in Public and Business Administration.

Report of the Income Tax and Death Duties Department for the year 1953—54.

Report of the Accountant General for the year 1954—55.

The Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) No. 6 Order, 1955.

The Civil Establishment (Part-time Officers) (Amendment) Order, 1955.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: I am commanded to lay the following:—

The Exportation (Drawback of Duties on Cylinders containing Locally Manufactured Gases) Regulations, 1955.

The Public Utilities Regulations, 1955.

Hon. M. E. COX: I am commanded to lay the following:—

Statement of Post Office Advances for payment of Money Orders to 31st May, 1955.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I am commanded to lay the following:—

Statement of Accounts of Dodds Plantation for the crop years 1952/53 and 1953/54.

REPLIES

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. Cummins for the Premier:
Reply to Question No. 9. asked by Mr. E. W. Barrow

regarding the Police Canteen and Grocery.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: (For the premier): Reply to Question No 52 by the honourable junior member for St. Lucy regarding the wages of janitors employed in elementary schools.

Hon. M. E. COX: Reply to Question asked by the honourable senior member for St. Lucy on the 26th of May regarding nationalisation of Public passenger transport. (*Cheers*).

NOTICES

Government Notices were given as follows:—

Hon. Dr. H. G. CUMMINS: (For the Premier). Resolution to authorise the Governor to enter into an agreement to pay the present holder of the post of Superintendent, Public Market, salary at the rate of \$4,800 per annum with effect from the 1st of April, 1956.

Hon. Dr. H. G. CUMMINS: Resolution to place the sum of \$2,075 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to supplement the Estimates 1955—56, Part II, Capital, as shown in Supplementary Estimate 1955—56, No. 25, which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

Resolution to place the sum of \$4,291 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to supplement the Estimates 1955—56, Part I, Current, as shown in Supplementary Estimate 1955—56, No. 26, which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

Resolution to place the sum of \$7,050 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to supplement the Estimates 1955—56, Part II, Capital, as shown in Supplementary Estimate 1955—56, No. 27, which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

Hon. Dr. H. G. CUMMINS: (For the Premier): Resolution to place the sum of \$600 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to supplement the Estimates 1955—56 Part I — Current, as shown in Supplementary Estimate 1955—56, No. 28, which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: (For the Premier) Resolution to place the sum of \$18,455 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to supplement the Estimates 1955—56, Part I, Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimate 1955—56 No. 29 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: (For the Premier) Resolution to place the sum of \$40,200 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to supplement the Estimates 1955—56, Part I, Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimate 1955—56 No. 31 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

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

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: (For the Premier): Resolution to approve the Order entitled "The Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) No. 6 Order, 1955."

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: (For the Premier): Resolution to approve the Order entitled "The Civil Establishment (Part-time officers) (Amendment) Order, 1955."

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: Of my intention to move the House into Committee of Supply at its next meeting in order to consider the Money Resolutions of which notice has just been given.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Resolution to sanction "The Customs Tariff (Conditions for Special Exemption from Duty) Regulations, 1955."

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: (For the Premier):

Bill to amend the Income Tax Act 1921 so as to grant tax relief to persons who legally adopted children.

Bill to amend the Guardians, Executors, Administrators and Trustees Act 1891.

Hon. M. E. COX: Bill to make provision for the control of advertisement.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Bill to amend the Old Age Pension Act, 1937.

PRIVATE NOTICES

Mr. TUDOR:—Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following Address:—

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

The House desire to draw to your Excellency's attention the great loss of earnings suffered by workers in the Sugar Industry, between annual crops seasons.

2. The House also desire to remind your Excellency of the relatively better position of the Sugar Producers, who may enjoy full financial security as to profits, Price Stabilisation, and the Rehabilitation of their Plant.

3. The House is of the opinion that steps should be taken to remedy this irrational circumstance by the enactment of *Sugar Wages Equalisation* Legislation based upon negotiations between the representatives of the Industry and the Government.

4. Accordingly, the House respectfully request your Excellency to take all the action necessary to give immediate effect to this desire.

QUESTIONS

Mr. SMITH:—To enquire of the Minister of Social Services:—

1. Is the Government aware that a Petition was forwarded in December 1952 and again sometime later this year to the Secretariat from certain Government Pensioners, praying that Government take the necessary steps with a view to effecting an increase in the amount of their pensions?

2. In view of the apparent high cost of living and the meagreness of the amount of their pensions, will Government take necessary action to provide for a reasonable increase to these pensioners?

Mr. BRANCKER: To enquire of the Minister of Communications, Works & Housing:—

1. Is it within the knowledge of the Ministry that certain Sugar Workers of the parish of St. Lucy who had been assured by the Officers administering the Labour Welfare Funds, under the Labour Welfare Funds (Housing Loans) Regulations 1950, that, provided that each such Sugar Worker deposited not less than one-quarter of the cost price of a Boarded and shingled house (to be erected by a private Contractor) with such Contractor, that upon completion of the said building—the Fund would provide the full balance outstanding for the said Chattel house?

2. Is the Ministry aware, in respect of at least six persons from St. Lucy, apart from other parishes, now that the said houses have been completed and the deposits in full have been duly paid, the Officer administering the said Fund has refused to release the amounts as guaranteed or any portion thereof?

3. Does the Ministry realize that a number of houses thus completed are unoccupied and awaiting the release of such Funds?

To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:—

Whether attention of Government has been drawn to advertisements in the Local Press during last week under the caption "The Barbados Police—Police Constables" stating that Candidates for vacancies in

the local Constabulary must, amongst other things be unmarried and possess the School Certificate of Education (General Certificate) Ordinary Level?

Will Government draw to the attention of the Commissioner of Police the section in the Police Act 1908 (1908-2) relative to enrolment of Constables, and in particular to minimum educational qualification therein set out; with a view to ensuring strict compliance with the Law?

3.45 p.m.

SELECT COMMITTEE REPORT

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I beg to lay the Report of the Select Committee appointed to consider and prepare a draft Reply to His Excellency's Message No. 19/1955 relative to the formation of a West India Regiment.

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME

On motion of Hon. M. E. COX seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA the Bill to make provision for the control of advertisements was read a first time.

On motion of Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS seconded by Hon. M. E. COX the Bill to amend the Income Tax Act 1921 so as to grant Tax relief to persons who have legally adopted children was read a first time.

On motion of Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS seconded by Hon. M. E. COX the Bill to amend the Old Age Pension Act 1937, was read a first time.

TWO MONTHS' LEAVE FOR MR. GODDARD

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Speaker, I am asking that leave be granted me for two months as from today until the 22nd November.

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

VACANT POST OF CLERK

Mr. Cumberbatch Appointed

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker, I propose to deal with the Item first before the Orders of the Day.

Mr. SPEAKER: The first Order of the Day is to consider the applications for and to make an appointment to the post of Clerk of the General Assembly.

Mr. BRYAN: Mr. Speaker, I beg to propose Mr. H. O. St. C. Cumberbatch to fill the vacant Post of Clerk of this House.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Cumberbatch is well known to members of this House. He is a Solicitor of five years standing and I am sure that hon. members know of his ability; I have no doubt that he is quite capable of performing the duties, especially if we were to add to that his knowledge of Parliamentary procedure both on theory and practice, he having acted in this Chamber on several occasions to his own credit and to the satisfaction of members of this Chamber. I therefore take pleasure in proposing him to fill this post.

Mr. BRANCKER: I beg to second the motion of the hon. junior member for St. Michael.

I have been a member of this House for 18 years and throughout that period I have been impressed that the duties of the Clerk of this House can only be most efficiently performed by one who has the professional qualifications of a Barrister or a Solicitor; not merely because it is a tradition of this Chamber that

the holder of that office has been for over 100 years a member of the legal profession, but because during the tenure of the last Clerk of whom so much has been said but yet not enough, and his immediate predecessor, one has always found that when it comes to their training and qualifications, (particularly one who legally trained) you can go to them for assistance of which members of this Chamber must at sometime or the other stand in need.

Sir, there are only two members of the legal profession (both of them of the junior branch of the legal profession) who are applicants for this post. They are Mr. H. O. St. C. Cumberbatch and Mr. Philip Browne. Mr. Browne does not seem to be very keen. With his five years' experience as a Solicitor, with the extensive practice which he has acquired during that time and which he has performed with such efficiency, I have no hesitation in prophesying that there would be no worthier successor to the late Mr. Dudley Lee Sarjeant than Mr. Cumberbatch.

I think I can say that it is a matter of regret to many of us that Mr. D. A. Banfield did not see fit to apply for this position, but we do know that the emoluments of this position have not the slightest attraction for him. I only said that because I think we owe him a debt for acting as Deputy Clerk so often and so efficiently. Sir, next to him acting in that capacity is Mr. Cumberbatch, whose nomination I am proud to have to second. I commend him, Mr. Speaker, to a unanimous vote of this House.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I want to say before I begin that it will not be a unanimous vote, because I am rising to nominate my colleague, the hon. junior member for the City, Mr. A. E. S. Lewis. At the outset, I am going to cross swords with the senior member for St. Lucy in what he had to say about a barrister or solicitor can only perform the duties of Clerk of this House efficiently.

I have nothing against Mr. Cumberbatch who has a right to apply, but I would be failing in my duty as a layman to let the hon. senior member for St. Lucy get away with the utterances which he made that the duties of Clerk of this House can only be done efficiently if the person is legally trained.

This House must be different from other parliaments in the world. No precedent will be made in the British Empire if a non-solicitor or non-lawyer is appointed Clerk of this House because the Clerk of Parliament of Northern Ireland is neither a lawyer or a solicitor.

3.55 p.m.

Now, sir, I am proposing Mr. A. E. S. Lewis, because after being in here for many years hon. members know his experience and capability; and I doubt whether anyone be he lawyer or anybody else would say when it comes to procedure and being able to do the work as Clerk of this House, that any lawyer could do it any better or even as well as Mr. Lewis. The argument used by the hon. senior member for St. Lucy that you should have a man whom you can get to guide you on legal principles, etc., is true; but it would not apply in Mr. Lewis's case because the Deputy Clerk is a Solicitor of outstanding merit for some 25 years; and with a Deputy Clerk and a Clerk who has the flare and the know-how and the experience, I do not think the House could go wrong in appointing Mr. Lewis.

I do not think, Mr. Speaker, that I need make any speech for the simple reason that I believe that every hon. member has come to this Chamber with his mind made up as to whom he is supporting; therefore, it we should make speeches until 4 o'clock in the morning

nothing we said would change the minds of hon. members.

I would not have said anything beyond that of proposing Mr. Lewis, if the hon. senior member for St. Lucy had not stated that the duties of the Clerk could not be performed as efficiently by a person other than a Solicitor. Not only do I consider his ability for the post of Clerk of this House but there are other things as well; therefore I should be failing in my duty if I did not (although I have no reason to be jealous of any lawyer and I say that with a clear conscience) propose Mr. Lewis.

If this means anything, I am asking hon. members to bear in mind that no precedent would be created in supporting the hon. junior member for the City whose ability and experience and whose particular flare for doing this type of work would fit him admirably for this office which he would perform with credit and distinction to all Barbadians. I am not surprised that the hon. senior member for St. Lucy should have taken the stand which he has taken in defence of his very hon. profession.

Finally let me say this to those learned minds around this table: as far as I am concerned in nominating the junior member for the City for this Post, I do it with a full sense of responsibility and a very clear conscience; and I want hon. members of this Chamber to realise that I above all members of this House have no fear whether the junior member gets it or not; for the simple reason that the only chance they would have of interfering with my seat is when some of their wishes have taken effect in my going to the Great Beyond.

I want to say here now that what the junior member for the City is doing in applying for a job is nothing more than what 99.9 per cent of the lawyers of this country has done; and if he fails he might be going into good company with a lot of others who have failed. I have much pleasure, therefore, in proposing that the post of Clerk of this Hon. Chamber be given to Mr. A. E. S. Lewis.

In doing so I should like to remind hon. members that there is absolutely nothing in what the hon. senior member for St. Lucy has said (and Your Honour will say whether I am right or wrong) when I say that this will not be the only place, and we are not taking as an example Carriacou, Bequia, Barbuda or any such place that has not appointed a lawyer as their Clerk.

Mr. Speaker, you have seen and you know that some lawyers, not trained in a particular branch of the law would be useless as Clerk of this House. Some Solicitors even though trained if they did not have a particular flare for this job would be useless as Clerk of the House. Some lawyers might pass examinations and cannot spell; and those of us around this table who have not had the opportunity of going to the University may be obliged to have somebody to help us to do this; therefore there is no reason why because you are a lawyer or a solicitor and have not got a flare for parliamentary and constitutional law that you would be much good in here. A lot of people we know who have passed bar examinations one could give \$60 a month for their wig and gown. Mr. Speaker, once again I have much pleasure in proposing that Mr. A. E. S. Lewis be appointed to fill the vacant post of Clerk of this House.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, in rising to second the motion made by the hon. senior member for the City, I do so with great pleasure but at the same time stripped of all my delusions. I do not think that there is anybody here who feels that the question of merit is being given its due weight; and it is unfortunate that in at least one of the speeches which we heard so far, it has become necessary to elevate one at the expense of the other five.

I think that each of us is already settled in his mind as to what he proposes to do. It only remains

therefore, that all of us who have horses to ride so to speak, to show the support they want to give in respect of the horse they think is best.

I think that it is true to say that all of the six gentlemen who have applied for this vacant post, Mr. A. E. S. Lewis knows by far the most about the job, and it can further be said that he is the person in whose hands we could comfortably place it without a tremor that anything can go wrong.
4.05 p.m.

He knows more about parliamentary procedure if that is required than the rest of us, and I think that even his bitterest enemies if he has such, would concede that to him. It is unfortunate, too, that it has come about that certain changes have been made in the status of this particular job as a result of certain amendments which were passed by this House; and it is ironical to note that one of the applicants in whose favour certain amendments were made will not now even enjoy the distinction of having his name proposed. [Laughter]. That is why I said that I had lost all my illusions.

It only goes to show that whatever considerations are uppermost in hon. members' minds, the question of merit is not pre-eminent. However, on any showing, the application of Mr. A. E. S. Lewis deserves, I think, the most minute consideration in view of the fact that he is an old and trusted member of this House, he has unrivalled knowledge of its proceedings and because of the attitude he will display in the execution of his duty. I therefore have great pleasure, Mr. Speaker, in seconding the proposition made by the hon. senior member for the City.

Mr. SPEAKER: Are there any other proposals?

Mr. ALLDER: I am suggesting that we should have a secret ballot; I therefore formally move that the vote be taken by secret ballot.

Mr. TUDOR: I beg to second that.

Mr. CRAWFORD: I am now satisfied in my mind that the decision of the House to lower the traditional standard for appointment to his post was not dictated by consideration of ensuring that for appointment to this vacancy the best qualified candidate be available. It is now abundantly clear that when the House by a majority vote decided to put on record that the person to be appointed to the post of Clerk of this House need no longer be a legally trained man, that was done—

Mr. SPEAKER: At this stage I should warn the hon. member that he must not reflect adversely on a decision of the House save for the purpose of rescinding that vote.

Mr. CRAWFORD: I have absolutely no desire to reflect on any decision of the House. All I am saying is that normally one would expect that a House which had by a majority agreed to so radical a change in the traditional procedure, would expect that the same majority on this occasion of proposing an appointment to the vacancy would have proposed a non-legally trained man for the position. Yet, today we find proposed by the same people who instituted this change, a man with legal training.

I have absolutely no quarrel with the decision to appoint a legally-trained man to the post, because I myself felt that there should not have been any break in the tradition; but at the same time I cannot help observing that apparently there must have been some far greater influence at work which today has induced hon. members (who, just a few weeks ago, were insisting on having a non-legally trained man) to be convinced today that a legally-trained man is necessary.

I think it is to be generally conceded that in the nomination of His Honour the Deputy Speaker (although not a legally qualified man, if he is elected to the post) the House would have a man who is fully capable, equipped and most efficiently able to execute

the duties attached to the post. There can be absolutely no doubt in the minds of hon. members of this Chamber that His Honour the Deputy Speaker would ably fill the post.

Well from the manner in which things are going, it is obvious that this question has boiled itself down to an affair of politics. It is not a question of obtaining the best qualified man for this post; it is a question of ensuring that a certain applicant is not appointed; and therefore forces have been joined on the part of those who want a legally-qualified man and those who do not want a legally-qualified man merely to ensure that a particular candidate is defeated. There must be some reason for it and there could be no other conclusion than that there is a strong fear somewhere that there must not be any vacancy in this branch of the Legislature now, or that there must not be any bye-election in Barbados at this time.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member is really going outside the motion which is before the House.
4.15 p.m.

Mr. CRAWFORD: I am merely trying to satisfy my own doubts. I do not think that consideration to questions of being afraid of results of a bye-election should influence the action of this House on such an important occasion.

It is well that the public should be aware of these things, because it was the consensus of opinion outside that when the House of Assembly decided to make this change in the qualifications of this Post it was because the majority party wanted to support the Deputy Speaker. Now, sir, the fear has gone forth that under no circumstance must the Deputy Speaker be appointed because under no circumstance must there be a bye-election; therefore we see people who by their own showing on the floor of the House less than two months ago committing themselves to appointing a non-legal person—

Mr. SPEAKER: I do not think any member of this House is committed by any resolution of this House to vote for a non-legal person.

Mr. CRAWFORD: I mean that they endorse the principle. My recollection is that their insistence on the insertion of this alternative in the report was due to the fact that the alternative was a guided motive of the manner in which they should vote.

Sir, if the Majority Party in the Legislature have four fifths of the session behind it presumably with a record of work and presumably with all that public support which it boasts, it should have no apprehension in facing a bye-election; therefore why the fear of that Party being afraid to face a bye-election at this time?

In so far as I am concerned with ensuring that the business of the House is carried on by the Clerk as traditionally efficiently as possible, I hope that whatever happens there shall be appointed to the post someone who would efficiently perform the duties which are attached to the office.

The question that the House proceed with the appointment of the Clerk by means of a secret ballot was put and resolved in the negative the House dividing as follows:

Ayes: Mr. SMITH, Mr. TUDOR, Mr. ALLDER, Mr. HAYNES, Mr. GODDARD and Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY—6.

Noes: Hon. Dr. CUMMINS, Hon. M. E. COX, Hon. C. E. TALMA, Hon. R. G. MAPP, Mrs. BOURNE, Mr. HOLDER, Mr. BRYAN, Mr. MILLER, Mr. BRANCKER, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. J. C. MOTTLEY, and Mr. VAUGHAN—12.

Mr. SPEAKER: In accordance with Rule 17 of this House which is the only guide the first proposed would be put first.

The question that Mr. H. O. St. C. Cumberbatch be appointed Clerk of this Chamber was put and resolved in the affirmative, the House dividing as follows:—

4.25 p.m.

Ayes: Mr. SMITH, Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS, Hon. M. E. COX, Hon. C. E. TALMA, Hon. R. G. MAPP, Mrs. E. E. BOURNE, Mr. E. ST. A. HOLDER, Mr. BRYAN, Mr. MILLER, Mr. BRANCKER, Mr. J. C. MOTTLEY, Mr. VAUGHAN, Mr. ALLDER—13.

Noes: Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. TUDOR, Mr. HAYNES, Mr. GODDARD, Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY, Mr. BARROW—6.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question has been decided in the affirmative 13 hon. members voting "Aye" and six hon. members voting "No" I now declare the "Ayes" have it. I also declare that Mr. H. O. St. C. Cumberbatch has been appointed Clerk of this hon. Chamber.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this appointment take effect as from 1st October next.

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

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that this appointment take effect from 1st October next, hon. members in favour of that please say "Aye" and those against please say "No", I think the "Ayes" have it.

EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE BILL

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to move that Order No. 1 be postponed and Order No. 2 be taken as the first Order of the Day instead.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this Bill as set out in the Objects and Reasons is to place the operation of an Employment Exchange Service on a statutory basis as is the case in the United Kingdom. As hon. members are aware, there is an Employment Exchange service at present operating in this island. It is now housed in Synagogue Lane; it is not operated on a statutory basis; and since its existence it has been maintained administratively by the Labour Department. That exchange Mr. Speaker, up to some months ago was not used as fully, certainly as most of us or at least I would have liked either by would be employees or employers.

Recently the Labour Department has been trying to make it very useful by having more employers use the Exchange for purposes of obtaining any labour which they may require. It has met with some success. There is also the fact that formerly and for some years now, the Exchange used to register people for the emigration scheme to the United States; now the United Kingdom scheme has been added and there is an extra burden on this Exchange. It is now being used more extensively and in fact there is a very great deal of pressure on the existing staff of the Exchange; thus it may be necessary as time goes on to enlarge the Exchange and add more staff.

I think hon. members will agree that it is useful indeed to have an Exchange. We are trying to impress upon employers that an Exchange saves inconvenience and worry and that it would be far better for them if they use the Exchange in seeking to employ labour.

Hon. members will remember that some time back a Swan Street merchant was employing labour and a fair section of the street was blocked by those seeking employment. If that employer had used the Exchange services he would have had the advantage of using all its conveniences and such a thing would not have resulted. The response is however encouraging and more employers and workers are registering as a result. Heads of certain departments who

use labour have been required to use the Exchange. That in itself is an incentive to people out of work to register instead of having to go to people who indulge in favouritism etc.

It is far better to register at the Exchange; and so long as they are qualified, those who have registered would be given the first preference in the event of vacancies. This practice is being carried out by the Highways Department and the Waterworks Department. They also are requested to go to the Exchange in the case of casual labourers. When they are laid off for two weeks they do not have to register; but after that they are obliged to register. Hon. members will therefore see that the practice of registration applies even to Government Departments.

As hon. members will know, Employment Exchanges are a useful medium in all countries in collecting data as to the number of people who are out of work, the number of people who are looking for work, and how many vacancies there are; and it proves a very accurate medium too, in obtaining information of that sort. We hope that in process of time (it may not be necessary to have more than two Exchanges) it may be that this Government may be able, through its Employment Agencies to have at its fingertips quite accurate information as to the number of people who are looking for jobs and the number of jobs available.

4.35 p.m.

We feel that by having statutory provision for Employment Exchanges and putting it on a statutory basis, this information would be more readily available; and the use of this Exchange or any Exchanges to come would be more extensive in the future.

Hon. members will see from paragraph two of the Objects and Reasons of the Bill that through this Bill the Government will have power to authorise grants and loans out of funds provided by the Legislature to assist persons travelling to places of employment outside of the island. Employment Exchanges will therefore be a useful means of helping people to emigrate abroad. I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I beg to second that.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I take the opportunity in dealing with this important Bill to offer a few suggestions on the question of unemployment to the Government. Sometimes, when the Opposition make suggestions we know that some Ministers seem to take umbrage rather than take our suggestions in good faith. This Bill has a lot to commend it; but I will deal with the last paragraph of the Objects and Reasons which state this:

"Power is also given to the Governor-in-Executive Committee to authorise grants and loans, out of funds provided by the Legislature, to assist persons travelling to places of employment outside of the Island." I take it therefore that this Bill touches upon a most important matter, a matter which is engaging the attention of persons in every home to-day, that is emigration.

I do not claim that in this matter I can speak with any greater authority than any other member of this Chamber; but I can claim that I have been getting as many statistics as I possibly could get on this entire question. I suppose it is due to the fact that I am in the metropolitan parish; I represent the City and it is so easy for people to get to me, I am not yet in a position to be isolated, so that I can speak in some respects with a little more authority than some honourable members.

On this question of Employment Exchange I say that this Bill has a lot to commend it, and I am very glad to see that this effort is being made because

you cannot help hearing rumours and listening to them. At times there is nothing in the rumour; you have people being selected to go to the United Kingdom and you get rumours of people pushing forward somebody. If you have not got a chance and somebody else who is not employed gets a chance, it does not matter; what matters is that somebody who is an employee and who can benefit from going abroad gets a chance. I repeat that this Bill therefore has a lot to commend it.

I have taken the opportunity to discuss this matter with the Hon. Minister of Labour, but I want to make a few suggestions publicly on this question of employment outside the island. The one thing operating in the minds of most people today is: "Can my husband, sister, wife or child get out of the country today?" That is the question asked on every bed, on every pillow.

It has been said that the people of this island will hardly sell their belongings just to get the passage money; it is a fact that people are getting rid of their chattels, lands, cows, etc.; only last week somebody said to me that he has never seen so many people offering cows for sale just to get their children out of the island.

I am urging that the Government reconsider its policy on this question of granting loans to people to go abroad. As far as I am concerned, for me to tell you how many people for whom I have actually signed bonds, I would be lying because I really cannot remember.

This matter has been engaging my attention for some time and there seems to be no set policy with officials from this point of view. One could never believe (I have spoken with the Minister of Labour on this matter) what are the instructions given to Officials. I have had the case of a man, a father of a girl who was selected to go abroad. The Government is lending people a portion of the money and then you have Officials saying that you must have somebody else to sign the bond other than the fathers. If this man is the father of the girl that should be sufficient.

In this case it is a master plumber who wants to get his child out; he cannot get the bond signed and the child cannot get out of the island. You have another case in which somebody is told that he must have somebody owning land to sign the bond.

If you are asking that of everybody who is going away, it is only one out of every two thousand people who knows of anybody who has land and who can sign a bond. If you are doing that, it seems to be a matter of keeping people back here; they are people who all they have is their integrity and their brawn. I am asking the Government to see that that policy should be changed; that is the sort of official red tape which is going on.
4.45 p.m.

As a matter of fact, I actually took this matter up with the Queen's Solicitor and discussed it with him. I was wondering whether he would have said that; I do not think he would.

A man who might be a carpenter or mason, all that he has to show is a two-roof house; but he has raised two or three children. He may not have even \$25 in the Bank but he has a good name.

I ask this Government to let the policy remain to the general public where as soon as you select a person and you are satisfied of his *bona fides*, he can get this money.

Let us look at it this way: do not let us fool ourselves that Government is going to get back 100% of the money which it loans out for this purpose; but we do know that the island is going to

benefit by the scheme, therefore, I suggest that that part of your policy be changed.

There is another suggestion which I have. I will be the first to readily agree that you cannot on this question of emigration just set up an office and say: "Who want to go to England, come and we will loan you money." I am saying that you must do so in a way that the general public can benefit from your scheme. You really cannot dish out money merely so. As a matter of fact, I have been advocating to people going up to England that they set a standard so that the people in England would say: "We want Barbadians in preference to East Africans or anybody else."

What I want to suggest to this House is that you should advertise in the Press that you are only lending money to the few who satisfy you that they got or actually will get a job in England. I am asking the Government to review that policy.

In my capacity as Chairman of the Westbury Cemetery Board, a few days ago I started to build a wall and I wanted about 30 persons to do the job; and I can tell you that if I did not get about 400 to 500 people applying, I did not get one. Let me say that in my capacity as Churchwarden I know that the money which I have to spend would be over spent under all the Heads; and I hope some of the members of this House who tried to get me locked up for it on the last occasion would attempt to do so on this occasion.

Let me just say that it is inhuman to see people unemployed without your trying to give them a job although you know that the law does not give you any power to deal with unemployment. For God's sake, how can you see young able-bodied men whom after you investigate their complaint, and you find that the facts which they state are correct, with out your giving them some employment. You cannot tell them to go in the Almshouse after they tell you that they do not have anything to give to their family or that they cannot bury their children, or things like that.

If I may be allowed to digress for a moment, Mr. Speaker, let me say it matters not to me who gets the credit for doing this. What matters to me is that when I see the sufferings of this community I must do something to help remedy it.

I have often said in this Chamber that we differ on a tremendous lot of things, but we are like one's fingers of one's hand when it comes to emigration and unemployment. Therefore, if you are saying that you are only lending money to those who show prospects of getting a job or who have got a job, I submit that you should do away with that policy.

It is a fact and it cannot be denied, that there is no question of there being an unemployment question in England; they just want people to work there. Can you find anyone person who has just gone to England who cannot get work? Already, you have seen results from the people who have left here and gone to England.

It is not good enough merely to say: "I would only lend you money if you have prospects of a job or you have got a job." It is well known that the intelligence of Barbadians is such that it would take no time at all to learn how you do things in a highly industrialised country. Those of us who have lived in America when the Civil Rights Bill came up for coloured people to learn to do things in factories realised that in order for them to do so they just had to be able to read and write. Therefore, I suggest to Government to set up something whereby it will be able to do something to assist persons other than those who merely have jobs.

Why I say that is because as you know, there are just a few who can say: "I have got a job."

I received a letter from England a few days ago, which stated that Dr. Pilgrim an old Barbadian—

4.55 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am going to warn the honourable senior member for St. George who is about to leave the House of Rule 51 which applies to members of this House.

I am going to read Rule 51 for the benefit of honourable members of the House. Rule 51 reads as follows:—

"Every member is to be uncovered when he enters or leaves the House, or moves to any other part of the House during a debate, and is to make an obeisance to the Chair in passing to or from his seat."

I observe that the honourable senior member for St. George has on more than one occasion during this debate broken that rule. Although he has already left the House, I have taken the opportunity to draw it to the attention of honourable members; and I will have at some future time to remind the honourable senior member for St. George of this Rule.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: I know someone who said that they had met a certain Dr. Pilgrim, an elderly Barbadian, and he said on the question of placing Barbadians in England that they could place them in batches of 50 at a time in hotels, restaurants and other unskilled jobs.

Now, everyday, because of my position in the metropolitan parish, I come into contact with boys and girls who have just left school and women, (I do not mean 'Ne'er-do-wells') I mean people who are just rusting out for want of employment; that is why I am making these suggestions to the Government.

I know that the Government is at present waiting on Jamaica and some of the other islands to set up some scheme or other, whereby they could have some sort of organisation in England for the purpose of facilitating the employment of West Indians there. But I am putting this to the Government: the problem of unemployment is not as acute in Jamaica and Trinidad as it is in Barbados. I suggest that we of this Legislature would be very willing to support that measure; but this Government should not wait on Jamaica or Trinidad.

While you are waiting on them, every now and then you can see in the local press, statements to the effect that 1,200 have already gone to England from Jamaica. [A VOICE: Who is sending them?] I am not saying that the Jamaican Government is sending them; but I am saying that they are actually going.

The Hon. Minister of Trade should realise this: a hungry man is a desperate man. Some time ago a man from St. Lucy came into my office and said to me: "I have been to the United States and made some money; I have a son at the Coleridge school; but I have not worked for some 15 months and the only solution now left to me is to sell my house."

Another man from St. Joseph. [Mr. SMITH: What part of St. Joseph?] The Spa. [Laughter]. There is not the slightest tint of sport in this matter. Thoughts of it have been causing me to lose sleep, and I am beginning to wonder what to do. That is why I am suggesting that the Hon. Minister of Trade should not wait on Jamaica.

This Chamber, I repeat, would willingly support Government if they took steps of their own. Could you not set up a Committee to establish some scheme

whereby the Government could make loans, not only to those persons who can show that they have prospects of a job in England, but also to extend that help to those persons who can show that they possess the necessary characteristics and the will to work.

I do not subscribe to the idea of taking people who are already in work and helping them to go to England, but what is worrying me more than anything else is the number of young women who are either out of work or have not yet known what it means to hold a job, but are willing to work. There are those who can manage to get placed on the Nursing scheme and Domestic scheme; but I am thinking of the great majority in the other categories who need urgently to be considered.

It is for this reason that I am constantly asking the Government not to wait on Jamaica, but to set up some liaison office of its own to look after such matters. I do not want the Government to form the impression that we believe that they should take a Ne'er-do-well who does not really want to work. It is understood that the emigrant has to work. I agree that on the other hand you will find some who just want to go to England on a trip.

There is another matter which has, and still is engaging my attention, and I am sorry to see that honourable members who would be able to advise me on it are not present this evening. As I said before, this matter has been engaging my attention for sometime. I have not got the facts definitely; but the passage to England (I am not speaking of those persons who are going on holiday) is on an average of \$300 to \$325. I am sure that the Hon. Minister of Trade will agree with me that that is correct.

The number of persons at present going from this country to England is fairly large; and this is going to continue for another 3 to 4 years; therefore it means that a tremendous lot of money will be going out of this country by way of passages.

I am making this appeal to the honourable member who is also a member of the Regional Economic Committee: a passage of \$300 for the average man is really more than he can afford to pay; you, for instance, have the passenger liner called the *West Indian* and you have agreed to place it on the route between Barbados, Jamaica and England; (I will not say very much more about that); you are contributing from the taxes of the people of this country; and I want to say now that the common man of this country would benefit more if that proposed Committee could work out a scheme whereby they could, on an average, reduce the passage rate from Barbados to England from \$300 to \$200.

I am making that suggestion to the Hon. Minister of Trade, and although it may sound foolish, I consider that they could find some means of reducing the passage rate between Barbados and England. No one would expect that the Government could help everybody who wanted to go to England.

Mr. Speaker, I took pains in preparing and writing these notes to which I am now making reference. I know no less than 14 people who wanted from \$40 to \$100 to make up their passage money to England. It is surprising to know the number of people in various walks of life who cannot find \$40 to give their sons or daughters to make up a passage to go to England. I have specially noted the amount: from \$40 to \$100; and the remarkable fact was that these people were prepared to sacrifice their very souls in order to get their children out of this island.

Not only do I suggest reviewing the policy of setting up some organisation whereby you can say, help some people to get jobs. Our problem of unemployment does not rest with the skilled people, but with the unskilled people. The unskilled unemployed cannot say: "I have a job"; therefore let us get right down to the bottom of the unemployment problem; and this embodies, not the unskilled man this time, but the youngster leaving school, willing to work and unable to find work. That is the type for whom I am asking help; the help of being able to get out of this island to England, remembering, of course, that he must pay back any money lent to him.

On an average, \$360 seems a tremendous lot of money to emigrate; that is another reason why I am suggesting that you should review your policy. It would be of one million per cent. more good (if it is doing good now) to the common man in Barbados if some other passenger liner like the *West Indian* were placed on the route between Barbados and England.
5.05 p.m.

It would do a lot more good if you could so work out the position that that ship or some other ship could run between Barbados and England; we could well send out 10,000 people. I need not have the Labour Departments statistics for that; it would be worth our while.

Everyone remembers the years 1946 and 1947 when we had numbers in the United States of America; there was nothing in Bridgetown which was not sold because the people sent back their money here.

I hope the Hon. Minister of Labour will consider that the main thing today is to see how you can help those persons who cannot show any evidence that they have a job but we are willing to work. They have the characteristics, the character, the necessary willingness and the ability. We, together with the other islands are paying for this "West Indian" and I submit that taking into consideration the trade between the West Indies, it would serve this island much better if the ship were taken off and used in the manner I have mentioned.

I am wondering if the Hon. Minister could put up that suggestion to the R.E.C. We have in this country young men and women who could go out and find work; we will be willing to subscribe to any scheme which the Government would have. You could charter a boat for one year and get these people out. The crops would still be reaped, the sugar would still get shipped and everybody would be better off. The question of getting cheap labour is in the hands of the Union. When people go out of this colony they send back money and it reaches the hands of the Hon. Leader of the Opposition.

You have five portfolios today and none of them engages the attention of the people, in fact, all of them put together do not engage the attention of the people of Barbados as much as the portfolio of the Hon. Minister of Labour. It is a question of unemployment.

The particular thing would be for the Government to work on a scheme whereby you could effectively reduce the fare from Barbados to England. You cannot get any passages between now and February.

I must say that it is the solemn duty of the Minister especially after what happened last week, when those persons were left here, to look into the matter. The agent of this company is a personal friend of mine; and I say it is not the treatment which should be meted out to the people of this

colony. If you know that you only have berths for so many people in this island—Well the only people who do that is B.W.I.A., who will sell 500 tickets for only 200 people and they are still drawing a subsidy from this colony.

It might appear that this does not come under the notice of the Honourable Minister, but I say that this is the business of the Minister. I say let the Minister put his foot down on that matter. You cannot tell people to get ready to go aboard a ship at 3 o'clock in the morning and then send them back like cattle.

It so many people are willing to go back home, what is greater than the suggestion I have made to the Minister that he should go into this matter even if it is necessary to charter a ship to take the people out? You could even reduce the fare. I think this Bill has a tremendous amount to commend it, but in the circumstances I think it is necessary for the Minister without any further delay to come to the rescue of the people.

When I saw in the Press that the Principal of the Modern High School had been sending out people, I wanted to know exactly what was happening. Not only is this gentleman doing a great service to this country, but he has gone further; and in relation to the number of girls who can get to England to study Nursing, he has got a class for those who want to learn English and he has a class of about 500 being taught biology so that they can get on the first round of the ladder in respect of Nursing. Does the Minister realise that that is something which is worthy of his consideration?

A point I would like to make is this. Recently I took up a Diocesan Magazine and read it. I saw a Minister of religion, I think it was the Vicar of Boscobel, at the Baggage Warehouse with a tremendous lot of people. I read in that Diocesan Magazine in the Parish Notes, that he had secured four places in a Hospital in England and had sent up four members of his congregation. He is not a learned man and I thought of what a shining example it was for other Englishmen.

I thought it was a wonderful example for Government English Officials to follow, because, a lot of them are trying to dissuade people and using insulting remarks to them. When you come to this House you cannot stop me from saying these things.

I saw one of the Ministers writing in the Press and trying to dissuade people from going out to England. I saw in the *Evening Mail* in England that the streets are not paved with gold. The Ministry of St. Augustine's is telling people that they must not go out and what hardships they will meet; but little Rev. Johns could find that he could send to a Hospital four girls and he was at the Baggage Warehouse at three o'clock in the morning trying to get them out. What a shining example to others.
5.15 p.m.

That is the type of Englishman who will make Englishmen to be always respectable to Colonials; but some whom you have been getting here; some whom you have encouraged here, should be shipped, tarred, feathered and burnt. That is the type whom I say public praise and recognition are due. To English people who come in our midst and accept our hospitality and salaries, it is their solemn duty to do all they can to place our boys and girls in that country.

I must say that rather than do that, some, from those at the Hospital right down the line, use insulting remarks to dissuade our boys and girls from going there. With all those obstacles, our boys and girls

are still going to get there. In order to get there, they are going to sell every possible thing they can, even although it is said that the streets there are not paved with gold.

When the grass is growing the horse is starving. I invite the Hon. Minister, any day he wants to do so to come to the Parochial Buildings and he will see the large number of able-bodied youths who are applying for relief. I am not talking of derelicts or destitute people; I am talking of young able-bodied people between the ages of 18 and 32. They come daily to the Churchwarden asking for assistance in one way or the other and I am saying that it is not conducive to happiness.

As I have said, I do not care who gets the praise. What I want is to sit down and see in the evening of my days that I have made my contribution to the welfare of this community. Sir, I hope all who have left here to find employment in England will not come back. I also hope that they will mix the population there. I invite hon. members to read what I consider a wonderful article which appeared in a *Readers Digest*, entitled "The Negro Amongst Us and His Contribution to the rest of the World."

Sir, I am opposed to you in certain things, but in certain things, we are like the fingers on one's hand. Come in here and say that you are going to charter a boat to take our boys and girls to England and I will back you. The S.S. *West Indian* which you have running between these islands is not doing any good for the people here. Come in here and say that you want \$25,000 or \$50,000 to get people out to England and you will be doing the island a service.

In the recent St. Lucy campaign, I said—

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member is digressing.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: This is final. Let me say that your success does not depend on who runs the buses or anything like that; it depends on how well you tackle this problem of emigration.

There is a feeling among the people that certain members of the Government do not want to cause any embarrassment in England. That word 'embarrassment' is a bad word. It means in that phrase that you do not want people looking like you and me in England. They do not want too many Negroes in England. They are saying: "We do not want to cause any embarrassment."

Let me say that more Englishmen come here as exiles than what we are sending there. They came here and lived and married and mixed up to such an extent that we do not have ten families here who do not have a tint of the tar brush.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member is still digressing a bit.
5.25 p.m.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: I am asking the Government to take quite seriously into consideration the entire question of Emigration. Do not merely say that you are lending money only to people who have a job there. One man has said to me: "I have been to Combermere; I need a job, and I want to go to England to find one; but you are not lending me any money."

Mr. Speaker, you know what the Americans call that: "Sending them down the river."

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this House do now adjourn for half an hour.

Mr. SMITH: I beg to second that.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, I did not know that that was the way in which these things

should be done. Here I am on my feet and the hon. member still moved the adjournment of the House. If there was a desire to move the adjournment of the House, I might have been asked to do it.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. junior member for St. Peter had first caught my eye.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, I move that this House do now adjourn for half an hour.

Mr. TUDOR: I beg to second that.

The question that this House do now adjourn for half an hour was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. Speaker adjourned the House accordingly.

5.30 p.m.

On reassembling:

Mr. SPEAKER: On the adjournment the hon. junior member for St. Peter was addressing the House.

EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE BILL

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, I was not present when the Bill to provide for the establishment of Employment Exchanges was introduced by the Hon. Minister of Trade, Industry and Labour; consequently I did not hear his reasons for introducing this Bill.

Now, Mr. Speaker, there are two points in this Bill upon which I should like to get some explanation. One point deals with section (3) which states in effect that Employment Agencies will be set up throughout the island when the Governor-in-Executive deems fit. I do not know if at this stage the Hon. Minister said on what basis this would be done. This House would like to know, (considering that there are eleven parishes in this island) whether at this stage the Hon. Minister can state how many of these Exchanges the Government proposes to set up as a beginning. The bulk of the population of St. Michael is about 20,000; and we would like to know if it is the Government's intention to set up an Exchange in every parish.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Mr. Speaker, if I may be permitted to interrupt the honourable junior member for St. Peter on a point of Order, I think it is unfortunate that the honourable member should have used the expression: "throughout the Island". If he read Clause (3) he would see that no such impression as "throughout the Island" is implied.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, there is nothing to prevent the Government from setting up Exchanges in every parish of the island. What are the proposals for setting up these Exchanges? Are you going to set one in Christ Church to deal with the southern section, one in Speightstown to deal with the northern section, and one in St. Philip to deal with the eastern section of the island?

Now, Mr. Speaker, the other question with which I am concerned deals with grants. In this Bill, paragraph (b) of Clause (3) reads as follows: "The Governor-in-Executive Committee may make grants out of such funds as may be provided by the Legislature, to meet the expenses of persons desiring to travel to places outside of the Island where work is available for them, upon such terms and conditions as he may determine."

Now, Mr. Speaker, when the Government says: "make grants" I should like to know from the Hon. Minister of Trade by way of explanation, what is the difference between "make grants" and "advances by way of loans"? Is it the intention of the Government to grant money to people in the sense that there is no understanding of repayment? Do such grants bear any relation to the grants which you have been accustomed to make in your American Farm Labour Scheme? Will the Hon. Minister say if this is a new policy the Government is embarking

upon? Will he tell us for instance, if a man has prospects of a job in Aruba or Curacao, whether it is the policy of the Government to grant him or lend him money?

It is true that in this Bill it is stated: "upon such terms and conditions as he may determine"; and in the next clause it is stated: "The Governor-in-Executive Committee may make regulations for all or any of the following purposes" mentioned under (a), (b) and (c). What is the policy of the Government with regards to this new procedure? The regulations can only determine the details within the policy which the Government intends to pursue.

Finally, I should like to know from the Hon. Minister of Trade whether it is the policy of the Government to grant money to people leaving this island to procure employment in respect of the country to which they are going? If any person can satisfy himself in Barbados that he has a job anywhere outside the island, is it the policy of the Government to provide him or her with a loan, provided it falls within the conditions of this section?

6.10 p.m.

In this Bill in Section 5 it is stated as follows: "No person shall be disqualified or prejudiced in respect of any facilities provided under this Act on account of his refusal to accept employment found for him through an employment exchange if the ground of his refusal is that a trade dispute which affects his trade exists....."

Suppose a trade dispute does not affect his trade, are you going to say that there are grounds for refusal? A man can be in a Union and the Trade dispute does not affect his trade and therefore he would feel in sympathy with the trade dispute which exists; that may be the ground for not accepting employment.

This is a Bill which cannot affect any purpose in Barbados; that is to say if an Employment Agency is engaging people to work at a carbonated factory and there was a strike at that factory, but somewhere there is a man who may be a member of the Union who might feel in sympathy with those people, should he be disqualified for taking a job no matter how it occurs?

What I am getting at is this: trade disputes do not always exist in your own trade; a trade dispute can exist in a trade which is not your own and therefore a man should have the same protection.

As this section is worded here, an Employment Agency would have very good ground for disqualifying people where there are trade disputes existing; but they do not protect other people. I would like to know what this Clause means before we come to deal with it in Committee.

Mr. TUDOR: I think that all hon. members will agree with me that any bit of legislation which is designed to set up Labour Exchanges anywhere is an important matter; but I am wondering whether sufficient importance has been attached to this matter by the Hon. Minister who has introduced this Bill. I could not, of course, hear all that the Hon. Minister said or had to say on this matter; but I gathered from what I have heard that he did lay stress on the fact that this legislation when passed by the Legislature and become law, employers and employees will be in a better position to meet each other and satisfy their mutual wants.

It struck me that when you measure what he said, and indeed the whole purpose of this Bill as it is set out here as against the realities which confront this country, I am wondering whether he is not more optimistic than he should be; for assuming that employers and employees will meet together and satisfy their mutual requirements is to assume that you have employers who are waiting to absorb labour and that you have labour waiting to be employed, both at the same time. The facts of the matter in this island are

somewhat slightly different; that is to say, you have that labour which is begging to be employed and at the same time you have no employers to employ this labour. It follows therefore that even when we do set up Labour Exchanges under the terms of this Act their functioning will be for sometime at least, entirely one-sided.

They will be used, it is true, but not to any large extent by employers seeking people to whom to give work but to a very large extent they will be used; and continually so by the large numbers of unemployed who are in search of work. It is good even to that limited extent that machinery should be set up which the Government can use to make itself aware of the facts of the unemployment situation from week to week or from month to month.

The immediate purpose of setting up machinery which will enable the Government to keep a proper record of unemployment is all right in so far as it goes, but I do not know whether the Minister is fair to himself or to whatever policy he has, to leave this matter just like that. I was wondering therefore if it was not part of his duty to provide this House with a more filled-in background of this whole problem.

The history of Labour Exchanges is a very interesting one especially in the United Kingdom. Their establishment in that country is a little more than 40 years. They were brought in as part of the policy in the first ten years of this century by the Liberal Government of Mr. Asquith, largely as a result of pressure put upon that Government not merely by the Trade Unionists outside Parliament, but by the then few Labourites in the House of Commons; and there were several reasons at that time for the institution of these Employment Exchanges which were later called Labour Exchanges.

They were introduced between the years 1890 and 1905 when the advantages of the English Education Act of 1870 were then being seen and the spread of Secondary and Technical Education among the working classes of England rendered their employability a more urgent task; and in order that their skills be not lost or that the young workers merging on the technical establishments were not frustrated through not finding work, it was decided that it would be a good thing if machinery could be set up to put them in touch with possible employers as rapidly as possible after the period of training had been carried out.

I have just mentioned that in passing because at once you see that the setting up of Labour Exchanges of that kind was to facilitate the finding of employment for people who had been specifically trained and for people who had enjoyed the benefits of industrial training over the widely separated parts of the United Kingdom. The policy was therefore geared to practical possibilities.

6.20 p.m.

The second reason which at that time the advocates of Unemployment Exchanges used was that towards the end of the last century and the early years of this one, there had been in England a great movement of population consequent on the expansion of the industrial areas of the north. There had been at the same time a decrease in the English agricultural production which decrease had been noted since the '80's of the last century; consequently, the unemployed from the agricultural areas went in search of work in the shipbuilding yards, in the northern coal mines and in the factories of the Midlands.

That is just an explanation of what had been going on in the early years of the revolution; but in order that this tendency to migrate agricultural workers into industry could be properly handled and channelled, it was suggested that guidance would be far better if Unemployment Exchanges could be set up, not only in the areas that the people were leaving but also in the areas to which they were going and so

bring them in touch with employers more speedily and so facilitate their getting work.

The third reason which the advocates of Unemployment Exchanges used was that from a purely financial point of view it was cheaper to administer these Labour Exchanges than it would be to provide poor law assistance for those unemployed who were coming in the hundreds of thousands and who might have some difficulty in finding work, because they could not get in touch with possible employers. So, the advocates of Unemployment Exchanges argued that it would be far better to set up those Labour Exchanges so as to expedite the finding of jobs for those who wanted work.

They reasoned that what they would actually spend on administering these Exchanges would be far less than what they would have to spend over the many weeks that the Government would have to pay unemployment assistance to those unemployed. Those are the three main points which brought about the change of opinion in the House of Commons some four to five years ago in favour of the setting up of Unemployment Exchanges.

In addition to that, employers also took the view that since their businesses were being taxed and since some part of their revenue was going into the Public Treasury, if they could save further expenditure which they would have to spend in advertising when necessary for persons to work, they would have no objection paying their taxation to help set up Labour Exchanges, because they would then not have to spend their time and money in advertising for workers when they wanted them.

Mr. Speaker, I have mentioned those points to illustrate to this House and the Minister that in a matter like this, Unemployment Exchanges belong and have their proper place in a definite policy. You just do not set them up for the sake of setting them up; and you just do not set them up in order that you would be better able to count the number of unemployed.

When you reflect that one of the purposes as has been expressed in this Bill is to bring employers in touch with workers (and not the other way around) you will see, Mr. Speaker, how very necessary it is that employers should exist. That I think, brings us to the very burning, perhaps main consideration of this matter.

Not even the Hon. Minister of Labour would be so bold as to say that he is satisfied that employers at the moment exist in any appreciable quantity in this island to employ all the number of workers not employed and who will register at these Labour Exchanges. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, are you merely setting up this thing for the purpose of registering the number of unemployed? That is a very limited task which they have set themselves.

I make bold to say that while in the initial stage the workers will use these Unemployment Exchanges because there is always the hope that every new thing would prove beneficial, yet a very little time after that, you would see them changing their opinion about it; and discovering that all that they would be doing week after week or month after month is to be registering, as happens now, without any prospect of there being any employment for them; and just as complained now, when the figures are published they do not show us all the truth about the categories of workers, so too it would be discovered then that the disappointment of the workers will make them stop bothering about registering themselves and for the specific reason that registration as such cannot help them to earn their daily bread and cannot find work for them.

Mr. Speaker, I had hoped that some kind of policy would have been brought before this House

telling us in specific terms that so and so is going to be done to provide employment, and it is going to be done on such a scale that Government feels satisfied in setting up these Labour Exchanges to deal with the influx of those to be employed whom it is hoped that this new policy would absorb.

I have said it time and time again both in this House and outside of this House that this Government is really beating about the bush and playing the fool in a dangerous manner; but unless they tell the people of this island in no uncertain terms of policies which, when put into execution, will provide five thousand to twenty thousand real jobs, unless they can say that, then they are doing nothing. It is therefore, silly and even wicked to tell the people that we are setting up Employment Exchanges to meet the needs of the unemployed.

Mr. Speaker, Government is running around in circles and not providing jobs for the people of this island. They claim that in some Departments (particularly the Department of Highways and Transport and the Public Works Department) they have done a great deal. They claim that they are employing carpenters, masons etc., nobody is declaring that they are not; and even with what they built (mostly monuments to themselves—things which they can say are to their own future glory) even if they did that, no one will deny the truth of the manner and the infinitesimal view which they take in providing these matters.

I am doubtful whether I could not boast of a view to employment on different terms. There is a difference between providing jobs and providing productive jobs. What they have not done is to provide the sort of work for people in which other persons will become engaged, and in which other industries will become engaged as a result of this employability. In that way the circle of activity will become ever wider and wider, until the whole population (no matter what the classes or divisions of it are) the whole population will, in time, feel the thrill of this new economic policy.

I think it has got to be put into the heads of Government members that when we talk of doing things that create real jobs, we do not mean putting up buildings, encouraging one set of people to dig wells and employing another set to empty them. That is not productive employment.

I do not know where their consciences must be when they can tell people that they can go and register for work when they themselves are not finding work for the people. Maybe it is one of the things we shall be favoured with sooner or later. Maybe they have one or two big schemes which they will burst upon us with clarity and with the element of surprise. The element of surprise might be there all right; but I do not see where the clarity is going to come from; because they do not give us the understanding that they know what is happening in this island.

I have been in this House some nine months and I have not heard as yet any ministerial pronouncement of the financial policies of this Government or even any awareness of the fact that some of the things they are doing are wrong. Employment can only come if there is investment. That, Mr. Speaker, is known to yourself, to the hon. junior member for St. Joseph and some of his self-helping and enterprising colleagues of this island. Work cannot be found for people unless there is investing. It is, therefore, mere whitewash and an attempt to fool, and to a certain extent, to defraud the people of this Island that the mere setting up of Labour Exchanges will find work for them.

But the background of that ought to be a policy; they ought to tell the people that it is the Government's policy to create so many thousand new jobs and that it will be necessary for them to use the machinery which will put them in touch with the employers. If you cannot do that you are only laughing at and mocking the people.

I am saying that the Hon. Minister of Trade did not think it necessary to say that this is only part of what he and his Government should do. It is not enough, Mr. Speaker, to remain continually ignorant of these matters and what is involved in them. It is not enough to let things drift along just like that. It is not enough even to make people believe that they are not in the grip of some inevitable circumstances and that nothing can be done about it.

All the economic ills of this country spring from the fact that at the head of affairs in this island are people who do not understand economic processes; and even if they are motivated by the best intentions, some people do not understand what is happening in this island. That is why it is possible for them to acquiesce in Resolutions to take money out of the Treasury without even paying due regard to the needs of the people for whom they are supposed to be spending it; and notwithstanding the fact that the people's economic position is getting worse, makes the condition ten times worse than it was before. And so the position goes on.

You cannot convince them, Mr. Speaker, of the idea that what they call "revenue equalisation" is wrong. Nor can you convince them that money, if not gainfully invested, is no better than manure and that it only has virtue in substance when, like manure, it is spread.

6.40 p.m.

You cannot convince them that it is investment which provides work for people, and that when people work they can spend and that in turn employs other people. You cannot convince them that employers will not be found to employ the unemployed without any new investment forthcoming and if the possibilities of new investments are not there. In short you cannot convince them of any of the things which would really make sense under a properly administered economic policy.

I wish them well if the mere setting up of Labour Exchanges will help them or anybody in this island. I wish them well in that because I know it means absolutely nothing. It will not increase the employability of one more person; it will not cause another avenue of investment where there was no investment before. It will not put purchasing power in the hands of many people, although the people who run the Employment Exchanges will be employed themselves and they can claim that they are reducing unemployment. The mere setting up of Labour Exchanges will do none of the things which the people expect and which people who profess to be Socialists and were doing their duty properly would do.

This Bill, in one way, arouses my wholehearted admiration. It is as well to have it on the Statute Book, but it does not materially increase the well-being of the people. Its worse feature is that it can do nothing to create employment for the people and it may possibly lead them to think that they are in the grip of some circumstances over which they have no control; whereas in truth and in fact questions of unemployment and work are resolved by human intellect and human will, and it is only that the Ministers of this Government act as if they do not understand what is happening. It is because of their lack of understanding that the people over whom they

preside, have to bear their mistakes and bitterness, but not for too long, I hope, in silence.

Mr. VAUGHAN: Mr. Speaker, the idea of Labour Exchanges is a sound one, but the danger, as the last speaker has said, is the small opportunity which exists in an overcrowded community like this, to make these Labour Exchanges and their existence really felt.

I am now referring to the Employment Agency which is the Department to investigate the possibilities of sending people to England on Government's backing. There is one man in charge of that Department and I am aware that hundreds of people are there for almost the whole day and still go back to their homes without seeing the particular person whom they had gone to see. Apparently, Mr. Bovell, I think that is his name, has to attend several offices; and it is not his fault that he is unable to interview in one day as many people as have been called.

However, it is entirely unfair to the people to call them there, and they go in great expectancy and then they cannot see the very person by whom they are to be interviewed. That is one point: the annoying waste of the people's time. I blame the lack of proper organisation for that, not Mr. Bovell.

It is not right to make people go back to the Agency for days and still not tell them anything concrete. Some of them have to leave their washing or something like that for a day and still accomplish nothing.

Another point is this: I would like to see the procedure in obtaining this Government loan with the requisite signature for security, very much simplified. I am aware that several people are called and they go to the office with their forms filled out and other procedure, only to realise a few days before the boat is scheduled to sail, that they cannot get anybody to sign the bond for the repayment of this money.

The hon. senior member for the City skirted around the idea that a Liaison Officer should be responsible for making connections in England. There is a similar sort of set-up in connection with emigration to the United States of America, and I want to know if some comparable scheme could not be arranged through some Government Agency set up in England to look after these people, especially those who are sent to specific Institutions in England to see after the recovery of this money. That would make it a much more simple matter in getting out those people where the procedure is otherwise in order.

I believe that there must be some form of securing a loan other than the traditional one of being the owner of real estate; in the same way that the Government found the possibilities of putting forward a scheme under their sponsorship to get people to England, there must be some possibilities which can be devised whereby the collection of this loan can be more simplified, and I believe that more people would be able to go out. Only this week three people came to me in connection with loans because when it came to the last few days before the boat was to sail they could not get anybody to sign the bonds.

6.50 p.m.

I think there is the possibility of establishing some agency in the United Kingdom to handle this matter. As I have said, this is a comparable scheme to the United States of America scheme which has been set up where the workers' passage money is recovered; and if it cannot be identical to that, yet I think some comparable scheme on emigration to England could be set up. I do not think it is impossible to work out. I invite the Minister of Labour to look into that possibility so as to ease the

situation of many people who are going there now and to avert the situation which occurs now.

I got up merely to emphasise this difficulty of the person raising the passage money and also the security required by Government. It is a very laudible idea to lend people money and it should be widely known. This is the only West Indian Government that has attempted to take up Government's funds to lend people for part of their passage. [Cheers]. That is something to commend and praise Government for; but I think they still have to go further to ease the situation by making decisions for repayment of this loan much more simple than it is now.

I started off by saying that you should cease with the idea of calling people and keeping them crowded and waiting at the department and still with all that sometimes not being seen by anyone. There is nothing orderly in doing so. A better organisation than that is needed.

It is true that the people are out of work and they are clamouring to get work and as such, they are eager to go to England; but because of that, I do not think that there should be so much confusion at the actual agency which handles this matter. I do not think it is fair to the people unemployed as they are. It is not fair to them as citizens. It is an annoyance to them, and it certainly gets some of them exasperated. If Mr. Bovell is to be seen by them, let him be there to be seen. Do not let him be at the Park or at Mr. Jones or at the Wharf. I understand that there are four or five places where he has to be in a day. If he has to interview the people, let him be at the Agency to interview them.

I repeat that a proper organisation should be set up at the agency to deal with this matter. It is a big matter and I hope it will grow a bigger matter. As everybody knows, this side of the matter needs much improvement.

Mr. J. C. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I too want to enquire into the idea of the extension of these Unemployment Exchanges. The Hon. Minister of Trade and Commerce has not given us any idea of how many Exchanges he intends to set up, if one, two or three.

I want to say here and now that in view of the fact that this honourable Government is attempting to extend the scope of this Unemployment Exchange, it shows that they appreciate the fact that there is need for its improvement. I therefore, want to suggest to the Hon. Minister of Trade that he should keep before his mind's eye the suggestion of setting up one of these Exchanges at Six Cross Roads to cater to the people of St. Philip, St. John and the upper part of Christ Church.

I do not know if one of the ideas behind the improvement in this Exchange is because the Government has in mind the intention of putting into operation some of the provisions of the Development Bill which we sanctioned here sometime ago. I hope that one of the ideas behind it is that because not only would we be looking forward to sending men and women out of the island to seek employment, but we would be creating in our midst employment for those who have no intention of leaving the colony.

Mr. Speaker, we cannot gainsay the fact that this desire to go out of the island to seek employment is becoming on the increase; and you cannot change that spirit among the people. I do hope that no one would try to change it, because by going out of the colony we gain new ideas, new means of improving ourselves both socially and economically, and new ideas which cannot be gained here. I do hope that nothing will be put in the way of those

men and women who are desirous of leaving this colony for England and otherwise.

The last honourable member who spoke said that the Government should simplify the security of recovering these loans. He suggested that Government should make contacts with the employers in England with a view of seeing whether they could not remit moneys out of the salaries or wages which would be paid to these men and women from here who are in their employ so that we would not be burdened. Something should be done. I myself have got disgusted owing to the fact that day after day people are coming to me asking me to stand security for them. If I had hundreds of thousands of dollars I would have finished lending all of that out by now; I would be soon a pauper.

It is a fact that many young boys and girls come to me about this thing and they get highly offended when I tell them that I am unable to underwrite any more. I therefore hope that the Minister would investigate this matter further and explore the possibility of simplifying this matter of security.

As I have said before, Mr. Speaker, the Government does appreciate that this is a need. I want them to go a bit further and use all the means at their disposal to help these boys and girls. At the same time while we should see to it that our boys and girls who want to leave here for England are not put to any hardship, we must bear in mind that we need every penny now for the further development of Barbados. However, I want to warn the Government, not to let it appear that it is putting any obstacle in the way of those boys and girls going to England. Open the door and let them go, now that the flood is out.

7.00 p.m.

I want to support the idea of the establishment of these invaluable Employment Exchanges; and I hope that the Hon. Minister of Trade will see to it that the men and women who are to be placed in positions in the proposed Exchanges will not be men and women who are already gainfully employed. That is a policy of Government to which I do not subscribe. If there is a vacant job, give it to somebody who really needs a job and who can do it efficiently.

I repeat that the policy of the Government of giving more than one job to one man is one to which I do not subscribe. With those few remarks I want to support this Bill; and I hope that the Hon. Minister of Trade will consider putting one such Employment Exchange in the parish of St. Philip and see to it that the people get the necessary help to enable them to get out of their difficulties, if not this year, very early next year.

Mr. ALLDER: Mr. Speaker, the question of setting Labour Exchanges in this colony may sound very progressive to the casual observer, but I am wondering whether that will solve the problem of unemployment. The hon. junior member for St. Philip has suggested that one such Employment Exchange should be placed in the parish of St. Philip, and I presume that every other hon. member would want one in the parish which he represents, provided he is not sufficiently serious in his views on the matter.

I do not think that the need is for additional Employment Exchanges in the island. What I do feel to be preferable, is to properly staff the one which we now have in Bridgetown and thereby provide a service throughout the day. I have had to explain the situation to many who have come to me. Their grievance was, that they are required to go to the Employment Agency on specific days (Mondays I presume), to re-register their names. But here is where the difficulty comes in: when a worker pays his bus fare and leaves the country expecting that when he gets to Bridgetown he would be able to register his name as an unemployed person, he finds

that those persons who have to register him are not encouraging in their attitude towards him. The upshot is that many of these people are obliged to leave in disgust or go and ask somebody to go and ask the officers to register their names.

Those difficulties, however, can be surmounted not by setting up several Employment Exchanges around the island like so many agricultural stations, but, as I said just now, by properly staffing the one in the City. It is that point that I differ from the honourable junior member for St. Philip. He is suggesting putting one at Six Roads; but the honourable member should know that it is far easier to get to Bridgetown than to say, travel a mile or two across country.

Many of the people prefer to come to Bridgetown (which is a greater distance) than to have to walk a mile across country. I, therefore, hope that the Hon. Minister of Industry, Trade and Labour will consider my suggestion; that is: instead of setting up all these Employment Exchanges around the island (which certainly must make some inroad upon our revenue without producing any immediate benefit) he should make sure that a better service is rendered at the existing Exchange which we have in the parish of St. Michael.

I should like, Mr. Speaker, to take up a remark which was made by my honourable colleague when he attempted to commend the Government which he claims is the only government in the West Indies which lends money to assist people to go to England. His statement reminds me of the story of the horse which won the race in a most curious circumstance.

The establishment of Employment Exchanges is a progressive step which the Government has taken; but I must remind the Hon. Minister of Trade that it results from the agitation of a large and interested section of the public. [Hon. R. G. MAPP: Who says so?] I am sure that my colleague would have it from such an honourable person as myself. [Hon. R. G. MAPP: The public knows better than you.] I would go further, Mr. Speaker, and make another suggestion.

The honourable member in front of me knows what has been happening for the past month. I have known some cases when the loans were first offered that a deserving young woman who had been trained at the Housecraft Centre, having passed examinations and been awarded certificates, found it difficult to borrow part of her passage money; and her selection would have entitled her to the maximum of \$240.

I do not know if the Hon. Minister of Trade would care to pay attention to the suggestion which I am now about to make; but I would suggest to the Government that, in cases where your Selection Committee accepts a young lady and that young lady does not find it possible to get her part of the passage money, in view of the fact that her relatives have agreed to the repayment of such a loan plus the guarantee of some other person or persons, the Government should lend the applicant the total cost of her passage. That, I think, Mr. Speaker, would facilitate matters considerably.

7.10 p.m.

The position would be made very much easier and appreciative if people were not told: "We will lend you \$240 but you must pay the remainder." About two weeks ago there were many people running around the streets to offices trying to borrow the remainder of the passage money. Of course very few of them succeeded in impressing the Solicitors and other money lenders.

I know of many cases where young women have had to cancel their trips. I am told that the passage money is not more than \$310 and I do not see why the Government cannot lend people the whole amount of that money. I will say that the cases of those persons who find it difficult to get the whole amount of the passage money are very deserving ones; it is only those persons whose position is better than others, that can make much of the loans which the Government is now making.

Mr. BRANCKER: I would support the last remarks of the honourable senior member for St. John very strongly. As a matter of fact, I had already decided to raise that matter in another form; I am referring to the question of the Government lending people the entire amount of the passage money. I understand that the Hon. Minister of Trade, Industry and Labour now proposes to refer to that matter in his final reply, but if he replies now and he does not reply accurately, he does not like anyone to speak after him; therefore let him have his last word.

It has occurred to me that the amount of \$240 is inadequate; and no amount less than the whole amount of the passage money will suffice the needs of the people. I am one of those to whom people come and ask to make up the difference between the amount of the loan and the entire passage money. One cannot appear to be partial in these matters; one has had to assist people. I do not see any point in the Government assisting people up to the amount of \$240 and people having to find the remainder of the money on their own. What these people need is a certain amount of warm garments and they very often go around to those who have been out and ask whether they can be assisted with pullovers or things like that. I think that the Government should be magnanimous in this matter and show its wholehearted support of the people's zeal to obtain employment in the Mother Country.

However, I differ in another phase of this matter from those honourable members who seem to favour merely a very full and adequate staffing of Employment Exchanges in Bridgetown and do not advocate Employment Exchanges throughout the island. If it is contended that it would not be possible at the outset to put an Employment Exchange in each parish, my recommendation is that it is an ideal thing to put one in each parish for the reason that the people with whom we are dealing are unemployed, presumably without any source of livelihood, and you can realise what it means to have to spend a whole day in the City by people from the end of St. Peter or St. Lucy or St. Andrew who have to pay 52 cents in bus fare, requiring something for lunch and perhaps having to go back another day. That is too much for the unemployed people to have to cope with.

If it is not considered practicable after the passing of this Bill to establish Employment Exchanges in every parish of the island, I would suggest that the Government should at least establish them in such districts where people seem to be able to foregather in the various parishes. As you know, Sir, people always find their way to the Police Magistrate's Court wherever it is and until you find it possible to provide an Employment Exchange in a central place, at least you could establish one in the vicinity of each Police Magistrate's Court in this island.

People from St. John and St. Philip seem to be able to find themselves at District "C" Police Magistrate's Court, and people from St. Peter and St. Lucy manage to get to Station Hill in St. Peter; therefore, if as a start, you could establish an Employment Exchange in each such district, you would

be meeting the people no less than half way. While this matter is now before us, those two aspects of it, which I have mentioned, should receive the favourable consideration and early attention of the Cabinet.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Some points have been raised about which I must say the information cannot be given by me in a second reading speech, because a lot of the debate on this Bill went out of the province of the Bill. Nevertheless, I must reply to some of the things which have been said.

The last honourable member who spoke raised the point, as did the previous speaker, about the Government increasing the amount of the loan. I think those two honourable members will be glad to know that we have considered that matter in Executive Committee, that last week we decided that the amount of the loan would be increased and that three-quarters of the total cost of the passage should be allowed.

There is also the question of cost of warm clothing and incidentals. Honourable members will see that if you take the cost of a passage to England at \$309 and you say roughly \$40 for warm clothing and \$60 for incidentals, three-quarters of the total amount will cover the cost of the passage.

7.20 p.m.

That is why I say hon. members should feel a measure of satisfaction over the fact that a decision has been arrived at by Government; the public will be made aware of it in tomorrow's Press. I know it is a fact that many people who were selected by Government and others who applied for loans found some difficulty in raising half of the money. I know that they found some difficulty under the former terms and conditions.

Now, the hon. junior member for St. Philip raised the point with respect to the various parts of the island at which these Employment Exchanges should be put. I think the hon. junior member for St. Lucy also raised that point. I cannot say in which parishes we are going to put these Employment Exchanges, because as a matter of fact, we have now decided that we are making provision to give us the power to establish them wherever we think suitable. We may put one in Speightstown, one in Christ Church, one in St. Philip; but we have not decided yet.

The principle purpose of this Bill, Mr. Speaker, is to give statutory effect to the carrying on of Employment Exchanges so that even in a matter of emigration you would be able to do certain things and simplify matters, and so that you can have a better check on the number of people who are going abroad. As I have said, we have not got down to the actual details as to where we should establish these Employment Exchanges, but the Bill makes provision for regulations to cover that and other matters.

This Bill is just bringing this matter into line; that is, when you have legal provision for Employment Exchanges, you can set it up as a Department of Government instead of its being functioning in a matter-of-fact way or where you can do away with it tomorrow.

I think it was the hon. junior member for St. Philip who said that you should not register employed personnel with unemployed. If he reads the Bill, he will see that there is a penal clause for those who give false information to the Exchange, but it is difficult to carry out that policy.

Mr. J. C. MOTTLEY: I think the Hon. Minister has misunderstood me. I said that in staffing these Employment Exchanges, you should not staff them with people who are employed.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: I am sorry that I did not hear him correctly. However, as regards that point, I think he will find that when we are choosing people to staff these Exchanges, he will find a few retired persons. The Department will bring in a few retired persons to help. I apologise to the hon. member for misunderstanding what he said.

Certain hon. members also raised the point about the welfare services in the United Kingdom. I am very sorry that those points were raised in this debate on Employment Exchanges because it tends to open up a whole range of discussion which is not material to this issue.

I may say with respect to that matter of Welfare Service that I regard it as one of supreme importance. When I refer to myself, I mean the Government as a whole. I say that because one of the greatest difficulties to overcome is the lack of housing accommodation. There is no doubt about that and I think Dr. Senior will have something to say about that in his Report.

One of the first things which we should do before sending people to England in very large numbers is to set up a proper liaison service to see that the people get proper housing accommodation near to where they have to work, as well as to see that they do not congregate in certain areas to create a slump in employment.

We were faced with the criticism that we were raising unnecessary difficulties when this matter was first raised, but we saw from the outset that it would harm the very people with whom we were most concerned. It would harm the whole emigration cause if we did not put our fingers on a source like that and try to smooth it out. There are thousands of people in England who are waiting for proper housing and they are asking why should people come from outside and get houses before them.

7.30 p.m.

One day I happened to be in a certain Welfare Department in England when a telephone message came from a certain factory, which said: "Send me one hundred West Indian workers". We had to turn down the offer; because when it was considered where the workers had to come from and the distance they would have to travel, it would be too far and would not be worth while. It meant that nearly all of their earnings would have to be spent on train fares and still they would not be able to get to work in time. That was the experience of the Welfare Officer, a Jamaican or Trinidadian, as far as I can remember. The other colonies realise the problem; all of us who are most concerned with it do so, because we know that housing is one of the difficulties which must be smoothed over as quickly as possible if we want emigration to run as smoothly as possible.

So far as extending the welfare facilities in Britain is concerned, it is true that we have proposed to set up a West Indian liaison service. I stress the word "welfare", because in Britain, when I visited certain factories we could not tell who were Barbadians from who were Jamaicans. To the employers, all were Jamaicans.

"We read so much about Jamaicans", they said, "that to us, they are either Jamaicans or all West Indians."

Honourable members will therefore see that it is far better to have a West Indian liaison service in which we can deal with people whom we regard as West Indians and not as so many Jamaicans, Barbadians or St. Lucians. So far as I am concerned, it is my opinion and the opinion of the Government as a whole that we should not wait any longer be-

fore setting up our own service of at least two people who can make contact with employers and assist Barbadians.

We can have an interim service until Dr. Senior has made his Report. With this matter our greatest task now is to contact employers in the United Kingdom and place people there. I hope, if not next week, that very soon this House will have before it a Resolution dealing with such a service whereby a proper liaison department will be provided to place workers in jobs instead of having them going looking for jobs. I say that for this reason: the Cyprus Government and the Government of Malta have both adopted the policy of lending part only of the passage money just as we are doing now. But they laid down conditions. Before an emigrant leaves he has to be able to say: "I have somebody who can put me up"; and that is not done in order to obstruct anybody; they do it to safeguard their own cause; because they realise that if matters are to proceed smoothly they must be able to hold the favour of the people of Great Britain.

You cannot get members of Parliament or anybody else up against you, therefore, in their own interest they take those precautions. They say: we are not just pushing you in the United Kingdom at all costs and probably causing unnecessary public reaction. It is a problem which we have to face and we are handling it in this way because we feel that this is the only solution.

The honourable junior member for St. Peter raised a point which I think, could have been left for the committee stage of this Bill. It concerns a certain clause. I think it is clause (5); but if he reads it carefully I think he will find that there is nothing to it. The clause reads as follows:

"No person shall be disqualified or prejudiced in respect of any facilities provided under this Act on account of his refusal to accept employment found for him through an employment exchange if the ground of his refusal is that a trade dispute which affects his trade exists, or that the wages offered are lower than those current in the trade in the district where the employment is found.

The honourable member wanted to know what would be the position supposing that a worker strikes in his trade in support of another trade. The honourable member will agree that if a person strikes in his trade to assist a person in another trade, I think it might be said that a trade dispute exists. I think that is what the honourable member had in mind. However, legally, that would be the interpretation.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that this Bill be now read a second time. Honourable members in favour of that please say "aye", those against please say "no"; I think the "ayes" have it.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Your Honour do now leave the Chair and the House go into Committee on this Bill.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I beg to second that.

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

Mr. Speaker left the Chair and the House went into Committee, Mr. Smith being in the Chair.

7.40 p.m.

Clause 1 was called and passed.

Clause 2 was called and passed.

Clause 3 was called.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: I beg to move that Clause 3 stand part of the Bill.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I beg to second that.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: In connection with this Clause, I did not hear the Hon. Minister say what the making of grants refers to.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: We are simply providing by this Bill for the Government to have the power to make grants. The matter of making grants or loans or both will be a matter of policy on which the Government will decide. Clause 4 of this Bill gives us the power to make Regulations to cover all these matters; what the grants will be, exactly how they will be made and other matters in relation thereto.

This Clause merely says that we can make grants just as we have the power to make loans now. Under our policy and in accordance with this Bill, the Government can make advances for loans through an Employment Agency; but there is no power at present to make any grant through an Employment Agency. This Bill merely gives us the power to make grants but the policy in relation to that will come later.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: The policy must have been already decided upon if you introduced a Bill for the purpose of making grants. You cannot say that the policy has not been agreed upon; the policy has been agreed upon because you are asking for authority to make grants. I do not know if people expect that the Government will give them money free so that they can go in search of employment. I cannot say that you can make grants or loans; I want to know precisely what you mean when you say that you are making a grant.

The Regulations which will be made will be Ministers' Regulations and the Minister should have in his mind to-day what the Regulations are going to be. The Regulations are not going to be made *in vacuo*, I want to know under what circumstances are the grants going to be made. People are allowed advances and they have to be repaid.

This Clause says: "The Governor-in-Executive Committee may make grants or advances by way of loans" and there is a comma after the word "grants". Making grants can only mean that you are not expecting people to repay them; the Minister should be able to say to-day how things are going to be done. The Minister says that there are two things which the Government intends to do; they intend to make grants and advance loans.

I am asking what are the circumstances under which you feel that a grant should be made. Are you only advancing money to a man when he can give you an assurance that work is available for him, because you do not intend to lend him money otherwise? If he is going to get a job he is not going to be given a grant; under what circumstances are you going to make grants? Are you giving Student Nurses grants? Are you giving grants to other people who are going to take up jobs? You have people whom you send to the Universities covered by way of grants and bursaries, but do you say that you should give a grant to somebody who has a job?

The question of making a grant must be something other than an advance. It would be redundant to say that you are making a grant if you are repeating it in the next few words. If this means something more than what is stated here, if it means something more than what the Minister has said, then the matter needs an explanation. In the circumstances are you going to give a grant to anybody who is leaving this island and who does not know that that grant is something which has to be repaid?

Hon. R. G. MAPP: I think the hon. member is reading into this Clause more than what is there. He has said that this Bill gives the Government power to make grants and he has hit the nail on the head.

The Government has decided to make loans to people who are going abroad under certain conditions. All this Clause is saying is that the Governor-in-Executive Committee may make advances or grants by way of loans. We have not adopted any policy of making grants so far, but we have adopted a policy of making loans; when this Bill comes into effect we can make these loans through an Employment Exchange.

I do not think that the Committee should read more into this Clause than is there. This Bill has been copied from the English Act; if you want to travel, the Act is there allowing the making of a grant to go wherever an employer wants you to go. This island is only 166 square miles in area, but if you want to go out of the island in order to get work and we have decided on a policy of making grants, we can do it through Employment Exchanges.

7.50 p.m.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: I do not want to prolong this debate but the honourable member must bear in mind with what he is dealing. He said this is to keep this thing permanently. This is an Employment Exchange Bill with which the Hon. Minister is dealing. An Employment Exchange is a place where you go to seek employment. I will read this paragraph for the benefit of honourable members.

3. The Governor-in-Executive Committee may—

- (a) establish and maintain, in such places as he thinks fit, employment exchanges, that is to say, offices or places for the collection and furnishing of information, either by the keeping of registers or otherwise, respecting persons who seek to engage employees either in this Island or elsewhere and persons who seek employment;
- (b) make grants, or advances by way of loan, out of such funds as may be provided by the Legislature, to meet the expenses of persons desiring to travel to places outside of the Island where work is available for them, upon such terms and conditions as he may determine.

All this is telling you for what you should go to an Exchange.

What is the Hon. Minister speaking about, when he says that if we want to send people to British Honduras we will have this? That is nothing to do an Employment Exchange.

The honourable member says that it is the future policy to make loans, but in the absence of any policy today, how can the Hon. Minister say so on the floor of this House unless he is willing to say that the Government intend to make grants to people to day, or in ten years from now, therefore, you can put it in the Bill, because you know it is your intention to carry it out.

You talk of making a grant without any repayment. If you can do that, what is the authority for your doing it? As a matter of fact what is the point of your coming to the Legislature? It is laid down already under what terms and conditions workers can go to the United States on recruitment. Are you going to give the people who are now going to England a loan on the basis that they do not repay the money? Why does the Minister want that word inserted in this Bill?

This Bill is copied from that of the United Kingdom. Why copy a Bill from the United Kingdom Legislature lock stock and barrel, without paying any proper attention to the situation which exists here.

In the United Kingdom you send people to Australia and you give a man £100 because he may not come back to England at all. Have you so much

money available to give people money when they are going to a job? If you are going to a job and you ask somebody to lend you money to get there certainly you would be willing to pay back the money that was lent you. Why should a man want a free grant from the Government to go to England to seek a job? Why should he get a free grant? This is not like when a man gets a free grant from the United Kingdom to go to Australia. I do not get a free grant to get a job in the island or even bus fare.

We all want to stimulate employment but let us not say anything which we do not mean. The Government knows that the economy of Barbados cannot afford to give a free grant to the people who want to go to the United Kingdom. I am willing to go on any platform and say that. I will go a bit further by saying that if a man wants a free grant to go to England, he does not deserve the job which he gets and he is not a man worthy of his salt.

I will support the Government in this matter. I do not share the view of the honourable senior member for the City when he says that people going to the United Kingdom to seek work should go *ad lib*, neither do I share the view of the Hon. Premier when he said that he does not want to embarrass the British Government.

What I do say is that I think with the present economy and with the present needs of the Barbados Government, it would be very stupid to undertake to give these grants to people in search of work, unless you had a policy where you were shipping people out of the island on a permanent emigration scheme. Emigration to England is not such a scheme, because after three or four years the people who emigrate there can come back to Barbados if they so desire. There is nothing to prevent them from coming back. There are people who would like you to lend them all the money you can because they have no hopes of repaying it.

Why should the Hon. Minister say that you are now lending them a maximum of \$240? What is the point of saying that a grant will be given to them? Do you mean to say that you are lending them \$240 and giving them \$90? By that means you will be able to send everybody out of Barbados who wants a job. If you do that, by this and next week you will not have enough ships to take away the people who want to go to England. I do not believe the Hon. Minister means that. You do not need to do all that as an encouragement.

This Bill is copied from the English Act which gives the power to make grants; but I am saying, that you do not need the power to make grants. The Minister is asking for authority which I am saying the Government cannot use.

8.00 p.m.

I am sure, Mr. Chairman, when you look closely at paragraph (b) of clause (3) you will see that the term "to make grants" amounts to the same thing in meaning as "advances by way of loans". You do not need to have any of those words. It means that the Minister can give an order. I will go further and say that the Hon. Minister should not insist in saying that he is going to include in an Act words which he has no intention of carrying out. You could not say that the word "may" is used here in a permissive sense.

As I see it, "may" here is being used in a mandative sense. You did not put the word "may" in the Bill with the idea that you have no intention of doing it. But if you do not show it, it also means that you are not carrying out the Act. "May" here is not used in the sense that you may make grants but that

you are not doing it. I cannot see the sense in saying that you are going to make grants when it is not your intention to make grants.

In this stage of this island's development, it will not do to have people looking forward to promises which you are not going to fulfil. The Government will never be able to give people help by way of passages. It is like saying to people: come and get off all school fees now; do not let anybody pay school fees, so as to get the children in school. Well, you take off the school fees and you still find that you cannot get your children in school.

If you can give people free grants along with loans you are making, that in itself may be all right; but your economy cannot afford it. If you are going to give free grants you know what that means; it means that you would have to discriminate; so that there is no point in putting it in.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Mr. Chairman, how does any hon. member conceive the idea that this clause is not permissive. The hon. member has, in his own speech, put in an exception to his rule when he said: "unless it is permanent emigration". Suppose we had a scheme of permanent emigration, why could we not include this here now? There is no harm in it. It does not mean that the day, after this Bill is passed somebody could not come in for a grant and get it.

Suppose the Government said in a scheme of emigration: we can either make loans or grants. If we disagree with the principle and they have decided that under the scheme they are not going to make grants then they would confine it to loans.

If you are sending people to British Honduras under a scheme of permanent emigration you may say "grant"; but under no other scheme can you say so if however the Government do not decide to make grants, if they decide to continue with loans they will continue with loans. If you do not continue that policy the Bill does not force you.

Mr. VAUGHAN: The language, I think, is subject to some confusion; but I do not agree with the way in which the hon. junior member for St. Peter has interpreted it. The Clause says: "Make grants or advances or by way of loans".

It is just the form of language I believe popularly used by the Government. You may advance loans and one-third or one-fourth of them may not be repayable. I do not think that there is any suggestion that you are going to provide gifts or free passages. I think that is stretching that too far to conceive that it means free gifts of money for passages.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, I am inclined to think that the hon. junior member for St. John has made the matter worse than the Hon. Minister. The Minister has construed grants; because he said that there are occasions when they will have to make grants. If, therefore, the passage is \$200 you advance them \$100. But in view of the fact that you advance them \$100 that is where I say that in the circumstances under which they allow the Government to draft this Bill the question of making a grant for these purposes does not exist. But according to what the Hon. Minister says, the Minister has ideas of sending people to Liberia and if that is so they will have to make grants for the purpose of enabling the people to go to Liberia.

The question that Clause 3 stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Clause 4 was called and passed.

Clause 5 was called. It reads as follows:

5. No person shall be disqualified or prejudiced in respect of any facilities provided under this Act on account of his refusal to accept employment found for him through an employment exchange if the ground of his refusal is that

a trade dispute which affects his trade exists, or that the wages offered are lower than those current in the trade in the district where the employment is found.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: Here the Clause speaks about the existence of a trade dispute that affects the trade of any person registered under this Act. Suppose you had this in the Trade Dispute Act. If you read the Trade Dispute Act you would find that if there is a Trade Dispute your refusing to strike would be null and void.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Mr. Chairman, I have conceived the sense of what the hon. member is trying to say; and I have assured the hon. member that I discussed that point with the Attorney General as to whether it is covered or not.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: I do not think that employment officers would go out of their way to cheat, but I had to draw it to your attention that if a man strikes in sympathy with a worker in another trade there would be in existence a trade dispute in his trade; and I hope that he would not be disqualified on that account.

The question that Clause 5 stand part of the Bill was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Clause 6 was called and passed.

On the motion of Hon. R. G. MAPP seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, the CHAIRMAN reported the passing of the Bill in Committee. Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On motions of Hon. R. G. MAPP seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA in each case, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

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.
8.15 p.m.

On reassembling.

APPOINTMENT OF SELECT COMMITTEE RE OCEANOGRAPHIC RESEARCH STATION

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker, as I intimated earlier when Message No. 25/1955 from His Excellency the Governor was laid; I am now asking that a Select Committee be appointed to reply to that Message. I therefore beg to move that a Select Committee be appointed to reply to that Message regarding the establishment of an Oceanographic Research Station in Barbados.

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

The motion was put and agreed to.

Mr. SPEAKER: Subject to the approval of the House, I have the honour to appoint the following members to serve on such Select Committee:—

The Minister of Social services (Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS) the hon. junior member for St. Joseph (Mr. SMITH); the hon. junior member for St. Michael (Mr. BRYAN); the Minister of Trade, Industry and Labour, (Hon. R. G. MAPP); the hon. senior member for the City (Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY), the honourable senior member for St. George (Mr. BARROW); the hon. senior member for St. Philip (Mr. CRAWFORD); and the hon. junior member for St. John (Mr. VAUGHAN).

Mr. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I respectfully beg to decline serving on that Committee, I would sug

gest that the hon. junior member for St. Lucy (Mr. TUDOR) be appointed to serve in my place.

Mr. SPEAKER: The honourable member has declined to serve on that Committee and he has asked that the honourable junior member for St. Lucy be appointed to serve in his place; if that is the feeling of the House, I appoint the honourable junior member for St. Lucy to serve on that Committee.

Mr. TUDOR: As Your Honour pleases.

RESOLUTION RE INVITATION OF FOURTH CLERK OF HOUSE OF COMMONS TO VISIT BARBADOS

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr, Speaker, there was a communication sent to us to the effect that the Fourth Clerk of the House of Commons proposes to visit the Windward Islands to give talks to members of the Legislative Councils on Parliamentary Procedure, and enquiring whether the Legislature of Barbados would be prepared to ask this gentleman to include Barbados in his itinerary. The Other Place has consented to his being asked to visit Barbados; and I think that we should also embrace the opportunity to welcome this gentleman inasmuch as we are revising our Rules at this stage. If honourable members will agree with me I beg to propose that the following Resolution do now pass:—

RESOLVED that the House of Assembly approve the invitation of Mr. Lidderdale, the Fourth Clerk at the Table of the House of Commons, to include Barbados in his proposed visit to the Windward Islands in 1956 to give talks to members of the Legislative Councils on Parliamentary Procedure.

As I have already said, I think that this would be a good opportunity to have this gentleman visit us, inasmuch as we are in the process of revising our Rules.

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

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: I do not quite understand this. Is this gentleman invited to give talks to the Legislative Councils of the Windward Islands or to the Legislature of Barbados?

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I ask leave to amend this Resolution by substituting the word "Legislatures" instead of "Legislative Councils"

Mr. BARROW: This Resolution is very badly drafted. As it reads now it says: "Resolved that the House of Assembly approve the invitation to Mr. Lidderdale, the Fourth Clerk at the Table of the House of Commons, to include Barbados in his proposed visit to the Windward Islands in 1956 to give talks to members of the Legislative Councils on Parliamentary Procedure."

I think you will agree with me, Mr. Speaker, that it is tautologous and ambiguous. I think the only thing in it is that they are including Barbados in the Windward Islands from which we were separated nearly a hundred years ago. I propose that this Resolution read as follows:—

RESOLVED that the House of Assembly approve that Mr. Lidderdale, the Fourth Clerk at the Table of the House of Commons, be invited to include Barbados in his proposed visit to the other B.W.I. Islands in 1956."

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I accept that amendment.
9.15 p.m.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, I would like to oppose this very idea because I feel it is a waste of public funds; I am going to show you why it is a waste of public funds. First of all the Colonial Office would never have insulted Barba-

dos by asking this colony which has a Legislature as old as 300 years to receive the Fourth Clerk of the House of Commons to lecture to the people on Parliamentary Procedure. The Windward Islands do not possess a Legislature like this; they have a nominated Legislature as well as the Leeward Islands. We have passed the stage of having somebody to lecture to us on Parliamentary Procedure.

Added to that, sir, you have visited the United Kingdom on a mission like this, and not only you but the Librarian Secretary as well as the Hon. Minister of Communications, Works and Housing and the honourable junior member for St. Joseph. The Hon. Premier of this House is an old Parliamentarian and moreover, the Party that leads the House is an old political party. Ask yourself this question: "Why are you now going to accept this offer?" Is it because the Fourth Clerk is in the area at present? How much is it going to cost to bring Mr. Lidderdale here? Is it going to cost this island money to do so? If so, how much?

The letter from the Chief Secretary about the matter reads as follows:—

Sir,

With reference to my letter No. 8249/3 of the 20th November, 1953, notifying you that the post of Fourth Clerk at the Table of the House of Commons had been created with the special duty of advising Colonial Legislatures, at their request, on matters of procedure, I am directed to inform you that according to present plans Mr. Lidderdale, the Fourth Clerk, will visit the Windward Islands for about two months from towards the end of January, 1956, to give talks to members of Legislative Councils on parliamentary procedure.

2. If you wish to take advantage of Mr. Lidderdale's presence in the area to seek his advice on matters of parliamentary procedure, I should be glad if you would let me know as early as possible so that arrangements for his tour may be co-ordinated.

Let me ask again: what is this going to cost us? Is this an indication that if we want him to come here, we will have to pay him. I am going to be very frank now. I will go on record as saying that the honourable Introducer of this Resolution should be the last person at this stage of our existence to attempt to ask us to agree to this if he knows that it is going to cost us something.

I want to say that the whole process of parliamentary conduct, both outside and inside of our legislature is such that you need not ask somebody to come to tell us anything. I will go further and say that the honourable Introducer of this Resolution should not ask that Mr. Lidderdale should come here, but let him get Mr. Attlee to come and tell the Labour Government how it should run a Democratic Party. Let him come and tell you when they have things which become the function of Parliament to deal with in a Party, how they deal with them.

There is no point in your trying to paint the lily white when in your own party business, things are not working well. Why do you want Mr. Lidderdale to come here to tell you how to run parliament, when in your own institution, week after week, you are doing things which are undemocratic? Why not face the public on this issue and let the people know that you are not running your own institutions as they should be run.

Now, we want Mr. Lidderdale to come here to tell you what? Is he to come here to tell you how you should run a 300-year Assembly? You are not

in need of anyone coming here to do that to put the colony to unnecessary expense.

When it comes to Parliamentary Procedure, Mr. Speaker, if you look on the Order Paper you will see that since the 5th February, 1955, a private member has not been able to discuss a matter of very great importance. I refer to Item No. 2 which was something standing under my name to move the adjournment of the House to discuss the Report of Professor Richardson, on Social Security. Agricultural workers in the Union are waiting on this bit of social legislation. We are waiting to know what is the Government's policy on this Report.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of Order. What has that got to do with Parliamentary Procedure?

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: It is to show that on the Order Paper we have something which is of great importance and there is no attempt to clear the Order Paper. There is no attempt in this Parliament to give private members the necessary time to deal with matters of private importance.

We do not need Mr. Lidderdale to tell us how to run Parliament. When it comes to Private Members' Business, every honourable member should have time to deal with business standing under his name; that is something which we should know for ourselves.

I ask again, Mr. Speaker, do we really have to extend an invitation to Mr. Lidderdale to come here to speak to us on Parliamentary Procedure? There are very few members of this House who have not been a member for nearly a period of five years. Some have been in this Chamber as members for as long a period of ten to fifteen years.

I do not know if it is regarded as appropriate at this time when you are changing the Rules of this House to ask Mr. Lidderdale to come here to advise us on them; but I think that is a matter for this House to decide. There is no real reason which can be advanced to us to show that we should extend this invitation.

If we extend this invitation to the Fourth Clerk expenditure will be involved. I hear a member close to me making comments about the economic value of conferences at which Ministers attend. I do say that some of the conferences at which Ministers have attended are likely to be of more use to us than the visit of this Fourth Clerk of the House of Commons. I am sure that Barbados is not in need of a visit by Mr. Lidderdale to advise us on parliamentary procedure.

9.25 p.m.

It is alright for the Windward and Leeward Islands, because they are now beginning to evolve a constitution like ours; but with a place like this having its Parliamentary Procedure so closely resembling that of the House of Commons there is no need. In any case this House is getting to the end of the Session; so what is the use of this? To me it is better to wait till the end of the Session. Why are you now spending this money at this stage? It makes no difference to me; because I am a young man still and whether I get back my seat in the House or whether I do not, it will not prevent me from making my contribution to public life. I still have 24 more years to live. I am not dealing with it in a personal way. Opposition is no terror to me; I live and thrive on that. The more opposition I get, the more difficulty I have the more I am inclined to press my views in any matter.

I am dealing with the usefulness of this. I cannot express the opinion of anyone else; but I can ex-

press my own opinion. I do not feel that it is advisable at this stage to extend any invitation to Mr. Lidderdale because I consider that we do not have very much to gain from a visit of Mr. Lidderdale. If he wants to come to Barbados, extend the courtesy of the colony to him; but to extend any invitation for the purpose mentioned when it is out of his itinerary is to me unnecessary, and I wish to emphasise that point. If it is within the scope of his itinerary then by all means extend to him all the courtesies that a host should extend to a guest; but to extend an invitation to Mr. Lidderdale is expending public monies in a way that could better be expended on other matters.

Mr. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I agree to a large extent with what has been said by the hon. junior member for St. Peter, but I should like some intimation from the Hon. Minister of Social Services who introduced this Resolution that Mr. Lidderdale's visit to Barbados will not involve the taxpayers in any financial measure.

As the hon. junior member for St. Peter has pointed out, we have had Professor Richardson down here; also over a year ago we have had Mr. Foster and it has cost us \$2,000 to entertain him down here. Mr. Foster came for five months; he drew his \$476 a month from the Home Office and in addition to that, he drew \$2,000 from this Treasury; a sum which would have kept some ten Barbadian families, and up to now this House has not discussed his Report.

I realise that certain of the Hon. Ministers have had no elementary lectures on parliamentary procedure; but I am not considering that they should be educated in parliamentary procedure at the expense of the taxpayers of this island. If they watch the attitude of members on this side of the House they will learn a lot more than they would from Mr. Lidderdale.

Even if they did invite Mr. Lidderdale, unless we postponed our Elections the purpose of his visit might not be so well served at this time. In any case, I hope the Minister of Social Services tells us whether this is going to involve us in any expense such as Mr. Foster's visit, or whether this is an excursion made by Mr. Lidderdale from his duties in the House of Commons.

Right here we have a practical illustration in the amendments to the Draft Rules. The appointment of a Fourth Clerk to the House of Commons is in itself a useful thing, because with regards the amendments to the Draft Rules which have been sent down from the House of Commons I personally, should like to commend the Parliamentary Draftsmen and the Clerks on the pains which they have taken in submitting these new Draft Rules to this honourable Chamber. But in these days when we do not have to rely on sailing ships or stage coaches, the ordinary transmission through the post of rules for our approval and suggestions as to how our parliamentary procedure may be brought into line with that of other countries, appears to me that this is as far as we should go in this matter.

If Mr. Lidderdale's visit is going to cost us a large amount like Mr. Foster's I am maintaining that 10 families consisting of say, four or five people could be kept at the average wage of \$10.00 a week. We must have a sense of proportion in these matters. It is true that other places like the Windward and Leeward Islands have not enjoyed that representative government that we have since the 16th or 17th century. Those that have enjoyed it have probably grown rusty in their parliamentary practice. But you will agree with me that it would be carrying

coals to Newcastle for anybody to come down here and give us two or three lectures as to the manner in which we should conduct our proceedings.

Our proceedings at present, I will admit, are not conducted with that high spirit of dignity, and in other respects, with the great tradition we have inherited; but that is the result of human frailty rather than lack of parliamentary knowledge to maintain those traditions.

I am afraid I cannot support a Resolution of this kind if it is going to entail financial expenditure on our colony.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: Sir, I gave way to the Hon. Minister of Social Services when I should have spoken. I take it that this is my turn now.

Mr. SPEAKER: Yes.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I am inclined to think that this Resolution was not properly worded, and I gave opportunity to the legal and parliamentary luminaries to put it in proper phraseology. However, in the meantime I received a copy of the letter from the Acting Chief Secretary dated 20th July, and that letter reads as follows:—

“In reference to my letter of 20th November, 1953 informing you that the post of Fourth Clerk at the table of the House of Commons has been created, a new post with the special duty of advertising colonial legislatures at their request on matters of procedure. I am directed to inform you that according to present plans Mr. Lidderdale, Fourth Clerk of the House of Commons will be visiting the Windward Islands for about two months from towards the end of January to give talks to members of the Legislative Councils on matters of Procedure. If you wish to take advantage of Mr. Lidderdale's presence in the matter, I should be glad if you would let me know as early as possible so that arrangements may be co-ordinated. [A VOICE: Is that a Message?] This is a letter signed by Mr. E. S. S. Burrowes, Acting Chief Secretary, and it states “to give talks at your request on matters of procedure.”

9.35 p.m.

The hon. junior member for St. Peter is saying that if this gentleman wants to come to Barbados we should extend courtesy to him. All this letter says is this: “I am directed to inform you that according to present plans, Mr. Lidderdale, the Fourth Clerk, will visit the Windward Islands for about two months from towards the end of January, 1956, to give talks to members of Legislative Councils on Parliamentary procedure. If you wish to take advantage of Mr. Lidderdale's presence in the area to seek his advice on matters of Parliamentary Procedure I should be glad if you would let me know as early as possible so that arrangements from his tour may be co-ordinated.”

Can the Hon. Minister of Social Services tell us whether this will entail any money? Apparently the whole objection of the hon. junior member for St. Peter and the hon. senior member for St. George is the expenditure of the money. I want to know if this is going to entail the expenditure of money.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member may not know that while he is on his feet.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: I did not see the Hon. Minister making any effort to rise, and I do not want to sit down and then be ruled out of Order in speaking again.

My mind is not made up as to whether I should vote for this Resolution or not. You appoint somebody in the Mother of Parliaments for a specific purpose: this post has been created for the special duty of assisting Colonial Legislatures on matters of

procedure; it is not confined to the West Indies. I want to know whether we will have to pay this gentleman or not, because in honourable Mr. Burrowes' letter he has not said anything about that. I am of the opinion, I might be wrong, that according to this letter you have not got to pay this gentleman. You are granting the various colonies various forms of government and you want to keep in conformity with the position in England. You create a post to give advice to the colonies if they want it, as regards Parliamentary Procedure; this gentleman is coming out and somebody will have to pay his way, but we are not paying it.

Will the Hon. Minister tell me if he has any information as to whether or not we will have to pay this gentleman? I plead to be ignorant and to be a fool in a lot of things, but I cannot be fooled by those over there.

This Resolution has been put before us in order that we might say whether we would like this gentleman to come to Barbados. The question has been raised: “What is the use of paying this man to come out here and give talks when we have a Legislature which is 300 years of age?” I have asked a simple question; I want to know whether this gentleman's visit here will cost us any money. I am simply trying to find out that. [Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Sit and I will tell you.] But if I sit I will lose my opportunity of speaking. [Mr. SPEAKER: You certainly will.] [Laughter].

It is so simple for the Minister just to say whether we will have to pay for this gentleman's visit or not. If the Hon. Minister says it will cost nothing I would ask, what is the sense of arguing? But if he says that this gentleman's visit will cost money then I will proceed to make a different speech. I would want to know what it will cost; if it will cost money I will not just vote “No”. I see nothing from Hon. Mr. Burrowes' letter saying that nothing will have to be paid.

9.45 p.m.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Minister seems not wishful of saying anything until I sit. Knowing that I cannot speak again if I sit, I say that as far as I am concerned of the great majority of members of this House, including the Hon. Minister of Social Services, we are laymen, so to speak. With the exception of the Hon. Premier, (whom the hon. junior member for St. Peter rightly said is an old parliamentarian), the hon. senior member for St. Lucy and the hon. senior member for St. George (three lawyers) the rest of us are laymen.

If Your Honour will permit me in being personal, you Sir, cannot claim as many years' experience in parliamentary procedure although we all would agree that you have handled as impartially as possible matters in this Chamber. As laymen, we come into conflict at times with the views as expressed by the hon. senior member for St. Lucy who is a lawyer, at times very much more so, by the submissions made by the hon. senior member for St. George. We are also at times “eufuffled by Your Honour's ruling [A VOICE: What is that?] That is Barbadian colloquialism. [A VOICE: I do not know what you mean]

As I was saying, Mr. Speaker at other times (I may say on several occasions) we have been told that the Hon. Premier whom the hon. junior member for St. Peter has referred to as an old parliamentarian, would stake his reputation on certain procedural matters; and we have seen Your Honour had to rule differently and as a result, the Hon. Premier lost his reputation by Your Honour's ruling. If, Sir, the

reasons for bringing someone here is to give us guidance in parliamentary procedure and it would be of some benefit to some of the blind sheep of this Chamber, then—

Mr. ALLDER: On a point of Order, Mr. Speaker. I object on behalf of hon. members with respect to the last remarks made by the hon. senior member for the City. If he feels himself a blind sheep, certainly, other hon. members do not feel that way.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. senior member for St. John is asking that you withdraw those words although these words are not personal to him.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: The hon. members knows that I would withdraw them, but I do not know why he has taken umbrage.

Mr. SPEAKER: He is not asking anything personal; he only asked you to withdraw those words.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: I am quite aware of that. As I was saying, sir, if I feel that it would mean any enlightenment or any guidance to hon. members who have been so blindly guided at times by the utterances of the Hon. Premier when it comes to procedure and at times when he clashes with Your Honour's ruling, then I will say in that respect, "yes, get the Fourth Clerk to come here".

However, it is my experience in here that if you have the Fourth, Fifth or any other Clerk or the Speaker of the House of Commons to come to speak to us, there will be occasions when the Hon. Premier will feel that he is right and he will clash with you and maintain that he is right.

I do not know what it is going to cost us, but I do feel that certain members of this Chamber have taken Party politics in such a way that they do not think that even on the question of procedure that they should differ with the Hon. Premier, or the Leader of the House.

Mr. SPEAKER: I hope the hon. member is not lecturing to the House.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: I am not lecturing to the House, Mr. Speaker; I am giving my reasons as to whether I should vote for this Resolution or not.

Undoubtedly, if you have this gentleman come here, it might be of some enlightenment to some hon. members not necessarily the Ministers, because the Hon. Premier himself refused to obey the Chair. [A VOICE: Why should you say so, now that the Hon. Premier is sick in Hospital and is unable to reply.] I was sick in Hospital and they said all sorts of things about me during that time.

9.55 p.m.

Now, if it means—[A VOICE: The Premier is sick]. My conscience is too clear to say anything dirty about people like what that Party said about me when I was sick.

Mr. SPEAKER: I hope the hon. member is not now going to make it obvious that we do mean that gentleman.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: It is very untrue for Your Honour to make those assertions, but I would not be the only member of this House making it obvious. I am the only member out of the twenty-four trying to make it clear that he should not be here.

Mr. SPEAKER: I hope the hon. member will just stick to his points.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: Is that not what I am doing? Surely it is not my intention to argue with Your Honour.

The hon. member seems so slavish to patriotism that he is forgetting that any procedure or ruling has nothing to do with party politics. [A VOICE:

Then, he can give any reason.] But this year we have seen that procedure has been thrown to the winds. Some hon. member has spoken—[Mr. CRAWFORD: Sit down now.] Let me talk. [Mr. CRAWFORD: You have made some good points already. This is an insult to Barbados; do you not know that?] I do not think it is an insult to Barbados.

Let us call a spade a spade. I have heard the Hon. Premier himself say that the standard of the debates of this House has gone down; and on that point I have had to remind him that example is better than precept, and that he should set the example.

Let me put it in this way: he for instance, comes in here with a majority of 14 or 15 members, somebody over there on the opposite side of this table will come in and drop something; that is to say, some measure without warning. We know that Mr. Speaker will give his ruling in such matters; and I have seen that over there they have gone so far as to challenge His Honour's ruling and cause the matter to be put to the vote.

No one is saying that the gentleman's coming could prevent that. They are some people in this country—[A VOICE: It is procedure anyhow.] The hon. junior member for St. Peter has said that he has had training in procedure; Your Honour has been trained in parliamentary procedure; the Minister of Communications has had opportunity to see procedure; the hon. senior member for St. George has seen procedure. Nevertheless, all of us are Barbadians. Therefore, I am inclined to think that you had better send the Marshal to see some Procedure next.

Not even the Hon. Premier or the hon. senior member for St. George can tell us anything about Procedure. But if the Gentleman should come here and give us a lecture in Procedure and my colleague, the hon. junior member for the City starts asking questions as he did when Mr. Clifton Browne, now Lord Ruffside was here, it would be found that he would hardly be able to tell us anything which we did not know as to Procedure.

I hope that the Hon. Minister of Social Services will listen to me on this point: while I am concerned with how much it is going to cost us, I am also concerned with how much good a visit from Mr. Lidderdale could do. I hope the hon. member is going to tell me how much it is going to cost or whether it is going to cost us any money at all.

Mr. SPEAKER: I think we had better let the hon. senior member for St. Philip speak.

Mr. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, this invitation is an insult to this colony. I see no reason why Barbados, with its constitution which, according to the Hon. Premier, is the most advanced in the colonial empire should be linked for this purpose with Crown Colonies like Grenada, Dominica, St. Vincent and St. Lucia, Crown colonies which are supported by the Imperial Treasury. We who are most advanced in the Colonial Empire, must not be subjected to the indignity of a parliamentarian to come down here and preach parliamentary procedure to us. Would you insult Jamaica or Trinidad like this? We do not ask the British Treasury to run our affairs for us every year.

Several members of this House have been sent to England for the purpose of seeing and studying Parliamentary Procedure.

We do not ask the British Government to run our Treasury. Your Honour, the Chairman of Committees, the Hon. Premier, the Hon. Minister of Communications, the Hon. Minister of Social

Services, the Hon. Minister of Trade Industry and Labour, the hon. junior member for St. Peter and the Librarian and Secretary have all been out to England and they have been on more than one occasion; and they have had the opportunity, if they so desired and if they had the capacity to imbibe what they saw, they would have understood the elementary details of Parliamentary Procedure.

If the British Government want to justify the position of this Fourth Clerk in the House of Commons let them send him to Uganda or Kenya, but not to Barbados.

I am not at all satisfied in my mind that we should go on record as regarding ourselves as being in need of listening to lectures by the Fourth Clerk at the Table of the House of Commons. We have been masters in our own houses for the last 300 years; we have been running this Chamber, we have been running our Treasury when other people had Crown Colony Status. We have obtained the best traditions in the Colonial Empire.

Only recently, it is true, it may be that occurrences in this Chamber might have given rise to the idea or we might have given the impression that we need a visit from an official of this sort; but do you really and truly suggest that a Government which only a few weeks ago, felt that it was not necessary to have a legally trained man as Clerk of this House but that a layman should hold the post, is the same Government which thinks that we still need the wisdom of the Fourth Clerk of the House of Commons? Are we to pay money for a visit from this gentleman?

If they want to give somebody a free trip to the West Indies, let them pay his expenses. We will have to pay his expenses to come here, we will have to entertain him; and more than that, if he lectures once or twice, he will not find one half of the House to listen to him.

What is he coming for? What are we earning for the money we spent in sending out the Chairman of Committees and the Minister of Communications? Is that wasted? [A MEMBER: We did not spend any money] What did they go up for? [MEMBERS: To see the Queen!]

It is an admission of a very grave inferiority complex in connection with this country if we were to agree to the proposal to invite this gentleman out here, and the mere presentation of this Resolution to this Chamber is a subtle indication of the complete subordination of this Government to every dictate of the Imperial Government.

If the British Government suggested to them tomorrow morning that we should spend one half of the money in the Treasury on some humiliating gesture of this sort they would agree to do it. I would go so far as to say that even if this visit would not cost us a single cent, we should not subject ourselves to be lectured to in conjunction with the Windward Islands.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I am very much amused this afternoon. You will remember, Mr. Speaker, that before this House took the long adjournment a letter was sent to us; it was printed and circulated, informing us that this gentleman was coming out to the Windward Islands, that he was going to Trinidad and we were asked whether we wanted him or not. It is up to hon. members of this House to say "Yes we want him," or "No we do not want him."

If hon. members are saying that they know all about Parliamentary Procedure, well let them say "No, we do not want him". On the other hand it was felt by some of us that now we are in the

process of amending our Rules we should have him to visit us.

The Amended Rules were sent up to the House of Commons and they considered our Rules to be antiquated; we therefore felt that this gentleman might be useful to us in amending our Rules. If hon. members of this House say that we do not want this gentleman then we will not have him. Mr. Lidderdale's emoluments are being borne by the United Kingdom but the colony which invites him will have to pay his expenses; they wanted an answer by the 15th of this month.

10.15 p.m.

Mr. TUDOR: Were it not for the last two sentences of the reply of the Hon. Minister of Social Services, we would not have been made aware that we would have to vote money eventually to bring this Fourth Clerk of the House of Commons here; and it appears that the Hon. Minister was afraid to tell us that any Government which invites this man would have to pay for it.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: On a point of Order, Mr. Speaker. I am not afraid of anything; not even of him. I said what I had to say and that is all to it.

Mr. TUDOR: He does not have to be afraid of me; he should be afraid of his own poltroonery. He was afraid to tell us that it would cost us something to bring this man here.

We do not want him and those of us who feel so indicate that in the strongest manner possible. It is an insult, we feel, to have anybody from anywhere to come here to tell us anything of Parliamentary Procedure.

Such defects which we suffer are because of the kind of people we have in authority. It is not personal conceit involved when we say so, because we do not know the Fourth Clerk. If the money which is supposed to be spent on bringing this gentleman here is spent otherwise, who knows whether it would not be enough that we could erect another Communal Bath or something which is worthy.

We are not convinced of anything which the Hon. Minister has said that we want this gentleman, and as a result, we will not be a party to taking up the taxpayers' money and wasting it on this purpose.

The question that the Resolution as amended do now pass was put and resolved in the negative on the declaration of the Speaker: "I think the 'Noes have it.'"

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSING BILL

Hon. M. E. COX: Earlier in the day, Mr. Speaker, I gave notice of my intention to ask leave to proceed with the amendments by the Other Place to the Housing Bill. I have taken the opportunity to circulate copies of the amendment to hon. members and as hon. members will see, these amendments are of minor importance; some are typographical errors. I am now asking leave to deal with these amendments.

Mr. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of Order. Amendments cannot be done that way. In accordance with our Rules (and I think Your Honour has pointed it out on many occasions) they cannot be done that way. Any kind of amendment sent down by the Other Place they accept, because they seem to be completely under the thumb of the Other Place.

Rule 261 reads as follows:—

"When a Bill is returned from the Council with amendments, such amendments are twice read and agreed to, or agreed to with amendments, or disagreed to, or the further consideration thereof put off for

three or six months, or the Bill ordered to be laid aside."

Then Rule 262 reads as follows:—

"Council's amendments to Public Bills are to be appointed to be considered on a future day, unless the House shall order them to be considered forthwith."

That is not ambiguous, "on a future day, unless the House shall order them to be considered forthwith." The House will have to say they can be dealt with forthwith, and I am saying that these amendments are not of the nature we can deal with forthwith.

Mr. SPEAKER: Objection having been taken, the question must be put immediately.

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, before you put the question, I would like to say that it is not fair to the House to let the suggestion by the hon. senior member for St. George stand. I just rise to point out that the hon. member failed to read the Rule as it stands. The Rule says: "unless the House shall order them to be considered forthwith." He has not read that.

Mr. BARROW: The hon. member seems to have been taking private lessons. If he were listening he would have heard that I read Rules 261 and 262. I also said that the only way these amendments could be dealt with forthwith was on a motion put; but the normal procedure was that they would have to be dealt with on a future day.

The question that leave be granted the Hon. Minister to proceed with these amendments was put and resolved in the affirmative the House dividing as follows:

Ayes: Hon. Dr. H. G. CUMMINS, Hon. M. E. COX, Hon. C. E. TALMA, Hon. R. G. MAPP, Mr. BRANCKER, Mr. F. L. WALCOTT and Mr. J. C. MOTTLEY—7.

Noes: Mr. TUDOR, Mr. ALLDER, Mr. BARROW and Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY—4.
10.25 p.m.

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that these amendments be now read a first time.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I beg to second that.

Mr. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, it is not so much the amendments themselves to which we are objecting although I do not subscribe to the view of the Other Place, but I am submitting that because the manner in which this rule has been suspended without leave being granted, these amendments cannot be proceeded with.

Mr. SPEAKER: If the hon. member would pay close attention to the text of the motion, he would see that leave is granted to proceed with the amendments.

The question is that these amendments be now read a first time was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, in moving that these amendments be read a second time, hon. members will see that sub-clause (1) of clause (6) (the old clause) reads as follows: "Whenever there is a vacancy in the membership of the Authority from whatever cause arising, the Governor-in-Executive Committee may appoint another person to fill the vacancy."

That clause has been amended to read as follows: "the Governor-in-Executive Committee may fill the vacancy". In other words, we are dealing with the words "another person" which it is considered will not be retained.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the fact the hon. member—[A VOICE: Sit down]. I sit down.

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, the clause, I repeat, states: "Whenever there is a vacancy in the membership of the Authority from whatever cause arising, the Governor-in-Executive Committee may appoint another person to fill the vacancy".

We are dealing with the words: "another person" and so the amended clause will now read: "the Governor-in-Executive Committee will fill the vacancy."

Mr. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, on a point of Order, I object to this whole matter; I consider that all that has been circulated to hon. members is the intimation that the Bill was passed with the following amendments. There is absolutely no resolution here asking us to concur in these amendments. In other words, there is nothing before the House. All we have here, I repeat, is an intimation that the Bill was passed with amendments. There is no resolution. How do we know that the Other Place is inviting us to concur in their amendments?

Mr. SPEAKER: To proceed with.

Mr. BARROW: To proceed with their amendments. In every single case the House is asked to concur with these amendments. I say again that there is no resolution. Mr. Speaker, I invite you to read the paper which has been circulated here. This is no resolution. The hon. member asks leave to deal with the amendments. He did not ask us to agree with them.

10.35 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: These amendments have been received in the usual fashion; amendments are always sent to me. This Message says:—

"The Legislative Council have the honour to return the Honourable the House of Assembly the Bill intituled an Act to make provision with respect to the Housing of persons of the working classes and other classes and for purposes connected therewith, which has been passed with amendments which are shewn written on the Bill."

When amendments are sent to me they are sent to the House; I am the House.

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, in moving the second reading of these amendments—

Mr. TUDOR: On a point of Order. I was wondering whether the Hon. Minister is in order even to proceed with this matter without having first cleared the Order Paper.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Minister is quite in order.

Hon. M. E. COX: I would have thought that an honourable member before he runs for a seat in this House, would be acquainted with the procedure in the House. [Asides].

Mr. SPEAKER: If honourable members want to continue their business and do not want me to rule that there is disorder, they will demean themselves in an orderly manner.

Hon. M. E. COX: The amendments by the Other Place to this Bill are as follows. In Clause 6 the words "appoint another person to" occurring in sub-clause (1) have been deleted. In Clause 10 the words "and shall include at least two persons who are members of the Authority" have been inserted between the word "fit" and the full stop occurring at the end of Sub-clause (2). The Other Place felt that it would be far better to have at all times on any of these Committees some member or members of the Authority. The original Clause says this:—

(1) "The Authority may appoint a committee for any of the purposes of the Authority which in its opinion would be better regulated or managed by means of a Committee and may delegate any of

its powers to a Committee with or without restrictions or conditions as it thinks fit."

(2) The Committee so appointed may consist of such number of persons as the Authority may think fit."

The Other Place feels that the Authority may select persons who have absolutely no authority and they may act in their own right without reference to the Board and that might be a dangerous policy. The amendment of the Other Place suggests that at all times two persons who are members of the Authority should be on the Committee when such delegation of authority is made. The next amendment is in Clause 13 of the Bill. It is a minor amendment, the addition of the letter "h" to the letters "eac" occurring at the end of the third line of sub-clause (1). There are a few amendments in Clause 20; the first is the substitution of the word "of" for the word "or" occurring in the sixth line of paragraph (a); the next amendment is the substitution of the word "area" for the word "areas" occurring in the eighth line of sub-paragraph (ii) of paragraph (b). The other amendment is the insertion of the following commas and words after the word "or" occurring in the first line of paragraph "Subject to the approval of the Governor-in-Executive Committee," In clause 22 there is the deletion of the comma occurring in the first line of Sub-clause (1); in Clause 26 there is the sub-

(k):—
stitution of the word "is" for the word "are" occurring in the second line; that amendment was suggested by the honourable senior member for St. George.

Mr. BARROW: On a point of Order. The honourable senior member for St. Michael has said that I moved an amendment changing the word "is" to the word "are." He has no right to make that suggestion because I never did that, and they always discuss these things in Executive-Committee before bringing them down here. I am not supporting any of these amendments having regard to the manner in which they have been brought forward.

Hon. M. E. COX: In Clause 32 there is the substitution of the word "slum" for the word "sum" occurring in the second line of sub-clause (1). In Clause 36 there is the deletion of the syllable "per" occurring at the end of the second line of sub-clause 2 and finally in the first Schedule there is the re-numbering "Part 1" and "Part 2" as "Part I" and "Part II" respectively.

I beg to move that these amendments be now read a second time.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I beg to second that.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: None of these amendments would seriously affect the Bill as has been passed. There is just one thing I would like to say in making an appeal to the Hon. Minister. These things are being done in the way in which they are being done; this Bill cannot be put into operation next week, next month, or even at the beginning of January.

I would appeal to the Hon. Minister; no matter the tactics you employ, you will get much more business done if you say, for instance, "I have these amendments and I will deal with them at the next meeting of the House." The contention as to whether you should deal with them now or not takes up a lot of time; you may have matters which are not controversial but the way in which you deal with them makes them controversial.

That is why I was trying to appeal to the honourable member. It is a fact that there is too much on the part of the Government proceeding with these things which though they are not controversial, the

procedure under which they proceed with them makes them contentious. The amendments to this Bill are mainly typographical errors but it would have made no difference toward the administration whether we pass them next week. We were in recess for four weeks; suppose we did not get a quorum to-day, they could not have been dealt with.

I say, that you should use your judgment and when things like this which will not precipitate a debate, do nothing to precipitate the debate. I said that because there is nothing in these amendments to object to, but I myself am not in favour of the procedure which has been adopted to deal with them. It looks as if you are forced and coercing honourable members to do something. You can lead a man with a string, but when you drive him to do things, there will be objection.

However, I am not objecting to dealing with these amendments; as a matter of fact, I am as cool as cucumber on this occasion and certainly, that is unlike me.

Mr. Speaker, I feel if the Hon. Minister would take what I said, in good heart, it would save a lot of debate on future occasions.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I feel that there are times when you can lead people with a string, but you should not attempt to drive them. I will agree when things must be done promptly that honourable members should stay on and do them; but what I am objecting to strongly is that when you do not have to give attention to them promptly you should not try to force it. It is bad taste and the Hon. Minister knows that it is bad taste.

Mr. SPEAKER: I thought we had passed that stage of the discussion.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: There is only one point I want to make. Here it is we have an amendment to Clause six, to delete the words "appoint another person to." You find many things repeating themselves in legislation which you pass. In this Clause it was stated "the Governor-in-Executive Committee may appoint another person to fill the vacancy." You can see in lots of legislation in this country the phrase "the Governor-in-Executive Committee shall appoint another person to do so and so" You can see it in a million places.

Now, those words are to be deleted. Could not the legal officers who drafted this Clause see that these four words which we are now asked to delete were redundant before it was sent here? The same Crown Law Officers who drafted it are now asking that these words be deleted.

On the other hand, Mr. Speaker, I want to say that what the honourable junior member for St. Peter said is really true. If you have something which is urgent, certainly ask honourable members to stay and do it, but do not come with something to do because you have honourable members whom you know would vote for it. You must be a quick thinker.

Let me ask you this: if we of the Opposition walk out now, can you do it? However, we are not going to walk out. All I am saying is, when you have something important to be done ask us to stay and do it, but do not come and throw this down our throats because you have numbers.

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

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, in moving that these amendments be now agreed to I want to assure honourable members that if they were not just typographical amendments I would not have tried to press that they be considered this afternoon; but because they were just typographical errors and not of any importance, is the reason why I asked

leave to deal with them. I beg to move that these amendments be now agreed to.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I beg to second that.

The question that the amendments be now agreed to was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

10.55 p.m.

AMENDMENT TO SECURITY OF TENURE BILL

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I should like to say that this amendment with reference to the Security of Tenure of Small Holdings Bill, 1955 was sent back to this Chamber two meetings prior to the adjournment of the House; but with Your Honour's permission, the amendments being of such a trivial nature, Your Honour has ruled that it is not essential to print this amendment. It is merely an amendment in the Second Schedule dealing with the title of the Bill. In clause 14 of the Second Schedule the words, "security of tenure of" have been left out.

Mr. SPEAKER: I think the honourable member should ask leave to proceed with the amendments.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I am saying that that is not necessary.

Mr. SPEAKER: It is necessary. You should still ask leave to proceed with the amendment.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Very well; Mr. Speaker, I ask leave to proceed with the amendment.

Mr. SPEAKER: The honourable member is asking leave to proceed with the amendment to the Security of Tenure of Small Holdings Bill; unless there is any objection, leave will be granted.

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

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, referring to the Second Schedule of the Security of Tenure of Small Holdings Act, 1955, I beg to move that the amendment be now read a second time.

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

The question that this amendment be now read a second time was put and resolved in the affirmative without division. On a separate motion the amendment was agreed to.

SELECT COMMITTEE REPORT

Re West Indian Regiment

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, there is a very important Message which was sent down by the Acting Governor in connection with the reformation of the West Indian Regiment. A Select Committee was appointed to consider and prepare a draft reply to His Excellency's Message, and that Select Committee has reported. The tenor of the Reply which it is proposed to move via the Select Committee which was appointed—[Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: What is the Hon. Minister moving?] It is a reply to a Message.

Mr. Speaker, for the benefit of honourable members, I will outline the Message briefly. Hon. members will observe from the despatch of the Secretary of State for the Colonies and also from His Excellency's Message No. 19/1955, which points out in the first paragraph that we are already committed in principle to this island making a contribution towards the re-formation of the West India Regiment in the Caribbean "on the basis of a financial contribution by Barbados of one per centum of annual revenue less the cost of the Barbados Regiment." Each participating territory is called upon to contribute one per cent. towards the cost of this Regiment; but in the case of Barbados, the amount would be one per

cent of annual revenue less the cost of the Barbados Regiment, and this works out to \$66,000 approximately.

Mr. Speaker, I am asking now formally for leave to deal with the Report of the Select Committee.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member is asking leave to deal with the Report of the Select Committee appointed to consider and prepare a draft reply to His Excellency's Message No. 19/1955; unless there is any objection, leave is granted.

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

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I think I had better start over again. This Message (No. 19/55) was sent down by the Acting Governor. A Select Committee, of which I was a member, was appointed to consider and draft a reply to His Excellency's Message. The Select Committee has now reported and the terms of that Report I shall read in a few minutes; but for the benefit of honourable members whose copies might not now be available, I think it is my duty to read the terms of the Report.

Honourable members will observe from the despatch of the Secretary of State for the Colonies and also from His Excellency's Message which points out in the first paragraph that we are already committed in principle to "the question of the Island making a contribution towards the establishment of a local Military Force in the Caribbean", namely, the "West India Regiment". . . "on the basis of a financial contribution by Barbados of one per centum of annual revenue less the cost of the Barbados Regiment". Each participating territory is called upon to contribute one per cent of their annual revenue towards the cost of maintaining the West India Regiment; but in the case of Barbados, the Barbados contribution, in every case, would be \$66,000.

The Reply reads as follows:—

The House of Assembly

To

His Excellency The Acting Governor

The House of Assembly have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's Message No. 19/1955 dated 30th July, 1955 relative to the proposal to reform the West India Regiment.

2. The House agree in principle to the formation of a West India Regiment on the terms and conditions set out in Your Excellency's message.

3. The House approve that this Island accept its share of the cost of the West India Regiment on the basis mentioned in paragraph three of Your Excellency's Message.

4. The House agree

(1) that the War Office should be requested to raise the West India Regiment and control it as the agent of the participating Governments; and

(2) that the necessary legislative basis for the establishment, maintenance and discipline of the West India Regiment should be provided by an Act of Parliament in the United Kingdom."

Now, the object of that is, that Federation has not yet been realised, and consequently, there is no one voice. In other words, there is no one local parliament in the Caribbean area to speak on behalf of the entire area.

11.05 p.m.

It is for that reason that this legislation will pass through the United Kingdom Parliament and the financial control of the West India Regiment should be vested in the War Office.

The despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies sets out in paragraph six the nature,

scale and location of the Regiment. The Regiment would consist of a small Regimental Headquarters and Depot and two Battalions, each comprising a Battalion headquarters, a Headquarters Company and four Rifle Companies. The Battalions would be formed by stages. Although this would be for local defence, in the case of a major conflict, it will be called upon to participate but only with the concurrence of the local Legislature.

As to the question of finance the whole cost of the Regiment, both capital and recurrent should be regarded as the responsibility of the participating Colonial Governments. In so far as the territories being unable to meet the full cost in any one year, the shortfall would be made good by Her Majesty's Government through the Colonial Services Vote, which is the recognised channel for the provision of financial assistance to Colonial Governments. Only in the case of a shortfall would Her Majesty's Government make any contribution to the cost of the Regiment and it would be made from the Colonial Services Vote, which is the usual channel. With regard to the use of our money and manpower we will be kept informed as to how our money is being spent by a Board which will be set up comprised of the Colonial Secretaries and Chief Secretaries of the area.

Mr. Speaker, I think that those are the salient points in the Despatch and in the Message from His Excellency the Acting Governor. Replies have already been sent by the Jamaican Parliament which dealt with the matter on the 18th August; and the Trinidad Legislature has already given its sanction to the formation of this West India Regiment and the contribution which they will have to pay. I beg to move that this Reply as I have read out do now pass.

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

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I will not be long in speaking on this matter, but I am offering an amendment to this proposed Reply. This Message deals with the formation of a West India Regiment as part of Her Majesty's Armed Forces and I would be lacking in my duty if I did not express my view on something which is near and dear to me. My amendment will be an additional paragraph to be numbered paragraph five of this Reply. This Reply is really dealing with the Armed Forces of Her Majesty and I want to propose this further paragraph to this Reply:—

"The House further feel that coloured West Indians should be acceptable for service in all branches of the Armed Forces more especially the Royal Navy."

I am not going to make any speech on this matter; I am only saying that long ago the United States of America accepted in their Navy, men of colour. They have accepted men of colour for commissions in their Navy.

11.15 p.m.

All I have to say is that it is strikingly strange and shocking that if you go from Jamaica back to Barbados, you can find no West Indian who has the courage to say that we have reached the stage where Britain should admit men of colour into the Royal Navy.

As a full-blooded Negro, I am expressing this view. For a long time men of colour have been heard of in the British Army and in the Royal Air Force during the last War; there must be some reason why they have been excluded from the Royal Navy. Although, this view has come from a far-flung unit like this, I think the time has come when men of colour should serve in the Royal Navy just

as persons of colour are allowed to serve in the United States Navy.

I beg to move that the following be paragraph 5. of this Address:—

"The House further feel that coloured West Indians should be acceptable for service in all branches of the Armed Forces, more especially the Royal Navy."

Mr. ALLDER: I beg to second the motion for the amendment moved by the hon. senior member for the City. I too think that the time has come when coloured colonials are eligible to fit in this other branch of the Armed Forces. They are at present accepted for service in the British Army and in the Royal Air Force.

It becomes more necessary that Colonials should be accepted for service in the Royal Navy when we have seen in the Navy of the United States of America men of colour as commissioned and non-commissioned officers. I have even seen where the United States of America Navy has gone as far as to make coloured men Captains.

Our young men are always prepared to lend assistance to the Mother Country when her freedom and liberties are threatened; therefore, I feel that there should be no semblance of discrimination in respect to the inclusion of coloured colonials in all the branches of the Armed Services.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Mr. Speaker, I do hate to drag out this debate, but I think hon. members will appreciate that even if we agreed to the text of the paragraph proposed by the hon. senior member for the City, it would be much better if it came in the form of a separate Address.

We are really dealing with an Address concerning the West Indian Regiment and it would be wrong to insert that amendment in this Address. This is dealing with the establishment of a West Indian Regiment; what the hon. member is dealing with is something different altogether. This is something as a consequence to our joining in a West Indian Federation; it is really dealing with the Armed Forces of the West Indies. Hon. members should know that this is not a matter of colonialism; we are moving towards Federation and Self Government. We want our own Navy; we want our own Army and Air Force. [A VOICE: We know that.]

11.25 p.m.

Mr. J. C. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I think that there is one item which I should like to make some mention of; and that is, that a unit of this West India Regiment should be posted here to Barbados.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I would like the honourable member who moved the amendment to bear with me. If the honourable member were to read this despatch from the Secretary of State he would see that the West India Regiment will be a force like the Malay Regiment.

In other words, it would not be an integral part of Her Majesty's Armed Forces. It will be a separate and distinct Regiment which would not normally be called upon to engage in hostilities abroad. If, in the case of a major war, the West India Regiment is called upon to take part, it must receive the concurrence of the Legislature. (Cheers).

The position is that this West India Regiment will be a separate and distinct force with a commander who will be in charge and a deputy commander. Also all the officers and non-commissioned officers of the West India Regiment will be locally trained West Indians.

As far as the amendment moved by the honourable senior member for the City is concerned, I should like to say that I am in agreement with the principle and almost with every word written here; but I con-

sider that it would be in bad grace for us to put it in this particular Reply. [Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: This is the time to put it in.] It would be wrong and out of place to put that amendment in this Reply; furthermore, it would be unnecessary. [Mr. E. D. Mottley: We can express a view anyway.]

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, I am not prepared to prolong the debate, but I would like to say that the amendment of the honourable senior member for the City is not as comprehensive as it should be, because he has found his remarks on "coloured West Indians." He should have said "coloured peoples."

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I accept the honourable member's suggestion; but I should like to ask: who are "coloured colonials", I also ask leave to make alteration to the amendment as suggested.

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment is really out of place in that Address. The question is that the

Address as amended do now pass. I hope honourable members are listening.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, before you put that question I want to make my position quite clear. I can quite see the Government's position. I am only asking you to accept it. We are just asking whether you cannot accept something which is put the way it is in that amendment. That is all we are asking. It is not binding you to any policy; it is just a view addressed to the British Government.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that the Address as amended do now pass. Hon. members in favour of that please say "aye"—

At this stage Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY and Mr. Alder left the House; and at the direction of Mr. Speaker the bell was rung for three minutes.

Mr. SPEAKER: There being no quorum, in accordance with the rules of the House I now declare that this House stands adjourned until Tuesday next at 3 o'clock p.m. This House now stands adjourned. 11.40 p.m.