

THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SESSION 1955—56

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Thursday, 12th January, 1956.

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

Present:

His Honour K. N. R. HUSBANDS (*Speaker*), Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS, C.B.E., M.D., C.M., (*Minister of Social Services*), Hon. M. E. COX, (*Minister of Communications, Works and Housing*); Mr. L. E. SMITH, J.P., (*Chairman of Committees*); Mr. F. L. WALCOTT, O.B.E., Hon. R. G. MAPPE, (*Minister of Trade, Industry and Labour*); Mr. F. C. GODDARD, (*Leader of the Opposition*); Mr. J. C. MOTTLEY, Hon. C. E. TALMA, (*Minister of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries*) and Mrs. E. E. BOURNE.

Prayers were read.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS entered the House and took his seat.

MINUTES

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

BILLS RETURNED

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

(a) Message returning the McLeod (Authority to practise as a Solicitor) Bill, with an amendment.

(b) Message returning the Saint John's Parish Loan (Amendment) Bill, with an amendment.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE

A Government Notice was given as follows:—

Hon. Dr. H. G. CUMMINS: Resolution to place the sum of \$5,760 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to supplement the Estimates 1955-56, Part I, Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimate 1955-56 No. 60 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

McLEOD BILL

Hon. Dr. H. G. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker, in connection with those two Bills which have been returned from the Other Place with amendments, I understand that in each case, the amendment is just a matter of changing the year. I am therefore asking leave to deal with these amendments forthwith under Rule 262.

There being no objection, leave was granted the Hon. Minister.

Mr. SPEAKER: The first Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Social Services: to move the consideration of the Legislative Council's amendment to the McLeod (Authority to practise as a Solicitor) Bill.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker, in connection with this Bill which we have passed, the amendment of the Other Place is just a question of changing the year "1955" to the year "1956." I beg to move that this amendment be now read a first time.

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

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

On motions of Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS, seconded by Hon. M. E. COX in each case, the amendment was read a second time and agreed to.

ST. JOHN LOAN BILL

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day also stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Social Services: to move the consideration of the Legislative Council amendment to the Saint John's Parish Loan (Amendment) Bill.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker, as I said in connection with the amendment to which we have just agreed, the amendment to this Bill is also just a matter of changing the year "1955" to the year "1956." I beg to move that this amendment be now read a first time.

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

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

On motions of Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS, seconded by Hon. M. E. COX in each case, the amendment was read a second time and agreed to. 3.25 p.m.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Social Services: to move the House into Committee of Supply to consider the grant of sums of money for the service of the colony.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I beg to move that Your Honour do now leave the Chair and the House go into Committee of Supply.

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

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

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

Accountant General

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, as you will see this Resolution for \$69,815 is divided into seven heads. We will deal with them Head by Head.

Head III—Accountant General—was called.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: The first Head is for \$450 to supplement the \$2,300 voted in the Estimates, for Cost of Living Allowance, as that amount is inadequate.

I beg to move that Head III—stand part of the Schedule.

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

The question was put and agreed to.

Customs

Head VI—Customs— was called.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I beg to move that Head VI—stand part of the Schedule.

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

The question was put and agreed to.

Registration

Head XII—Registration—was called.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I beg to move that Head XII—stand part of the Schedule.

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

The question was put and agreed to.

Science & Agriculture

Head XXI—Science and Agriculture—was called.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I beg to move that Head XXI—stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Chairman, I would like to know what the Government intends doing with the 37 acres of land which they are now taking over. I would ask the Minister of Agriculture to give us a full account.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, for many years the Department of Agriculture has suffered from not having sufficient land for experimental purposes and the 37½ acres have been acquired to do research and experiments in peasant agriculture. It is being developed to give the peasants an idea of what can be grown by the inception of research work to be conducted in the near future. It is along these lines that the land is being acquired.

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Chairman, I thank the Hon. Minister very much for the reply, but I hope they will pay due attention to crops other than cane. Garden products like cabbages and things of that sort should be encouraged in Barbados because we continue to have to import from outside and prices continue to be high. So I am sure that with the diversification you are speaking about some officer will be appointed to report and direct what we consider as market gardening.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Hon. Minister of Agriculture to what extent the Services of the Department of Agriculture will be used. He will remember that during the Estimates he made a statement to the effect that Government is following a policy on a co-operative or collective basis in using the plantation at Dodds. I should like to know what progress has been made at Dodds. I say that, because I believe we have reached the stage where we can show to the public that in Agriculture the profits are not so meagre and unprofitable as they think, and I do feel that Dodds has been in the melting pot for many years, and I would like to see what are the proposals for implementing such a policy in making it a farm.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I wish to give the House the assurance that a statement so far as the policy of Dodds is concerned will be presented on the consideration of the Estimates, but at this stage I would like to assure the hon. member who has just sat down and who has held the portfolio for many years in the past, that Barbados is based solely on the Sugar Industry, and it is essential and important that Government should be, (as far as the sugar industry is concerned) apprised of the relevant and economic factors so as to know exactly what proportion of production the 200 acres of cane could produce and what are the implications. Therefore although I am not making a public statement now, I should bring to the attention of the hon. member that it is essential that Government be apprised and informed not only of the financial implications of a Sugar Plantation, but also of the implications of small scale farming, and market gardening. As regards the hon. junior member for Christ Church I promise to bring a statement on the consideration of the Estimates so as to satisfy the public and for the information of the hon. member.

The question that Head XXI—stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.
3.35 p.m.

Subsidies and Grants

Head XXVIII — Subsidies and Grants was called.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: With regard to this Head, the sum of \$2,169 was provided in the Current Estimates under Item 50 to meet the cost of Printing and binding 1,000 copies of Dr. Bruce Hamilton's thesis "Barbados and the Confederation Question." Information has now been received from the Crown Agents that due to increases in the cost of bookwork, printing, binding and materials since the original quotation was given, it is estimated that this work will cost \$2,669. So we are asking for a Supplementary Provision of \$500 to meet the increased cost. We hope that the Printers will get it out before March so that the Delegates can see it at the Federation Conference.

I beg to move that Head XXVIII stand part.

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

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

Miscellaneous

Head XXIX—Miscellaneous Services was called.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: With regards to this Head, as hon. members will see from the note, as a result of the decision to refund Widows & Orphans Contributions to certain Customs porters who, by right, should never have contributed to the fund, the amount provided to meet refunds has proved to be inadequate. Supplementary provision of \$1,100 is required. This is in respect to the first Item.

As regards the second Item as hon. members will see from the note Supplementary provision of \$1,920 was made by Resolution No. 30/1955 to cover the cost of Barbados participation in the 1955 British Industries Fair. This amount was based on an estimated total cost to British Caribbean Governments of \$19,022.40. The actual cost of British Caribbean participation was \$20,711.90, an excess of \$700.70 over contributions received. This excess resulted from an increase by the British Industries Fair Ltd., in their charge per square foot to cover the cost of improvements in the decoration for the Commonwealth Court and from an underestimation of the cost of type setting for literature for the stand.

I beg to move that this Head stand part.

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

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

Peasants' Loan Bank

Head XXXVII — Peasants' Loan Bank, was called.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: As hon. members will see from the note, this vote of \$4,610 for the Peasants' Loan Bank is wanted for three purposes. I suppose this matter will arise again when we are dealing with the annual Estimates. The sum of \$192 is wanted to pay a Messenger until the end of the Financial Year. At present there is no Messenger attached to the Peasants' Loan Bank and this causes inconvenience to the Manager and staff.

Then there is \$375 wanted for Office Furniture. The office furniture at present used by the Manager of the Peasants' Loan Bank is the property of the Labour Welfare (Housing Loans) Organisation. In view of the forthcoming division in the management of the Peasants' Loan Bank and the Labour Welfare (Housing Loans) Organisation it is necessary to provide office furniture and telephone for the new Manager of the Peasants' Loan Bank.

The sum of \$4,607 is required for a loan to the Manager and Inspector to assist in the purchase of motor vehicles. The Executive Committee has decided that the Director of the Peasants' Loan Bank should be advised to make advances to such members of the staff of the Bank as would normally qualify under the Public Officers Loan and Travelling Allowances Act, 1948—12. The maximum loan authorised under this Act is \$2,160. The borrowers will be required to enter into an agreement with the Bank to repay the loans under the conditions applicable to Civil Servants. I may say that the Executive Committee went into all that and we are satisfied that this money

should be voted. I beg to move that Head XXXVII stand part.

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

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, there seems to be some confusion with how this vote is prepared, because the first part of this note is stated as follows:

"Supplementary provision of \$96 is therefore required to meet this Government's share of the excess of expenditure over receipts."

I think that is personal emoluments forming part of the first Item of this note.

[A VOICE: That deals with the last Item of the Head to which we just gave consideration.]

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: However, Sir, what I would like to know is this: according to this note (Item (b) Other Charges) the office at present used by the Manager of the Peasants' Loan Bank is the property of the Labour Welfare (Housing Loans) Organisation, and the note goes on to say that in view of the forthcoming division in the management of the Peasants' Loan Bank and Labour Welfare (Housing Loans) Organisation it is necessary to provide office furniture and telephone for the new Manager of the Peasants' Loan Bank.

What is strange about this matter is that the Peasants' Loan Bank was an organisation which was in existence years before the Labour Welfare (Housing Loans) Organisation and it seems strange that according to this Note the Peasants' Loan Bank has never had any furniture and that the furniture there is the property of the Labour Welfare (Housing Loans) Organisation. From my way of thinking that could not be true, because before the Labour Welfare (Housing Loans) Organisation came into existence there was the Peasants' Loan Bank; so you must assume that the Peasants' Loan Bank must have had some furniture; I think some explanation will have to be given.

With regard to the other Item: Loans to Manager and Inspector to assist in the purchase of motor vehicles, I have no general objection because the Government is providing transport for people whose services require it. What I would like to say is that it concerns a matter of policy and consistency because you are providing these officers who are not officers under the Crown with this provision, therefore the question which arises is: are you going to make a similar concession to other people who are not officers under the Crown but who are employed by the Government? In other words to those officers who cannot apply for loans under this Scheme?

As you know, Sir, there are people working in Cotton Inspection whose job requires them to travel around the country and I know of an officer who does that work and cannot enjoy this privilege. The legal position is that if a person is not a substantive holder of an office under the Civil Establishment Act, you cannot get this facility extended to you. If you extend this facility to the Manager and Inspector of the Peasants' Loan Bank who are not officers under the Civil Establishment Act, then it means that you will have to revamp the whole scheme and say that you are going to provide other officers who qualify in semi-government departments with the same facilities. I would like to have an answer to these two points.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, in so far as the first point raised by the honourable junior member for St Peter, I can very well appreciate the remarks which the honourable junior member for St. Peter has made. It is true to say that the Peasants' Loan Bank was instituted in 1936 whereas the Labour Welfare (Housing Loans) Organisation came into existence a few years afterwards. But I would

like to remind the honourable member that the former Manager of the Peasants' Loan Bank has always been called upon to perform work under the dual posts and you will find that before the set up of the Labour Welfare (Housing Loans) Organisation there was during the war years, the United States Savings Department of which the former Manager was in charge.

My information is to the effect that the skeleton furniture which was allocated to the Peasants' Loan Bank has been all broken up. It must be borne in mind that that Department started as a very small organisation and that it became swallowed up by the U.S. Savings Department. As far as I gather, little bits of furniture can be found.

In so far as the second point raised by the honourable junior member for St. Peter is concerned as to what provision is being made for other officers of Government other than those under the Civil Establishment who are not now entitled to get such privileges such as travelling allowance and securing loans for the purchase of motor cars, I wish to say that that matter is under consideration and Government will declare its policy on it with respect not only to one Government organisation, but to all. In reality the Peasants' Loan Bank is a separate and distinct entity from the Labour Welfare (Housing Loans) Organisation which functions side by side of it.

3.45 p.m.

The policy of such Organisations will in due time be considered and we have come to the first Organisation, which is the Peasants' Loan Bank. That has been in existence for 20 years and it has been found necessary to pass a special Bill so as to secure pension rights for the Manager who has just resigned. In the light of these circumstances, the Peasants' Loan Bank has been under consideration within recent months; the employees of the Peasants' Loan Bank would have to be given consideration, and their case is being considered. Further consideration will be given to other Government Corporations which fall in a similar category, and whose employees enjoy similar rights and privileges which employees in the establishment at present enjoy.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: I thank the hon. member for the information, but public funds should come under the closest scrutiny of those who have the authority, to see that they are in charge of these funds. I must tell the hon. member that it does not satisfy me that everything which is stated in this note is true. It says this:—

"In view of the forthcoming division in the management of the Peasants' Loan Bank and Labour Welfare (Housing Loans) Organisation it is necessary to provide office furniture and telephone for the new Manager of the Peasants' Loan Bank."

The Housing Loans Scheme came into operation under an Act of 1947, it was not implemented until 1950, the Organisation was not set up until 1951, the Peasants' Loan Bank on the other hand was in operation for 15 years and I am not going to accept that the Peasants' Loan Bank did not possess its own furniture. This is a matter which needs further investigation; this should be the property of the U.S. Savings Department.

If some juggling went on at some time, that is not my responsibility; my responsibility is to see that this matter could not pass muster that the Peasants' Loan Bank did not have any office furniture. What became of the furniture when the Bank was instituted? What has become of the furniture which you asked the Government to provide as something separate and distinct from that of the Peasants' Loan Bank? That money which was used out of the Labour Welfare Fund has nothing to do with the

Peasants' Loan Bank and how can it be said that there was no furniture for the Manager? This is carrying a joke too far.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I did not suggest that. We are all aware that the Peasants' Loan Bank was instituted in 1936 and that furniture was there for the use of the Bank. It has been drawn to our attention that that furniture was utilised by the Manager who sat in a dual capacity, as Manager of the Bank and also Manager of the U.S. Savings Department. Furthermore the former Minister was in office in the crucial years to which he refers.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: I do not know whether the hon. member is being facetious or not. What former Minister is he talking about? I am not concerned with that type of nonsense. We are not operating a club; we are dealing with a public Organisation, and this is the highest Parliament in the land. What is the use of telling me that the Manager of the Peasants' Loan Bank used to sit in a dual capacity? In this connection he was really sitting in a triple capacity. This Organisation was started in 1936 and you are now saying that the furniture which the Manager is now using is the property of somebody else, and any replacement of furniture would have to be done by the Peasants' Loan Bank. I am not asking the Minister to make any excuse for what is written here in this note; this is a matter which deserves some investigation by him. But why is it that the Peasants' Loan Bank has no furniture? I am able to tell the Minister that that could not be true; no Organisation existing in this island for 15 years could have been existing without having any furniture, and the Peasants' Loan Bank could have replaced its furniture.

If I should say more, you provided money to buy furniture for the Peasants' Loan Bank, and do you know that the Bank has produced money for itself? Why should this furniture be provided, when the Bank was a separate entity? How do we know that furniture for the Peasants' Loan Bank was not provided? This must seem strange to people because you are asking for separate funds to provide the Inspector with Travelling Allowance. I want to say that you are going to find it difficult to get furniture for the Peasants' Loan Bank from the Directors. I think that some investigation should be made as to why the furniture for the Peasants' Loan Bank was never replaced, and Bank's furniture was replaced by the Housing Loans Organisation.

Mr. Chairman, an investigation should be conducted as the result of the information I have submitted, but the Hon. Minister has not been able to give us a clear analysis of the position. Do you mean to tell me that from 1936 to today there has been no furniture in that place? Where has this furniture gone and who has been responsible for the removal of it and where is it?

Hon. M. E. COX: This may satisfy the honourable member. Only a few days ago the only bit of furniture that really concerned the Peasants' Loan Bank was the chair in which the manager and the present acting manager sat. That was all that concerned the Peasants' Loan Bank.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: All that shows a very poor state of affairs; that all the Peasants' Loan Bank had for the last fifteen years is a chair. What kind of investigation was held then? You cannot have an Office like that without any furniture? I have been there before and I have seen furniture in the place before it was the Peasants' Loan Bank. Why then is the Government asked to provide furniture—desk, table,—for the people who were asked to go there? If everytime you are making an investigation you are going to say there is a question

of money or mismanagement of money, I am going to say something about it.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: After the explanation, I do not know why the honourable member for St. Peter should not have accepted it. I have no recollection of the Peasants' Loan Bank ever asking for furniture. The Peasants' Loan Bank never expressed any of its views about furniture for the office, but I welcome the Minister's promise that he will have an even fuller explanation; but I repeat, I have no recollection of ever having been asked in preparing the Estimates to include money for the provision of furniture, because one man was doing three jobs and the furniture he was using he continued to use, but the Peasants' Loan Bank has never asked for furniture and I hope that honourable members will be satisfied with that explanation.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: The Premier has now made it worse. He has no recollection! He must remember that the U.S. Savings Bank came in subsequent to the Peasants' Loan Bank. The Peasants' Loan Bank would have bought furniture to use at the Bank. The U.S. Savings Bank came in 1946, after the Peasants' Loan Bank was formed, therefore the Peasants' Loan Bank would have bought its own furniture. His recollection is true. He may not have put in the Estimates money to buy furniture, but the only furniture would be the desk of the Peasants' Loan Bank, unless you had a kitchen table out of deal board. A desk does not disappear in 15 years; a desk lasts 45 to 50 years. I know that honourable members know that the Peasants' Loan Bank should have its own furniture, and I would like to know where it has gone. And now Government is called upon to furnish the Peasants' Loan Bank not only with a desk for the Manager but to furnish his office.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: As I said, the honourable member might be right. That is why it is a good thing to have a further investigation, because it may be that the furniture was the Peasants' Loan Bank furniture and a fresh lot was bought for him, and I hope to have the information passed on to the honourable member before next Tuesday and tell the whole House next Tuesday.

I beg to move that Head XXXVII—stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I beg to move that the Resolution for the sum of \$69,815 do now pass.

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

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

Repairs to Government Buildings

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Chairman, before dealing with the Resolution I should like to ask leave to increase that Resolution by \$64,000.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The honourable member has asked leave to increase the Resolution by \$64,000, and unless there be any objection leave will be granted.

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member should have given an explanation and then move the Resolution. He should get up and introduce the Resolution, explain what it is all about and then say our estimate for so and so is too short and I now beg to increase the amount voted. We could

not accept it as it is. If he will do it that way I will agree.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Is the hon. member objecting?

Mr. GODDARD: I am not objecting.

There being no objection leave was granted the Hon Minister.

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Chairman this Resolution is to continue various repairs to Government buildings damaged during the recent hurricane. When we voted sums of money for this purpose, \$103,185.00 was taken from the amount voted to repair Government buildings. I should say from the outset that the damage had been estimated to cost \$185,185.00, and the \$103,185.00 plus \$94,000.00, takes it a bit over the estimated amount which is \$185,185.00, but that difference of \$12,000.00 is for cleaning, washing and painting Government Schools, which is included in the insurance. Perhaps I should tell the House at this stage that the amount claimed at the time was to the order of \$196,613.32 for damages. The adjusters, the Director of Public Works and all concerned, got together and after discussing it for some time they agreed to the sum of \$187,140.00. The exact claim, Mr. Speaker, was \$196,613.32 but it was agreed by all concerned that the amount of damage should be to the order of \$187,140.00, less depreciation, which would leave a balance of \$175,991.28: less salvage, \$1,932.50, which brought it down to \$174,058.78. Then by virtue of the excess clause, the amount was diminished by \$12,000.00, which brought the final amount which the Insurance Company paid to Government to \$162,058.78. So, you will see, the original \$103,185.00 was allocated to the Director of Public Works to carry out these repairs and since then he has made a call for \$52,000.00 which brought it to \$155,185.00; and that, Sir, is considered to be the amount necessary to make good the damages. As I pointed out the other \$12,000.00 is for painting, washing and cleaning schools.

I do not think it is necessary to say anything more; I think it is pretty straight-forward, therefore I beg to move that this Resolution for the sum of \$94,000 do now pass.

4.05 p.m.

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

Mr. GODDARD: Sir, I take it that this would be the final sum required for the repairs to Government buildings, or is this the sum which is likely to cover the repairs? I would also like to ask the Hon. Minister how far advanced they are with these repairs to Government buildings? How much more repairs are there to be done?

I see that there are three categories of repairs. I see from the Addendum: (b) Repairs to Private Houses \$132,000. I would like an explanation of that. Does that mean the repairs which Government has done to private houses at the Bay Estate or is it repairs by Government to other properties which Government has under control such as houses for their officers?

You have here the three categories:—

(a) Repairs to Government property	\$103,185
(b) Repairs to private houses	132,000
(c) Relief to Parishes	143,012
	\$378,197

We may have already voted sums for these under other Heads. If the Hon. Minister in charge would answer me now I may be able to say something further later on.

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Chairman, as I have pointed out, the first is for repairs to Government

property. As you know, at the time of the hurricane, the Public Works Department was responsible for carrying out certain repairs. That \$103,185 is for that purpose. The sum of \$132,000 is for repairs to private houses. That was what was spent on the repairing of damaged houses by the Public Works Department, such as those houses in Christ Church. The sum of \$143,012 is given for Relief to Parishes; that is to the various Parochial Committees which undertook the repairing of houses.

Mr. GODDARD: I take it that what the Hon. Minister means to say is that this \$132,000 is the amount of money expended by the Public Works Department in the early stages of the Rehabilitation programme. Is that so?

Hon. M. E. COX: Yes.

Mr. GODDARD: Therefore, that sum closes off the account of the work that was done by the Public Works Department in the repair of damaged houses before the remainder was turned over to the Housing Board.

Hon. M. E. COX: So far as the repairs to houses of private people are concerned, the Public Works Department relinquished that job some months ago and the Housing Board alone is now carrying on the repairs.

Mr. ALLDER: Mr. Chairman, I rise to say that the cost of rehabilitating the houses of those people who suffered during the hurricane would have been much less if the two Departments concerned in the repairs had co-operated more than they did and I am speaking especially of the Labour Welfare (Housing Loans) Department. I notice that there were many complaints made, not only by myself but by others in respect of the treatment meted out to workers who approached that Department when their houses were damaged as a result of the hurricane to get a loan for them to repair the houses themselves. I want to say that the Acting Manager whom you have at that Department is making it a house of terror. It is a fact that he is not sufficiently tolerant. [Hon. M. E. COX: You will be able to speak on that matter when we come back for the final instalment to repair the houses of the people.]

Sir, the reason why I raise this matter now is because I notice in the Addendum the item: (b) Repairs to private houses, \$132,000. I am saying that many of those people go to the Labour Welfare (Housing Loans) Department for loans to repair their houses themselves and the Acting Manager there makes them come to him week after week thus causing them to lose several days' work.

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Chairman, I am going to appeal to the honourable member. I know that he had some difficulty which he told me about some time this week at that Department. The \$132,000 which is set out in the Addendum for repairs to private houses was only done in that way to show the amount spent by the Public Works Department in that respect: but that has absolutely nothing to do with the Labour Welfare (Housing Loans) Organisation in granting loans to people who qualify for loans under that scheme. As soon as Government comes back in the House for the final instalment to repair houses of the people, the hon. member can raise that point.

Mr. ALLDER: Sir, I would not like the statement by the Hon. Minister when he spoke of his knowing that I had difficulty to get a loan at that Department to get around, because I am not entitled to get loans from that Department. [Hon. M. E. COX: I apologise; I never meant it that way.]

Many of the people of St. John whose houses were damaged in the hurricane (and the Hon. Minister knows that) as well as people from other parishes have gone week after week at the Labour Welfare (Housing Loans) Organisation in order to secure a loan and they were turned around without even sufficient explanation given to them.

My suggestion to the Hon. Minister is that he should maintain greater personal scrutiny on that Department. When you get too many people complaining about the running of a particular Department, it is time that you get up and do something about it.

4.15 p.m.

What is more, you get the Head of the Department dealing with people in an improper way because they have to go to the politicians. He says: "You went to the politicians; therefore you go and come back." When they ask when to come back, they are told: "I do not know when," and things like that. What is more the presumption increases when one has to telephone him in the interest of the workers.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I am appealing to the honourable member. I see his point, but I cannot allow him to go too far with that matter.

Mr. ALLDER: I am only attempting to make the Hon. Minister become aware—

Mr. CHAIRMAN: He knows it.

Mr. ALLDER: Well I hope it will be remedied. When you get the Head of a Department putting down the telephone in the ears of people who have to telephone him on behalf of the workers, it is time that proper discipline be maintained.

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

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman I understand that the other two Resolutions have not yet been printed and circulated. I therefore beg to move that you do now report the passing of two Resolutions in Committee of Supply, and the postponement of two.

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

The question was put and agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN reported, and Mr. SPEAPEE resumed the Chair, and reported accordingly.

On motions of Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS, seconded by Hon. M. E. COX, in each case, the Resolutions passed in Committee of Supply were read a first and second time and agreed to.

SCHEME FOR BARBADOS TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day is to resume Committee on the passing of the following Resolution: Resolution to sanction the Scheme of Government for the Barbados Technical Institute.

Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair, and the House resumed Committee on the Resolution, Mr. SMITH being in the Chair.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: Although the honourable senior member for St. John might wish to continue his remarks, I think I ought to tell the Committee that the points raised by the Committee when this Resolution was being discussed on the last occasion, were thoroughly investigated by the Executive Committee. I asked the opinion of the Director of Education on the points made by honourable members; and as far as the first point is concerned, namely, that we should not have this F.B.I. system, so to speak, *re* the Principal, of course, we have agreed to wipe that out. But these things do escape you. It is really too much to suggest that reports in which you feel like saying anything you like about the Principal, should be allowed. As everybody knows, confidential reports on every Officer in this Colony are made to the Secre-

tary of State for the Colonies, with the possibility of promotion or otherwise, and the Head of every Department reports on everybody in the Office, and so on. 4.25 p.m.

There are certain Reports that go together; the Chief Secretary's Report and the Auditor General's, the Government Report and the Chief Secretary's in turn. It is not necessary to go further. Well, the Director of Education felt that if the Governing Body made these Reports on the Headmaster when the Headmaster's report will again be made up, they will know how many things are going. That was really what was in his mind when he made this suggestion that reports on the work of the Headmasters of the different Schools and on the different Civil Servants connected with Education be sent in, because it would make it easy to write on Education and the Head of the Institute. Because it may appear on the face of it to be going too far, we are not prepared to press it.

As regards the point of Combermere alone being chosen, you cannot have in every school a special class for the theoretical side of technical education, and the only reason for choosing Combermere was because it would be the best of these Schools. There is nothing whatever to prevent the Headmaster of some other School from sending a boy from that School to Combermere for the lesson or instruction that might be given to the Combermere group, so as to prevent any possible discrimination against other schools. The Institute will be run on the same lines as the Technical Institute, with a class on one day a week; and it would be necessary for all the aided Secondary Schools to be given a time suitable for their students.

I am not sure what is the position as regards the other points raised by the honourable member for St. John. There was a question of fees. If he would care to repeat them I will reply to them. But I do not know if the honourable member for Christ Church made any remark as regards the Foundation School. Well, as I said, I have gone into that carefully since the first reading of the legislation. I would say now that this is my own view — and what I think would be the view of the Education Department and the Ministry—and I have very little doubt of the legislation as a whole. You start at Primary School or a private class, go on to a secondary school or a secondary modern school, you see a boy with a leaning towards reading a lot; you feel that he might make good at Harrison College on the Classical side or the Modern Languages side, History and so on.

I am going to ask the Legislature to accept it that a boy should be taken out of that school and sent to the proper school; that is to say, if Lodge School has the best Mathematical training, send a boy from Foundation or anywhere else to Lodge School. Help his parents if it means added expenses for him, but find a place for him there. If a boy from another school is literarily bent, send him to Harrison College in order that he might benefit from the Classical teaching at that school. If you are having classes on the theoretical side at Combermere School, there is no reason why the once a week provision should not be made at Government expense to bring that boy down that afternoon, or morning, as the case may be, to Combermere to get that teaching. Therefore, I do not think that hon. members will have any fears that boys of other secondary schools who need a theoretical teaching to enable them to become engineers, would not be able to have it because of the teaching at Combermere School. I go further to say that this is the view of the Ministry and of the Education Department as regards general education in this island. If you have not got enough masters to teach all the

subjects in a school, it is cheaper to send boys from that school to the one that teaches it than to pile up masters in a school to teach it. So that if any other member would like to raise any points, I will make a reply accordingly.

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Chairman, it is a long time ago since this question was discussed, but the one point that stands out in my memory most was the question of secondment or recruitment of pupils mostly from Combermere School.

The Premier has explained how it is intended that Combermere will be putting in their curriculum one class per week, and it was felt by the Committee at that time that boys from other modern secondary schools should be given an equal opportunity as the boys at Combermere by sending suitable boys to the Technical School; and I think it was generally felt that in education the schools should be so interwoven that a boy of any secondary school should be developed on his particular characteristics. Harrison College would provide classics and science; Lodge perhaps will have a Mathematical bias; and if you have better mathematical teachers at Lodge School than at Harrison College the boy should be sent to that School; and at least a boy from Foundation School could be sent easily in the Upper Forms and we could have our specialist masters teaching with less expense to the colony.

We realise that we are spending a lot of money on education, but the demand for higher education is so keen and growing so much, that it will be taxing the capacity of any government to be able to spend more money on education in Barbados. Nevertheless, what is at their disposal should be put to the best advantage.

I do know that there is a Committee sitting on secondary education and it may be developed along that line; but I have always considered that these schools could take in the forms pupils that have an aptitude for certain subjects.

4.35 p.m.

We have obtained a Barbados Scholar at the Foundation School and although I would like to see the Foundation School develop on a par with Harrison College if it were financially possible, yet we must not forget that we are also trying to educate a great lot of youngsters at the bottom. Therefore we cannot do all of that with our limited resources.

I would like to see something done whereby a transfer can be made to a First Grade School on the recommendation of the Headmaster and the Governing Body; because you have Specialists at the First Grade Schools and they should be within easy access of pupils of Secondary Schools which cannot afford to have those Specialist masters. The same point arises with the Technical Institute. We are establishing a Technical Institute and I hope all those who have the aptitude for technical skills would be able to benefit from the training to be given at the Institute. You are preparing pupils at Combermere for the Technical Institute: but that Institute should be also within easy access of pupils from other Secondary Schools of the class of Combermere. I will go as far as to say that pupils from any other school should be able to benefit from the training given at the Technical Institute and should be admitted if the Headmaster of a particular school recommends a pupil from that school for such training. That was one of the points raised on the last occasion.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: There is one thing which I forgot to mention but which might be raised by some honourable member. It is with respect to paragraph 29 which reads as follows:—

"If a student, who is also a pupil of Combermere School be suspended or expelled for any reason

from that School, he shall automatically be suspended or expelled from the Institute."

I want to say that the Executive agreed to the point raised by an honourable member when this matter was discussed in this House that if a boy may have been superannuated from that School that should not make him lose his chance of attending the Technical Institute. Therefore, I am going to propose that the words "for misconduct" be inserted in place of the words "for any reason" appearing in that paragraph. If a pupil is expelled "for misconduct" from that School it shows that he is unfit to be a pupil of the Technical Institute. But not for any reason.

Mr. ALLDER: What is worrying me, Mr. Chairman, about this matter is that when you drive through the countryside you see teenagers sitting by the roadside doing nothing; they can also be seen around the streets in Bridgetown and it is not because they do not want to do something. It is a fact that many of their parents have from time to time tried to get them taken on as apprentices at some of the existing garages and foundries of this island but all their efforts have met with failure. I feel it is Government's duty to extend the syllabus at the Technical Institute to pupils of the Elementary Schools so that provision can be made for entry into that Institute of such youngsters who have left elementary schools.

The need for such training is going to be more noticeable within a few months because many of the young mechanics of this island are now migrating to England and elsewhere, and there is a definite drain of technical youngsters in this island. I wish to point out that not only should you make provision for a selection of pupils who are educated at Combermere or at other Secondary Schools but you should also make it possible that every year a great number of those boys who have already left elementary schools, some of whom are taken as apprentices under your Bursary scheme, should be given opportunity to pursue a knowledge of the trade which they want to learn at the Technical Institute. If you do not make provision for such youngsters you will find that the industrial set up of this country will suffer due to the fact that many of the youngsters trained in technical skills have left for England and more are preparing to leave as soon as they secure the passage money. I think Government in the future should make provision at the Technical Institute to offset that loss.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, I had another point to make with respect to paragraph 22 (b) therefore, I am going to suggest that we take these paragraphs separately.

Clauses 1 to 4 inclusive were called separately and passed.

Clause 5 as amended was called and passed.

Clauses 6 and 7 were called and passed.

Clause 8 was called. It reads as follows:—

"Should any governor absent himself from all meetings of the Government Body for a period of one year except for reasons approved by such Governing Body he shall thereon cease to be a governor."

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I beg to move that Clause 8 stand part.

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

Mr. ALLDER: Do you think it safe enough to allow one of the governors to be absent for twelve months before he loses his seat on the Governing Body? Do you not think that period is too long? I think that length of time of absence can handicap the working of the Board considerably. I feel that

the period of absence of a governor without his losing his seat should be anything like three or six months.

4.45 p.m.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I quite agree with the hon. member. A year is a long time, and several members may be away for a year. I quite agree that the period should be one of six months; therefore, if the hon. member moves an amendment to this Clause, I will accept it.

Mr. ALLDER: I beg to move that this Clause be amended by deleting the words "one year" and substituting therefor, the words "six months".

Mr. GODDARD: I beg to second that amendment.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I accept that amendment. *The question that Clause 8 as amended stand part of the Scheme, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.*

Clauses 9 to 12 inclusive were called and passed.

Clause 13 was called.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I beg to move that Clause 13 stand part of the Scheme.

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

Mr. ALLDER: Mr. Chairman, I would like the Hon. Premier to explain this Clause. The other Governing Bodies appoint their Secretaries and Treasurers, and I am wondering if this would not be a departure from that practice to have the Governor appointing the Secretary to the Governing Body.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: When a Body is handling its own money, it appoints its own Secretary. In this case, the Governing Body is not handling its own money, and therefore the Governor makes the appointment through the Civil Service Commission. It is evident that the Governor should appoint this Secretary. This is a Government Department, it is a part of the Education Department and therefore the Governor should appoint this Secretary.

Mr. VAUGHAN: I am always doubtful about the Governor doing this and that; I do not think that this matter should be left to the Governor alone.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I should like to point out that Lodge School, Harrison College and Queen's College are not Government Institutions; they are private Institutions subsidised by the Government. But the Barbados Technical Institute is part of the Education Department, and the people who are employed there are Civil Servants. Therefore, whatever is the rule for appointing Civil Servants must apply in this case. Nobody could want more than myself that you should have the Governor-in-Executive Committee making appointments wherever possible; but in the case of a Government Department, then the Governor must make the appointments.

Mr. Chairman, it has been pointed out to me that in the definition Clause, "governor" means a member of the Governing Body of the Barbados Technical Institute, but I would like to point out that "governor" there is written with a small "g". Therefore, there is no confusion unless the Printers make a mistake.

The question that Clause 13 stand part of the Scheme was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Clauses 14 to 21 inclusive were called and passed.

Clause 22 was called.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I am asking leave to amend this Clause by deleting paragraph (b) thereof and renumbering the paragraphs accordingly.

There being no objection, leave was granted the Hon. Premier.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: With that deletion, Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Clause 22 as amended stand part of the Scheme.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I beg to second that.

The question that Clause 22 as amended stand part of the Scheme was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Clauses 23 and 24 were called and passed.

Clause 25 was called.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I beg to move that Clause 25 stand part of the Scheme.

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

Mr. GODDARD: I should like to draw the Hon. Premier's attention to the fact that what he has cut out in Clause 22 re-appears in Clause 23.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I have not suggested that that should be cut out there because, as I have said, every Head of a Department has to send in a confidential Report on the members of the Staff of the Department.

The question that Clause 25 stand part of the Scheme, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

4.55 p.m.

Clause 26 — was called. It reads as follows:—

26. The Principal shall submit to the Governing Body the results of the entrance examinations and tests each year together with his recommendations for entry for confirmation by the Governing Body, which shall —

(a) fix from time to time, subject to the approval of the Director, the number of students to be admitted to each course in any one year;

(b) select in each year as students, to the number of not more than seventy candidates who have been successful in the entrance examinations and tests and who are also apprentices properly indentured to registered firms or master workmen in trades appropriate to the courses of instruction and training provided at the Institute; provided that, if through failures in the entrance examinations and tests or for any other reason an insufficient number of indentured apprentices be recommended as students, the Governing Body of the Institute may after the end of the second year of the operation of the Institute, fill the vacancies thus caused with candidates who have been successful in the entrance examinations and tests and who also are and will remain pupils of Combermere School while they are at the Institute and who have been recommended for courses at the Institute by the Headmaster and Governing Body of Combermere School;

(c) select in each year after the end of the second year of operation of the Institute as students, to the number of not more than thirty, candidates who have been successful in the entrance examinations and tests and who also are and will remain pupils of Combermere School while they are at the Institute by the Headmaster and Governing Body of Combermere School; provided that, if through failures in the entrance examinations and tests or for any other reason an insufficient number of pupils of Combermere School be recommended as students, the Governing Body of the Institute may fill the vacancies thus caused with other candidates who have been successful in the en-

trance examinations and tests and who are also apprentices properly indentured to registered firms or master workmen in trades appropriate to the courses of instruction and training provided at the Institute.

As far as Clause 26 is concerned, sir, a proviso was agreed to at the Executive Committee. Actually, in the note before it was printed, a proviso appears in which I had already told this Committee why a boy should not be transferred from one school to another. We can now say that this matter may come before the House as to whether the girls at Codrington High School can go to Lodge School; that can be arranged in the scheme of things.

As far as this is concerned, it would be enough to say that Combermere can accept, for the purpose of training, boys of other secondary schools. But in order to meet the suggestions and criticisms of the House, I now propose to print it so as to give other schools, who have the same facilities for teaching as Combermere, the chance that their boys would be selected to go to the Technical Institute, although, to my mind, as the honourable member for Christ Church, the Leader of the Opposition agrees, it would be cheaper in the long run and better to shift boys for one reason or another. So what will appear here now will be a proviso to add to paragraph (c): It reads as follows:—

“Provided that pupils, who shall be subject to the same conditions mentioned elsewhere in this Scheme as are applicable to pupils from Combermere School, may be selected from any other School in the Island which in the opinion of the Director of Education is adequately equipped to offer pre-entrance training equivalent to this obtainable at Combermere School.”

If you can show that you can teach just as well, you will be selected. If you have any facilities then the boys will be sent to Combermere so that boys of other secondary schools will not be inferior.

I beg to move that Clause 26 (c) as amended stand part.

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

The motion was put and carried nem. con.

Clauses 27 & 28 inclusive were called and passed.

Clause 29 was called. It reads as follows:—

29. If a student, who is also a pupil of Combermere School be suspended or expelled for any reason from that School, he shall automatically be suspended or expelled from the Institute.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, I am going to amend Clause 29 as I already said, to cut out the words “for any reason” and substitute the words “for misconduct”, and in line 1 after the words “Combermere School” insert the words “or of any other School in this Island to which this Scheme applies” and delete the words “that School” in line 2, and insert the words “the School of which he is a pupil”, so that it now reads, “If a student, who is also a pupil of Combermere School or any other School in this Island to which this Scheme applies be suspended or expelled for misconduct from the School of which he is a pupil, he shall automatically be suspended or expelled from the Institute.”

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, we have been dealing with this question so long that it is now a matter of ancient history. From the Order Paper you will see how long we were dealing with it, and I think in order to deal with the matter intelligently it would not be amiss to read back the section in order that we may follow the amendments as they are not circulated.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I now beg to move that Clause 29 as amended stand part.

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

Clauses 30 and 31 were called and passed.

Clause 32 was called. It reads as follows:—

32. If the parent, guardian or employer of a student, or in the case of students who are also pupils of Combermere School, the Headmaster or Governing Body of that School shall refuse to allow a student to submit to any disciplinary measure or to obey any rule or regulation of the Institute, the student may be suspended from the Institute by the Principal who shall forthwith report the matter in writing to the Governing Body of the Institute, which shall then decide upon the length of the suspension, the conditions or readmittance or the expulsion of the student.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, Clause 32, will need an amendment. After the words "Combermere School" insert the words "or of any other School to which this Scheme applies."

I beg to move that Clause 32 as amended stand part.

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

The motion was put and carried nem. con.

Clause 33 was called. It reads as follows:—

33. The parent, guardian or employer of a student, or in the case of students who are also pupils of Combermere School, the Governing Body of that school shall, if about to withdraw a student from instruction or training at the Institute, give notice in writing to the Principal not later than one calendar month before the end of the then current term of instruction or training that such student will not return to the Institute after the end of that term. If such parent, guardian, employer or Governing Body fail to give such notice of removal, they shall respectively be liable to a penalty of \$25 unless the Governing Body of the Institute is satisfied that good reason existed for the failure to give proper notice. Such penalty shall be recovered as a civil debt due to Executive Committee.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, in clause 33, there is a similar amendment, where the words "or of any other School to which this Scheme applies" be inserted after the words "Combermere School".

I beg to move that Clause 33 as amended stand part.

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

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: Is this fine, Sir, an automatic fine?

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: It is not an automatic fine. Somebody may forget to give notice and if they go to the Governing Body of the Institute, that Body may feel that it is a reasonable excuse and would waive the fine.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: I agree that it is not an automatic fine but the Hon. Premier is a member of I.L.O. and he knows that organisation objects to any penal section. I am suggesting that this section has issues which are more obnoxious than any other section. You are today trying to build up this school and in the majority of cases you will find that parents who have children eligible to go to this Institute are the parents of children who want them to be trained at that Institute. When you insert this Section in this Scheme, it shows that you are still attaching some sort of penal sanctions to people. This section reads as follows:—

"If such parent, guardian, employer or Governing Body fail to give such notice of removal, they shall respectively be liable to a penalty of \$25 unless the Governing Body of the Institute is satisfied that good reason existed for the failure to give

proper notice. Such penalty shall be recovered as a civil debt due to Executive Committee."

Why should we worry to put in a penal Clause in something dealing with education of any sort, making it liable for a parent or guardian to pay a fine? This should not be regarded as something which necessitates a penal sanction. You are making it liable for a parent or guardian of a child who is sent to that Technical Institute to pay a fine of \$25 just because he did not give notice of his wishing to withdraw the pupil from that school. That is not worth while for a penal sanction. When you put that section in, it appears as if your approach to Education is studded with penal sanctions for not guaranteeing an act. That is one of the things which we should not do in a country like this with a Government such as the one we have.

We know that you can insert that Clause and adhere to it but why insert it? Must you insert a penal clause simply because some parent forgot to give notice of removal? I do not think it is necessary. It is not an operative thing; it does not mean that the inclusion of that is the only way in which the Institute would operate. I do not think it will do any justice.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: That point was not made when the House of Assembly made its criticisms on this Scheme. Now that this point has been raised, I just want to say that one can easily see that if you have this Institute for which you are providing a Principal and a Staff of Instructors and they are there: and a body of parents take it upon themselves to withdraw their charges (as they make take it upon themselves to do), let us say, because they may get a more attractive proposition—it is conceivable; I am not saying it would happen—to get the same instruction at terms more feasible at the end of a term, you will find that the Principal and the Staff of Instructors will come back into the Institute at the commencement of the next term to find that there is nobody to teach.

As I have said, it is not an automatic fine. The Governing Body is there to see whether a reasonable excuse has been made and if a reasonable excuse has been made the Body would waive the fine. Then again, it must be borne in mind that it is a civil debt, should such a fine be imposed, and it would be for the Executive Committee to sue and the Executive Committee may say: "What is the point of collecting that debt?" Even if the Governing Body of the Institute says that it was a bad case and that you should pay, that Body has no right to sue. The Executive Committee may feel that there is no point in pursuing it any further. It is for the Executive Committee to sue. If we say we are not doing it as a matter of policy, it simply means that we do not collect it.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: I agree with what the Hon. Premier said when he said that this is the first occasion that this point has been raised: but the other points which he made are points which he can tell a jury. The hypothesis which he used is really fantastic. Let me say that a \$25 fine even when paid by many parents will be infinitesimal to what you will have to pay the Staff of the School who are appointed on a permanent basis. The Hon. Premier will realise that commonsense plays a part in people's actions. You will not find people with a sense of honour withdrawing pupils from the Institute.

That penal clause has been inserted and the Hon. Premier has used argument to say why it was inserted. My argument was not that you could not insert it, but that if you did not insert it there would be no harm. The Hon. Premier will see on

sober reflection that especially in a new school which you are forming, and to which you are encouraging people to send their children, there should not be any penal Clause attached to anything at that school. He said something about parents in a mass withdrawing their charges. I think that if parents are withdrawing their children in a mass, that matter will have to reach the Governor-in-Executive Committee before it reaches the point to which the honourable member refers. The legislation which we are now enacting reflects on the very political philosophy of the Party in power and in time to come people will say that in 1956 a Labour Government felt that fines should be attached to people in the education of their children. That is something which the Hon. Premier as a member of I.L.O. has objected to. He knows that on an international level that sort of legislation is not initiated today.

Mr. ALLDER: Mr. Chairman, compliance with this rule is so easy that I do not think there is anything to fear. There should be discipline and you should exercise great care against lethargic people taking up space in the Technical Institute. I should like to tell the honourable junior member for St. Peter that even up to today when a child is absent from school for a day the parent has to make an excuse. It is so easy to comply with this regulation that I see no fear about it and it is indecent and discourteous if somebody takes away his child from the Institute at the end of a term without notifying the Principal.

What was worrying me about the section was the method of collection. I was wondering whether it would be left to the Governing Body of the Institute to collect the fine through the Courts; but from what the Hon. Premier has said, I see that the method of collection would be carried out by the Governor-in-Executive Committee.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, the same argument which the honourable senior member for St. John has used is the same argument that the antediluvian people used for maintaining penal sanctions in Africa; that is, when a person breaks a contract, there is a penal sanction which an employer can use against that person. He is saying in effect that the mother of a boy at an elementary school can take that child away from that school without having given notice to the Headmaster; but if that same boy is admitted to the Technical Institute and the mother sees fit to take him away at the end of the term she is liable to a fine of \$25.

I believe in discipline but I do not believe in discipline by methods of penal sanction. We have long passed that stage. The hon. member still believes in the use of the whip and the gallows today, when learned people of today believe that capital punishment should be abolished. I am sure that the Hon. Premier would not use the argument which the hon. senior member for St. John used in justifying the retention of this section. I do not accept the argument that people will withdraw their children from that Institute according to what the Hon. Premier has said; because before it reaches that stage the Executive Committee would want to know why parents have such serious objections to their children being trained there.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman there is no difference in this institute from a Government-Aided Secondary School. At a Government-Aided Secondary School, a parent has to give notice to the Headmaster if he is withdrawing his child from the School before the term ceases; otherwise he is liable to pay school fees for the next term.

As I have said, this fine is not automatic. You may forget to give notice and on your telling the

Governing Body that you forgot, the Governing Body will not collect. This Section is on a par with a Regulation on Government-Aided Secondary Schools.

I want to say from another angle which I did not put to you at first that there may come a time in the operation of this Institute when it is difficult to find places for students so that you will have to know beforehand where you are.

5.15 p.m.

Somebody may be keeping out somebody else and clearing out at a moment's notice without your knowing beforehand that you can tell somebody that he can get a place. All these things are true, if if this were a question of an automatic fine, then nobody would agree with it. One can see the reason for putting it in, and one can see how it is more than unlikely that it will be collected or that it will be collected only once in a blue moon.

We have provision in our law for dealing with cases of murder. [Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: You do not believe in capital punishment] I do not believe in murder! [Laughter] However, Sir, that is a digression. The hon. senior member for St. John is capable of protecting himself and therefore I am not protecting him; but the hon. member broke away from the alleged Democratic Party because it is Democratic. [Laughter].

The question that Clause 33 stand part of the Scheme was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Clause 34 was called.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I am also asking leave to amend this Clause by adding in the last line thereof the following words:-

"Or of any other School to which this Scheme applies" after the words "Combermere School."

It will be understood that the Headmaster is in the place of the Governing Body.

There being no objection leave was granted the Hon. Premier.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I beg to move that Clause 34 as amended stand part of the scheme.

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

The question that Clause 34 as amended stand part of the Scheme was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Clause 35 was called.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: Similarly, I am asking leave to add at the end of this Clause the following words:-

"Or of any other School to which this Scheme applies"

There being no objection, leave was granted the Hon. Premier.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I beg to move that Clause 35 as amended stand part of the scheme.

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

The question that Clause 35 as amended stand part of the Scheme was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Clause 36 was called.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: In respect of this Clause you may say that it is hard on a poor person that a boy cannot go back to school; but you must have a rule of this sort, relative to a student not being allowed to return to the institute until the fee is paid, and leave it to the Governing Body as the Authority to relax that rule. I beg to move that Clause 36 stand part of the Scheme.

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

The question that Clause 36 stand part of the Scheme was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Clauses 37 and 38 were called and passed.

Clause 39 was called.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I think we can leave this date as it is, for the Scheme to come into operation on the 1st day of February, 1955. We have gone ahead appointing governors and the Scheme is in operation. The House is at liberty to alter any part of the Scheme; what has been done in the past will not be deemed to have been wrongly done.

We have done it in this way in order to get ahead with the building. Then we come to the Scheme of government and the House is at liberty to amend any additional expenses when we come back, either by a supplementary vote or on the next estimate, because prices have varied and hon. members will remember the House agreed that we appoint a Director, and so on. I think, therefore, the date must remain. I beg to move that Clause 39 stand part.

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

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

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I beg to move that the Resolution providing for a Scheme of Government for the Barbados Technical Institute do now pass.

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

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

On motion of Hon. G. H. ADAMS, seconded by Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported the passing of the Resolution in Committee.

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On motion of Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS, seconded by Hon. R. G. MAPP the Resolution was passed.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: In seconding that, seeing that we are not all ladies, I wonder if members could just go out and have a cup of tea and return to discuss the other matters.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: Speaking on the adjournment I would like to find out, Mr. Speaker, from the Premier if notice given last Thursday about beginning the debate on the Pre-Federal Reports means that we are going to begin the debates on Tuesday next.

The reason why I ask that is, there is no continuity about the sittings of the House; and if it is on Tuesday, I would like to take part in the debates, because I have some very strong points to make. If the debate is started on Tuesday, it will be necessary to know before then, because there are three Reports to be dealt with, and I do not see anything on the Order Paper that would be more pressing from the point of view of public affairs than these three Pre-Federal Reports.

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

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

The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division and Mr. Speaker adjourned the House accordingly.
5.40 p.m.

On reassembling,

HAYNES PENSION BILL

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Premier: Second reading of a Bill to amend the Haynes Pension Act, 1950.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: As hon. members will remember, in 1950 the Haynes Pension Act, 1950 was passed to provide for the payment of a Pension to Mr. D. A. M. Haynes, Manager of the Peasants' Loan Bank upon his retirement. That pension was calculated upon the salary which Mr. Haynes was receiving at the time as Manager of the United States Savings Department. From the 1st. April, 1952, Mr. Haynes' salary was increased from \$3,456 to \$3,840 per annum and it is but right that he get his pension adjusted accordingly. It is a simple Bill and I beg to move that the Haynes Pension (Amendment) Bill, 1955 be now read a second time.

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

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

On motion of Hon. G. H. ADAMS, seconded by Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS, Mr. Speaker left the Chair and the House went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. SMITH being in the Chair.

Clauses 1 and 2 were called and passed.

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

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

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

W.I.N.C.O. RATIFICATION BILL

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Communications: Second reading of a Bill to ratify the Agreement of 1st. November, 1954 entered into between the Government of certain Caribbean territories and the West Indies Navigation Company Limited.

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, this is a fairly simple Bill. As the Objects and Reasons explain, it will be remembered that sometime last year the House agreed to enter into an agreement for a Regional Shipping Service. As a result, a Resolution was passed authorising the sum which was the proportion for the Barbados Government to subscribe, to be paid to the West Indies Navigation Company Limited for the operation of this Service. It was also agreed at the time that some sort of legislation should be brought down to ratify the agreement, hence, this Bill which is before us.

The "Objects of this Bill are:—

- (a) to give statutory validity to the Agreement entered into between the Governments of this Island and other British Caribbean territories on the one hand and the West Indies Navigation Company Limited on the other for the provision of a steamship service linking the said territories;
- (b) to provide for the payment on the warrant of the Governor-in-Executive Committee, of the proportion of the subsidy to the company payable under the Agreement by the Government of this Island.

As I have said, this Bill is pretty simple. The Agreement which is attached to the Bill, I suppose,

is still fresh in the minds of honourable members and 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, this Bill is quite clear because it only ratifies or puts into legal form what we in this House decided some months ago. This service has now been established for a year. It started in January last year and we are now in another year and I may say that it has proved its necessity and all that we expected of it; because although it has had some difficulties, it has expanded its service, I think, on two occasions. The Company is now operating the service to British Honduras and I think on one occasion the ship went to British Guiana. But more than that, it is the one means we have of keeping in touch with Jamaica.

I do not think the service has been as frequent as we would like, but that is the result of the departure in the timetable to operate the service to British Honduras. That, sir, is excusable as it is our only means of getting into contact with that country and we are now very conscious of Federation and joining these colonies together; therefore we should not exclude the two mainland countries of British Honduras and British Guiana because they may eventually come into this Federation. I do not mean to say that we have no other means of shipping service to British Guiana, but I know we do not have any to British Honduras; and if this service is to be of any benefit, especially if and when Federation comes into being, this service will have to be expanded.

These are general remarks on the Bill. If the Minister who holds this portfolio can tell us something of the working of this Steamship Company during the past year I think not only the House but the public will also be grateful.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Mr. Speaker, if the Hon. Leader of the Opposition did not refer to the operation of this shipping service to British Guiana and British Honduras and the possible necessity of its being extended, I might not have risen to my feet. I think I should tell him, especially since he has asked for information on the working of this shipping service that that was a question which was discussed at the last R.E.C. Conference in Antigua. I was a member of a sub-committee which dealt with that matter and the West Indies Navigation Company Limited gave us a good comprehensive picture of the workings of the ship and what we should look forward to in the future if we wanted the service extended to British Honduras and British Guiana.

6.25 p.m.

In so far as the workings of the ship are concerned, from these conversations it seemed pretty clear to us that many of the complaints which have been made against this ship at first as to certain features of its accommodation, lack of certain amenities, and so on, have been rectified. There is no doubt about it, judging not only from what the representatives told us, but by the report made by the Executive Secretary of the R.E.C. which carried out an investigation into the matter, that there has been an improvement in the past year.

We are satisfied, after listening to the representatives of the Company, that the charges which the ship has had to impose, in order to work its way on the limited budget and the limited resources which it can command, even taking into account the subsidies which it is receiving from the Governments are not too heavy, and that the ship should extend its service to British Guiana. The

service is about to be extended to British Guiana and British Honduras and this revenue is badly needed. If the service is to be extended to British Honduras, there is no doubt about it that two ships will be needed instead of one. The R.E.C. did not sanction the proposed scheme to include British Honduras in the schedule. Since any expansion to British Honduras would call for revised schedules to the Leewards and Windwards, and bearing in mind that the principal object of having this ship was to give a better service, both as regards passengers and cargo, to these islands, we took into account the feelings of the representatives of these islands, and we did not agree to extend the service to British Honduras at the present time.

Another reason, as the Hon. Leader of the Opposition has hinted, is that if the service is extended, one ship cannot do the job well. The necessity may therefore arise for another ship, and that would give rise to the question of increased subsidies. The considerations which may be involved in extending this service to British Honduras may entail quite a lot of discussion, even with Her Majesty's Government. Therefore we felt that we should not come to any decision about extending the service to British Honduras and that matter was left open. The representatives of R.E.C. will take up the matter in London before the Federation Talks, we hope, and we also hope to come to a decision in this matter pretty soon. I repeat that there has been an improvement in the service and we feel that there has been an improvement in the service and that there has not been any public outcry against the rates and passenger charges as there had been when this ship first came into operation in these islands.

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. M. E. COX, seconded by Hon. R. G. MAPP, 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 passed.

On the motion of Hon. M. E. COX, seconded by Hon. R. G. MAPP, the CHAIRMAN reported the passing of the Bill in Committee.

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

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

6.35 p.m.

CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT (P.T.O.) ORDER NO. 2

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the honourable senior member for St. Joseph: To move the passing of a Resolution to approve the Civil Establishment (Part-time Officers) Amendment No. 2 Order, 1955.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: This Resolution seeks to transfer the post of Assistant Medical Officer, V.D. Department of the General Hospital to the Department of Medical Services to be operated from "Enmore" from 1st April, 1956.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I beg to second that. Honourable members will remember that these officers of the V.D. Department formerly operated at the General Hospital and the V.D. Clinic was placed there, but with the opening of "Enmore" it was removed there because it forms part of the Health services. Therefore, the same officers are being transferred from the Hospital to "Enmore",

hence the necessity for a Resolution of this sort, which gives them the authority, instead of working at the General Hospital, to work at the Health Centre, but still in the V.D. Clinic.

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

CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT ORDER, NO. 11

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order is to move the passing of a Resolution to approve the Civil Establishment Order, No. 11.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: This Resolution is to approve the Order entitled "The Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) No. 11 Order, 1955."

If honourable members will permit me, the Addendum reads as follows:—

The Order entitled "The Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) No. 11 Order, 1955," has been laid in the Legislature.

On the introduction of the Unified Eastern Caribbean Currency in August, 1951, the Government agreed to place the services of certain Civil Servants at the disposal of the British Caribbean Currency Board for employment exclusively on currency matters on the understanding that the Board would be liable for the payment of the emoluments and pension contribution of the officers concerned.

Only one such officer with the status of Senior Clerk (\$2,280—3,000) is now employed with the Board as a Currency Officer and Key-holder and the Board considers that his salary be placed on the Executive Grade scale \$1,920—3,456 so as to bring him into line with the responsible key-holders in other Colonies.

The amendment accordingly seeks to increase the establishment by one post of Currency Officer at the expense of a post of Senior Clerk.

I now beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

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

COPYRIGHT (AMENDMENT) BILL

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order is the second reading of a Bill to amend the Copyright Act.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker, this Bill, the Copyright (Amendment) Bill, 1955, is to ensure the preservation of books published in this island. The Bill accordingly seeks to amend the Copyright Act, 1915, so that a legal depository for such books may be established both within the island and at the Library of the University College of the West Indies.

I think, Sir, under the present Act there are no provisions made for the depositing of any books published in the island or at the University College of the West Indies. There are no provisions made in the 1915 Bill, and this Bill now seeks to have such books preserved for the posterity not only of Barbados but of the West Indies generally.

I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

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

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

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I now beg to move that this House go into Committee on this Bill, and that Your Honour do now leave the Chair.

Hon. M. E. COX: 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.

Clauses 1 and 2 were called and passed.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I beg to move that we do now report the passing of the Bill in Committee.

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

The question being put and carried nem. con. the Chairman reported the passing of the Bill in Committee.

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On separate motions of Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS, seconded by Hon. M. E. COX in each case, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

ADVERTISING BILL C'td

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day is that the House do now resume Committee on the Advertisements Regulations Bill, 1955.

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

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Chairman, when this Bill went before the Committee, members felt at the time that the definition "advertisement" was a bit wide. As a result, the Bill was postponed to be further discussed with the Attorney General as to whether it would not be more practicable or appropriate to bring our definition in line with the Trinidad definition. So the matter was taken up with the Hon. Attorney General and he has pointed out that this definition is similar to that existing in the Town and Country Planning Act, of 1947 in the United Kingdom and further suggests that in the Regulations, it can be worded so as to cover the points made by honourable members.

6.45 p.m.

For that reason I propose to allow the definition to remain as it is and see that the points which were raised by hon. members are put into regulations.

Inasmuch as this Committee was giving consideration to Clause 3 and what I was making mention of concerns Clause 2, I think we should deal with Clause 3 and we can always come back to Clause 2.

The point which was raised with respect to Clause 3 was that the words "chattel buildings" should not be used because hon. members felt those words did not cover wall buildings and such buildings. It is pointed out in what I have before me that the word "land" which occurs in sub-clause 1 of Clause 3 includes buildings such as wall buildings and so on, but the words "chattel buildings" are used in the list to represent chattel houses. So, apparently the word "land" includes fixed buildings such as wall buildings but if we leave out the words "chattel buildings", we will have nothing to cover chattel houses; therefore it is necessary to let the words "chattel buildings" remain to cover those buildings. With that explanation I beg to move that Clause 3 stand part.

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

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

Clause 2 which was postponed was called and passed.

Clauses 4 to 7 inclusive were called and passed.

On motion of Hon. M. E. COX, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported the passing of the Bill in Committee.

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On separate motions of Hon. M. E. COX, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA in each case, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE MOTOR VEHICLES AND ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) (No. 2) REGULATIONS, 1955.

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Communications: to move the passing of the following Resolution: Resolution to approve the Regulations entitled "The Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations, 1955.

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, in moving the passing of this Resolution, I wish to say that it was found that two errors crept into the Regulations which were passed sometime ago. One was that the Regulations were drafted under a wrong part of the consolidated regulations; in other words, speaking under correction, I think the Regulations were drafted under Part 7 of the 1937 Regulations when they should have been drafted under Part 4 of the 1952 Regulations; hence it was necessary to have these Regulations amended.

The second reason was that these Regulations did not exempt certain vehicles such as private cars and taxis. That was an oversight and it became necessary to have an amendment to the Act. That is all that is required in these Regulations. I beg to move that this Resolution be now passed.

6.55 p.m.

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

Mr. GODDARD: These Regulations are the controversial Regulations which sought to get what are known as the "pirate" buses off the road. These Regulations have been brought before the House on many occasions and we were promised when the Government was taking over the buses, that such Regulations would not be brought down until the bus services had been improved. I do not know if the Hon. Minister of Communications is prepared to say today that there has been improvement in the bus services to that extent that these "pirate" buses, which we all know fulfil a great need on occasions especially during the holiday season, should be controlled to the extent that these Regulations can be brought down.

My observation of the transportation services of Barbados is that the Government may have attempted to send or they may have sent more buses on routes more frequently than had been the case before; but I have seen more broken down buses than I have ever seen before. Somebody has said that he saw a bus in Silver Sands and the sign "Rock Dundo" was marked on it. I do not know if there are moving places about or what, but they pay no attention whatever to the district to which they are going. Even if they do put up a sign, it is so much obliterated that you do not know what it is. Paying attention to these buses does not seem to be anybody's business.

Having regard to the complaints which are made in the Press, something ought to be done about this matter. I am wondering if these Regulations ought to be brought down today. I am in favour of regulating the transportation services in Barbados, but only this morning I saw a bus pass by and still there were many people walking behind. They have started a service to the Pine but we still find quite a number of people waiting for buses as before.

I think that this is a very opportune time to make a statement to the House as to the position of the transportation service in this island, how satis-

fied or dissatisfied the Government is with it, and let us know and let the public know what is to be expected and what are the plans for the future. I think that it is about five months since the Government took over the buses and one of the conditions laid down to the Concessionaires was that if they wanted a rebate on gasoline, they would have to give evidence to the effect that they have ordered new buses. I would like to ask the Government now if they have ordered any new buses to supplement or to augment the present rolling stock which they now have.

That is not the only thing. There are still some Concessionaires running buses; are they running them on the gasoline rebate, and if they are running them on the gasoline rebate, have they sent out orders for new buses? The public is unaware as to where we are going; we might end up by June, finding that we may have to come back to this House for a vast sum of money because these buses are more often in the repair shop than on the road. There are other charges levelled at the personnel of the Transport Department that there is no discipline whatever or that there is no disciplinary action which can be taken against alleged cases of impoliteness or other irregularities only too well known to us.

The introduction of these Road Traffic Regulations should certainly have brought at the time some comments from the Hon. Minister of Communications, because he promised the House some months ago that the steps which he is taking today would not be taken until the conditions had sufficiently improved with regard to public transportation to justify steps being taken. I cannot say that the transportation service has improved sufficiently as to warrant the bringing down of these Regulations today. I do hope that when the Hon. Minister gets up again he will be able to assure this House and myself to the contrary and that the fears which I may have are not just fears, and that the position as he knows it is quite different from what I have stated.

7.05 p.m.

Mr. ALLDER: Mr. Speaker, these Regulations have come in for a lot of controversy from time to time in this place, and while I agree that there must be regulations of some sort, yet I am hoping that the Minister does not intend at this stage to permit the Director of Highways and Transport to put them into operation, because as the hon. junior member for Christ Church has said, it is this kind of service that is required, and these pickups and lorries still do a useful service daily to the travelling public. To prevent them from operating would have several handicaps, of which are (1) that many traders who depend on these pickups to get their goods to and from Bridgetown would cease to have that convenience; and (2) that a great percentage of the travelling public who are not traders depends on the service offered by these same pickups and (3) many of them would be out of the means of a livelihood; and therefore, I am hoping that, although we might permit the passing of these Regulations today, the Director of Highways and Transport will be directed to use his discretion in the taking away or giving of such permits.

There is another point which I would like to suggest: there has been a rampant deterioration in the bus service. Probably it started before the Government took over, but it has become more so since Government has taken them over. What Government has got to do is to make up its mind whether it intends releasing them back to concessionaires.

If Government intends to keep the buses, I can only hope that they have already started to consider putting an order for replacements. If that is not so, you might find that some time suddenly you are going

to find it very difficult to supply the need of the travelling public, and in view of the fact that sometimes orders take a long time before they are executed by the overseas firms, it is very imperative for you to decide if you are going to run them permanently, to set about to get these replacements ready. It does seem to me that if and when you do that, you will have to put in a big order if the public must be satisfied with the service which you give them. It is something which you have got to face; you have got to make up your minds, but if you are going to give them back to the concessionaires, do so.

If you intend doing that, do not worry to keep it for a long period until you think it is an appropriate time to do so. Do it at a time when everyone would have an opportunity to put his house in order. But if you are going to keep them, start early and order a sufficient number of replacements, if not, suddenly you are going to find transportation service has broken down and you will be met with the indignation of the public.

Hon. M. E. COX: The hon. member for Christ Church asked whether any buses were ordered by the Government, and whether those concessionaires who now operate consequent upon there being a 15% rebate on gasoline as promised by Government, had ordered any buses. The position is not yet clear and I think that members will appreciate the fact that the hurricane did play a very important part in setting us back with this question.

Mr. Speaker, the matter is being actively considered, and I am hoping in the very near future to give the House a complete picture of the whole operation of this service. There is only one point I would like to refer to and that is the question of discipline which the honourable member for Christ Church mentioned, and if I understand him correctly, he said that we could not discipline these workers.

Well, Sir, there is absolutely nothing to prevent the Board from disciplining these employees as they think fit when offences are committed. It is true that we have had or rather seen quite a lot of adverse comments on the operation of this service. I do not believe all these are correct. Maybe, these persons who never wanted to see the Government running this service and perhaps prefer a service like this in the hands of private individuals, would try to magnify the position; but I am conscious of the fact that some of these reports are true, and we have been investigating these reports from time to time with a view to clearing the air if possible. At least as far as I gathered from the Director, there were some 45 cases brought before him.

In some cases, as he points out, evidence was not quite as good as he would have liked; but there have been cases of discipline and dismissal—although not many dismissals—by the Board. The question he raised about the sign may be an accident; but however, Mr. Speaker, I would suggest to members to give us an opportunity to get this thing cleared up, and as I promised, I will give the House a full picture of the operation of the service from the time the Government took over, along with the future plans for the transportation service.

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was not in earlier on the discussion of this matter, but if there is anything which calls for an explanation, the Hon. Minister could easily get leave to answer my point, or one of his colleagues might do so.

As to the Regulations, I certainly regard them to be very wide. "No person shall use or keep for use a motor vehicle having seating accommodation for any number of persons unless he shall first obtain a permit in writing from the Director in such form as the Director may decide." I wonder what is proposed to be the basis on which the Director will be required to operate in deciding on the issuing

of permits, because I presume that everything is under the overall supervision of the Ministry, and therefore, the Minister will have his final say in the matter.

This, sir, is another attempt to dissipate the inadequate number of omnibuses on the road to deal with what are called "pickups", and let us, Mr. Speaker, face the fact that it would not be worth while for a "pickup" to remain on the road to carry luggage and the owners of the luggage unless it was allowed to carry a certain number. And if you are going to allow a "pickup" to carry a certain number of people, it is useless giving a permit to carry only eight, because it would not be profitable and would be detrimental to the travelling public.

7.15 p.m.

But Sir, let us not forget those routes which are not served by omnibuses at all and never were. I know Your Honour is very familiar with the Lee ward route; and because of that you know that the people coming from Speightstown, and school children of the Coleridge-Parry and the Alexandra School who live in Orange Hill, St. James have to take the bus which drops them at a point near Trents Corner and then they have to walk two miles up hill. You also know that if pupils of either of these schools happen to be kept in by the master or mistress in charge, and because of that they will be going home late, they cannot help being disturbed in their minds after they have left the bus at Trents Corner when they remember the murder which took place on the route which they have to traverse. You will recall the person who was foully assassinated on that route some time ago: I refer to Christopher Holford Johnson.

Reference has been made by the honourable senior member for St. Michael to certain expressed grievances and certain correspondence in respect of the present running of the omnibuses. I will tell him that when the Government took over a certain number of the routes, the employees looked forward to an increase of wages and to an increase certainly more substantial than what they have received. I will leave this aspect of that matter to the honourable member on my right, (Mr. F. L. WALCOTT) who is the authentic voice of those workers to discuss that aspect specifically; but it seems to me that there is no justification for paying a day's remuneration to omnibus workers who are responsible for the lives of so many at a rate lower than that of a carpenter, or other artisan. In other words, if one pays a Grade A painter, carpenter or mason \$3.60 a day, I do not see any justification for under paying a bus driver who has so much greater worth in his keeping than a few dollars worth of paint, lumber or cement at such a small rate.

I think there is also a certain amount of truth in the grievance of many omnibus drivers because under the new regime they are paid at a lower rate than inspectors. It is true that inspectors are important persons from the standpoint of the Transport Board but from the standpoint of the people the drivers are more responsible than inspectors. The grievance of the drivers is that their weekly pay packet is lower than inspectors' and they were looking forward when the Government took over the buses that they would be weekly instead of daily employees. They expected that it would not be any question of putting anybody to do their work should they happen to attend the Police Magistrate's Court; they thought that it would be a matter of routine. They expected that a week's pay would be given them: so I think the certain amount of callousness among those workers can easily be explained. They are looking forward to what they have not attained in the Government Service with respect to a certain

amount of comfort and other things. They expected that certain arrangements would have been made for the transport home of those who have to walk five or six miles after they have put the last bus safely in the terminus.

Surely the service is more in need of a General Manager now than when the small individual companies were operating the buses. One cannot expect the Director of Highways and Transport to make himself a General Manager of buses. This is not a suggestion that another job can be found for our wandering Mr. L. A. Chase, but, I feel, we can easily find a suitable person to put in charge of this bus service supplemented by efficiently run pick-ups; and if that were done, then I think Government's headache will be solved. I think there should be an indication from this House and a directive from the Ministry that in issuing the permits to owners of pick-ups they should be on a reasonable basis in order that they may be able to carry an adequate number of people. Let me say that people who travel by pick-ups do not expect the luxury which they would have in a Jaguar or Vauxhall car; all that they want is that they can be comfortably seated.

In the issuing of the permits, I have in mind those vehicles in which the gear levers are on the steering wheels. Now, as you know, when one of these vans with the gear levers on the steering wheels is used as a luggage van or a pick-up, the owner is not given a permit to carry two people aside of him. They say that it is unsafe to do so although with the same type of car the driver is allowed to carry two persons besides him.

I am submitting that there should be no question whether that van be used as a pick-up, so long as the gear lever is on the steering wheel and there is an amount of space to the left of the driver to provide for two passengers, they should be allowed to carry them.

Anyhow, sir, with your permission I wish to avail myself of this opportunity to try and bolster up the Government's moral and courage in regards to the nationalisation of the omnibus service. I believe it can be done without interfering with the pick-ups. I may also say that it is my belief that Government should not partially run this service. It should run all the buses on all the various routes. 7.25 p.m.

With the more economic price at which the Government can buy any article (petrol and so on), and also if they are doing a vast wholesale business, there is no need to think of raising omnibus fares. In fact, there is every reason to expect that with efficient management, the Government would be able to make a reduction in bus fares in some districts. But the service must be efficiently run and the Government must have all the units; they must have sufficient equipment to operate a wholesale business. Ask those hon. members who do wholesale businesses, if they would shut down their businesses and go to Vancouver or to any of those Canadian States where fortunes are made? Is it simply because the turnover of a large business which is efficiently run enables you to practise economy and to dispose of your wares for a much more reasonable price than could be done when you are running a small business and you have to pay duty on every single item? Therefore, I hope that the Government will be encouraged to remember that we are expected to nationalise every public utility for the sake of the public, because if things are run efficiently nobody should feel that the Government cannot run their business efficiently: that it will be for the benefit of the em-

ployees who would be given security of tenure and who will have ideal conditions of service such as one expects to find in the Socialist Welfare State; and that the travelling public should benefit from the properly-run operation of these buses.

Under the present set-up there is really no Manager, and everybody, or nearly everybody, is a Manager. I had to pacify some people the other day who contemplated taking some legal action against the Government. Instead of having the sign "St. Lucy", all the buses carried the sign "Rock Dundo"; and the Rock Dundo buses passed with the result that some people had to sleep in town. The Rock Dundo buses must be marked "Rock Dundo" and the St. Lucy buses must be marked "St. Lucy". The Government is morally liable now. I have travelled from Paynes Bay and seen a bus going to Bridgetown and it carried no rear road sign at all, it did not carry a rear number plate. If they go on like this, the whole thing will be broken down and some private concern will take over the transport again.

We want to have a General Manager and an effective Transport Board. Apart from the Chairman of the Board who is one of the most outstanding public servants, the amazing thing about this Board is those who have been included. I think I have said enough for the Government to realise that there must not be any cheeseparing policy as to the amount of accommodation and the issuing of permits. Do not let this be an indirect method of throwing out of business those people who have been the saviours of the public. My car is always packed when going in either direction and of course my colleague has to make after-theatre trips, and the hon. senior member for St. John has been doing that for a very long time.

As I see it, it is time that there should be some settled decision with regard to this matter. I warn the hon. senior member for St. Michael, the Hon. Minister of Communications, that if this state of affairs goes on for a few more weeks, it will be arranged who is to get which route, and you will wake up one morning to find the allocations made. The Government must not fall for the newspaper clamour and lose a wonderful chance at the nationalisation of public transport in this island. 7.35 p.m.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: I do not know if anyone would disagree that the position of transportation in this island has reached such a stage that you must have some sort of Regulations to deal with it especially the type of transport for the public. That is a problem which you cannot easily brush aside. And there is no easy answer for it either.

So far as these Regulations are concerned, I doubt very much if anyone could disagree with them and the hardest things about these Regulations are implementation and administration. That is to say if it is administered properly it should bring a measure of sanity in this sort of affair. I do not subscribe to the views of the hon. senior member for St. Lucy so far as the service is concerned. I do not think it is convenient to bring people from the country and just hovel them into a motor vehicle as I have seen them come to town.

This is a service that people run on the basis of making money, and I do not subscribe to the view that these people run it for the benefit of the community. They run it because they see the need for transporting people and are making money from it. The Minister raised a point on which I do not intend to elaborate in the same way as the hon. senior member for St. Lucy and it is this: in so far as the transport service is concerned, I am not in a position to

say if the Government has made or lost money; but I am in a position to say this, however; that since Government has taken over the service, there has been a greater understanding of what this service should be. I would like to say publicly that I agree with the senior member for St. Lucy that the Director of Highways and Transport is one of the best officers that has been here, because he is an intelligent man—and when I say an intelligent man I do not mean an arrogant, conceited individual, but a man who took this transport problem with a certain measure of sanity and commonsense.

The human factor in life is more important than we value it, and this man can put all the other people in the transport business in his pocket (though that is not his job) and still find time to do his other duties. I will go further and say that I hope it is not the intention of the Government to relax this service. A man living quite near to me who is supposed to be a prospective concessionaire has pointed out a garage to me. I would like to say quite frankly that when this service was taken over by the Government I supported it, and I support it today. But I do not agree with the hon. senior member for St. Lucy that there is wholesale dissatisfaction. I will go further and say that there has been no better a relationship existing in transport between those who employ and those who are employed as it has been today, because the man at the head of the Transport Board is an intelligent, far-seeing man who is prepared to meet any problem that is placed before him, and to deal with the matter in a proper way.

So far as their pay is concerned, I will not raise it in this House because I can deal with it in other quarters. It is better when you have a problem like that to deal with it in its proper quarters then in Parliament, with people saying what the wages are, when in Parliament you do not sit down and negotiate these things.

In the two instances which have been brought by members of the Barbados Workers Union of which you, Mr. Speaker, and I are members, the Director of Highways and Transport has shown reasonableness in the matters placed before him, and I feel sure on that basis a better relationship will exist. These bus conductors and drivers are the same people that were employed before the Government took over; and so you do not take over people and change their manners overnight, or the way they say “up in side there” or “cross there so” in that sort of vulgarity which is part of their method of approach. But I would say this: if it is the Government's intention to, as it were, denationalise public transport, it will be the greatest disservice that they would be doing to the community at this stage.

I would go further. At this present moment, there is more evidence for the Government or the Transport Board to be the sole concessionaires of public transport in Barbados than there is of the present system where the Government has the majority and the other people the minority. I say that, because I am satisfied that the measure of fair play that can exist in the present system could not have existed in the old system. The Government can evolve systems—and we know that is one of the problems—and I feel sure I can speak on the organisation I represent. I am sure that they will not condone people in what is not their right; but in the public's interest this public transport and all the points that have been raised about the conditions of service is not a matter for this House of Assembly. There is adequate machinery for these things to be dealt with, and the approach from all sides today is one that

you can clearly see if that approach is continued. There should not be any fear.

The Minister says he is going to make a statement to the House upon the general transport position; but I hope the statement he is going to make is not what I have been hearing—namely, that it is the intention of the Government to relax this transport. If the Government intends to do that, there would be a chance for the opponents of nationalisation to tell you that you had an example and you failed miserably; because all the complaints I hear today are complaints behind the scene only to show that the Government should have nothing to do with nationalisation. If the Government fall prey to that attitude—and I am satisfied in my mind from what I have seen as a Trade Union Official, that there are other aspects of nationalisation. It would reveal something that is not revealed today, because of the dividends paid out. There can be no harm if the public begins to know that these are not sanitarian organisations as they are led to believe. If as in the rehabilitation and building of houses the service has deteriorated, the Government should not follow that policy, and I do feel that in this island we can show an example.

We have good transport; our buses are good; we are in advance of places like the Windward and Leeward Islands. In Trinidad, the type of buses running to Arima and San Juan cannot be compared with the ones we have on the road, and with the standard of transport we provide for the whole island—and this type of bus is one of the best you can get anywhere in the Caribbean—I do hope—I would be a grieved man indeed—if Government had reached the stage to denationalise the Government transport system, and allow it to go back in the same “higgly-piggly” manner it has been in before.

The question was then put and resolved in the affirmative without division.
7.45 p.m.

THE CUSTOMS TARIFF (AMENDMENT) BILL

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Premier: Second reading of a Bill to amend the Customs Tariff Bill, 1921.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, this is a simple Bill to amend the Customs Tariff Act, 1921 in order to bring in duty free the personal and household effects of the Venezuelan Consul and motor car imported within three months of his arrival. The “Objects and Reasons” of the Bill read as follows:—

The Government of Venezuela has appointed a Venezuelan citizen as its consul in this Island, and the new Consul has arrived in the Island and has been granted provisional recognition by His Excellency the Governor pending the issue of Her Majesty's Exequatur.

Under the Consular Conventions Act, 1952 consular officers of foreign states with which consular conventions have been concluded by Her Majesty are accorded certain exemptions from Customs duties. No consular convention has, however, been concluded by Her Majesty with the Republic of Venezuela. In the United Kingdom consular officers of states with which there does not exist a consular convention are granted concessions upon reciprocal basis settled by arrangement. Under the arrangement between the United Kingdom and Venezuela the Consul would be entitled upon first arrival to exemption from Customs duty on his personal and household effects and motor car imported within three months of his arrival.

Government considers that the Venezuelan Consul should be awarded equivalent treatment locally, and this bill seeks therefore to amend the Second Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act, 1921, to provide for this exemption.

It has been pointed out to us that it might not be always possible for a person coming here to get his luggage within three months; and the Governor-in-Executive Committee has examined this question very carefully to see whether in granting the concession those persons may not be bringing in more stuff than their normal personal and household effects customs free. However, it was pointed out to us that it might not be always possible, say for a person coming from Japan to get all his personal belongings in the island within three months; and it is for that reason that we are making an extension should we think it necessary.

I may say that this is an ordinary concession which one Government makes in respect of officers of another Government and I would like to take that opportunity to assure the honourable junior member for Christ Church that inasmuch as Venezuela thinks so much of the possibility of Barbados becoming a tourist resort, we feel we should do everything possible to encourage Venezuelans to come here.

I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

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

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

On motion of Hon. G. H. ADAMS, seconded by Hon. M. E. COX, Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the House went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. SMITH in the Chair.

Clauses 1 and 2 were called and passed.

On motion of Hon. G. H. ADAMS, seconded by Hon. M. E. COX, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported the passing of the Bill in Committee.

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On separate motions of Hon. G. H. ADAMS, seconded by Hon. M. E. COX in each case, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

THE EDUCATION AMENDMENT BILL, 1955

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I ask leave of the House to postpone Order No. 11 and to take Order No. 12.

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

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day now stands in the name of the Hon. Premier: Second reading of a Bill to amend the Education Act, 1890, so as to revise the constitution and powers of the Board of Education of the Island, and to provide for matters incidental thereto or connected therewith.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, this Bill seeks to amend the Education Act of 1890. Inasmuch as educational matters are important, I propose to speak at length but otherwise this is a simple Bill.

As the Objects and Reasons point out the present Education Act was passed in 1890 and no longer makes adequate or suitable provision for the educational needs of the Island. It is proposed, therefore that the Act of 1890 should be replaced by modern legislation suitable to the changed needs and ideas of the mid-twentieth century.

As a first step toward the preparation of this legislation, it is proposed that a Board of Education for the Island, in the form which will be embodied

in the final legislation, shall be established to advise Government upon the preparation of the new legislation.

It is proposed to alter the composition of the Board in the way of personnel. The Government, having appointed a new Education Board, proposes to put into effect any suggestion from any matter affecting education that the Board thinks fit. Of course, Government would also put to the Board the views and suggestions of Government. However, rather than to have what we used to have in the old days, that is, a single Education Board and that type of thing, it is proposed to have an Education Board to avail itself of five constituent Committees to deal with the several aspects of education. This Bill therefore proposes to replace the existing Education Board with a new body and to extend the membership which will consist of the Director and Deputy Director of Education (who will be the President and Vice-President respectively) and seven other members to be appointed by the Governor-in-Executive Committee.

Provision is also made for five constituent Committees of the Board as follows—

- (a) the Primary Education Committee
- (b) the Secondary Education Committee
- (c) the Further Education Committee
- (d) The Finance Committee
- (e) the General Purposes Committee.

Each Committee will consist of two members of the Board and not more than three other co-opted members to be appointed by the President of the Board with the approval of the Governor-in-Executive Committee. One of the principal objects of these Committees is to enable the Board to obtain on any matter submitted to a Committee, the advice of persons with specialised knowledge and experience.

Let me say that there may be experts who know what there is to know from experience. One of the first persons who come to my mind who may be suitable to put on the Primary Educational Committee is a retired Schoolmaster who is still interested in educational matters; but he may be interested in further education and Secondary education. Therefore, instead of having a solid comprehensive Education Board with some people who may be extraordinarily useful in seeing about the financing of a matter (just as in the old days when on such a Board there was Mr. Gerald Mahon who did not claim to be an educationist such as to advise you on whether a child should take the General Certificate of Education or any other matter like that but on whom everybody could depend upon to give admirable advice with regard to the spending of money on the repair of schools), it will be divided into five constituent Committees as I have mentioned already. I will briefly run over the definitions of the Bill. Section 3 deals with the establishment of the constitution of the Board of Education. Section 5 deals with the summoning of meetings of the Board. It tells you how the President should act. Section 6 deals with the functioning of the Board which are:

- (a) to advise the Governor-in-Executive Committee in regard to education policy and principles, and to submit its views on any educational question which the Governor-in-Executive Committee may refer to it:

Provided that in the absence of any such reference it may draw the attention of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to any aspect of educational policy which in its opinion requires attention;

- (b) to advise the Director on any administrative question which he may submit for the Board's opinion:

Provided that in the absence of such reference it may draw attention to any aspect of administration which, in its opinion, requires attention.

Having passed this Act we then will proceed to appoint the different persons who will be seeking to give advice on this and that on the Committees they represent. On their own they will meet and make recommendations to the Government with respect to Elementary Education, Secondary Education, Further Education and so on. Therefore I think whatever educational problem and whatever solution there is, before it can be solved you have got to start by appointing an Educational Board more suitable to conditions of this twentieth century; and having established that Board, you can then have your enquiry and your commission if you want them: and after suggestions are made, you can hammer out the policy with regard to education in all its aspects. I think hon. members will agree that if we act in accordance with this Bill we would have covered all the grounds. I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

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

7.55 p.m.

Mr. GODDARD: The Hon. Premier has covered the ground as fully as we could expect him to cover it, because he has said that this is the beginning of the widening and bringing up to date of legislation in respect of education for the future. It is well known to many of us that the Governing Bodies of the various Secondary schools (and other Schools) are so constituted that they date back to periods; and if they resign, people are appointed by virtue of their office, people who have no interest whatever in education. Some of them never attend any meetings, and others attend because of a duty, but it is not that they are really interested in education. For that reason the Boards are not properly and efficiently constituted, and this matter should be better dealt with. Quite a lot depends on the correct appointment to the official Board. A lot depends on the appointment of people who are interested not only from one category, but on a broad basis, and it would be left to them and the Director of Education to appoint to every Governing Body in Barbados suitable and qualified people for the job.

I am a member of the Harrison College Board by virtue of the fact that I am a Vestryman. I do not say that I have not taken my duties seriously. The Churchwarden is appointed automatically every year, and sometime you get a Churchwarden who will attend the first meeting of the year because he feels that he should put in an appearance at sometime, and then you do not see him again. Although the Governing Bodies may have 12 or 14 members under the old Constitution, it is difficult to get a quorum on many occasions. This Bill is on a broad basis and this is the beginning on the right foot. All depends on the appointment to this Board, the people who are interested in education and who are qualified to speak. With that basis, they are doing the right thing. I think it was some three or four years ago when the Director of Education was trying to formulate a new policy or system whereby the Governors of the Secondary Schools would be changed; but under this system the position would be better because it is put on a broad and proper basis. For that reason I welcome this change.

Mr. J. C. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, all changes are viewed with apprehension by most men. I do not claim to be possessed of the ability truly to assess

the changes which this Bill seeks to create. The Education Act was in operation for the last 65 years and these are rather radical changes being brought about by this Bill. I am sorry that there are not more hon. members present, who would be really able to digest these changes fully and assess their value for the improvement of education in general in this island.

I hope that these changes are for the better because I want to state here and now that there is an experiment (it is not a permanent thing) on foot in the parish of St. Philip in connection with the Elementary Schools up there, where either seven or eight schools were relegated to infant schools and the children from 11 + are to go to the Princess Margaret School.

In this connection you will find in St. Philip right now that many children who have reached that age cannot go to school. That is a blow to the educational facilities for the people of St. Philip and you will hear more about it during the Elections up there. I was sent to this House by the people of St. Philip for the express purpose that if I cannot contribute to the improvement of their welfare, not to contribute to putting longer burdens on them. I do hope that this experiment which is being perpetrated in St. Philip will soon be changed.

8.05 p.m.

It is a human cry up there in St. Philip. Because of the standard expected at this new school, the boys and girls have to wear uniform, while the parents cannot get a feed for them. At the other schools where they are allowed to go to seventh standard, they get nothing from it, but the parent sends them along; and I hope the Hon. Premier will listen to these few remarks and when the time comes to make experiments permanent, that he will see that those parents who are not able will send them back to the elementary schools until they reach fourteen as the old Educational Act stipulates. It is a serious matter in St. Philip, and I hope that these Committees that you intend to appoint will ease the fears in St. Philip.

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

On motion of Hon. G. H. ADAMS seconded by Hon. M. E. COX Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the House went into Committee, Mr. SMITH being in the Chair.

Clauses 1 to 13 inclusive were called and passed

On motion of Hon. G. H. ADAMS seconded by Hon. M. E. COX, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported the passing of the Bill in Committee.

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On separate motions of Hon. G. H. ADAMS seconded by Hon. M. E. COX in each case, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORISE H.E. GOVERNOR TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH DIRECTOR OF TRAINING

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I do not propose to ask the House to sit late, so I beg leave that Order No. 15 be taken as the next Order of the Day. After that we might adjourn for dinner and until next week. This Resolution should have been passed long ago, but it was partly my fault and my misfortune, that we did not deal with it last year. Notice of this Resolution was given on the 31st May, 1955.

I now formally ask for leave to take Order No. 15 as the next Order of the Day.

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

Mr. SPEAKER: The next order stands in the name of the Hon. Premier: Resolution to authorise agreement with a Director of Training.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, this Resolution, if honourable members will look at it and refresh their memories, is to allow for a Director of Training as set out in the Schedule. Broadly speaking, I do not think those who have followed Education in this island will disagree that we are not getting enough adequate returns for the money we are spending in training people. It is a good thing to go to England and take these courses; but there are several things that arise when you do that. A man may take a course in England which may be admirable in England, but which may not help him a great deal when he comes back to Barbados.

It is a good, probably helpful, thing to see the English official but not in every instance has he got the necessary training to study West Indian or Barbadian conditions. Therefore, without stopping training abroad, it is felt that somebody who is capable of going into office and learning for himself, and having the advice of Heads of Departments as to who can profit by training, should be appointed so that he can do it himself here in Barbados—and there is a great deal to be done in the way of training a Civil Servant in the way he should do his duty. It might seem elementary and trivial to mention even the way in which Civil Servants meet members of the public. What I say may be a reflection on the way the parents brought them up, but it is a fact that some do not meet members of the public courteously.

Appropriate training in Great Britain and some parts of the Empire and Dominion teach Civil Servants even that—I mean, a method by which they must deal with people generally, leading up to training a man who might be on the verge of being appointed as Chief Secretary. There should be somebody on the spot who will help in any schemes we may have in sending people abroad. We are not going to stop that, but Barbados will profit more if we have a Director of Training here too.

In the Addendum this arises: "The Director of Training should be capable of conducting discussion at the highest level with all types of officers and should be a highly qualified officer with wide experience in public administration and an intimate knowledge of the organisation of the Barbados Civil Service and other Civil Services in the Caribbean Area." That of course is going to make it difficult in filling the post for the first. We may have to depart somewhat from that. On the other hand it should be a man who is acquainted with the Barbados Civil Service, because there has been so far not much interchange between these islands. A lot of Barbadians have gone abroad and filled important posts, but these are chiefly professional or scientific ones.

8.15 p.m.

I mentioned this because although we hope it will be a person with wide experience and knowledge of the organisation of all Civil Servants, it may be that some of the knowledge will have to be theoretical. An intimate knowledge of our Civil Service does not necessarily mean a knowledge of all branches of the Civil Service; but, of course, somebody who has been through more than one branch of the Service ought to be the person that should do the job and should be free for the purpose.

Now, there was a Conference in Jamaica, and I think since then there was also one in Trinidad. I have had a copy of the Report of the Conference in Trinidad sent to me, and I hope other members have had a copy circulated to them because when

this matter came to the House the Report was still in the hands of the printers. The Conference which was held in Jamaica recently was attended by representatives from all over the area and they made certain proposals which appear in the Addendum to this Resolution.

However, the important thing for the Committee to pay attention to is the part dealing with the money and as honourable members will see from the Schedule, it is proposed to pay the Director of Training a salary at the rate of \$8,160 per annum and he shall be entitled to refund of cost of passages and all reasonable expenses actually incurred by himself and his family in respect of the journey from the place of engagement to Barbados and the journey to the place of engagement on the satisfactory completion of his engagement, subject to a maximum of \$1,440 in each direction. That is the usual contract terms which we pay people today. The term of engagement will be for a period of three years in the first instance.

I do not think I need say anything more to convince honourable members of this House that such a person is necessary and we all hope that we may be able very soon indeed to find a suitable person. I may say now, lest hon. members have heard any rumours or anything of the sort, that there is no person, as far as I know, in the minds of the Public Service Commission or in the minds of the Government, for whom we are making a job. It is necessary to have this Officer but I am quite sure there is no person in the minds of the Public Service Commission or in the minds of the Government for this job.

Hon. members can therefore erase from their minds that we are making a job for someone. We do hope that whoever gets this job, Barbadian or otherwise, that he would be a suitable chap and would help us. We would like very much to have a system of training which will produce the best for Barbados.

I may say that I regret to see that when you give a person a scholarship, it is not very often that we are able to secure his services because he goes after a better job. We are losing Barbadian students in England and even those at the West Indian University because those students are attracted to the salaries which are paid in the Gold Coast. Therefore, one may say that a Training Scheme is not of the best because you spend money on somebody and that person then leaves the island and goes abroad; but while that is true to some extent, of course, we may get some benefit from some one who may be paid by his Island to go on a course because that person might come to this Island and to some extent the money which we spent on somebody else may not altogether be lost because we would be receiving a benefit from the money which some other Island spent on some person. Naturally, we would like to know that the money we spend is properly spent, for the most part, on persons who are going to remain in our Civil Service and by so doing would be giving their service to the country that spent the money on training them.

Sir, I do not think I can usefully add anything more but if honourable members have read any of the Addendum as regards the short term proposals and conclusions which were reached at the Conference in Jamaica, they will see that as far as training in the lower grade of the Service is concerned suggestions are made that the right person who has the ambition has a first-class chance of rising by this training and getting on in the service generally. I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. ALLDER: I should only like to ask whether the bringing of this Director here to train our Civil Servants would cost us more than having to send our Civil Servants overseas for training.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: Not necessarily so, because the Director might say we need a specialist's service, therefore send abroad an Officer for six months; or he might say "I am training him as much as possible." He might say send him abroad just as Mr. Osborne was sent to England and he would learn something which would be of benefit to this Island. I have seen from my contact with the Income Tax Department, Mr. Osbourne drafting amendments to the Income Tax Act; and I do know that the training which he received abroad has benefited us considerably. Therefore it would be well that we send persons abroad now and then.

We have also had some foresight in sending abroad Mr. Ramsay of whom everybody speaks extremely highly and who has had a chance in being trained in up-to-date Local Government methods so that when the Maude Bill comes into operation we would have a person already well trained in this matter and from what I am told, Mr. Ramsay is a very efficient person. Mr. Lightburn speaks very highly of him; therefore that money which we paid to send him on training would not be wasted. However, I can say it is possible if you merely send people abroad without doing any training here, that the whole island would not benefit as a result.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Pre-Federal Reports

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I think we have done most of the important things on the Order Paper and I would like to see hon. members spared the trouble of coming here next Tuesday. I would like to see them come on Thursday prepared to put up whatever views they have in respect of the Pre-federal Commissioners' Reports, so that the Delegation would know what is in the minds of hon. mem-

bers and would be able to benefit from the suggestions put up to them by members of the Opposition Party. I am therefore proposing that this House stand adjourned until this day week.

Sir, I want the consideration of those Reports to be put as the first Order of the Day; perhaps it might be the only Order of the Day to which consideration will be given. In view of the Address by the House about not voting money for the Delegation until hon. members have had the chance to consider the matters relating to Federation such as those which have cropped up in the Pre-federal Reports, I want to say that naturally this Government is giving this House the opportunity to debate that matter. But let me say that it is not a question of putting this matter to the House for approval or disapproval. It is not a matter for this House because the Delegation has plenipotentiary powers. It is a question of meeting to accept this or that. Because of that, I think that the better way to give consideration to this matter would be by moving the adjournment of the House to discuss it. I therefore ask that Order No. 1 be set down as follows:—

"To move the adjournment of the House for five Minutes to discuss the Reports of the three pre-federal Commissioners."

I am going to move that this House do now adjourn until 3 o'clock p.m. on Thursday next. The business of the Government is such that we met yesterday and today, and we may have to meet again on Thursday. I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until this day week, Thursday, the 19th day of January, 1956 at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

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

The question that this House do now adjourn until Thursday next, the 19th day of January 1956 at 3 o'clock p.m. was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER adjourned the House accordingly.

8.30 p.m.