

THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SESSION 1954-55

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday 22nd. March, 1955.

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

PRESENT:

His Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS (*Speaker*), Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS, C.B.E., M.D., C.M. (*Minister of Social Services*), His Honour 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*), Hon. R. G. MAPP, (*Minister of Trade, Industry and Labour*), Mr. J. A. HAYNES B.A., 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 last meeting are not yet ready for circulation.

PAPERS LAID

By Command of His Excellency the Governor Papers were laid as follows:—

Hon'ble Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS, for the Premier:—Message No. 6/1955 from His Excellency the Governor to the Honourable the House of Assembly regarding the Pre-Federal Commissions.

MESSAGE No. 6/1955.

*His Excellency the Governor
To*

The Honourable the House of Assembly

His Excellency the Governor has the honour to inform the Honourable the House of Assembly that, in consequence of the adoption of the Federal Plan by the Legislatures of all the territories concerned, Her Majesty's Government is taking steps to appoint three Commissions for the purpose of working out with a minimum of delay, the fiscal, Civil Ser-

vice and judicial arrangements for the British Caribbean Federation.

2. The Headquarters of these Commissions will be at Hastings House. This will facilitate discussion between the Commissioners of any points that may arise requiring common consideration, and will enable the Comptroller of the Development and Welfare Organisation, and Mr. J. S. Mordecai, Executive Secretary of the Regional Economic Committee, who have been designated respectively Commissioner and Assistant Commissioner, for the preparation of the Federal Organisation, to be immediately available for discussions with the Commissioners. The Commissions will travel round in accordance with the needs of their enquiries.

3. Her Majesty's Government is making a grant towards the cost of the Commissions, and it is understood that those West Indian Governments which provide Secretaries for the Commissions will meet their salaries and expenses incurred on their account. It is proposed that the balance of the expenses of the Commissions will, subject to the approval of the Legislatures concerned, be divided between the several territories in agreed proportions. When firm details are available, a Resolution will be sent down to the Honourable Legislature.

4. The Secretary of State for the Colonies has recently announced that the Chairman of the three Commissions will be:—

1. *Fiscal Commission*—Sir Sydney Caine, K.C.M.G., who formerly served in the Colonial Office, where he finished as Deputy Under Secretary of State, and Her Majesty's Treasury, and is at present Vice-Chancellor of the University of Malaya, which has generously agreed to lend his services. He was Secretary of the West Indies Sugar Commission in 1929-30, Secretary of the United Kingdom Sugar Industry Enquiry Committee in 1934, Financial Secretary, Hong Kong in 1937, and a member of the Anglo-American Caribbean Commission in 1942.
2. *Civil Service Preparatory Commission*—Sir James Robertson, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., formerly Civil Secretary of the Sudan Government, who was Chairman of the British Guiana Constitutional Commission in 1954

3. *Judicial Commission*—Sir Allan Chalmers Smith, M.C., who recently retired as Chief Justice, Sierra Leone.

5. It is proposed that each Commission should co-opt a member from each territory, and the following officials have been appointed to represent Barbados:—

1. Fiscal Commission — Financial Secretary.
2. Civil Service Preparatory Commission —The Honourable Chief Secretary.
3. Judicial Commission—The Honourable Acting Attorney General in the absence on vacation leave of the Honourable Attorney General

6. The Secretary of the Civil Service Preparatory Commission will be Mr. G. Mancini, of the Secretariat, Trinidad who is expected to take up his duties on or about the 1st April. The Chairman of this Commission is expected to arrive about the middle of the same month. It is not yet known when the other two Commissions will begin their task.

R. D. H. ARUNDELL,
Governor.

Government House,
Barbados.

22nd March, 1955.

The Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) No. 3 Order, 1955.

Hon'ble M. E. COX, Minister of Communications, Works and Housing: Statements of Post Office Advances for payment of Money Orders to 31st December, 1954 and 31st January, 1955.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Report on visit to the United Kingdom by the Minister of Trade, Industry & Labour and the Labour Commissioner regarding emigration to the United Kingdom.

In connection with this sir, I would like to state that further statement on Government's policy as regards this matter will be laid at the next meeting.

REPLIES TO QUESTIONS

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS (for the Premier): Reply to Question No. 11 asked by Mr. F. L. Walcott regarding War Service Credit.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS (for the Premier): Reply to Question No. 20 asked by Mr. J. E. T. Branker regarding the post of Queen's Solicitor.

Hon. M. E. COX, Minister of Communications, Works and Housing: Reply to Question No. 21 asked by Mr. J. A. Haynes regarding the water supply in the White Hill, Mount Hall and Dorants Hill areas.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Government Notices were given as follows—

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: (for the Premier): Resolution to approve the Order entitled "The Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) No. 3 Order, 1955."

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: (for the Premier): Bill to amend the Police Act, 1908.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: (for the Premier): Bill to consolidate and amend the Acts of the Island relating to the keeping and auditing of public accounts.

Hon. M. E. COX, (for the Premier): Bill to make provision for the payment of pensions out of the general revenue of the Island to certain former employees of the Commissioners of Highways of the Parish of St. Joseph.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Bill to amend the Sugar Industry Rehabilitation, Price Stabilization and Labour Welfare) (Local Consumption) Act, 1952.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Bill to amend and consolidate the laws relating to weights and measures.

PRIVATE MEMBERS NOTICES

Private Members Notices were given as follows—

Mr. BARROW: Of the following Address:—

*The House Of Assembly
To*

His Excellency The Governor

The House of Assembly consider that, in order to give fuller and more equitable representation in the General Assembly of this Island, legislation should be introduced at an early date to provide for a re-allocation of seats on a population basis of one seat for a unit of 3,000 voters.

Mr. CRAWFORD: Of the following Address:—

*The House of Assembly
To*

His Excellency The Governor

The House of Assembly is of the considered opinion that legislative sanction should be sought for the temporary transfer of the sum of \$1,200,000 from the Sugar Industry Price Stabilization Reserve Fund, which now stands at \$6,678,784.07, and the greater part of which it is unlikely will be utilized in the immediate future, for the purpose of advancing loans of a minimum amount of £50 to at least 5,000 workers, of both sexes, for whom efforts should be made to provide employment in the United Kingdom under contract.

2. The House would draw Your Excellency's attention to the recent statement by the British Ministry of Labour that there are over 300,000 jobs going abegging in Britain and would point out that the grave unemployment situation in Barbados makes it imperative that jobs be found abroad immediately for an appreciable portion of the colony's labour force until such time as domestic development can absorb them; moreover, the emigrant workers will acquire new skills and other educational advantages which shall be of practical value to them on their return.

3. The House is of the further opinion that:

(1) since the U.K. stands badly in need of workers, that individual contracts or works agreements should be sought in order that migrants be placed in jobs on their arrival in Britain, and that with this end in view the assistance should be solicited of the Colonial Office, the Ministry of Labour, Labour Exchanges, as well as industrial, agricultural, constructional concerns, employers of domestic labour, and other appropriate agencies.

(2) Proper arrangements be made for the repayment of the loans within a reasonable time, and with a nominal rate of interest, and that it should be a matter for consultation with the U.K. Government what steps should be taken, if necessary, in order to ensure that workers who enter Britain under agreement, return home at the expiration of their contracts.

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME

On the motion of Hon. Dr. CUMMINS seconded by Hon. M. E. COX, a Bill to amend the Police Act, 1908, was read a first time.

On the motion of Hon. Dr. CUMMINS seconded by Hon. M. E. COX, a Bill to consolidate and amend the Acts of the Island relating to the keeping and auditing the public accounts was read a first time.

On the motion of Hon. M. E. COX, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, a Bill to make provision for the payment of pensions out of the general revenue of the Island to certain former employees of the Commissioners of Highways of the parish of St. Joseph, was read a first time.

On motion of Hon. R. G. MAPP seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, a Bill to amend the Sugar Industry (Rehabilitation, Price Stabilization and Labour Welfare) (Local Consumption) Act, 1952, was read a first time.

On motion of Hon. R. G. MAPP, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, a Bill to amend and consolidate the laws relating to weights and measures was read a first time.

3.25 p.m.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker, the Order above Government business deals with a Report of the Select Committee appointed to consider and recommend the person to fill the Post of Messenger and Library Attendant of this House and it stands in the name of the Hon. Premier. I am not conversant with that Order and I would rather postpone it until the next meeting. I am therefore asking leave to postpone that Order.

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

COUNCIL AMENDMENTS TO MARRIED WOMAN'S (SEPARATION AND MAINTENANCE) ACT, 1950

Mr. SPEAKER: Order No. 1 stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Social Services: to move the consideration of the Amendments of the hon. Legislative Council to the Bill to amend the Married Woman's (Separation and Maintenance) Act, 1950.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker, Order No. 1 deals with the Amendments from the Other Place to the Bill to amend the Married Woman's (Separation and Maintenance) Act 1950. These Amendments were circulated among hon. members and I take it that they have seen them. The first amendment deals with sub-section (b) of section 2 as passed by this House. The word "not" was omitted before the word "due" in line 4 and after the word "neglect;" in line 5 the last phrase has been deleted and the following phrase added in its place: "no order to enforce the payment of the areas shall be made." I am not a lawyer but it seems to me that the amendment does clarify the situation.

Now as regards the next sub-section (c) the word "fourteen" appearing in line 2 has been deleted and the word fifteen" has been inserted in its place.

Lower down in sub-section (2) of section 2 the words "order to enforce payment as aforesaid is made" are inserted in place of the words "warrant of commitment to prison is issued" therefore the sub-section now reads as follows:—

(2) Where on a complaint made pursuant to the provisions of the preceding subsection no order to enforce payment as aforesaid is made, the complaint may be renewed on the ground that the circumstances of the husband have changed;."

Here again the amendment made by the Other Place does seem to make the situation clearer.

There are two amendments to section 3. The word "the" appearing in line 2 after the word "inserting" has been deleted and the word "in" has been inserted in its place. Also the figure

"(6)" appearing in the same line after the word "paragraph" has been deleted and the letter "(b)" has been inserted in its place.

I think these amendments are all agreeable and I beg to move that they be now read a first time.

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

The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Hon Dr. CUMMINS: I beg to move that these amendments be now read a second time.

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

Mr. LEWIS: Mr. Speaker, it is obvious that while this House to a certain extent is a little lax in taking note of these obvious mistakes, in paragraph "(b)" of section 2 and paragraph (c) of the same section as well as section (3), it is quite obvious that the Law Officers of the Crown are taking the opportunity to correct their own mistakes in the Other Place; and that is something which this House should place on record. This House should state that it has observed that this practice has been initiated in consideration of Bills in this colony by the Other Place.

The President of the Other Place is very particular to let us know of anything which we have done that is wrong. I think it is well that this House should place on record that it observes that these errors in draftsmanship are being corrected in the Other Place, and that the Bills are sent back to this House to amend something which should have been done by the Crown Law Officer before the Bill came into this House. They have put section "fourteen" for "fifteen" and such things as that. I think it is necessary that some member of this House should say that.

3.35 p.m.

Mr. BARROW: One of the main reasons why this Amendment to the Act has come to this Honourable Chamber is because of the recalcitrant attitude of the honourable senior member for St. Joseph who is supposed to be the legal expert on the Government's Bench. Time after time the honourable junior member for the City and I have brought to the attention of the Government not only the Printers' errors and mistakes which may be attributable to some oversight on the part either of the Ministers or the Printers, but we have pointed out gross negligence in the drafting of Bills. I would like to say this: this particular Amendment, which is a very important one, was put through the House at a late hour, and I brought it to the attention of the Government that all the amendments embodied in the amending Bill were directly contrary not only to the spirit of the law but to the very Preamble at the top of the Bill and to what the Judiciary and the Government itself wanted to achieve. Unfortunately for reasons which I cannot now accurately assess, the Government paid no heed or they were unaware of the fact that I had drawn to their attention that the Bill was wrong. Time after time we have pointed out these errors only to be browbeaten and bamboozled and informed that the Crown Law Officers are paid high salaries, and we could not even suggest that a Bill is wrong. I would like to go on record as saying that neither the honourable junior member for the City nor myself was present in the House when this Bill was passed; but I draw it to the attention of members of the Government that the Bill was wrong. After it was passed I again drew it to the attention of the Government and I personally went to the Attorney General and I told him that the Bill was wrong; and in spite of that we have the spectacle of this House being subjected to criticism or laxity in the passing of legislation; and those criticisms were even the subject of the passage of this Bill in the Other Place and published in the Press.

I want to go on record as saying that neither the honourable junior member for the City nor myself was present when this Bill was passed.

Mr. SPEAKER: I will warn the hon. member that in my opinion he is getting perilously near to breaking the Rules of the House in reflecting on a vote of the House.

Mr. BARROW: As long as we are not actually in peril, I do not think you will find me going over the cliff; but the very fact that the amendments have been sent down and we have to debate and pass the amendments if we are passing these amendments, I want to say that we are not only reflecting on a vote of this House, but we are undoing something which we were supposed to have done wrongly.

Mr. SPEAKER: A reflection can be made to undo what has been done.

Mr. BARROW: In that case I humbly submit that I am in order to speak on the amendments if the purpose of the amendment is to undo what has been wrongly done. With all due deference to you, sir, I am quite in order to speak on the amendments themselves. I was only pointing out that although we must bear responsibility for any legislation which has been passed, the circumstances under which these amendments were put through make it absolutely imperative that I get it on record that it was done during my absence, and when I had already drawn to the attention of the Government that the legislation which they had before it did not meet the true purpose of the Bill. When we come to the amendments themselves I would like to point out this: the Amendment (b) to Section 2 of the Bill which is now before us, which is really an amendment to Section 7 is the addition of a new Sub-clause to the Act, 1950 and that Sub-clause reads as follows:—

"By inserting therein the following as Subsection (2):—

(2) Where on a complaint made pursuant to the provisions of the preceding subsection no warrant of commitment to prison is issued, the complaint may be renewed on the ground that the circumstances of the husband have changed."

I would like to point out that the new amendment which has been sent down by the Other Place reads this way:—

"(2) Where on a complaint made pursuant to the provisions of the preceding subsection no order to enforce payment as aforesaid is made, the complaint may be renewed on the ground that the circumstances of the husband have changed."

There is a slight difference between the amendment which has been sent down and the amendment which this House passed on a previous occasion. The old amendment read: "where no warrant of commitment to prison is issued....." That is ridiculous, because the whole purpose of issuing the warrant of commitment to prison would be that the husband by making default in being able to pay the arrears and refusing to pay them, had committed contempt for which he is liable to be committed on the warrant of the Police Magistrate to Glendairy Prison for such period as set out in the Act, concomitant with the arrears due as would purge his contempt and having purged his contempt the matter dies. The whole object of commitment on that ground is to act as a deterrent to persons who would not meet their legal obligations. But this new amendment innocuous as it may seem, raises some further complications.

3.45 p.m.

I am sure that my colleagues like the hon. member for St. Lucy will be able to enlighten us further on this point. It says here, "Where on a complaint made pursuant to the provisions of the

preceding subsection no order to enforce payment as aforesaid is made, the complaint may be renewed on the ground that the circumstances of the husband have changed."

Now, the first thing I would like to point out to the Hon. Minister of Social Services is this: the words, "previous to the preceding subsection" are entirely wrong, because this is now a part of subsection (1) numbered a, b, and c. This should appear, "on a complaint made pursuant to the provisions on sub-section (1) (a)." You should specify each part of sub-section (1) to which the new subsection relates so as to make it abundantly clear. The other two sub-sections, b and c, do not contain any provisions relating to non-enforcement on the grounds of lack of means.

It is a complicated amendment; but there is no excuse for the Crown Law Officers making elementary mistakes of this kind. If you go a little further I will draw this to your attention: "the complaint may be renewed on the ground that the circumstances of the husband have changed." That raises certain difficulties both of procedure and of practice which I feel myself constrained to bring to the Hon. Minister of Social Services. The present practice, which is in accordance with the statutory practice is that after four weeks if a wife did not bring a complaint for arrears she could not recover anything anterior. What this sub-section is now doing is this—I hope that the hon. senior member for St. Lucy is following me closely, because he will be able having practised longer than I have, to corroborate me on this point.

What this new sub-section is saying is, that a husband may be out of work for two or three years; the wife puts the usual four weekly complaint for arrears, because she can only recover a maximum of four weeks at a time before a Police Magistrate. The man comes into Court time and time again; the Probation Officer makes an investigation and reports to the Magistrate that the man is not in position to pay. It may be as much as \$40 per month. This may go on for two years. At the end of two years the man may get a job, a reasonably good job and the Police Magistrate has it in his discretion to make an order enforcing not four weeks but one hundred and four weeks arrears, when the present state of the law which is now to be changed, is that you can only recover four weeks at a time.

Obviously in a community such as this especially when employment is seasonal, there is a very good reason for only enforcing four weeks at a time; because if the wife is not diligent enough after her rights to go to the court for four weeks to clear arrears as maintenance for herself or children, it would be most inequitable to allow her to go on a trip around the world, making no effort to collect her arrears, and at the end of two or three years file a colossal claim against her husband, a claim running into hundreds or thousands of dollars.

This sub-section is telling married women that they can renew all their old complaints no matter how long outstanding they may be. They can now go into Court with all the old complaints that they have not collected on before, and keep the man in prison indefinitely; and where is she? To look at legislation in a vacuum is one thing; to draft a neat document with the commas and full stops in the right places is not very difficult. To see the comprehensive picture of the legislation is certainly an art; and it is only by practical experience or by being endowed to an extraordinary extent with native ingenuity that a draftsman can foresee all the ram-

ifications of an amendment such as the one we are considering now.

It seems to me therefore, that some sort of compromise should be sought in the new sub-section (2) of Section 7 of the Married Woman's (Separation and Maintenance) Act. It would seem to me that if a cane cutter is out of employment in August, September, October, November and December and he gets a job in January at \$18 a week, he only has to pay his wife \$5 a week and she has to borrow money or credit goods during the period that he was not in a position to pay. She cannot satisfy the Police Magistrate that he was in a position to pay. In those circumstances I am not against the wife being reimbursed to some extent for the expenses which she encouraged during her husband's out of work period; but I would like to suggest to the Minister of Social Services that some limit should be placed on the amount which she may be in a position to recover even under sub-section (2) of section 7.

Therefore, I am suggesting that a new proviso be added to this section to the effect that provided that in no case, the wife may recover more than twelve to sixteen weeks arrears in the discretion of the Police Magistrate. I think that that would more or less meet the bill Mr. Speaker.

The present procedure is as I have said, that the wife files the complaint, the husband says he is unable to pay and the Probation Officer goes to both of them and points out that the husband is unable to pay. The Magistrate does not issue a warrant committing him to prison. In the previous subsection, if the Magistrate is satisfied that the husband's neglect to pay is not due to his own fault the Magistrate makes no order at all.

In other words the wise thing which should be done, is to dismiss the case without prejudice; but the dismissal without prejudice should not extend when she comes to collect all the old arrears under a fresh complaint further back than three or four months; that is twelve or sixteen weeks.

Mr. Speaker, in view of the observations which I have just made, if they are worthy of consideration by the Government, I respectfully beg to move that further consideration of this amendment be now postponed in order to give the Government time to consider any observations which have been made here.

3.55 p.m.

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: Mr Speaker, I am not competent to express an opinion on this matter of law; I am ignorant of it, and, therefore I accept the motion made by the honourable senior member for St. George.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Minister of Social Services has accepted the motion for the postponement of this measure.

CUSTOMS TARIFF BILL

Mr. SPEAKER: Order No. 2 stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Trade: second reading of a Bill to amend the Customs Tariff Act, 1921.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Mr. Speaker, in order to carry out three objects, this Bill to amend the Customs Tariff Act 1921 has been brought to the House. The first object concerns the fostering of the Sea Island Cotton Industry. As the House knows for fifteen years legislation has been enacted annually to provide for the free importation into this island of all articles manufactured wholly from Sea Island Cotton grown in the British West Indies, with a view to fostering the development of a Sea Island Cotton

Industry. So long as we agree that this industry should be developed and fostered, I think this House will agree that it is better to bring an amendment of this kind to the Act, rather than to come down every year with a similar Bill for that purpose. That is the first object of this Bill.

The second object is to give effect to the recommendations of the International Civil Aviation Organisation of which Barbados is a contracting party that spare parts, maintenance and ground equipment required by International Airlines should be admitted duty free. As this island is one of the contracting states, it is necessary to bring down this amendment to give effect to this recommendation of the International Civil Organisation. That is the second object.

The third object of this Bill is of an educational and cultural character. We have had applications from some organisations that we should allow them to bring in educational films and apparatus for that purpose free of duty; and the Government has agreed to grant their requests so long, of course, as these things are of an educational and cultural character and are not used for commercial purposes. One of these organisations which has made application is the Barbados Workers' Union; and we feel we should encourage these film slides and such things as visual aids, because they would spread the knowledge of trade union methods and other educational media among workers. We feel we should encourage the use of this medium and have as a result brought down this amendment to the Act.

There is an obvious safeguard where this amendment is concerned, so that these films cannot be shown for commercial purposes or nobody can make money by taking advantage of this amendment to the Act. As I have said, I feel that this object is worthy of promotion on the part of Government. I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

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

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Speaker, the first object of this Bill is to make permanent the legislation which was enacted annually for the free importation into this island of all articles manufactured wholly from Sea Island Cotton grown in the British West Indies, instead of having it under the annual Expiring Laws Act because it is beyond fifteen years that we have been enacting such legislation annually.

As regards the exemption from Customs duty of educational films and apparatus for that purpose, that is a wise move because visual education is playing a great part in the education of children in the schools of Barbados. What I would like to ask the Hon. Minister to do is to make every facility in this respect available to the numerous private schools that exist in Barbados. I feel they should be given the same easy facility of bringing in this equipment free of duty. As I have explained in the House before, Heads of Departments are ignorant of the effect of the Rules and Regulations which we make from time to time, and people have had great difficulty in convincing the authorities concerned as to these Regulations. It is a fact that people have to spend a lot of time and meet with great difficulty in trying to get off duty on these things which are duty free. I do hope that when this Act is put on the Statute Book that the Hon. Minister would let it be clearly understood that it is for all educational purposes whether it is Government or non-Government.

4.05 p.m.

We do not wish to make any loopholes where people can profit by this. I know that there is a

library existing in Trinidad today and educational films are administered by the American Government; and the Consulate here would be only too willing to assist organisations in Barbados with those films; he has it under his consideration now; provided that these films are shown free of charge to anyone or to any committee or organisation and will be permitted to enter free of duty in Barbados. I compliment Government on having come down to provide this facility. I think that not only schools but organisations should be granted this facility.

Mr. LEWIS: So far as articles manufactured from Sea Island Cotton are concerned, I have been asking the Government for sometime now to put the matter in the schedule of the Expiring Laws Continuance Act, but they have not seen fit to do so. I understand that sometime near the end of last year the last Act expired, and I do not see anything in this Act to make it retroactive; and I am wondering what is going to happen. I think that some of the things made from Sea Island Cotton in the interim have had to be duty paid, and I am therefore wondering if the Hon. Minister of Trade is aware of that. This Act has only now been brought in to provide for the free importation into this island of articles manufactured from Sea Island Cotton on a permanent basis; but so far as I know, the Government is trying to encourage the growing of Sea Island Cotton in the British West Indies. That may be a very good thing for us to do especially at this time when we are on the eve of Federation; but Sir, these Sea Island Cotton garments are not worn by the poor sections of the community. While it may be a good thing to encourage the production of this Sea Island Cotton in the British West Indies in the spirit of federation, I would have preferred to see the Government put this Bill under the Expiring Laws Continuance Act and re-enact it every year; it only means the printing of an Expiring Laws Act and it gives opportunity for the situation to be reviewed. I see that there is an elaborate certificate to be presented so that this duty will not be paid; I have no doubt that they will mean what they say.

As far as the British West Indies are concerned, I am looking at part two of this appendix; I am not familiar with the Act, so I would like to ask the honourable member in charge of the Bill if he can tell me if the name "Trinidad" means the West Indian island. I am wondering if this word "London" means London, England, and whether the word "Glasgow" means Glasgow, Scotland. It may be necessary to put these names down as addresses and not merely to say "London" or "Glasgow;" because there are things coming in which are not under preferential tariff and which can easily have the word "London" or "Glasgow" and it may not mean the same London or Glasgow. I do not know how far the significance of these names goes in the effectiveness of an Act like this, but I mention it so that the Hon. Minister can pay some attention to it. I do feel that the Government should have continued this Sea Island Cotton business for a little longer as an annual Act; and I was asking that this matter be put where it should be put so that we can review it every year. I sincerely hope that this provision will achieve the object for which it is designed and that no advantage will be taken of it. As far as I know, these things are too expensive for the poor people; lots of things may come in and it may be said that they are manufactured of Sea Island Cotton, and it may be difficult to prove that they

are not so manufactured. These are somewhat luxury goods.

From what the honourable junior member for Christ Church had to say, I see that in this subparagraph 3 of Clause 2 these words:—

"Projectors and other cinematograph apparatus imported not for sale but for use, by a person approved by the Governor-in-Executive Committee as a means of exclusively or principally exhibiting or reproducing without financial reward such films, slides or sound recordings as are exempt from duty."

Therefore, I am wondering if that would not be contrary to the suggestion which he has made. While I am on my feet I will point this out to the honourable member.

4.15 p.m.

Mr. ALLDER: Mr. Speaker, to encourage industries in the island is very good because if it is done properly it provides employment for workers, and it would be hoped that it would also provide cheap commodities for the people. In encouraging industries however, the Government should be very careful. Most of the producing companies in this island are definitely monopolies, that is to say, that you get some of them coming in within the past few years and eliminating certain small manufacturers; for instance manufacturers of sweet drinks and makers of shirts. A seamstress finds it difficult to make shirts nowadays for her neighbours.

The Government has got to be very careful in giving concessions to these firms without a knowledge of the real facts of the situation that confronts them. It is rumoured, Mr. Speaker, that some of these firms which ask for concession after concession from the Government are not paying a subordinate staff wages good enough to meet the cost of living, and to suit the kind of industry in which they work. On the other hand, I am told that some of them are paying the directors over a \$1,000 a month. The Minister of Trade should be careful how far he goes in giving concessions. As a result of the monopoly which they have been allowed to build up, they have been taking out a large part of the profits and paying themselves as salaries. They exploit those who work for them and they are asking the Government to free this and that item of raw material from custom duty etc.

Whatever the Government does to increase the savings of these companies should be passed on to the consumer of the goods, and to the workers employed by the companies. The tendency however, is to make the directors' salaries higher. Anyone who looks at the industries recently developed in Barbados will see that they have a guaranteed turnover. No one can be against that; but the price of the finished article remains the same, and so do the wages. I am hoping that the Minister of Trade will take my statements seriously that concession should not be given unless the saving to the particular company, or rather a reasonable part of the savings accrues to the employees and the consumers.

There are some of these firms which are asking to be freed from package tax etc., and to accommodate the local market; but they are so prosperous that they are invading other territories in the Caribbean; and I am told, even further afield. They are competing against international firms who can always out do them; and to help them to do that this Government must suffer a reduction in its Customs duties without guaranteeing that the local workers will benefit and that the local consumers will get cheaper goods. If firms that are asking for concessions can pay their directors \$800, \$1,000, \$1,200 and even as

high as \$1,400 a month and they want Customs duties reduced on their raw materials, they should be able to guarantee to the Government that the consumers are going to get some of their savings which result from these concessions; and also that the labour they employ will get some of the benefits by way of increased wages. There is no use encouraging industries merely to allow them to pay their directors and managers huge salaries.

In this island there is a big sweet factory which makes women work at night. I am told that the Minister of Trade, Industry and Labour has suggested that they should not work at night. I do not believe in that nonsense. If the people want them to work let them work whenever they want; in big countries they work around the clock. But the point that I am making is that I am told that the wages these women get are not high enough. I am not speaking about the factory in St. John; I have seen what that management has been paying to the people working there, and they are paid Christmas bonuses, and given Christmas parties etc. There is another factory I am told of situated at Waterford; and I was told that the hands of the women have to work as fast as electrical machinery so as to be able to realise a reasonable day's wage. That is wrong; and if it were possible for machinery to wrap those sweets none of them would get work.

I hope that the Minister of Trade and Commerce will view these things very seriously, and when the directors approach them make sure (of course they can always promise they will do it) that the savings from these concessions will benefit the worker and the consumer. If the Minister would realise that within a couple of years certain industrialists have been able to make themselves millionaires he will also realise that it is necessary to travel slowly in the giving of the concessions for which they are asking.

I am sure that the Hon. Minister knows that the industries which have been developed in this colony over a period of five or ten years are going from strength to strength. If profits were not being made by these industries their expansion could not have been as great as it has been. Another thing which we have to realise is that they have monopolised certain industries which used to be in the hands of middle class families. Some such families for instance used to bottle sweet drinks and maintain and raise decent families in this community. You get one concern coming in and bottling soft drinks, and then one after the other came down and squeezed out the middle class sweet drink manufacturers. The latter had to close down and sell out and ask for clerical jobs, or seek other means of employment in the various firms. We have got to protect the small Barbadian trader; and some of these new industries are just eliminating people and putting them out of work. What is more, in these new soft drink companies there is a modern means of manufacturing these drinks by which you get get one man or two men being able to turn out thousands of bottles daily.

4.25 p.m.

I am not arguing against progress in science; all I am saying is that inasmuch as these big industries eliminate the small trader and manufacturer that Government should do something to make sure that they are not given undue concession, thereby depriving the colony of that portion of the revenue which it might have got to make social improve-

ments for those persons who have been displaced as a result of these new industries. Any company which claims to pay out between \$600 and \$800 a month to its several directors and managers (and some of them are even paid \$1,400 a month because they are key men in the concern) should not be given any concession unless it can show that the industry is working on a certain integrity. When you give a concession on raw material imported and \$10,000 is saved during any year as a result, you do not see it expressed in an increase of wages to its subordinate staff, nor do you see the cost of the item being reduced to the consumer. You therefore have to conjecture that the savings find their way into the pockets of the directors, managers and senior staffs of such concerns. We certainly can harm ourselves by going too far to encourage what we think should be encouraged. If an industry should be assisted that assistance should not be passed on to others besides the directors.

Mr. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, there are certain features about this Bill before this House which I cannot really appreciate. I am dealing with the permanency which is now sought for free importation into this island of all articles manufactured wholly from Sea Island Cotton grown in the British West Indies. This is a very laudable Bill indeed in that respect; but as the hon. junior member for the City pointed out, when you look at the schedule to the Bill which I think is the same as that of the annual Bills which we passed before, you will see "London" set out in Part II. Do you mean "London" Ontario? Why I asked that question is because with the way that the schedule stands at present, it is not only feasible but it would be legal for a Japanese manufacturer or a German or American manufacturer to put "London" on his declaration form and stamp those goods with that name, because our Act does not specify whether the "London" should be "London" England or "London" Ontario. I have been to two Londons and I know of at least three Trinidads. I know of two Hulls; and you can go on like that with the names set out in this schedule. If you look at your Atlas carefully you can probably find two or three places appearing with similar names. I would suggest to the Hon. Minister of Trade that the list of places named which appears in Part II of the present schedule to the Bill on the Federation of British Industries which has control over these industries in the United Kingdom, should read "The United Kingdom and any source in the United Kingdom." We should also not discriminate between Trinidad and the rest of the British West Indies. We should therefore delete Trinidad and insert in its place "any British West Indian Island." Therefore, when we come to the endorsement by the Chamber of Commerce it would read:—

I Secretary/Assistant Secretary, of the Chamber of Commerce confirm on behalf of the Chamber the foregoing declaration made by.....

(Name of Firm or Company)
of to the effect

(Name of Firm or Company)
that the goods designated above have been wholly manufactured from Sea Island Cotton grown in the British West Indian colony of

When you come to the endorsement by the Federation of Industries, there is another mistake there in the words "That the goods designed above had been wholly manufactured from Sea Island Cotton grown in the United Kingdom." I am sug-

gesting to the Hon. Minister of Trade that after the words "manufactured in the United Kingdom", that is all you need. You do not need to call all the places where they manufacture Sea Island Cotton garments, because next week they may set up a new place where these garments are manufactured, say like in Reading and Derby. Surely the principle is that the article should be manufactured either within the United Kingdom or the British West Indies. Why specify Trinidad alone in the British West Indies? Why specify towns in England? I would suggest to the Hon. Minister of Trade that Part II should purely state this." "The United Kingdom and Northern Ireland; any British West Indian Island."

As it stands now, we do not know whether these Place Names are in the United Kingdom or not. We do not know whether this Trinidad is somewhere in Spain or not. Although the Hon. Minister of Trade may feel that within the strict interpretation of the Law that Belfast is not in Ottawa, I am still suggesting that the correct way should be as I have aforesaid mentioned.

4.35 p.m.

You cannot take judicial notice of Place Names; if a Court cannot do it, I do not see how a Customs Officer can do it. The nature of a Customs Department is that goods are being channelled through from different parts of the world. It is clear to me that we have to try and import some commonsense which the Minister has not left us with, and say that anything which is manufactured from Sea Island Cotton which has been grown in the West Indies, should be allowed to come into this island without any duty paid thereon. If this exemption can only apply to the United Kingdom and to the British West Indian Islands, if that is so, why do they not say so? Why do they put in all this Schedule when all they need put would be the United Kingdom, Northern Ireland and any other West Indian Island? I should also like to point out that they will have to amend Form "B" in order to insert after the word "Manufactured" the words "in the British West Indian Island of" or whatever the island; then they would have to go to Form "C" and insert after the word "manufactured" the words "in the United Kingdom" or "in Northern Ireland". They would also have to do another thing; they have in Form "C", the words "That the goods designed above" and that should read, "That the goods designated above." If the Premier were here, he would probably get up and justify the word "designed", but I do not think that the Hon. Minister of Trade would fall into that error. Those briefly are the suggestions which I have to make; let them make the thing more explicit and they would certainly shorten the amount of paper which would have to be used by Government Departments.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: The Hon. Leader of the Opposition seems to be a bit apprehensive of the difficulties which, in spite of my assurance, he felt might be put in the way of organisations which are to bring in these films and educational material; and he has asked that we make it clear that any films of an educational nature will be free of duty. I think I can assure him that it is pretty clear that any of these films, sound projectors or any such thing which is for educational and cultural purposes will be free of duty, so long as this material will not be used for commercial purposes. Any Trade Union that applies for permission to bring in this material, and we are assured that it is of a sound educational nature, and that there will not be any-

thing disruptive about it, will receive the same treatment from the officials concerned, as is intended in this Bill.

The honourable junior member for the City spoke about the price of these shirts. I do admit that the price of these shirts is high; but the object of assisting this industry is to assist in bringing down the prices of articles and putting these articles within the reach of those in the lowest income brackets. Whether it is that sufficient Sea Island Cotton is not grown or the profits made by the manufacturing concerns abroad are too high or what, I do not know; but as honourable members will see, it is a worthy object to try and encourage this industry along with other industries in the Caribbean area. As the Hon. Leader of the Opposition has pointed out, it is time we federate. I think honourable members will agree that we should assist this industry and hope that it will be expanded and that the price of these shirts will drop.

The honourable senior member for St. John should know, that his views coincide with mine. When I was a backbencher I held that these wages which were paid were pretty poor; and he should know that it is the policy of this Government to encourage the payment of reasonable wages in all avenues of employment by all means possible. This Government has to steer a very dangerous course between the Scylla of unemployment on the one hand, and the Charybdis of an increasing cost of living on the other. The hon. member should not assume that firms simply have to come along and say: "We want protection" or "We want encouragement" and they will be given it. A certain firm wanted us to put up tariff barriers on cheap clothing from the Far East, and we pointed out that while we are in sympathy with efforts at expanding this industry, yet we have to guard against any great increase in the cost of living. We have to ensure that people are assured of goods at reasonable prices; we cannot easily put up operational barriers. As soon as you put up one barrier you will have to put up other barriers. It is not simply that people ask for protection and it is given to them. We are continually being pressed especially from the Opposition that we have dire unemployment in this colony. Some honourable members think for the sake of theory and others for the lack of ideas, that we are doing nothing to assist or foster local industries.

4.45 p.m.

What is our reply? That as long as we sensibly steer a sensible path and keep clear of the danger of pushing up the cost of living and thereby harming the people as a whole, we will encourage these industries to expand and encourage other industries to come in and offer more employment. Generally speaking, that is our policy at present. We have announced it in the Budget and we are pursuing that policy.

I think that the honourable member's remarks would be more appropriate at a later stage when we are carrying out the policy enunciated in the Budget. But what we are dealing with is an old practice that has been going on for 15 years—fostering the sea island cotton industry; and I would not like to expand any more on the topic of encouragement of industries at this moment. I think that it will be debated in the near future.

When the honourable member talks about guaranteeing wages, you can guarantee a minimum wage; or the workers can organise and fight for it through the Trade Union. Workers in those industries who are not organised in a particular union should try to use the medium of the Wages Councils as much as possible. The Bill dealing with Wages

Councils is before us, and as soon as it is passed, employees generally who are not organised should make use of those Councils and obtain better standards of wages. We do not pretend that that method is the best. What is the alternative? The alternative is to join a Trade Union and organise themselves and fight for better wages and conditions of work.

Mr. Speaker, I have said all that because you allowed the honourable senior member for St. John to make suggestions along that line to the Government; but this Bill applies to articles that are not really manufactured in Barbados they are manufactured in other places.

I have noted the remarks and criticisms of the honourable junior member for the City and those of the honourable senior member for St. George as regards the Appendix. I regret that they did not wait until we were in Committee because I could more easily reply then. I would, however, like to state that it seems that whoever drafted this Bill went down the line of sources from which the manufactured articles come, and put in the names as he saw fit. I agree with the honourable member; and I will draw his criticisms to the attention of the legal draftsman. I feel that the criticisms are worthy of consideration and at least the clause to which reference was made could be better worded. The word "British" is not in my copy. Apparently it is a printer's error.

Mr. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, this debate has degenerated or has been elevated into a discussion on what aid the Government should give or should not give to industrial development. I agree with the Hon. Minister of Trade, Industry and Labour that a discussion of this sort should more properly be carried on at the time when we are discussing the Government's general policy on this matter, and not on this occasion. But inasmuch as previous speakers have been allowed to animadvert on the matter, I merely want to say for the benefit of the Minister and the Government that there is no country in the world which, starting at scratch to develop itself industrially, has ever done so without giving protection to its young industries. If in Barbados we intend to advance industrially and develop the country economically, we have got to offer industries a certain amount of protection.

It does not necessarily follow, sir, that you are going to allow the community to be exploited, or that you will exclude the importation of goods which can be produced locally, but for which the people will have to pay a slightly higher price. That can be controlled; and what you have to bear in mind is the economic condition of providing work for your own people and giving them the wherewithal to buy the goods you produce, rather than allow them to import cheap goods when they do not have the money to buy them when they come in.

In other words, it is all well and good to say that you can import an article from the Far East at a cheaper price, cheaper because it is manufactured by sweated labour in Hong Kong; but the article will be no use to the Barbadian who has no employment. It will be useless to tell him that he can buy a shirt from Hong Kong for \$1.20 rather than to buy one produced locally for \$1.80 if he is not working.

When the Minister talks about steering between the evils of higher cost of living and the evils of importing cheap materials, he must bear in mind that an unemployed man can neither buy an expensive locally produced article nor the cheaper one imported from abroad. In other words you have got to protect your industries, at the same time

control the cost of the goods produced to the consuming public.

The record of this Government in Barbados has always been one of doing absolutely nothing to encourage industrial development. We were the last colony in the West Indies to offer concessions to industries, concessions which we now have in the Pioneer Industries Act; and as far as I know, what the present manufacturers are asking for is nothing more than they get in Trinidad and Jamaica. The great United States of America, now the foremost manufacturing country in the entire world, built up her present industrial position behind the wall of protection. They had to take in industries to America and start them because they were doing two things—providing employment on the one hand, and on the other hand preserving the country's economy.

I agree with the Minister that this discussion is entirely inappropriate; but inasmuch as Your Honour has been gracious enough to permit a ventilation of views on the matter along the lines already utilised by previous speakers, I merely rose to say that to my mind while I appreciate the necessity for seeing that the community is not fleeced by any concern which may or may not have a monopoly, or which may or may not be in a position to develop certain lines of consumer goods, at the same time we have to keep clearly in the backs of our heads the all round economic advantage that the country can gain from its economic development.

4.55 p.m.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I must apologise to the Hon. Minister for even attempting to speak after him. There are, however, just one or two questions that I would like to ask.

I do appreciate the necessity of this Bill, but only in parts. I therefore would like to say that it should be sent to Select Committee. Paragraph II deals with Airlines. I wonder if the Hon. Minister of Trade is able to tell us when this amendment is passed to give effect to the recommendation of the International Civil Organisation, what is the position with respect to Schooners and Steamships. Are they on a comparable footing? This amendment, as you will observe is allowing parts, equipment and such things for aircraft to come in the island duty free. There has been much talk about monopolies and so on, and while the world moves on aircraft is not the only means of transport. I want to know if a propeller for a ship which is docked on Central Foundry or a Hawser or a guide rope is wanted for a schooner docked there, if similar treatment will be meted out.

Secondly, sir, in the paragraph dealing with the bringing in of educational equipment duty free, it does say that you must satisfy the Executive Committee on that matter; but it strikes me that the tendency is not on scientific development, and I am wondering if the Hon. Minister would say if it also means laboratory equipment for educational purposes. As you know, sir, that does not only apply to schools. As the tendency is to move on in scientific knowledge, it strikes me that film strips and what you have set down here are just of a secondary nature, when compared with allowing equipment to come in for students at either of the Government Aided Secondary Schools or private schools or private hospitals. I say that because in all countries of the world, private institutions do a tremendous lot beside Government in this respect. The Hon. Minister of Trade can therefore see that this equipment which is to be used for assisting human beings should also be included here. I do hope that the Hon. Minister

would assure us when we go into Committee on this point.

The last point I consider the most important. I do not attach so much importance to film strips and sound recordings because they can so well be used for propaganda purposes, whether it is by the British Council or by the Hon. Minister of Health. You should allow equipment for scientific research to benefit the youngsters of this colony to come in duty free, so that they would be able to acquaint themselves with knowledge of the unseen and unknown. If you allow these things to come in free of duty, you will do much to equip youngsters of Barbados to fulfil positions of value in this world. I am sure the Hon. Minister of Trade would be able to give some answer on that point.

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

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.

Mr. LEWIS: I am agreeing to that motion on the condition that the honourable member will deal with the first section of the Bill and then report progress and ask for leave for the Committee to sit again. It is no use in going through the Bill hurriedly and allowing the Other Place to make the necessary amendments later.

The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

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

Clause I was called and passed.

Clause II was called.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: I would take this opportunity to give a reply to the honourable senior member for the City. As regards the question of aircraft, I do not know if the honourable member heard my opening remarks. I would like to tell him that it is not so much the result of any new policy of Government; it is simply that this island is one of the contracting states to the International Civil Organisation, and that Organisation has made certain recommendations along these lines so as to facilitate International Civil Aviation. All the contracting states have agreed to carry out these recommendations and as a result of that, this amendment has come down. It is not any new policy. I beg to move that Clause II stand part.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: I was not questioning whatever conventions they may be to give concessions to Airlines.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The question that Clause II stand part has not been seconded yet. Are you going to second it?

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

5.05 p.m.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: I am quite sure that the honourable member will appreciate the point I am making; I am asking whether this is a convention which was agreed upon. Every honourable member thinks that it is a right thing to do, but I am asking the honourable member to say how does this apply to equipment for schooners and so on. Suppose an aircraft registered in Hong Kong came to Barbados and wanted equipment, that equipment could be imported free of duty. I think that that is the correct thing to do; but what is the position with equipment for steamers or schooners? I am sure the Hon. Minister would have acquainted him-

self with the necessary facts in coming in here with this Bill. I am sure the honourable member would appreciate the fact that the Opposition would raise a point like this. If you have schooners for inter-colonial trade on which we depend so much, and they are equipped with diesel motors—You see here that this Act will be an Act to prevent aircraft from paying duty on articles; but what is the position of schooners and steamers coming here with a broken crankshaft or anything like that? If a steamer left its propeller somewhere in the Caribbean is that propeller taken out of bond free of duty or what?

Hon. R. G. MAPP: I quite appreciate what the honourable member is asking. This arises out of a definite recommendation made by these organisations. We have not considered the point which the honourable member has just put up; there is no organisation which has put forward that point; but I am sure that if organisations of a similar character were to put up a similar recommendation we would give it further consideration.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: In other words, the Hon. Minister is saying that right now the position is not so. In other words schooners and steamships must actually pay duty on stuff or materials for immediate use when they are disabled or anything of that sort. He is saying that anybody or any organisation which puts up such a recommendation will be considered; it is not the actual law now.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The question is—

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: You cannot put the question yet, Mr. Chairman. The Hon. Minister has not yet answered all the questions. As regards equipment for the dissemination of knowledge, the tendency is to have scientific development today, and if somebody is being helped in private schools they should be called upon to pay duty. There is no private school which is not making money. I go so far as to say that the Government in considering this matter should have been far sighted enough to say that laboratory equipment should be actually inserted in this Clause, to say nothing about private hospitals. If you actually allow equipment of this nature to come in free of duty, you would be doing a service not merely to the schools but to the community. While it is true that anybody has the right on application to the Government to use its laboratory equipment at the Department of Science and Agriculture, that privilege is only meted out to a few because of the expense. Only those who can afford to pay for the use of certain implements can use them. The emphasis which you put on sound recordings and so on can be used for propaganda purposes. Some of us do not represent the facts at all as seen in some countries; everyone knows that it is a question of bringing American or British culture to the community; but I think the Government should have seen to it and added these other things. You have here "Films, Slides and Sound Recordings which the Governor-in-Executive Committee is satisfied are of an educational, scientific or cultural character and are imported exclusively for educational, scientific or cultural purposes." "The Government might be getting down sound recordings or film slides showing people how not to contract tuberculosis, but the Hon. Minister will agree with me that the emphasis is placed on scientific education."

After now and you apply to the Government you cannot get them in free. It should be so. I want to hear the Minister on that.

5.15 p.m.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Mr. Chairman, I started just now to point out to the honourable member

that of course this apparatus will be allowed in free with the proper safeguard that these films or visual apparatus or material will be used exclusively for this purpose and that they are not for sale; and that they will not be used as a means of obtaining any financial reward, to use the words of the section. Now the honourable member is saying that we should amend this to include apparatus of a scientific nature to be used in a laboratory for a scientific purpose.

The point is that you must be able to satisfy the Government that the material is not for commercial gain. I take it that it would be all right if someone was engaging in scientific research, but not in a private hospital for gain. [Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: How about schools?] This arose out of an application by a certain organisation. I am sure if we had applications for apparatus such as the honourable member has mentioned, that we would consider them favourably.

I just want to point out that we cannot allow anyone to bring in material of a nature which will make it easier to get around the amending Act. It will be easier to get around the Act with material of that kind than with films and visual equipment.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: Surely the honourable Minister can appreciate what I am saying. I agree that in this everything should be to the satisfaction of the Executive Committee. The honourable member has now stated that if in the opinion of the Executive applications are made for the importation of laboratory equipment of an educational nature, as long as it would not be commercialised they would give it favourable consideration. While it may be true that some people think that the Executive Committee is all powerful, I am asking how will the Executive be able to do this. Will you by-pass legislation on the Statute Book by saying—

Hon. R. G. MAPP: We are not doing it in the context of this. This applies specifically to films and strips. It does not go beyond films, slides and sound recordings. I am saying that we would consider extending the policy to include these other things.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: I appreciate that. What I am driving at is that everyone knows that it is difficult today for young boys and girls to get into Government-aided secondary schools. That is an established fact. Hundreds of parents therefore have to send their children to private secondary schools, and recently some of these schools have been beginning to be equipped with scientific laboratories. I contend that the Government should view this matter from the angle of allowing such schools to bring in duty-free laboratory equipment. You will find people narrow enough to say that they are making a profit. On the other hand every enlightened person will realise that they are also doing the island a service. Without these schools, every other scholar that could not get into one of the Government-aided schools would have to walk about with nothing to do; and it is proved that a tremendous number of the pupils of these private secondary schools have gained school certificates and other certificates.

I am saying therefore, that by way of encouragement the Government, when it sees that these schools are equipping themselves with scientific laboratories, should in my considered opinion allow them to import the necessary equipment duty free. It might be argued that the students are paying; it can be argued that students are also paying at the Government schools. One might accept the argument about private hospitals. There is some strength in that argument; but I could still take up

the Hon. Minister on it. There is no argument at all against the Government allowing the private secondary schools to bring in this equipment duty free.

I hope that the Minister will agree with what I have said, and that he will impress on the Minister of Education the necessity for bringing down an amendment. I want to assure him that there are several of these schools which are thinking about it. It would mean a tremendous lot to educational development and the training of the children of this colony in science.

Mr. LEWIS: Mr. Chairman, I think that at this point I would like to say that this Bill has nothing to do with the encouragement of manufacturing industries. Also, in case the Hon. Minister has forgotten, I will remind him that we should insert the word "Official" before the word "Gazette" at the end of paragraph 1 of section 2.

The question that Clause 2 stand part was put and agreed to without division.

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

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

The question was put and agreed to.

The Chairman reported and Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

The question was put and agreed to and Mr. Speaker adjourned the House accordingly.
5.30 p.m.

On re-assembling,

Mr. SPEAKER: On the adjournment the House was in Committee.

CUSTOMS TARIFF BILL—C'TD

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

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that you do now report the passing of the Bill in Committee.

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

The question was put and agreed to.

Mr. Chairman reported and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

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

THE TRADE BILL

Mr. SPEAKER: Order No. 3 stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Trade: second reading of a Bill to amend the Trade Act, 1910.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Mr. Speaker, this Bill seeks to amend the Trade Act, 1910. Under Regulations made under Section 177 of the Trade Act, 1910-4, a visitor to the island is allowed to bring in a motor car for private use, but must export it within twelve months. A visitor under these Regulations is one who intends to make a stay in this island for one year. If he wants to stay for a longer period and wants to keep his car he must report it; and if he fails to do so, he is liable to a penalty of £100 but the vehicle is not liable to forfeiture. That is how the Regulations stand at present; there is no other pen-

alty involved. Under other Regulations, for acts of a similar nature the vehicle would be liable to forfeiture. This Bill regularises the position and tightens up on the present Regulations. I beg to move that this Bill do now read a second time.

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

Mr. LEWIS: Mr. Speaker, I would have liked to hear something more about this. Is a visitor allowed to bring a car into this island and not pay any duty on it? Is there no Regulation made for this purpose? I do not see the object of this amendment at all, unless the importation is prohibited. This must really be meant to apply to a vehicle of foreign origin. If you get your duty on the vehicle and the Parochial Treasurer also gets his, for what reason are you going to forfeit it? This may be a case where no duty is paid or deposited. It does not make sense reading it like this:—

“Under Regulations made for that purpose, a visitor to the Island can bring in a motor car for private use but must export it within 12 months and failure so to do renders such a person liable to a penalty of £100 but the vehicle is not liable to forfeiture. It was considered that such vehicles, if not exported within the period allowed, should be made liable to forfeiture and this amending bill is intended to make the necessary provision by amendment to section 128 of the Trade Act, 1910.”

What is the purpose of making him ship it out? Let him deposit his duty. There is more to this than what is contained in the Objects and Reasons to this Bill, and I feel I should be assisted with it. Is this for one of those cars that you allow people to bring in for six months, because the importation for such a car is prohibited? I am continually telling the Hon. Ministers that they must not let Civil Servants treat members of this House like this. There is too much of this going on now-a-days. The man or woman who looked up this must have known where the Regulations were. Can you just say that there is a Trade Act, therefore we are amending that Act? That is the kind of thing that is going on. Sir, I would like to know why you propose forfeiting such vehicles now. What is the reason for it? If you tell me, I may be of assistance to the Hon. Minister.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Mr. Speaker, the person who drafted these Regulations probably must have thought that all the hon. members of this House would be aware of what happens when visitors bring in motor vehicles temporarily. It is known that visitors bring in vehicles, and that those vehicles are allowed in under a specific condition. I pointed out that so long as a visitor comes here to stay for a period not exceeding one year, that person is allowed to bring in a car but the car must be re-exported within twelve months. Those are the specific conditions under which visitors are allowed to bring in cars. Sir, after all, you cannot allow a man to bring in a car and get around the Regulations. I explained that these Regulations were made under section 177 of the Trade Act, 1910 in accordance with Section III as amended by The Trade (Amendment) Act, 1951. I take it that the hon. junior member for the City is only objecting to the way in which the Objects and Reasons are drafted and not to the purpose of the Bill.

Mr. SPEAKER: Can the Hon. Minister inform the House when the Regulations were made?

Hon. R. G. MAPP: They are the temporary Importation of Motor Vehicles Regulations, 1951.

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

On the motion of Hon. R. G. Mapp seconded by Hon. C. E. Talma, Mr. Speaker left the Chair and the House went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. Smith being in the Chair.

The two Clauses of the Bill were 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.

PROTECTION OF WAGES (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1955

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Trade, Industry and Labour: to move the second reading of a Bill to amend the Protection of Wages Act, 1951.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Mr. Speaker, the object of this Bill is quite clearly set out in the Objects and Reasons. Under the Protection of Wages Act, 1951 there is no power to allow the Court to order the repayment of wages which have been wrongfully deducted by an employer. This means —

Mr. VAUGHAN: On a point of explanation. Mr. Speaker, I did not hear whether the honourable member used the word “lawful” or “unlawful”.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: I did not use the word lawful at all; I said “wrongfully”. I said that there is no power under the Act to allow a Court to order the repayment of wages wrongfully deducted by an employer. This means that the aggrieved party has no recourse but to take action and go to unnecessary expense to recover the deduction. We feel that it would simplify matters if the power were given to a Magistrate to order the repayment of wages deducted from an employee, so long as the Court has found him guilty under the Act. It has also been found that under the Act a case cannot be tried summarily by a Police Magistrate; therefore, in order to get around these difficulties and allow a Magistrate to try the case and order that this repayment be made to the aggrieved employee, this Bill to amend the Act has been brought before the House. It is a very simple Bill; and I think the House will welcome this amendment in order to save financial inflictions on the employee, and also simplify the process of the recovery of the money due to him. I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. VAUGHAN: I am seconding the motion. I have heard many complaints of employees being paid less wages than are stipulated under the Act, and I would like to draw to the attention of the Hon. Minister that it is of no use enacting labour laws for the protection of the wages of workers unless you are going to have an active inspectorate. All the labour laws of the world are assisted by an active inspectorate; you may have a lot of unscrupulous employers who take advantage of the weakness of the workers experiencing difficulty in getting jobs. I understand that there are employers who pay less than the legal wages, and no inspector ever goes around to discover the truth or otherwise; and that is something which should be done. If an unscrupulous employer knows that an inspector from the Labour Department is coming into the premises in order to discover if the correct wages are being

paid, he would be careful about the wages which he is paying.
6.20 p.m.

I have heard enough to make me believe that it does happen. Some of these Jews and other employers are very unscrupulous. I am not saying that all of them do it, but some of them are unscrupulous enough to do it; and the clerkesses and young men whom they rob are afraid to make a proper complaint, and to carry the envelope with the money the moment it is paid to them to the Labour Office because of the fear of losing their jobs. I want to bring it to the Minister's attention that he can pass all the Protection of Wages Acts in the world, and unless it is backed up by a vigilant inspectorate, and unless the Labour Department is instructed to send out and enquire and investigate, the actual laws for the protection of wages will be of no use to the people they are enacted to protect.

Time and again I have talked about this Labour Inspectorate. A Labour Department in any community is actually useless without an inspectorate. An inspectorate is the most important section of any Labour Department; because when an employer in the country or the city knows that you have one he will not risk certain things. The Minister must supervise his Labour Office, and if the Labour Officer needs more officers to carry out the duties of the Department I am sure that this House, when the case is put to them, will pass the money for providing the additional staff.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: As the honourable member has raised this point, I will reply to him although there is nothing in this Bill dealing with the safeguarding of wages. I can assure him that I have heard complaints already on this matter, and I have followed them up with the Labour Commissioner. He assures me that inspections are regularly carried out. In most cases the employees who complain are afraid to give information; there seems to be a fear of losing their jobs. In such circumstances what can the department do? The books show one thing, and the actual wages are another, and then the employee is unwilling to give certain information.

I agree with the honourable member; but the laws are there to be observed. I can assure the honourable member that if I felt that it was a matter of lack of staff, I would see that the staff is strengthened. I am sure that that is not the question. The question is that we cannot get information officially. You get the information outside, and when you ask the employees to come forward and give you the information officially they will not. I assure the honourable member that I would be only too glad to take up the matter further; and anything I can do to strengthen the position of the employees I will do.

Mr. LEWIS: I wonder if the Hon. Minister does not think that under the present legislation it would be a good thing for the staff of the Labour Department to go into these places at regular intervals and make the payments themselves. By that I mean that the Labour Department can ask, "At what time do you pay your employees?" If the answer is Friday evenings at 3 o'clock, the Department says, "We will send someone around to see that you put the right amount in the envelopes to the employees." Do that a couple of times at the places where you receive complaints.

There is too much complaining on the part of the Government about people not wanting to come forward and give evidence. What can they expect? Do they not see people trying to get out of the island to get work? It is not only so with workers. How many people do you find willing to come forward and prosecute anyone? How many people did it during the

war when sellers sold things at a higher price than they should? The police had to go and make purchases themselves so as to catch offenders.

I think it would be wise to follow my suggestion. When a Labour Officer goes and the employees get the right amounts, they will know that they did not get those amounts the week before. I am suggesting that you should make examples of employers like those. Such checks should be carried out in such a way that no employee in a particular concern could be connected with the check. By the time that you have been doing it for a number of years it will have become an established practice.

The question that the Bill be read a second time was put and agreed to without division.

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

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

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

The four clauses of the Bill were called and agreed to.

On the motion of Hon. R. G. MAPP seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA the Chairman reported the passing of the Bill in Committee and 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.

6.30 p.m.

Hon. Dr. H. G. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker, a few of these items on the Order Paper are not yet ready, and I am therefore asking leave to take Order No. 13. It stands in the name of the Hon. Premier; I am also asking leave to move that item myself.

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

"CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT (GENERAL) (AMENDMENT) ORDER, 1955"

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the day now stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Social Services: to move the passing of the following Resolution: Resolution to approve the Order entitled "The Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) Order 1955."

Hon. Dr. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker, this Resolution seeks to increase the Civil Establishment. The first part is with respect to the Fire Brigade. As can be seen from the Addendum, the increase in the Establishment of the Fire Brigade will be three Corporals and eleven Firemen; they are necessary in order to man the additional equipment. The future strength of the Fire Brigade will therefore be:

1	Fire Brigade Officer	..	\$3,120 x 144—3,840
1	Foreman		\$1,800 x 120—2,400
4	Sergeants		\$1,512 x 72—1,800
7	Corporals		\$1,152 x 48—1,344
27	Firemen		\$ 720 x 48—1,152
1	Stenographer-Typist	..	\$ 624 x 48—1,200

Now this next item for Laboratory Assistance and a Laboratory Attendant for the Health Centre, St. Peter is something new. The Health Officer at St. Peter was doing the work of Laboratory Assistant himself, but it has increased so greatly that he finds it necessary to have an Assistant.

Then there is the inclusion of five temporary posts of Attendant at the Mental Hospital; and we are now asking that they be taken on the permanent establishment. We are also asking for an increase in

the number of Maids at that Institution from two to three.

As a result of a typographical error, the number of posts of Road Overseer Grade II, Department of Highways and Transport, was increased under the Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) No. 13 Order, 1954 from nine to eleven instead of ten. We are now asking for a reduction in the number of these posts by one.

There is an increase in the number of posts of Technical Assistant from two to three, and the creation of a new post of Assistant in the Government Electrical Inspector's Department.

There is also an increase in the establishment of Senior Clerks from twenty-two to twenty-three; Long Grade Clerks from one hundred and seventy-nine to two hundred and six, and the number of Stenographer-Typists from forty to forty-three.

It is proposed to attach the additional post of Senior Clerk to the Education Department. The holder will be required mainly to perform the duties of Examinations Secretary which involves arranging the examinations, checking and forwarding entries and maintaining a proper record of the examination results. There has been a substantial increase in recent years both in the number of candidates and of examinations.

For many years temporary clerical assistance (eight temporary Clerks) has been made available to the following Departments—Secretariat 1, Customs 2, Assistant Court of Appeal 2, Petty Debt Court 1, Police Magistrates' Courts, District "A" 1, and Government Electrical Inspector's 1. The duties in which these officers are engaged are of a permanent nature and it is proposed to include the posts on the permanent and pensionable establishment. No immediate additional expenditure will be involved.

A ninth post is required in the shipping section of the Harbour and Shipping Master's Department to cope with the extensive increase in the volume of work which is now beyond the capacity of a single clerk. (The work includes maintenance of a Registry of 1,200 seamen, engagement and discharge of approximately 2,000 seamen a year and the issue of Discharge Certificates and Certificates of Nationality and Identity).

The Establishment will, however, be increased by seven additional posts of Long Grade Clerk only as the opportunity has been taken to abolish two posts which were formerly allocated to the British Caribbean Currency Board.

It is proposed to place the two temporary posts of Stenographer-Typist at Erdiston and the Department of Medical Services on the permanent and pensionable establishment. These posts have been in existence for four and ten years, respectively. No immediate additional expenditure will be involved.

A third post has also been created and will be allocated to the office of the Fire Brigade. The present arrangement whereby the clerical work of the Fire Brigade Officer is performed by the clerical staff of the Police Department will prove most unsatisfactory when the Headquarters of the Fire Brigade is removed from near the Police Headquarters to the new Fire Station in Probyn Street.

Then there is a reduction of Auxiliary Crash Firemen from sixteen to fourteen and the creation of a new post of Supervisor, Fire Services, at the Airport.

The present establishment provides no overall supervision of the Auxiliary Crash Firemen. The Firemen are required to carry out general duties as well as their normal fire fighting duties with a

result that there is insufficient time for training. The proposed change in the establishment is based on a shift of twenty-four hours on and forty-eight hours off, and, besides providing for adequate leave arrangements and a proper training programme will ensure a twenty-four hour coverage for all eventualities at the Airport. The present staff of two Watchmen will not be necessary. These employees will be transferred to suitable posts in other Departments.

I beg to move that the Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. ALLDER: Mr. Speaker, I am wondering after all the elaborate preparations made for the transfer of the Fire Brigade, whether the number of personnel as set down here is sufficient to handle the increasing number of cane fires which we see now-a-days and also to man the equipment which has been attached to that Department recently. I notice that the present Fire Officer seems to be rather unlucky in the sense that he can be seen partly every day turning out to a cane fire; he is kept on his toes all the time. That Department is certainly doing more work than before, because in the past that Department was only interested in fires occurring in central areas of this island; but now-a-days every other hour you can see the fire equipment rushing to districts which are far removed from St. Michael when there is a fire. In today's newspaper, I read of where the Brigade were employed in putting out a fire in a certain district and as soon as they got back to Headquarters they had to go elsewhere. It gives one the impression that the men are too few to cope with the present situation. I am wondering if the Government is giving consideration to the necessity of having a sufficient number of men who can really cope with the increased number of cane fires which we see taking place today. As I have said, it seems as if this new Fire Officer is a rather unfortunate individual because before he can fully take up his duties, he has much to do as regards fighting fires.

I do not know if there will be an increase of Firemen in the not too distant future or if the number here will remain as it is. I feel that the Government should investigate this matter again. I do not know if they have discussed it with the Fire Officer, but I feel that you should make sure that you are giving him the number of men which he really needs and which would make the Department more efficient than it has been in the past.

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, this Addendum refers to an increase in the Establishment of the Fire Brigade by a certain number of Corporals and Firemen. What I would like to point out is that frequently in that Branch of the Civil Establishment, we find one or two Firemen resigning or dying and an unnecessary long time lapses before their places are filled. You will find more often than not that that Department is worked understaff through the failure to fill the vacant places. I see no difficulty in finding a number of suitable candidates for any vacancies which may arise from time to time, and there is no justification for allowing the posts to remain vacant so long after the vacancies occur.

The increase made here may be inadequate; and we should see that the increased number is maintained and that the vacancies are filled in a short time after becoming vacant, and that the men are not attached to other places to do duties other than those of Firemen. I know there was a practice for Fire Officers to utilise the services of Firemen at their quarters doing gardening and other duties; it is a fact that many individuals who did that sort of work were

made to feel that they were favoured for promotion as a result. The individual was made to feel that if he helped the Fire Officer with his gardening, he would be favoured when there is promotion. Sometime ago I brought to the attention of this House that they could not spare one Fireman on Saturday afternoons to play cricket, but they could spare the services of one Fireman to look after the then Fire Officer's gardens. That Fire Officer did not realise that cricket is part and parcel of Barbadian life, and that the taxpayers of this colony would be quite satisfied to give Saturday afternoons off to a Fireman so that he could represent us in cricket.

As to the increase in Probation Officers, I am wondering if they only asked for one additional Officer because that is the Department in which you have really one hundred per cent efficiency and one hundred per cent assiduous application to duty. If every Government Department were staffed by indefatigable officers as this Department, I am sure the Public Service of this colony would be run extremely well. If they asked for five officers instead of four it certainly should be granted them. I have no hesitation in saying they are doing a magnificent job in this colony and they should be no attempt to starve that Department of personnel or any other convenience which might make it easier for them to perform their offices.

6.40 p.m.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: I just want to say that there is one objection which I would like to register; it is that within recent years apparently the rights of this House seemed to be disregarded. This House is being disrespected. This Resolution is now before us, but can any honourable member say that he actually saw advertised in the Press an advertisement calling for these people? This Resolution is now before the House, and the Hon. Minister will be able to explain what is happening. To tell us that any official can take it upon himself to actually put an advertisement in the Press before this House has sanctioned it, I am sure, taking too much upon himself.

As to the question of these Probation Officers, I am very glad to see that the Government has decided to increase the number of them. But I want to sound this note; the Addendum to this Resolution says this:—

"The case load per Probation Officer is excessive and the increase in the Department's activities resulting from the operation of the Married Woman's Separation and Maintenance Act has made it impossible for the existing Staff to cope with the general expansion of work."

There is a tendency in Barbados today for people to frown upon children who were not born in wedlock, and there is even an official tendency to say on public boards that you should only give cognizance to persons who have been joined together by Ministers or Magistrates. I am not going to be any party to that; there seems to be that we want to create the impression that we have the biggest illegitimacy rate in any part of the world; but it is not higher than in England. There are those who write letters to the Housing Board suggesting that we should only give houses to married people. The idea of anybody asking members of the Housing Board to give houses only to married couples is just a joke; what about the other people? Do they not pay taxes? When one comes into this world it is no fault of his whether he comes in legitimately or illegitimately; I do not countenance promiscuity; but I have nothing against a man taking a woman as his wife without having the matter legalised. If he rears up his children I defy any Government to say that because he has not been legally married, you must not treat his children

in the same manner as those who have been born in wedlock. As far as that matter is concerned, a lot of us would have to go out of this House! [Laughter.] I address these remarks to the Hon. Minister of Social Services, because it is my experience daily. I do not think that the Probation Officers should be only concerned with the maintenance of married women and legitimate children. I feel that the number of persons who have to go before the Police Courts daily for the maintenance of children, other than married persons, make it of sufficient importance that the Government should see to it, that these Probation Officers interest themselves in assisting these people. I mean by that, that the average married woman cannot put her husband in Court for the maintenance of her children, but she can get an Order for the children; but the average woman who is unfortunate enough to bring forth her offspring outside of wedlock is neglected, and every body wants to frown on her because she is not legally married. I should like to say this: some of these unmarried people get on better than the married ones. I have seen quite a number of married people not getting their Orders and so on; I do hope that these Probation Officers will be able to assist women who have children and who are not married, in collecting the money which is due to them. I think it is unfair for any legislature or any public or civic body to make any suggestion that a line should be drawn between children who come into this world and who through no fault of their own, their parents were not married, and other children. I repeat: in that case a lot of us would have to walk out of this House; but some of us when we reach certain positions forget that we have glass windows, and we throw stones at other people.

As far as the Education Department is concerned, I want to say one or two things about that. The Addendum says this:—

"It is proposed to attach the additional post of Senior Clerk to the Education Department. The holder will be required mainly to perform the duties of Examinations Secretary will involve arranging the examinations, checking and forwarding entries and maintaining a proper record of the examination results"

What I have been observing is that youngsters have been elected for a particular line; they go out and take courses and when they come back here, they are put to do jobs different from those for which they were trained. On the other hand, there are numbers of girls in the Service who have been trying to get in particular departments because of their leaning towards a particular line; and for some reason or other they have been kept in a particular line, when it is realised that they have the ability and the capacity and they are willing to go into other departments with a view of learning.

6.50 p.m.

I hope that the Hon. Minister of Health will take this matter up and see that an opportunity is given to youngsters in the various departments of the Service, if they show adaptability, for qualifying in any particular field.

I want to say something which, as the Premier would tell us, might have nothing to do with the Government. I am referring to appointments to the Civil Service. Has the Hon. Minister seen that we have recently advertised in Trinidad for a Deputy Registrar? Is it within the knowledge of the Minister that there are a number of local young solicitors and barristers who have applied for the post? Can the Minister tell us why they have advertised abroad, when there are so many qualified people here who have applied? Can he tell us why the Public Service

Commission has adopted this attitude? Does the Minister know that there is a feeling that the Public Service Commission is just a figure head? That the Public Service Commission is not acting fairly and aboveboard?

I am saying that and you can take it back to the Governor or not; it is a matter of indifference to me. There are young Barbadians applying for a \$200 or \$300 a month job. We do not know that there is anything against them; and for some strange motive we are paying for an advertisement in Trinidad and other places. I am not advocating any closed policy for Barbados, but I am saying that I do not think that this is right.

I feel that the Minister should take the matter up in the right quarters and register his disapproval with the Public Service Commission; because the Government will get the blame in the end, even although they are not responsible for appointments. I am going to be as strong as this: it is not right to call names, but you have a young barrister in the Service drawing \$90.00 a month in the Attorney General's Office. He has asked to be allowed to do work in that office; he prosecutes cases and does that work for \$90.00 a month, and you are wasting money advertising abroad for a Deputy Registrar. What kind of policy is this? This youngster is drawing \$90.00 a month in the Attorney General's Office. Is it because there is nothing in the Attorney General's Office to steal? Those are facts.

I am sure that the Minister will let the Head of the Administration know that the House is concerned greatly over this, and feels that it should stop. A thing like this should not be countenanced by the Government. If it is the Public Service Commission, tell them to stop; the ultimate responsibility will be yours. It will be either said that you are wasting money or that you are acting against the interest of Barbadians.

The most important thing in this Resolution is the question of including in the activities of the Probation Officers, the looking into the maintenance of all children whose mothers have to go into Court to get something for them; not only the children of young married people. The unmarried mothers who find themselves in the position of having to go into Court for that purpose also contribute taxation, and it is our duty to look after them and cut this foolishness out.

Mr. MILLER: It is refreshing to learn from the Addendum to this Resolution that the Government is hurrying with the scheme for the modernisation and improvement of the Fire Brigade. I am wondering if the Minister in charge of the Resolution can explain this business about the Stenographer-Typist. It is obvious that a typist in a Fire Brigade Station would obviously have a lot of confidential work to do. I am wondering why the practice that obtains at Central Police Station (making a policeman a typist) will not apply here. Perhaps it is an oversight. The salary is \$624 x 48—1,200. I am sorry that the Premier is not in his place at the moment. I would like to commend the Government for getting this ready, although to my mind it looks like a Church Lads' Brigade or a Landship with 14 officers and 27 men.

Mr. LEWIS: Mr. Speaker, I cannot too often draw it to the attention of this House that in this kind of Resolution, considered only in the House and not in Committee of Supply where a member could speak more than once, they are spending money out of the Treasury, paying salaries, increasing the Establishment and everything; but for a Supplementary Vote of five shillings we have to go into Committee of Supply. It has always beaten me. From 1949 when we passed the Civil Establishment Act, I have been drawing attention to it.

Now what has struck me as very peculiar is that we had someone out to go into the organisation of the Service and the methods employed, and up to now no comprehensive debate has been initiated by the Government as to its future intentions towards the Civil Servants. Exactly which recommendations are they going to accept and which are they going to reject? A comprehensive debate should take place so that we may learn the Government's intentions; but here are we increasing the Establishment at least every two or three months, and what we are doing now is making permanent people whom we took on temporarily in a particular department. We are told that it has now been found necessary to make them permanent. Could the Government have ever expected anything else to happen? They say it as if it had been revealed to them in some divine way that they need these people permanently.

7.00 p.m.

Did they ever expect that it would have worked out that way? I hope the matter would be looked into. I do say that our Civil Establishment is being increased at almost every meeting of this House. It seems to me as if the time has come when you will have to decide something about it, in order to see what sort of establishment Barbados needs. Some Departments can afford to have more staff and some are overstaffed. Recently we got out somebody who was an expert in Organisation and Methods and we have heard nothing as to how the Government has taken his Report. It is good to find out that you can give some employment to people, and I am interested in that; but I do hope that you are not creating posts and doing nothing else but that. I do hope that all these posts are necessary.

There is one more thing I would like to say. I would like to ask the Government if they have considered all the suggestions made in this House and which may have worked well in other countries with respect to Insurance Companies which are operating in this place having a special tax imposed on them as a Fire Brigade Tax. In other countries Insurance Companies pay a special tax to help provide for the Fire Brigade Service in those colonies. Let our Fire Insurance Companies contribute to the Fire Brigade Service of this colony. See that taxes are laid on Fire Insurance Companies doing business in this country. If you do that, they would see to it that you keep an up to date Fire Service and that you do not have more personnel than you need. They would see to it that you bring your equipment up to date; and after all, if they are willing to have an increased staff, why should you not have it? I think these expenses can be laid at the door of the Fire Insurance Companies doing business in this country; and I am wondering if the Government is thinking of putting into effect such a proposition. I would really like to see that this is done in such a way that the Fire Insurance Companies pay more of this expense.

Hon. Dr. H. G. CUMMINS: I would first like to say that the advertisement for these Posts in the Fire Brigade was certainly a mistake. It was done by an over zealous officer; and when it was called to his attention, the gentleman in question said that after the salaries to pay them were passed in the Estimates, he took it for granted that that was the end of it and he proceeded to advertise for the additional posts.

I am sorry that the honourable senior member for the City is not in his place. I want to say that these certificates are for children of both legitimate and illegitimate children. They can never be the faintest shade of discrimination as far as treating legitimate children different from illegitimate children. With regard to the point made by the honourable junior member for the City in connection with

the Insurance Companies and which has been mentioned not so long ago, I can assure the hon. member that the matter is under consideration. What will be the outcome of it I do not know, but we are getting information from the neighbouring colonies and when we shall have got all the information we will decide what is the next step to take.

Mr. BARROW: I really consider that any Resolution of this kind which is to support a charge on this island should be fully debated in Committee of this whole House. I know that the practice in the past has been to debate it in this manner, but I do not think it is proper practice. There are one or two items here which I am not at all very well satisfied about. As regards the increase in the staff of the Probation Office, the point which was made by the honourable senior member for the City may be quite correct in that the Government Officer did make certain suggestions, but to the best of my knowledge (and I keep a pretty close eye on that kind of suggestion) they were not made by the Probation Officer but by the Social Welfare Officer, because it was one of the proposals put forward to relieve the over population of the island; and I think if the Hon. Minister of Social Services checks on this, he will find that Probation Officers have given examination to some problems which do not concern their own problem, that is the problems of Probation Service which come up in the legal Department. As a matter of fact, he will find that their problems are now a sort of mixture of quasi-legal and quasi-welfare work. At any rate, I do know that there is a large volume of work being done by those Officers. Not only do they have to make investigations as regards the means of married couples who come before the Law Courts of the island, for redress under the Separation and Maintenance Act, but they also have to follow up and keep a close check on those delinquents who are put on probation. Hence we get the whole provision of the term of Probation Officer.

7.10 p.m.

But I do not think the Minister of Housing would attempt to tell this House that anyone of the Probation Officers has ever gone into the realms or tried in anyway to encroach on the working of the Housing Board or the Housing Department, and I think in that respect, the intimation of the honourable senior member for the City was not completely accurate. There was a memorandum from the Social Welfare Officer to that effect; this is an explanation which I feel should have come from the Minister of Social Services. As I saw the particular memorandum over 18 months ago, I would not be dogmatic about it; but that was the impression I got.

When you come to the Government Electrical Department, I am wondering where that Department is now. It used to be in Bolton's Lane and they had a spacious office there; I would not say it was luxurious, but they did have more space than they needed at the time. I understand they have gone down to the building of Messrs. Plantation Limited. Now that the Government is building offices at the Pine, I wonder if the Minister of Communications and Works can tell us what they are going to do with the Electrical Inspector's Department. Surely the Government cannot go on giving profits to this firm; office space is so limited in Bridgetown that business firms do not tolerate the presence of Government Departments in their buildings, and their rents are not modest. I wonder if the Minister of Communications and Works could say whether they intend removing the Electrical Inspector's Department up to the Pine. If they are going to rent from anybody, I think they should rent from the Electric Company itself, or the Electric Company should give them space up there, because the two departments have to

work in harmony. I wish the Minister would investigate that matter, because I feel that something should be done about it. I think it is time that this department have some arrangement which does not cost the taxpayers the recurrent expenditure which it now costs them.

As regards the Auxiliary Crash Firemen at Seawell Airport, I am very glad to see that the shift system under which these firemen previously worked, and to which many honourable members including myself have often made reference from time to time, the hours of work have now been revised; but I am still wondering if it is fair to have these people working on a 24-hour shift with no adequate provision for rest. One argument against the provision of bunks and recreation for the firemen is that that would encourage them to loaf. This is a service for planes which are likely to be in difficulty; the very nature of the fireman's job is such that after dusk he would have a lot of time on his hands. Up to the last time I went to Seawell Airport, there were no adequate bunks or recreational facilities for the firemen. A 24-hour shift is a long shift for firemen; I wonder if it would not be better to request the service when T.C.A. and B.O.A.C. planes are coming in, and you could work with two thirds of the staff and pick up the others in case of emergency. Any plane which is not landing at Seawell on a regular schedule would give two or three hours notice to the Controller of the Airport of its arrival. Planes do not pass over Barbados in the normal course of travel unless they are actually coming here, because Barbados is somewhat off the beaten path. I think they are taking this business too seriously having firemen there at Seawell when the planes are only coming in on two or three nights a week. However, I am very glad to see that the firemen are not called upon to carry out general duties which some years ago savoured too much of the worst aspects of army life; and I am glad to see that they are treating them more human, rather than as members of the Pioneer Corps in the British Army.

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

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE "THE CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT (TEACHERS) (AMENDMENT) ORDER"

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker, there is one other Resolution of which I am asking leave to take charge of, and it is Order No. 17 standing in the name of the Hon. Premier.

There being no objection, leave was granted the Hon. Minister to take charge of the Order.

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day now stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Social Services: to move the passing of the following Resolution: Resolution to approve the Order entitled "The Civil Establishment (Teachers) (Amendment) Order, 1955."

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: This is a very short Resolution which deals with the establishment of offices. As these schools will be of a higher order than the present Elementary Schools, it is proposed to create an Order in respect of Secondary Schools of two types—one of less than 500 pupils, and the other of 500 pupils or more. There would not be any more teachers, but we will just pick out the standard required from the present roll of teachers. I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

7.20 p.m.

Mr. CRAWFORD: Before you put the question, Sir, I would like to say that the Hon. Minister of Social Services has sort of given the impression that these Modern Secondary Schools are to a higher

level than the ordinary Elementary Schools, and that therefore the Heads are by right entitled to greater emoluments. That to my mind is merely another link in the chain of fooling the public that more is to be expected from these Modern Secondary Schools than from the ordinary Elementary School. Nothing so far achieved at Richmond for instance, justifies either the Government or the public in the conviction that the Modern Secondary School is one whit above the ordinary Elementary School, or that the Headmasters of such schools are entitled automatically to increased emoluments.

Richmond's is to all intents and purposes a glorified Elementary School; and we have no reason to believe that either the Blackman's Secondary Modern School or the one at Six Cross Roads will be any different. But what mystifies me is this: the headships of both Blackman's and St. Philip's have been vacant for some time; applications have been asked for them and people have applied; up to now, as far as I know, neither has been filled. From the number of capable Elementary School Headteachers and others who have applied, certainly the Government could have selected two to fill these places.

Instead of doing that, there is now this Order before us to increase the emoluments of the headships of these schools. Now, I suppose, the next thing we will hear is that you cannot get capable local teachers to fill these places, and they had to make the salaries higher so as to attract outsiders. That is the only explanation that can be given. As far as I know, the Headmaster at Richmond's has not complained about his emoluments, nor has there been any lack of applicants for the two new vacancies under the old salary scale.

The teaching fraternity and the public is bound to be worried as to why instead of filling these vacancies from the applicants they have had, the Government has resolved to increase the remuneration attached to the posts. I see that Modern Secondary Schools of less than 500 pupils will carry a salary range of from \$2,760 to \$3,936 per annum, and those with over 500 pupils will carry a range of from \$2,880 to \$4,080 per annum. That means that the Headmaster of a Secondary Modern School of under 500 pupils will get a maximum salary of \$328.00 a month, while the Head of one of these schools with over 500 pupils will get a maximum of \$340.00 a month.

Well now, sir, perhaps the Introducer of this Resolution since he has taken charge, will, in the absence of the Minister of Education be in a position to tell the House why the two present vacancies have remained unfilled, and what were the reasons which induced the Government to put up the salary scale; and whether the Government felt that the applications which it had received for these vacancies were from people who were so hopelessly unqualified, that they decided to increase the emoluments so as to attract men of higher calibre. If that is the case, it is a scandalous reflection on the ability of the capable headteachers in the island who have applied for these two posts.

I cast no aspersion on the ability of the Headmaster of Richmond when I say that among those who have applied for these other two posts there are none any less capable than he, and unless the Government intends to offer a gratuitous insult to the large body of highly efficient headteachers in this island, an appointment to both Blackman's and St. Philip's should have been made long before this.

I am very sorry that the Minister of Education is not here, because one would have thought that in view of the present situation some explanation would have been made of the present position by the person introducing the Resolution.

As I have said, I personally see no reason at all for taking the headships of these schools out of the categories of the headships of ordinary Elementary Schools, unless the Government intends to run these schools bilaterally and have a secondary grammar school operating alongside the secondary modern school. Unless that is what is intended, there is no justification at all for what is proposed, because the products which will be turned out of these schools will not be one whit superior to those turned out now from a really efficient Elementary School. As a matter of fact, with the confused arrangements and the bastard curriculum which is to be followed at these Secondary Modern Schools, it is ten to one that they may turn out far inferior products to what are being turned out from proper Elementary Schools.

7.30 p.m.

The moment you are going to select teachers of any sort and single them out for preferment, you are bound to cause dissension in the whole teaching fraternity. Everybody knows the condition which exists in secondary schools as regards certificated teachers, and the tendency of qualified teachers to seek employment elsewhere. It is claimed, with some justification perhaps, that the salaries we offer at our secondary schools are not as remunerative as they could be; and we know that there is a very serious demand on the part of secondary schools for increased emoluments for the staffs. As a matter of fact, sometime ago, there was the difficulty of recruiting teachers for secondary schools; but be that as it may, as soon as you start an up grade of teachers of these glorified secondary modern schools, naturally, the staff of secondary schools would feel that they have the right to demand increased emoluments. No reason has been advanced either in this Resolution or by the Introducer of it to justify the purpose of the Resolution in the increase of remuneration for these particular posts. Personally, I see no justification for it. The only reason, I submit, is that you cannot get qualified men to fill these posts from the applicants. Are you suggesting that you cannot find four headteachers of the ability of the present headteacher of Richmond School to fill these two posts at Blackmans and St. Philip? I know that teachers from every part of the island are actually falling out with each other in their scramble for these two posts; they are applying for them from every parish in the island; and now we have here something for an increase for these two posts. This is just an incidence of how this Government permits itself to be misled or how it revels in throwing away money. The Hon. Minister of Education has permitted himself to be fooled that no teacher can be found to fill these posts, and therefore you will have to increase the salary of them. I am at a loss to understand that. We have recruited men from the elementary schools to the Grammar Schools for the teaching staff, and they are several instances of where teachers who are in elementary schools are qualified to take up posts at Grammar Schools. Do you mean to say that your secondary schools are higher than Harrison College or the Lodge Schools? At Harrison College and Combermere you have on the teaching staff teachers who were formally teaching at Elementary Schools, and they were recruited at these Grammar Schools because of their ability. Why not fill these two posts with teachers from Elementary Schools? If the three persons who filled the post of Headmaster at the Richmond School since it was in operation were not producing excellent results, there might have been some justification for this attempt today to increase

the salary of these posts. With regard to the Richmond School I am not blaming the Headmaster if it is not producing excellent results. I can only say that the Directors who are running these secondary modern schools are up to now still very confused over the issue, and the whole situation itself as regards the aims and purpose of these schools is so bewildering that it would take a super-man to teach at them. At any rate the fact remains that nothing has been accomplished to justify an increase in the salary of these posts.

I sincerely hope that the Hon. Minister of Education would resist any attempt to expense this country by bringing in appointees to fill these posts from abroad; that can only be the reason for increasing the salary of these posts. Sir, this Resolution is bound to provoke not only a query but also bewilderment in the minds of those who apply for these posts and in the whole teaching fraternity: and I hope the Hon. Minister would be good enough to say something to justify this increase and to resolve the doubt in the minds of people after reading this Resolution.

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

Hon. Dr. H. G. CUMMINS: That ends Government's business.

Mr. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I am asking leave to deal with the Resolution, (Item 20 of Private Members' Business) which stands in my name with reference to the decisions of the G.A.T.T. Conference at Geneva.

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

APPRECIATION OF ACHIEVEMENTS OF R.E.C. DELEGATION AT G.A.T.T. CONFERENCE

Mr. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, the Resolution reads as follows:—

"Resolved that this House place on record its deep appreciation of the significant achievements of the Regional Economic Committee's delegation at the G.A.T.T., review just concluded in Geneva, and further that an expression of its gratification be conveyed to the Chairman of the delegation, Hon. Albert Gomes and the other members of their untiring and successful efforts in the cause of B.W.I. economic advancement."

Mr. Speaker, I do not intend to detain this House on this matter. It is common knowledge that the Delegation of R.E.C. has done a very remarkably good job. Its members have brought very forcibly to the Conference the peculiar position of the West Indies and the islands absolute dependence on imperial preference for the continuance of their economic position.

7.40 p.m.

Without the ability of Britain to maintain and extend the system of preference, none of our products, sugar, citrus or tobacco could compete in the open market with similar products which are assisted by other countries. Without adherence to the principles of G.A.A.T. Britain might have been forced to discontinue the entire system of preference, and it was therefore felt by the West Indies that a special attempt should be made to emphasise before the

nations assembled at Geneva how important it was to the entire economy of the British West Indies to continue, and if necessary, to expand the present system of Imperial Preference. It is acknowledged that the very fine effort put forward by the R.E.C. influenced the decision of the Conference so that for the future West Indian producers can look forward to the maintenance and expansion of imperial aid on a basis which renders such marketing affective, and which will ensure a fair return for it. It is therefore meet, if we stand to benefit so much from the continuance of preference for our main product—sugar—that we should go on record as being appreciative of what has been done for us by this Delegation at Geneva. It is true that the Delegates to the Conference spoke for the West Indies as a single unit; they did not single out any special territory, they sought to emphasise the principle of preference and as a result of the Conference all the West Indies stand to benefit.

In these days when regional co-operation has just begun to take shape, it is highly important that we endeavour to make our representatives at these conferences feel that we are watching their actions, and that furthermore we are grateful for their endeavours in the cause of West Indian unity and progress. It is therefore with the greatest pleasure that I ask the House to support this Resolution thanking the Delegates on the R.E.C. Delegation for their efforts at Geneva, and to assure them of our deep gratitude on what they have accomplished.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: I beg to second that.

Mr. BARROW: No one has ever been a more severe critic of the propensities of West Indian politicians to make hurried journeys abroad and return without giving the members of the public any information or indication that their excursions are fruitful or beneficial to the inhabitants of the British Caribbean, than I. We in Barbados are probably the chief offenders in this respect, in that Conferences take place and officials and Ministers make journeys and the public is never vouchsafed the benefit either of information in respect of their journeys or the fruits thereof. Whatever you may feel about political personalities and their views not being entirely consistent with your own, I want to associate myself in every respect with the remarks made by the hon. senior member for St. Philip; because this is one occasion, and I would go as far as to say it is the only occasion, on which a journey made by West Indian delegates has been really necessary.

Hon. M. E. COX: Before you put the question Mr. Speaker, I should just like to suggest an amendment to this Resolution with the hope that the hon. member will agree to it. It does look rather strange that the name of Mr. Bradshaw has not been included in this Resolution; Mr. Bradshaw was also a member of that Delegation, and it would appear somewhat discourteous to put in the name of Hon. Albert Gomes and not the other names. I beg to move that the words "and the other members" be deleted and the words "Hon. R. L. Bradshaw" be inserted in place thereof.

Mr. CRAWFORD: I have no objection to that. As a matter of fact if the Resolution read 'Hon. Albert Gomes and the members of the delegation, we would also have to include Mr. Mordecai's name. [MEMBERS: Not at all].

Hon. M. E. COX: On a point of Order. There were two members and both names should be included.

Mr. LEWIS: I am asking that a copy of this Resolution be sent to these gentlemen.

Mr. SPEAKER: That will be done.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Hon Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the House do now adjourn until 3 o'clock p.m next Tuesday.

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

The question was put and agreed to and Mr. Speaker adjourned the House accordingly.
7.55 p.m.