

THE House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SESSION 1955—56

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Wednesday, 7th March, 1956.

Pursuant to the adjournment the House of Assembly met at 12 o'clock noon to-day.

Present:

His Honour K. N. R. Husbands (*Speaker*), Hon. G. H. Adams, C.M.G., Q.C., B.A., (*Premier*); 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*); Hon. R. G. Mapp, (*Minister of Trade, Industry and Labour*); Mr. T. O. Bryan, Mr. F. C. Goddard, (*Leader of the Opposition*); Mr. O. T. Alder, Mr. J. C. Mottley, and Mr. E. St. A. Holder.

Prayers were read.

MINUTES

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

ORDER NO. 1 POSTPONED

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker, I ask leave to postpone Order No. 1, and to take Order No. 2.

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

ESTIMATES CONT'D

Mr. SPEAKER: The first Order of the day is to resume debate on the consideration of the Estimates for the Financial Year, 1956-57.

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

Head XVII—Industrial Schools

Head XVII—Industrial Schools—was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I beg to move that the sum of \$60,838 be voted under this Head.

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

Mr. LEWIS: Mr. Chairman, I am wondering whether the honourable member would be able to enlighten me here on this point. Items 29 and 32. You will notice that Item 29 is Stationery. Well, the Note says, that it is the cost of books and stationery as recommended by the Education Department. You mean to tell me that the type of books recommended by the Education Department will be regarded as Stationery! Then you have under Item 32 furniture and equipment, for the purpose of books and equipment for school rooms. That is where the recommendation of the Education Department should come in. I would just like to get these two things clear, because here is something for the school room not recommended by the Education Department and something that is stationery as recommended by the Education Department.

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Chairman, before the Hon. Minister gets up, could he also tell us how many boys there are and also how many girls?

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, as far as Item 29 is concerned, it is really the books that are recommended by the Education Department, and I think, Sir, that the inclusion of books here under Item 29 is a mistake. The number of boys at present is 86, and there are eight girls. The complement of girls has always been small and seems to be getting smaller: this is probably due to the behaviour of the girls.

Mr. ALLDER: Mr. Chairman, it had been suggested some time ago about the possibility of making other provision for the keeping of these girls. They are so few in number that at times you have a larger staff than inmates, and I am wondering whether the Government would consider in future the possibility of finding somewhere else to put them up so as to cut down the cost of running the Industrial Schools. Sometime ago, there were only four and there were more attendants than inmates. In that case you had no work, particularly for those who were to run the institution. You have some very attractive buildings up there—I am speaking in terms of the girls' section—and these buildings could certainly be utilised for some other purpose and the girls could be put up at one of the other institutions under the same kind of supervision, thereby cutting down the cost. I do not see why you could not attach them to the Hospital and let them assist in the running of work at the Hospital and also get that adequate training of nursing or domesticity which would help them as well; but it certainly is a necessity to see how best the cost of

running that girls' division could be cut down. You have to keep these buildings in continual repair, and the wear and tear of the running of the Institution has to be paid for. You could make a separate department even at the Prisons for them; I do not mean to permit them to associate with adult prisoners, male or female; but a separate place where they could be by themselves and be given the same discipline as they would get up there. In that case you would release all those buildings for other purposes, and also reduce the cost of running the institution and I wish that Government would consider that.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: In answer to that, Sir, all the honourable member has said is true. The cost of each school is very high because very often there are few girls at the institution. That has been examined by the Committee and it has not been found convenient to make any change at the moment. The honourable member referred to the possibility of making arrangements at Glendairy for them, but the Committee refused to undertake a thing of that sort because that stigma would always be there to a great extent. There is now under consideration a new Bill which will make provision not only for delinquent children but also for children's care and protection and in that Bill there is also to be considered the system of boarding out; so the Committee will consider all these points under this new Bill.

Mr. ALLDER: Mr. Chairman, there is a further suggestion I would like to make. When you have girls like that you should offer one to the Maternity Hospital and one to each of the Almshouses in the island and institutions; and you would not have to pay, I presume, for the maintenance of such girls, because in such institutions they would be giving their services and also getting maintenance. The girls would finish up as more equipped persons because they would have been trained at these institutions.

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Chairman, at no time will we ever agree to put them in the prisons, but if they are just a few, at least it could be investigated to see whether they can be put at the Nightengale Home. The Government could come in and assist the Vestry by putting up an additional building there, because that was a beginning to show Government how to get about it, and because the other parishes have not got a Nightengale Home; it is overflowing now. We have just as many young girls and boys at the Almshouses as we had before: so there needs to be expansion. That is where you need some orphanage in which you can take care of these children. But if you have only four or five, the cost of keeping that girls' school open for them is so high that the one thing that comes to my mind is something like the Nightengale Home, because they have about 50 down there and almost as many again at the Almshouses.

12.25 p.m.

The question that the sum of \$60,838 be voted under this Head was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Head XIX—Ecclesiastical

Head XIX — Ecclesiastical — was called.

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

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

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, there is Item 5 "Cost of Living Allowance," in respect of the Bishop, the Rectors and the Vicars. I am wondering if the Hon. Leader of the House would be disposed to respond to my invitation to make a statement relative to the position in respect of the

disendowment of the Church. I understand that if disendowment takes place, there would be a discontinuance of the payment of this Cost of Living Allowance. Mr. Chairman, you see how germane that is to this issue. I wonder if the Hon. Minister could make some pronouncement *ex cathedra* or otherwise, in respect of this matter.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: We are proceeding apace with this question of disendowment. [Mr. LEWIS: You are proceeding in a piecemeal way.] It may be a little slow, but the Committee which was appointed to go into the matter, did meet the Bishop, the Rectors and their representatives a few weeks ago, and they have put up their proposals which are now being considered. Further than that, I cannot go, because there is nothing more to report.

Mr. BRANCKER: I thank you.

Mr. LEWIS: Mr. Chairman, what Head is this?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Head XIX.

Mr. LEWIS: Then you have skipped from Head XVII to Head XIX.

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

Head XX—Education

Head XX — Education — was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I ask leave to postpone the consideration of this Head until the Hon. Premier returns to his seat.

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

Head XXI—Science and Agriculture

Head XXI — Science and Agriculture — was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS, Mr. Chairman, there are some Items which I am asking leave to move into this Head.

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

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: The Items to be moved in are as follows:

Item 31 (a) (New) — Accountant — \$2,280

Provision of \$2,280 (To be voted) for the salary of an Accountant on scale \$1,920; $1,920 \times 120 = 2,880 \times 144 = 3,456$.

Item 31 (b) (New) — Assistant Accountant — \$2,280

Provision of \$2,280 (To be voted) for the salary of an Assistant Accountant on scale \$2,280 $\times 120 = 3,000$.

Item 31 (c) (New) — Senior Entomological Assistant — \$2,280

Provision of \$2,280 (To be voted) for the salary of a Senior Entomological Assistant on scale \$2,280 $\times 120 = 3,000$.

Item 31 (d) (New) — Fishing Boat Inspector — \$2,280

Provision of \$2,280 (To be voted) for the salary of a Fishing Boat Inspector on scale \$2,280 $\times 120 = 3,000$.

Item 33 — Clerks — \$12,954

Increased by \$600 (To be voted) to \$13,554 to provide for the salary of an additional Clerk.

Item 33 (a) (New) — Secretary — \$388

Provision of \$888 (To be voted) for the salary of a Secretary on scale \$888 $\times 72 = 1,392 \times 96 = 2,160$.

Item 34 — Stenographers and Typists — \$2,352

Reduced by \$624 (Fixed by Law) to \$1,728 to provide for the salaries of 2 instead of 3 Stenographers and Typists as a result of the creation of the post of Secretary.

(Item 33 (a)).

Item 40 — C.O.L. Allowance — \$13,156

Increased by \$593 (To be voted) to \$13,749 to provide allowances for additional staff.

Item 41—Travelling Allowance — \$31,040

Increased by \$600 (To be voted) to \$31,640 to cover expenses of additional Travelling Officer. (Item 31(d)).

I beg to move that the sum of \$634,224 be voted under this Head.

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

Mr. BRYAN: Mr. Chairman, in respect of Item 77, "Caretakers," I should like to say that during the consideration of the Estimates on the last occasion, I made an appeal on behalf of people in the area of Brighton for the erection of a beach shelter there. Such use has been made of the shelter at Gravesend, that the absence of this facility at Brighton prompted me on that occasion to make the appeal for the erection of a shelter in that area. I see from the note here, that this vote has been increased to provide for additional caretakers at the proposed new beach shelters; I am hoping that Brighton beach will be included at last, and that it is not too late to make an appeal for the inclusion of this facility at Brighton when the new plans are being proposed.

12.35 p.m.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, I am going to speak on Item 99—Deficiency on operation of Lancaster Factory. Now, sometime ago a memorandum was circulated by the Department of Science and Agriculture on the operation of this Department and in the first paragraph of the Memorandum it makes a statement about the operation of Lancaster. The paragraph is stated as follows:—

"In order to protect producers of corn against loss which might result from their inability to dispose of their entire crop on the commercial market or otherwise, an offer was advertised in September to purchase corn-on-cob at Lancaster Factory at \$3.25 per bushel. Immediately after the hurricane an offer was advertised to purchase corn, dry it and resell it at the same price of \$3.25 per bushel to those persons who delivered it to the Factory. The quantity of corn purchased to the end of December, 1955, was 269,085 lbs. Only a small quantity was re-purchased by the producers. Arrangements are being made for the disposal of the stocks."

I think it is necessary that some explanation should be given to this House as to what is taking place at Lancaster Factory that necessitates the making up of the \$15,000 deficiency on the operation of Lancaster Factory for which this new Item is put in. I am well aware, and I am sure other honourable members are aware, that you do need in a community like Barbados some element of price control and subsidisation for the people who grow local food crops, therefore, I am not protesting the assistance given to growers—especially small growers—by the Government, but what I would like to know is that the operation of Lancaster Factory is run without a loss and that the greatest economic use is made of it. If we have it merely as a facade without any real economic stability given them (I mean the people growing food crops) you can as well get rid of it and let some other organisation be formed to do the marketing of vegetables and things of that sort for people.

Now, you have corn at this factory which you cannot get rid of. You have taken it from the people to be ground and you have no means of disposing of it after it is ground. If that is so, it means that the community is left without the use of this corn. I believe members of this community are not aware of your having this large crop of corn on hand because I believe if they had known they would have availed themselves of it. They are not making use of

it because you are not allowing them to know what you are doing. You have put something under a Department Head without having someone with the initiative and imagination to sell the item to the people. You make people to believe that the Government can enter in these enterprises and run them better than a private enterprise.

I agree with the need for an Accountant and for the staffing of this Department, because if you are going to spend \$782,000 which is nearly a million dollars, it becomes necessary that you should have some first-class Accountant in that Department. However, I do say that in view of the fact that all these things have to be prepared by the Director of Agriculture, I am wondering if the Minister does not think that the time has come when the Government should investigate the necessity of having someone either in that Department or else available to the Government who knows something of agricultural economics. When the Government is called upon to make an investigation into the economics of agriculture, it has either to call upon Sir Archibald Cuke or someone else from outside. I think the time has come for Government to investigate the possibilities of having somebody with experience in the economics of agriculture in its own Department. This is an island which depends on agriculture, therefore the Government should have some knowledgeable person in agricultural economics to advise it on that aspect of the matter. It is noticeable that in countries like Venezuela or Iran that the Governments of those places have somebody who is an expert on oil to advise them; similarly in the United Kingdom the Government has somebody to advise it on coal. Do you think that they would leave it to some private person to advise them on such matters? I feel that we in Barbados should go out in the field and find someone to advise us on the economic aspects of our agriculture and the financial implications that are likely to arise. It is not good enough to have so much corn ground at Lancaster Factory,—something which the community can use—and the people know nothing of it. Do you mean to say that the community has no use for this corn? I feel that the community should be made aware of these things and that there should be some marketing organisation and some means of publicising these things. If you take corn from corn growers at Lancaster Factory and grind it and depend on the middle man to turn up there and purchase it from you, that is not good enough. I do hope I will get an explanation on the \$15,000 deficiency in the operation of Lancaster Factory so that I can know a little more of this Factory and its usefulness to the community.

Mr. LEWIS: Mr. Chairman, there is need for much explanation on this Head. I do not know if the new posts are in order or if they have already been distributed. Am I to understand that the Agricultural Department did not have an Accountant before and now you see the need for such a post, before you try it out to see if one would do, you are going to give the Accountant an Assistant? I am always saying that this is a Department which so long as somebody says you must have something for it, you are going to come here and say that everybody will die unless we agree to give them what they want. It is like the Waterworks Department. If you come in here and say the people cannot get water unless you do such and such a thing and we do not grant it, we will be blamed for preventing the people from getting water. Whatever you come with for the Agricultural Department and the Waterworks Department, we must give it. I would really like an explanation about that.

Another thing which I would like to know something about is the mealy bug campaign. Have we

received any report of the mealy bug campaign? Are you breeding them, killing them, or are you successful in any way? It is very nice of you to give a report on the operation of Lancaster Factory. Let us know what it is. Those who misunderstand the running of that factory have themselves to blame. It seems impossible to impress upon the Government that they not only have to be honest in dealing with these things but they must appear to be honest. Reports on the working of these things and Statements of Accounts should be laid on the Table of this House at least annually.

12.45 n.m.

I am continually repeating that I have only seen one set of accounts since I came in here, because I asked for them; and the moment they were laid on the table they said "Give us back because the Hon. Mr. Cuke is going to recast them." Since then the recasting has not come in nor any thing else. It is a good thing to have a factory in case of emergency for grinding cassava and all that. But you have got to the point where you talk about retrenching and reducing Leave Passages, and it is time that you look into this department. Too many scientific officials spend our money; I understand that the Manager of the Factory is an employee at two or three other places. Certainly, there must be some accounts and they should be **honest-minded enough** to see this is the people's **money they are spending**. They could sell a load of cassava five times, because I hear that is what they are doing down there; a man drives in with a load of something and they tell him to go around and drop it and the tendency is to drive around and come and sell you again. He should sell you ten times because you cannot look after your own business and the man is looking after his. What is it at all? Is it a source of employment or a source of drying the trade?

I would like to know something about the Mealy Bug Campaign. Has anybody been able to discover whether the department is making any head way in it. It is an **expensive thing** because it is supposed to reduce the crop by 25% but then the crop goes up by 25% or 30%. Certainly I would like to know something about this new Item. Is there an Order with an Addendum saying a little more and has the Order been laid on the Table of the Legislature? I would not like to do injustice to a Minister who might be absent but I would really like to know something about these matters.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I am not in a position to reply to the point raised by the honourable junior member for the City but I will make a note of it and refer it to the Minister when he comes back to the island. Honourable members will realise that I have not got this information. In reply to the point made by the honourable junior member for St. Peter re the appointment of an Agricultural Economist to the Department, I may inform him that the matter is under consideration. As far as the honourable junior member for the City is concerned, I am informed that there was a Report published and it appeared in the newspaper two or three months ago. I have sent to the Ministerial Office for all the information at their disposal in connection with the Report and I will let the honourable member have it when it comes. The honourable junior member for the City enquired about the new post. It is quite obvious that that is new; there were no such posts to be filled before. I believe as far as the accounts are concerned, that the work has increased over the last few years and it has been found necessary to get an Accountant and also an Assistant Accountant. Mr. Foster, who was here some time

ago, went carefully into the work of the Department, and after careful consideration recommended the additional Clerks plus the Accountant. Before putting this amount to the vote, Sir, there is an error. In Item 34, reduced by \$624 (Fixed by Law), I am informed that we cannot remove that. In computing this figure I took \$624 from it, but since then I have been informed it is not the correct thing to do. We have to put it in and when the Order is made then we can take it out. I am asking to increase the vote by \$624 and that the total be now \$624,224.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, the Hon. Minister did not answer the question that I raised under Item 99, Deficiency on operation of Lancaster Factory. This is a new item for \$15,000 and the note to that reads: "To supplement the Revolving Fund of the Government Factory at Lancaster, to enable the factory to carry on its routine operations of processing food crops", and I think you should have some knowledge of it, because you are asking for \$15,000 additional dollars. I do not know why the appropriate Minister is not here, but we would regard this as an important time for any Minister to be here and this is the only time or the best time that one should ask this question. It is not for me to say why the Minister should be in his place unless he is seriously ill. But I believe it is fair to the public, not to me personally, that an answer should be given for the expenditure of \$15,000 for a Revolving Fund at Lancaster Factory. We should know something about it.

Mr. GODDARD: Now, I only got up to speak on Item 101. I remember a Resolution came down here to provide funds for setting up of communications between the stations by radio and when we suggested to Government that it would be wiser to use telephones, were told we did not know what we were talking about. I see they have at least taken our advice and reverted to the telephone system. I do not have to go into the reasons why, but it should have been done from the beginning. Anyhow they have taken our advice, and are using the telephone system rather than the radio.

Mr. LEWIS: Mr. Chairman, the amount of \$15,000 is another item; that is not a money vote. This is an advance from the Treasury; it is working capital for the factory and it should be done in a special way after the Estimates. What has become of the previous amount? As far as I remember, it was \$30,000. This is a large sum and at one time I understand only one person was operating the accounts at the Bank. I asked about that but I have never got an answer. It does not matter how honest a person is; at least two people should operate the accounts at the Bank.

12.55 p.m.

I cannot say that one person in the service has more influence than two others: I cannot see how this House can vote this money without knowing what is happening. If you are going to be careless in the method by which you produce your raw material, then the sum of \$15,000 is a small amount for you to lose during the course of a year. Has your Revolving Fund been tied up in stocks of corn? Does nobody want this corn? If you sell it at a loss you will still assist the people, because you must have sold it at a profit at some time or other. I am wondering if the Hon. Minister has in his file what the original Revolving Fund was, because that has not been put down here. This is the typical way in which the Civil Servant is encouraged to treat the members of this House; he cannot find out what the amount of the Fund is and remind hon. members as to what it is. The note to this Item shows that whoever is dealing with the matter was looking it up at the time. You ought to remind hon. members of the

money which you have wasted already, and let them see whether they can take \$15,000 of the taxpayers' money and give them to put in a business. This is not a Fund which has to be dealt with day after day; it is a Revolving Fund which has to be looked after once a year. Let us give the matter over to public enterprise, and let them see if they can make a success of it. It is merely because you have this money in the Treasury that you can say that you are giving them another \$15,000; I want to say that if you have sufficient amounts of \$15,000, one of these days we will be able to use one of them. I beg to move that the amount of this Head be reduced by \$15,000.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: If hon. members want to postpone the consideration of this Head, I am quite willing to agree to that, and get the information which is required. I have sent to get reports from the Ministry but the Messenger has not yet returned. I repeat: I will agree to a postponement of this Head if hon. members so desire.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: I think that that is a most reasonable attitude adopted by the Hon. Leader of the House. I do not think that there is any Rule under which you would have to ask leave to postpone the consideration of this Head, and another thing is that we are in Committee of Supply. The suggestion made by the Hon. Leader of the House is the same suggestion which I wanted to make. You have many public Institutions and corn is not one of those items which people in this Island do not eat; it is the sort of thing which we can use since we have these Institutions. When you look at the Vote in respect of provisions for the Lazaretto and the General Hospital, I do not think that there would be any difficulty whatsoever in making use of this corn; but it seems to me that there is the lack of co-ordination and initiative on the part of somebody. If the Hon. Minister is going to ask leave to postpone the consideration of this Head, I repeat, that that is the most reasonable attitude for him to adopt.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I ask leave to postpone consideration of this Head.

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

Head XX—Education

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I ask leave to revert to Head XX — Education.

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

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, I am asking leave to make the following Amendments in respect of this Head:—

Item 3—Principal, Erdiston Training College—\$4,800
Increased by \$480 (To be voted) to \$5,280 to provide for an increase in the salary of this post.

Item 5—Principal, Evening Institute—\$3,600
Increased by \$720 (To be voted) to \$4,320 to provide for an increase in the salary of this post.

Item 7—Vice Principal, Erdiston Training College—\$4,080

Increased by \$480 (To be voted) to \$4,560 to provide for an increase in the salary of this post.

Item 23—Housekeeper, Erdiston Training College—\$1,200

Increased by \$96 (To be voted) to \$1,296 to provide for an increase in the salary of this post.

Item 48—Second Grade Schools

(g) *St. Michael's Girls' School—\$42,956*

Increased by \$59 (To be voted) to \$43,015 to provide for the payment of a pension to Josephine Worrell, formerly maid of St. Michael's Girls' School.

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

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I will deal with each of these Items in turn. The post of Principal of Erdiston Training College has become one of much more responsibility as a result of the addition of Teachers to be trained for the Leewards and Windwards. The Leeward and Windward Islands have been pressing the Education Department and the Ministry for an answer about an increased salary for the Principal and Vice-Principal, and I have postponed giving a favourable reply for sometime, because it did not appear to me, when it was first put up, that more responsibility for more pupils warranted an increase.

I have gone very carefully into the matter, however, and also in consideration from the point of view of the Leewards and Windwards who are prepared to pay their share of the additional expense towards the increased salary for the Principal and more especially in consideration of the fact that it is something more than ordinary administrative expenses in respect of these Teachers who are coming from the Leewards and Windwards. I have said "No" to the suggestion that the salary be increased, but I am now quite convinced that this salary increase for the Principal and Vice-Principal should be granted now.

1.05 p.m.

One of the reasons too for my unfavourable considerations was because of the feeling that we did not consider that the revision of anybody's salary should take place apart from the review of salaries of everybody. However, this is a special case. This is not like the Police Training School where the expenses are shared between the colonies. This is a college where the function has become extended for training School Teachers from other Islands; therefore, you must take it out of the list of normal salary revision. Salary revision or no salary revision, this will come.

The position of the Principal of the Evening Institute is this. It was impossible to find a suitable person for the Head of the Institute at the salary we were paying. I would remind honourable members that British Honduras and Jamaica were in exactly the same position as Barbados. They said that nobody would come to these three islands for a salary of less than £2,000 and both Jamaica and British Honduras had to increase their proposed salary before the Secretary of State for the Colonies could find somebody to take up the post. We did not do that. The House approved of combining the post of Principal of the Technical Institute and Principal of the Evening Institute and the reason was because we then had an able administrator who could fill the posts and run them from an administrative view point. We felt that from the Technical Institute point of view, if we had a practical man as an engineer, he would be able to do the actual teaching and the administrative work could be done by Dr. Hamilton who was the then Principal of the Evening Institute. With the changed circumstances we have to revert to what we should have done in the original instance had it been possible to get a suitable Head for the Technical Institute for the salary we were about to pay or a little more.

I have discussed this matter at times with the Department and with the present temporary Head of the Institute who will be confirmed in the post as Head and I have come to the conclusion that this salary of \$4,320 per annum is an appropriate salary to pay the Principal.

Now, as regards the Housekeeper, Erdiston Training College, obviously she has more work if she is seeing after three times more people than what there were originally; therefore, it is proposed to in-

crease that salary by \$96 bringing it to \$1,296 per annum.

As regards the last Item, St. Michael's Girls' School—\$42,956, the explanatory Note makes it quite clear. It says that it is increased by \$59 (To be voted) to \$43,015 to provide for the payment of a pension to Josephine Worrell, formerly maid at St. Michael's Girls' School.

I may mention something in general about Education at this stage. Inasmuch as there was no extended debate on Education, I am more than willing to answer any question any member may put to me, although I do not propose to make any addition to my speech. I will suggest to honourable members to raise any points which they wish to raise and I will give the reply.

I wish to say generally that I am convinced, especially after reading the criticisms on Education in other parts of the World, that education is not on the down grade in Barbados. It is far from it. I am convinced that the proportion of well taught children is greater to-day than it was in the last generation. However, I am perfectly prepared just as use was made of the services of the Educational Adviser of Colonial Development & Welfare to make a survey in other parts of the West Indies on education that we also make use of him in respect of specific matters which were drawn to my attention. We are therefore considering him to act as a Commission to investigate some aspects of teaching in Elementary and Primary Schools.

I do not wish to start off anything critical or controversial, but I do repeat that you can read all that you read in the "Advocate" in the newspapers of America and the United Kingdom. The criticisms in those papers on education in their countries are not any better; they are equally the same as ours. Nobody has ever been satisfied with the educational standard of his country and even in an overwhelmingly rich country like the United States of America, far worse things can be said of it. I suppose it is inevitable with the material progress of the world. However, I do think that with the present set of schoolmasters and schoolmistresses from the top to the bottom both in Secondary and Primary Schools, that you do not find as many as before who look upon teaching as a vocation rather than a means of making money and earning a living. I am sometimes shocked to see many of them leaving the job of teaching and doing another job: but it shows that their heart was never originally in teaching—at least, not as it was when our fathers and grandfathers were teachers. I do think that the spirit of some of the old schoolmasters of Harrison College, Combermere, Queen's College and of the Elementary Schools for the love of education and the desire to turn out a number of well educated boys and girls was more evident in past generations than this.

1.15 p.m.

Of course, you have degrees; and it is an indication of the value of some of the criticism that you have read and heard that the Headmaster of Harrison College said in deploring language (which I took no notice of at the time) that Harrison College was degenerating to such an extent that in 10 years it would be a failure as far as education was concerned. I regret to say the boys let him down badly, because five boys came up to Scholarship standard that year and all five were awarded scholarships. It does not look much like Harrison College's teaching and the results are on the down grade. I am sorry that the hon. junior member for St. George is not in his place, because I believe he is very instrumental in giving careful study to the possibilities of a new approach

to teaching and to the functions of Combermere School. I know he has issued a memorandum which he prepared and which was discussed by the Governing Body of Combermere School and I believe that they are about to approach me in this matter. I hope he will come in before the debate is over. I do not think the experiment—because it is an experiment in England of having secondary modern schools of the type we have embarked on—is proceeding as well as could be expected. I repeat, it is an experiment. There is a solid body of teachers and educationalists who think you should have comprehensive schools and there is an equally solid body who feel that a large multilateral school is the right thing. We can only aim at learning the best suited to our West Indians from our own community. I want to emphasise that so long as I have anything to do with Education any question of a changed curriculum and giving it a different slant would lie along the lines not of abandoning academic education, but abandoning the exalted position which academic education has been given for three centuries in a place like Barbados. Let us face it frankly! We have been Victorian in our outlook on education; and it used to be said in olden days that the aim of Victorian parents was to take the brightest son and make him a lawyer, the next brightest and make him a doctor, and the dullest when he could not learn anything, they put him in the church.

It was nothing like today: shopkeeping was not respectable and the result has laid so much emphasis on academic education that we readily deserve to be commended as we are to be commended by people who know of education in this colony, of having educational institutions like Harrison College and Lodge School of which everybody in the island can be proud, even in the United Kingdom. But if in our community with the utter impossibility of finding jobs for everybody we continue year after year at just getting the School Certificate, or the General Certificate of Education, then we are not doing our duty to the future of Barbados. I am speaking broadly and generally. My aim will be to build up a Technical Institute as much as possible in order to avoid the danger, of course, of training too many of the highly skilled type as to make it impossible to find jobs in Barbados. Of necessity you will find people in any community who will leave and go to some other community, but the aim of Government aid in higher education—and I include technical education in this—should be to train as many people as possible as can be absorbed in your community and be more efficient in the standard which you have had, even although incidentally some of the money you spend on home people will be, so to speak, lost to the community because these persons will migrate. You have to preserve that balance as I said; you have to face up to the fact that things of that nature will happen.

Before I sit, I would like to say on the other dimension of Government aid that we propose to make a change in the award of Barbados Scholarships. Hon. members will remember that when a girl failed to come up to Scholarship standard, an amendment was made and the scholarship was given to a boy who came up to scholarship standard, so that a fifth scholarship was in fact given to boys, because no girl since Miss Elsie Pilgrim has won the Barbados Scholarship. We propose to come to the Legislature abandoning that, and to put back a scholarship confined to girls; and we also propose to ask the Legislature if a girl does not come up to scholarship standard, that she be given a less sum of money provided she comes up to Exhibition standard. I think it is unfortunate we did not

think of that earlier because what is the point of giving two to the Classical Scholars in a particular year, especially to boys who do not seem over anxious to return to this colony? I am going to throw the cat among the pigeons now by saying I propose to ask the Legislature to agree to the regulations which will tie strings to Barbados Scholars so that they will be entitled to three years, but they will get no increase over three years unless they sign a promise to return to give three or five years' service. Just by chance I met in the streets in London two Barbadians and they both said they were going to the Gold Coast because the Gold Coast pays more money. I have talked to all the Barbadians except one who had to go and play football while I was speaking with the others two years ago, and they told me, to my great surprise, that they would like to come back home if the Government would guarantee them jobs. I was informed that another Barbadian visitor to the University this year finds a completely different spirit. They feel it is no good coming back to Barbados for the small salaries we pay. This island cannot afford, however glorious it may be, to go on year after year paying for a boy beyond the normal three years and give extra money because his tutor writes down and says he is a bright boy and to give him another year or two. I have had an application in which two years had been asked for even after four years were given, and that bright boy is doing it with the object of furthering his studies to get a job somewhere else. In giving these scholarships, men and women should be encouraged to return, because if, and only if, obviously you can offer a man a job as Assistant Secretary in your Civil Service or a job at the hospital, only in such a case would you expect him to come back and give some years' service.

1.25 p.m.

I do not wish to be misunderstood at all. I repeat: are we giving opportunities for higher education in order to fit our citizens? It does not much matter if a Barbados Scholar comes back here, in view of Federation; but it does matter if he goes off and makes no return to the area. How many Barbados Scholars, after they have had money spent on them, feel it their duty to endeavour to make some return to this Island? I do not think that that is unreasonable at all. As long as you have the opportunity, you should do your utmost by filling any place which your ability has absolutely qualified you for, and I do not think it is wrong to attach strings. You have the post of Permanent Secretary, and you may bring an Englishman, Scotsman or anybody you like, who has had the same training as the Barbados Scholar, and you put him in the post. I will say that all Barbados Scholars feel that they should get the best out of Barbados and fit themselves somewhere else. That has not always been the fault of individual Scholars; it may be true that it is the fault of the Government in not doing something by way of persuasion, or not doing its utmost to encourage Scholars to come back here. I repeat, that the trend today has been the trend of Barbados Scholars to think of anywhere else except Barbados. I say that from my own experience. The same thing is true with regard to the Graduates of the University College of the West Indies.

I take the opportunity of throwing a bait, especially when we have to approach the question of Education, that Teachers' salaries should be divorced from salaries for Civil Servants, or rather, other Civil Servants. The Civil Servants have got to see that the Teachers with all his advantages, is nevertheless, in respect of certain subjects, a very

difficult man to get in the sense that only exceptional people become or are born mathematicians or good physicists. Therefore, you may have to make distinctions in salary by which, looked at from the pure Civil Service point of view by someone who thinks that responsibility and attendance are congruous, the Secondary School Teachers may have an advantage on the salary side.

I hope that the Committee will pardon me for making what, in fact, is an expansion on a second reading speech, but I thought I should let hon. members know what my views are on this matter, and to give them an opportunity of expressing their opinion on this particular subject. I now beg to move that the sum of \$1,323,571 be voted under this Head.

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

Mr. BRANCKER: While the Hon. Minister of Education was discussing Item 50, dealing with Secondary School teaching and also referring to Item 58, dealing with the Barbados Scholarship, I could not help calling to mind the Notice which you, Mr. Chairman, have on the Order Paper in which you notified us of your intention to move the adjournment of the House to discuss the speech of the Headmaster of Harrison College made on the last Speech Day. I can quite sympathise with you as being in the Chair when this matter is under discussion. Perhaps if you so intimate, we might appoint somebody else as Chairman of Committees while this Head is being further considered, so that you might be able to let this Committee have the benefit of your views on this subject. If I heard the Hon. Minister of Education correctly, in referring to the speech of the Headmaster of Harrison College,—

Mr. CHAIRMAN: On what Item is the hon. member speaking?

Mr. BRANCKER: I am speaking on Item 50, "Grants and Aid, Harrison College, etc." and Item 58, "Barbados Scholarships," the same two Items on which the Hon. Minister of Education said that he had expanded. The hon. member said that in connection with that speech, he took no notice of the language at the time with regard to the position at Harrison College and the staffing there. Now, we are called upon to vote in respect of Harrison College, the sum of \$113,230, and, of course, the greater part of that amount goes in salaries to the Masters. In so far as that matter is concerned, we have had it made perfectly plain, even although the results were so good last year in relation to the Barbados Scholarship that nearly all of the Scholars came from Harrison College, that the Headmaster said that due to the fact that people for promotion in the highest forms did not have the best masters available to teach them—in the middle forms so as to give them the necessary grounding,—you need not look to Harrison College to have the same results which are produced now, because it is not the man at the top alone who can help you to achieve singular results. There must be the ground work which is now lacking.

The Hon. Minister of Education could have gone further, because the person who got the highest aggregate of marks in the whole Island was a Harrisonian; he got distinctions in one subject, missed another distinction, got the highest marks in Greek, passed the Advanced Level in Latin and yet he was not awarded a Scholarship.

1.35 p.m.

It is not quite clear why he didn't get one but he did not get one. The same thing happened at Queen's College. I refer to the proposed revision of

the Scheme in regard to the award for girls and to the fact that no girl was up to Scholarship standard. You will remember in reference to the last Barbados Scholarships, a Queen's College girl passed in three subjects with distinction but only passed in another. Because she did not get the number of subject passes she was not considered up to Scholarship standard so they awarded it to another Classical Student at Harrison College. I understand that both Classical Students are now going to study medicine. It is expected by the hon. member that because they are going to the U.C.W.I. that they will be returning to this island.

The other matter which we discussed with respect to the proposal for the Barbados Scholarship is before us. I hope the hon. member will give careful study to the subject as regards the masters at Harrison College. The Headmaster of Harrison College has given his warning; therefore he will be exonerated. Give the time to education which that portfolio deserves. We were looking forward to the Hon. Premier giving four-fifths of his time to education and the other fifth to the other portfolios which he has.

If I may refer to another matter, it is with respect to invigilation at examinations. I would like to assure the Hon. Premier that what was done last year requiring Secondary School Teachers to go to places other than the schools at which they were teaching to invigilate and not asking them to do so in order to discover the manner in which they would have taken to it, but more or less requiring them to do so and sending them off—was not taken in good spirit. Let us say that you ask a master at Harrison College to go to the Coleridge-Parry School. He will need extra bus fare, some lunch and things like that. The Governing Body did not even have the courtesy of asking them if they had any objection. No master should be compelled to do this invigilation outside of his School. One should not take advantage of people who would not think of going on strike although there is nothing wrong in striking.

I submit that this matter dealing with examination expenses requires reconsideration by the Minister of Education in the light of representations which I understand have been made to the Ministry or the Director of Education by the Secondary School teachers of this Island. If you ask them as a favour to invigilate at other Schools they might willingly agree; but not if an ultimatum is sent around to the Head Teachers themselves to notify them that teacher A, B, C or D is required to go to the Education Department or somewhere or other to invigilate at an examination. That is not good enough; it is not treating teachers with the courtesy they deserve.

There are two other Items, Mr. Chairman, to which I would like to refer. The first is Item 46 which deals with janitors at the Elementary School. Although that Item appears in the Estimates this year, you will recollect in answer to a question by my colleague, a Reply was laid on the 20th September last year in which the Government said that the term "janitor" is misleading as the duties are solely those carried out by a "cleaner." The work is mainly sweeping the floor; and is sometimes shared by two or more women. I would like to find out from the Minister whether he concurs in the views expressed in reply to that question—No. 52—that the remuneration of janitors is based on the rates fixed under the Key Scale for labourers and is regarded by the Labour Commissioner as equitable. Of course one agrees with that because it is a statement of fact. I am wondering if the Minister would say that he, as distinct from the Labour Commissioner, regards as equitable the remuneration of janitors such as exist

today. I know that the Labour Commissioner who is the person responsible for labour takes a certain view on matters; but it does not follow that we should commit ourselves to that view. We must automatically and unhesitatingly come to the conclusion that that remuneration is in our view inequitable because it is remarkably low. It is too low for one to regard it as equitable.

As you know, in reply to question 52, the Ministry went on to say that the person employed at St. Lucy's Senior School was paid \$25 in respect of part-time work performed during the term. It is very well to say that it is part-time work, but you will realise that it is no question of a person going to one School and then to another; it is a question of the time to do that work in. Obviously, you cannot do the work of a janitor even if it takes two hours to do the job actually when the School is in session and all the schools are in session at the same time. I would like to hear whether the Minister shares the same view as the Labour Commissioner that that remuneration is equitable.

I now will deal with Item 47, Nutrition, and the amount which is to be voted to that Item is \$126,824. This will be about the 8th, 9th or 10th year in this House when the Estimates were being considered since I originally raised the question of Nutrition by the giving of a free hot mid-day meal for Elementary School Children. You will recollect, Mr. Chairman, that twice during this present session — on the 20th July, 1954 and again on the 14th September, 1955 — that I queried the Government about their intention in regard to the initiation of such a Scheme. During the last election campaign, that was one of the main points in the crusade. You will remember on the 20th July, 1954 the Government told us that its declared policy was to provide children at public elementary schools with a hot midday meal free to all who are unable to pay for it, and the Government was considering this in conjunction with other schemes of expenditure on educational matters to be undertaken in the near future. Then there was a reply made on the 7th June, 1955, when Government was again reminded of this vital and all-important matter from the educational standpoint, that the Government still has under consideration proposals relating both to the provision of a hot mid-day meal to children at public elementary schools and to the question of school fees in secondary schools.

Mr. Chairman, what I want to draw to your attention is that in answer to the first question, as indicated in the reply to Question 58 laid on the table of the House on the 20th July, 1954, the Government said that its declared policy was to provide children at public elementary schools with a hot mid-day meal free to all who are unable to pay for it; yet in June 1955, the reply was that Government still has under consideration proposals relating both to the provision of a hot midday meal to children at public elementary schools but leaves out the word "free." I would like to find out whether we are drifting.

In July 1954 we are considering this "free to all unable to pay for it;" we are considering it and it is still a declared policy; but in June 1955 the Government has it under consideration and the word "free" is deleted or omitted either by inadvertence or design.

1.45 p.m.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, it may help the argument if I said it would be free to all those unable to pay.

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, I was wondering if the honourable member knew what was the reply to my question. Well, you know how many would be unable to pay for it, not less than 90%. We live with the people we represent; we do not live in the clouds. We know that 90% would be unable to pay for it. As I said, Sir, there is no getting away from the fact that this is an urgent necessity, and we will be expected to get the best results of what is being expended on elementary education in this island, because what is the use of the afternoon instruction if the child has only had milk and a few biscuits, which may be nourishing and so on, but not filling; a few biscuits and a little milk and having done a lot of work in the morning before going to school, like looking after stock, then walking a mile or so for water, and then going to school and only during the luncheon hour have a few biscuits and some milk. That hot midday meal is an absolute necessity; and it is time we have an announcement or pronouncement as to what Government is going to do and when it is going to initiate it. I am suggesting that you start an island wide scheme immediately. Select two of the poorest parishes — perhaps St. Lucy and St. Andrew — and try it; and accordingly you can reduce the rate per head by the wholesale preparation at some central spot, and then you can extend to other parishes. I hope the honourable senior member for St. Michael will not disagree with me that if St. Michael gets priority with water, the poor parishes like St. Lucy and St. Andrew might with justification claim there is a priority for this hot midday meal free to elementary school children. Anyhow, Sir, so long as the honourable member by his intervention just now has emphasised that Government on the 20th July, 1954 referred to a hot midday meal free to those unable to pay for it, I may first emphasise and again remind him of the settled statement of policy, it being the declared policy of the Government to provide children with this hot midday meal to all who are unable to pay for it, and I suggest that this consideration has now been sufficiently ample for us to hear of the initiation of the scheme. Start off with a central scheme in respect of the two parishes which may be in more necessity like St. Lucy and St. Andrew. I am discussing hot midday meals and already I have members of my side here talking about their midday meal; and if that is true of members of this Chamber who at this time would already have enjoyed a hotel breakfast and things of that sort before they came here, what do you think of the poor child in the elementary schools in this island?

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, there is only one thing I want to say. I would like to ask you who has instructed the Marshal with this periodical method of putting the clock before members of the Chamber to remind them of the time. We do not work by the clock and when the time comes for the clock-work, there is a Public Building clock that chimes the time, and I object to that method by which periodically the clock arises from the Clerk's table and is put in your face. I am going to be tempted to knock the clock down one of these days.

Now, so far as what has been said by the Premier is concerned, he has expanded as he said in a second reading speech on some of the Items in this Head. The first one he dealt with was the Notes that have been circulated in increasing the amount paid to the Principal of the Evening Institute and changing the titles and the salaries. He said among his remarks that whether there was revision or not, this would have been done because owing to the fact that when Dr. Hamilton left, the Government found

itself in a difficult position. Well, I would like to say here that this is going to create a more difficult situation for the Government; because an analysis of this wages structure would show that by what the Government has now proposed, they are paying salaries in some instances in excess of those you have already. For instance, you have the Boys' Foundation School that you are now expanding with the Headmaster getting \$4,080. Now on this basis you propose to give the Principal of the Evening Institute a salary of \$4,320. Now, I doubt anyone can say that the position of responsibility now requires a man of higher skill or of higher ability to be Principal of the Evening Institute now that you have divided the work, because your original proposal with what is the equivalent to the Principal of the Evening Institute was regarded in the past as Deputy Principal; it used to run at one time on a part time basis and then it was done by Dr. Hamilton. When you thought of coupling the Evening Institute and the Technical Institute you offered Dr. Hamilton \$6,000; now you have decided to divide them you are offering the Principal of the Technical Institute \$5,760 and you have in the Estimates for the Principal of the Evening Institute \$3,600 and you have now upgraded it to \$4,320.

I am suggesting, Mr. Chairman, that when you begin to look at salaries in the light that you have now dealt with these, you are not only creating anomalies but difficulties, because you are not relying on the pyramids you have constructed: and as soon as you begin — and I remember the words of the Premier when representations were made by Civil Servants to have their salaries reviewed in the light of the pyramids set by Mr. G. H. Adams and also by Sir Errol Dos Santos — to change the pyramids you change the whole structure. What is this going to reveal? And I would like to make a digression to say that some of the remarks made by the Premier in the House should have been made in Committee, that members of the Civil Service might understand this before we meet. You should give them the opportunity of putting their case before you, otherwise how else could they have made a case?

It being 2 o'clock p.m. Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and adjourned the House for three-quarters of an hour.

2.00 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF THE ESTIMATES

On re-assembling.

Mr. SPEAKER: On the adjournment, the House was in Committee on the Barbados Estimates for 1956-57.

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

ESTIMATES—Cont'd

Mr. CHAIRMAN: When we were in Committee before the adjournment, Head XX of the Estimates was being considered. The hon. junior member for St. Peter was speaking.

Education—Cont'd

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, I started to deal with Item 3 in respect of which a note was circulated dealing with the increase in salary for the Principal of Erdiston Training College with Item 5 which deals with the increase for the Principal of the Evening Institute, and also with Item 7 dealing with the increase for the Vice-Principal of Erdiston Training College. I began to make comparisons with the salary proposals for these Officers with respect

to other Officers in the Establishment, and I said that when we begin to interfere with a post which has been established without going through the whole structure, you not only create anomalies, but you make difficulties for yourself. I made a comparison with the salary that is proposed for the Vice-Principal of the Evening Institute and that of the salary of the Headmaster of the Boys' Foundation School. I cannot pretend to be a salary expert, but I do say that such matters should be dealt with on a scientific basis by someone who is going to look into the whole salary structure, and make recommendations rather than have this method of dealing with the matter whenever an emergency or an apparent emergency arises.

If you take another example, and you go to Lodge School, you will find that the Headmaster of the Lodge School receives a salary of \$5,250 per annum, and that relates to that of the Deputy Director of Education. In these proposals which we have before us now, we see that it is proposed to give the Principal of Erdiston Training College a salary of \$5,280 per annum. I have just mentioned that to show that the original structure must have had something which commended itself to the Government by which it was created. I believe that it was created after months of study and negotiation with the Civil Service and the Government.

Somebody in this Chamber mentioned that the structure of the Civil Service Association is of such that it is not a militant body, to say the least of it; and it is a body of people who really do not exert themselves enough in such matters on their own behalf, and these matters are looked upon as political issues. I am not concerned with the political aspect of the matter; I am concerned with the technical aspect of it, and it seems to me that it is wrong, in dealing with a matter like this, to pick out certain posts, and say that these are the ones which you have to deal with; that in view of the fact that Dr. Hamilton has left, you have to look at a salary structure which will fit in with the person whom you want to appoint. It all means that the salary scale bears more relationship to personalities than it does to the post itself. I feel that the time has come when a better approach should be made to such matters.

If you examine what has been stated, it was not a question of policy; the Hon. Premier said that it was the intention of the Government to bring before the Legislature in the near future a scheme or system to make it possible for a Barbados Scholar to return to Barbados if a job is available for him. That, in itself, would appear to be quite sound and reasonable, but from a practical point of view, that would be putting on the Statute Book something which, in essence, would be meaningless. For example, a Barbados Scholar is not a worker of the Government; that sort of system could be worked in what would be regarded as an in-training scheme as you have in the Civil Service, or a scheme by which you make wages of such Officers who are working for you at present, and you desire to have better training for them in order that they can fill posts in your service.

You may have a boy or girl who wins a Barbados Scholarship, and at the time of winning that Scholarship, he or she has not yet decided what course of study he is going to adopt, or the profession he is going to follow. Some boys or girls take professions which are not the type of profession whereby Barbados could offer them employment; and I do not think anyone would suggest that a Barbados Scholar should, of necessity, take the type of pro-

fession, whereby the Barbados Government could offer him a job. You would be really reducing the Barbados Scholarship to a farce; it would not be a Scholarship indeed. I will not subscribe to the view that a Barbadian who wins a Barbados Scholarship has more to give to the community than another who wins any other Scholarship and leaves Barbados to work elsewhere. If you take an analysis of the Budget and see what the Government of Barbados spends on Secondary Education, you will very well see that at Harrison College, to take an example at random, it costs Barbados approximately \$200 per annum per pupil to educate people there. After \$1,200 has been spent on a boy's education at Harrison College, and he leaves and goes outside and works, nobody would suggest that he should not take a job outside.

Another aspect of the matter which you should watch is your own economic position. Do not fool yourself; it is only in recent years since the Barbados Government had orientated its structure where you have Executive Grade Officers, and where these posts could begin to attract anybody with an academic training, because it begins with a salary which normally did not exist in the Civil Service. In past years you entered the Civil Service at the bottom of the stage no matter how brilliant you were.

Let us make an analysis of the changes which have taken place. How many available jobs do you have now in the non-technical grades? But in the Administrative posts, if you can say that you have four Barbados Scholars per annum which can be absorbed say, in five years time, twenty men will be returning to you after such periods that they have finished their training, so that you can say it is necessary to fill our posts with these people. I do not know if the answer to your Administrative problem is the matter of the Barbados Scholars at all; the answer to the problem is that you must begin to train people in the Civil Service for higher posts. They are already working with you and you are going to make sure that they are at present in your job. That is the best answer you can find to this problem. The problem of the Barbados Scholarship will produce such difficulties that they do not end there. A boy gets a scholarship for his brilliance so if at the time of his training, he did not have to compete with a flow of boys who are up to Scholarship standard, it is only a matter of luck.

2.55 p.m.

That is to say, if a boy is sitting the Barbados Scholarship and there are only six other boys up to scholarship standard he stands a luckier chance of getting the scholarship than if he is sitting the scholarship with twenty boys who are up to scholarship standard.

Now, you should know that it is hard for you to recruit a Barbados Scholar if he decides to take up engineering because that is one job which permits him to work in private industry. But let us analyse this matter as it should be. In past years and still to some extent now, how many Barbados Scholars who studied engineering could find their way and get a proper job if they did not qualify in the right pigmentation? It is known that there are certain jobs which are provided for certain scholars by certain friends. In the past years and even today, the majority of Barbados Scholars whose parents were poor and in the lower income group were forced to take a profession in which they could earn a living. They either qualified in medicine or law, and in recent years some are going in for the teaching profession.

Another thing about this matter is that you are saying that these Barbados scholars should come back here and work. I do not agree with that and from the point of view of old Barbados Scholars, they feel that they should not be forced to come back here to pursue their calling because they are not given the same encouragement in their own country as they have been receiving outside. The example of what happened to Mr. Christopher Springer at Harrison College should be clear in the minds of people. Here it is that you had a man who did very well in his scholastic career but found it difficult to get a job at Harrison College. Do you think that will be easily forgotten? He was a man who was qualified to hold a fellowship at one of the Universities. Owing to the colonial system which still exists, that permits the Secretary of State for the Colonies to make certain appointments, they are not West Indian appointments as such; you have to qualify favourably with some people.

I feel if you have awards for people in responsible positions, whether in the Civil Service or the Teaching Service, that you should allow suitable officers in your Service to go away for training and leave your Barbados Scholars out of the question because they are few.

The average school master in Barbados in the past was slightly better off or as good as a man existing in the Civil Service. He moved just like some of them moved in the posts; those who could, qualified; and also, those who had qualifications other than academic, moved out of teaching and sometimes went into commerce. We have examples of it, but now the Civil Service has set a structure. They can provide a school master with the opportunity of working for a better living in a shorter time. It means he has to get something to support his family; and many masters and mistresses are not men and women without the normal desires of any normal human being, that is to raise a family and settle down. Believe me Sir, you cannot settle down and provide your family with the necessities of life on the bare idea that your vocation means so much to you that money is one of the last considerations. You will find these are things needed not by one individual but by the majority; so I feel whatever system is being approached in dealing with this vexed question of salaries, it can only be dealt with on the basis of having an approach on a scientific basis by a Committee or persons qualified to deal with these matters. You just cannot deal with them from the point of view of expediency. If you deal with them from the point of view of expediency, every year the Legislature will be asked to adjust the salary of this or that officer because that officer was an excellent officer and is leaving to take up a better job in Nigeria, and the only way to hold him is to increase his salary; and it is for that reason that I regret to see these proposals coming at this time and in advance of the salary revision in order to have better relationship and also because of what it is likely to cost.

Mr. LEWIS: Mr. Chairman, I would like to raise one or two points. I would like to take up the point about the Commission of Enquiry connected with our system of education. The way the Premier referred to it, he gave me the impression that it is his portfolio and to have an enquiry is going to reflect discreditably on him, and if even he permits the Commission of Enquiry it will be on certain aspects. He also referred to the fact that the enquiry into secondary education is carried

out by an Education Officer at C.D. & W. He has told us how he is going to answer the criticism that he does not intend to make Mr. Petter's Report public. I cannot conceive of a Socialist of a so-called Socialist Government having an enquiry into any aspect of education and wanting to keep it secret. Well then, let the Premier pay for it and the Director of Education; and they can keep it for themselves. If you claim you have a good educational system, you can afford to make the results of the enquiry public. You have to satisfy the people. It is not a criticism; as a result of the enquiry you may find many aspects of your educational system to be highly commendable, but let us know that. An educational expert does not necessarily mean a very educated man, and we have few people in Barbados who can judge whether a thing is right or wrong where education is concerned. They take a natural pride in their children and where they expect more than their capacity can produce, they throw the blame on the system. It is their taxes that you are carrying on the whole education system with, so give them the results of the enquiry. Criticism has been too persistent in this field of Government's activity not to give the clamour some consideration, and give the people some satisfaction. I would recommend it very strongly to the Premier that if he has something good to be investigated, let us have it investigated.

3.15 p.m.

Let us have an expert to come and tell us what is there, and Barbadians will apply their expert knowledge to the expert's report and tell him probably that he needs an investigation himself, or whatever it is. However, I think that the public demand is sufficiently persistent and there is sufficient reason to demand an investigation. I do not see that there is any need for any secrecy about the matter at all. The fact that Mr. Petter's report is not to be made public has thrown more suspicion on the system than any result, or lack of result, could possibly have done; and it is for that reason that I am pleading with the Hon. Premier to cut out some of the Conference money and let us have some people come down here and enquire into this very fundamental matter.

We have a very outstanding Headmaster's Speech in respect of Harrison College, which is the pride of Barbados. That has come after every aspect of the educational system of Barbados has been criticised, and I think we are due a guaranteed and capable Commission of Enquiry. Unfortunately, we have to ask the people in England to send out experts; and they are the very people who are selecting unqualified experts to come out and teach at our Schools. In this respect, I would like to say that some of the teaching in our Secondary Schools needs an investigation, not only from the point of view of seeing that the claims they have for their own education and certificates are right, but that the qualification for teaching at a school, I would say, is not whether you have learnt or not, but whether you can teach. Let us see that these people can really impart the knowledge which they claim to have; they are robbing parents of the fees which they pay, and they are also robbing the Treasury of the grants-in-aid which are given to these schools. I have heard rumours, and I am throwing out that suggestion.

I think that we want some investigation of that sort and I do not know if Mr. Petter can help us in this respect. These people who have certificates, have them in everything except in being able to

teach. I am making a plea that since one of the Heads of the Estimates has been dropped out, something like the Technical Institute or the Evening Institute, should take its place. Let us have this Institute running on the basis of Secondary Schools. In so far as this Amendment is concerned, I have heard that it throws extra work on the Education Department to have them there keeping a note of the vote, and having the Department doing the same. That does not happen at the Secondary Schools, and why is the Technical Institute and the Evening Institute directly under the jurisdiction of the Director of Education? He might not know anything about it, but it is under his jurisdiction, and the person who comes out as an expert, is cramped, feeling himself as an employee of the Director of Education. Do not let us have our Clerks wasting their time; I think that steps should be taken to cut out some of this Clerical work which is being done, and let these people know that we are very critical of them; because in the past, we have been let down by the standard which has been set. I plead with the Hon. Premier not to encourage criticism and throw suspicion on the system by making these things secret. Another thing is that the results of examinations are becoming the property of some people in the Education Department; that is absolutely unnecessary. When we hear and read of some of these things, they are really disturbing. You know that there is some justifiable criticism of what is being done. You may have people in the Secondary Schools who cannot take any academic Secondary Education, and I am glad to hear that we are extending the Technical side of Education. Let us make a Department like one of the schools; if it is to be run at Combermere School, then it might have been run under that system.

I am throwing out these suggestions, but I do not attempt to offer any criticism because it can be thrown at me that I am not an Educationist; however, I have an interest in Barbados which has caused me to seek membership of this House. I like to take pride in things Barbadian, and I do not like this idea of boasting in the past. We boast of producing somebody who could question the Actuary of the Barbados Mutual Life Assurance Society,—Mr. Abel Greenidge, I think it was—and we boast of producing an Astronomer Royal. However, we want to have a good system of Education. The Hon. Premier has said that that is his aim in the modern Secondary Schools, and I am glad to hear that; but if you are having dissatisfaction from people who are expecting more of their children, then give them the satisfaction of an enquiry, and let that enquiry be made from the top to the bottom. Do not pick out any aspects of the educational system of this Colony; let it be an enquiry into the whole educational system, and we will know how to read between the lines. As a dependent colonial people, we will know how to read and be able to tell you something whereby you might know how to remedy any defects which we may have.

3.25 p.m.

We have been going through a system perpetuated from experimentation and God only knows what would have happened to the system if the experimentalist Mr. Howard Hayden had stayed here longer. From that time we have gone on with too many experiments and have not the time to settle down. Let us get some one to see if we have settled down yet. There is this talk by the parents that something is wrong with our having introduced age-grouping before compulsory education. I would

like to see compulsory education which was something to be tried out originally—tried out in the parish of St. Michael. You get people drifting into the City and probably the children making something by begging. They probably forget they should go to school. Let them understand that when they come into the metropolitan parish, they will have to go to school.

When it comes to the idea of a hot meal for Elementary School children, do not let Government think that it is all expense. When they started to give Old Age Pensioners 1/6 a week, they did not think at the time that today they could increase that amount. You are distributing the national income and making business with it out of which Government will get some taxes. By your providing a hot meal for the children, you will be making business for the country and as a result you will get back some of it in taxes. The food you eat today, you cannot eat again tomorrow. If it is a million dollars more in business, you will collect some taxes from that business. It is a business proposition up to a point and that is a good thing. If you give people some of their taxes back in something to eat, you can justify your taxation; you cannot justify it when you take it and give them nothing. It is a good idea to say that the children who are unable to pay for it will get it free. I take it that it will be a meal time at the Schools and none of the children will know that you are separating the sheep from the goats. Everybody will be having the meal together and that, paid for or otherwise, will be unknown to the children themselves.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, allow me to say something now in order to prevent other honourable members from repeating what was said. It is utterly and absolutely untrue that we said that Mr. Petter's Report will be kept secret. Things appear in the *Advocate* that are not necessarily true; in fact, the reverse is true. I repeat: never for the second has the Department of Education said that Mr. Petter's Report will be kept secret. We did not deny it; as a matter of fact, I do not deny every stupidity which appears in the *Advocate* even though it is not true.

Similarly with the Barbados Scholarship, it was reported that the full reports are not published. Let me say that examiners of today are doing what past examiners have not been doing. Examiners recently have been giving the results of every child separately and in some cases giving a most scathing Report, some of which we cannot publish. You get them saying sometimes: "Bombastic, too full of himself." How can it do for a child to have that published in a newspaper about him? The only things which have been coming within recent years are these individual things. When it is to a child's credit we put it in; the minute they say something which will create a complex, we do not publish it. It is utterly untrue what the *Advocate* says about getting the Barbados Scholarship Report. I just got up to say these two things.

When my Ministry denied what was written in the *Advocate*—in this case under the name of Mr. Mc Comie—the Ministry replied pointing out that the returns came at such a time to the Director of Education that it was impossible for him to get them out on the particular day. Mr. Mc Comie thought that they should be published on that date but they just arrived late. There was no special reason for keeping it back, so I repeat the fact. You say I may be wrong not to reply sometimes if it is very important; it is because I cannot muster

up sufficient energy to take sufficient notice of what appears in the *Advocate*.

Mr. LEWIS: I rise to apologise to the Hon. Premier, but it is his fault. I must be guided from what I have seen.

Mr. VAUGHAN: Mr. Chairman, I have a few comments to make under this Head. The first is to congratulate the Government on the recent appointment of Director of Education. [A VOICE: The Government does not appoint the Director of Education.] I am congratulating the Government on the recent appointment of Director of Education. If the Government was opposed to Mr. Theobalds, he could not be appointed Director of Education. It is a significant appointment for the colony and I will say no more.

It is all very well to talk about Technical Education; it is necessary, of course, in this modern world: but I wish to say that the inability to read readily now is a very bad failing in our society. You cannot get anywhere without it. There can be nothing more important in your educational career than that you first learn to read correctly. I understand that the weakness in our elementary schools is the lack of ability to read. I consider that that is the first essential to a child's education. You can meet many citizens who are technically educated but who are technical savages. I want you to produce education for citizenship.

3.35 p.m.

When you have got that grounding you can learn any technique later. But to learn technique, and not the art of living in society, and the appreciation of special values in the growth of a new nation which we are about to enter now, then it would be a waste of money we are spending on education. I am not one of those serious critics of Government as regards education. This Government in the last four years has spent on the service in education \$800,000—nothing to do with the capital expenditure of building schools—so I think it is a good record; but we should see further into it that for the great record of financial expense, you get the worth for it; and as I move around I am suspicious that we have the worth for it. I was at the cinema one afternoon and a film on Nazi atrocities was being shown; there you saw pictures of starving men and women, skeletons, and there were some school girls around fourteen to fifteen sitting close to me who were laughing at the film before them. That is the lack of the type of education we are speaking of.

Under Item 10, we have Lecturer in Agriculture, Erdiston College. Now, as we all know, this is an agricultural community. I am not questioning the figure but I would like to bring to the Hon. Minister of Education's attention that there is no use having much expenditure on agricultural education unless you have a policy in relation to it of small farm expansion. Where you have agricultural education in your schools in the back of your minds, there should be the expansion of small farm organisation. We are not teaching people agriculture to make them labourers on the estate; I do not think we have that intention at all; and Sir, in that respect, I would also commend the expansion of school gardens—you now have a pocket-handkerchief patch. However, school gardens should be considerably expanded if we are to get the full benefit in elementary education from the elementary instruction fundamental in agriculture.

Well, Sir, the few things I wanted to say, I think I have said them, and I hope all I said will be appreciated. But let me again emphasise, we do

not want to produce technical savages; we want to produce citizens with some knowledge of technical education.

Mr. BRANCKER: I am glad both hon. members for St. John are in their places and the Minister of Education. Under Item 50 (b) Lodge School, I would like to find out the position. We are asked to vote \$73,711 which includes teachers' salaries. I would like to know if those teachers are teaching not only at Lodge School but at the Codrington High School, and if so whether with the permission of the Ministry of Education. That is a very important thing, Sir, as we are called upon to vote a considerable sum of money: and if pupils of that segregated school are allowed to take advantage of the teaching provided, we are asking the taxpayers to provide apart from what is fixed by law.

Mr. BRYAN: Mr. Chairman, under Item 63, Housecraft Centre; the work done at that centre has been lauded by all. It has been particularly useful to those going to the United Kingdom, Canada and so on, and I have often wondered whether the idea has occurred to that Department that they can do with a little more space. There is an old dilapidated building close by the Housecraft Centre which could be acquired for that purpose. I have often said that this scheme does seem to need some expansion. I would like to say—I said this already—that I notice that when the young girls, those who are remaining in Barbados, complete the course, there is no encouragement for them to put into practice what they have been taught; and if we can set up a sales depot, they could carry on and put into effect what they have been taught. The earnings derived from that would tend to assist them to some extent in the earning of a living.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, I suppose the hon. member for St. Lucy was in order in raising the points, but I hope that we will take this as a debate and the answers given to his suggestions would invigorate it. The answer given by the Government on that point makes it quite clear how these teachers work, roughly speaking, and I wish to say, whatever the effect of my words may be, that it was with great restraint that I wrote what I wrote and did not use stronger language. If I were a member of the Civil Service and I knew that it was my duty and I was inevitably attached to the performance of my duty and sometimes working after 4.00 or 4.30, I would feel rather annoyed if I had to do that constantly for no overtime; but I would feel as a Civil Servant that these things might happen. A teacher has more holidays than a Civil Servant: his salary is fixed with some reference to and comparable with that of the Civil Servant. I have not forgotten that it should not be always so or that they do not always involve equal responsibility; a teacher has Leave Passage like a Civil Servant and so on; therefore to be asked at the end of a term to invigilate and for any teacher to feel annoyed about it, is to show he or she is unworthy of being a teacher but is just looking at the money and the clock. A very rude letter reached the Department of Education and came on to me from the staff of Combermere School. I think they ought to be ashamed of themselves to adopt the attitude they have adopted on invigilation. I am not going more into that case. There may be something in connection with the answers which the hon. member may wish to bring out later on. But speaking generally, from the time I heard that teachers had refused to invigilate I could not help feeling that we had fallen on evil days as regards teachers in secondary schools and their duty to their high calling. I think the hon. member

has the answer; of course, he has the answer. Again. I do not propose to say anything more except for the feeling that because it has always been raised here we do not always go into it.

The hon. member brought up again what has become to the hon. member, I am told, a very pressing matter and not merely an annual topic—the question of nutrition and hot meals.

3.45 p.m.

I believe the hon. member has had to speed his colleague to the United Kingdom in order to see how these hot meals are cooked. [Laughter] I have no doubt that in the course of time, we shall see a lot of demonstrations in the parish of St. Lucy as to how to cook a hot meal. [Laughter]. However, it is at least of some interest to hon. members of this House to know that one of their number has travelled 2,000 miles in the freezing cold in order to learn how to keep cold food hot. [Laughter].

I have already pointed out on more than one occasion in this House that however admirable the idea might be, there are two answers to the question which has been urged on the Government, and there are two pointers to the Government's attitude in this matter. I have already said more than once on the floor of this House that even if the children paid, it would cost over \$1 million a year to provide these hot meals, and it may be a question for consideration whether one should not rather aim at raising the general salaries and wages of parents. A question which needs consideration—I know it is used against members of the Government—is whether it is not better to concentrate on giving more milk to children than giving them a hot meal in the Tropics. Nevertheless, no Government would be so silly as to turn down the means of building up the health of the younger generation—I mean, to turn it down in principle. It is either a question of an extra \$1 million being spent on a new Hospital, or an extra \$1 million being spent on providing a hot meal for the school children.

I suppose, naturally the Hon. Minister of Social Services will deal with this matter better than I could, but I am instructed that the whole question is whether a hot meal should be given to these children or whether more money should not be spent on the milk and biscuits to supply the vitamins which are lacking in the children of the poorer classes. I think that Barbados should pride itself in the fact that this scheme is constantly quoted whenever reference is made to education in the United Kingdom Dependencies. Whenever you see any effort being made in schools in the West Indies, what they consider as an excellent scheme is the Barbados Government providing milk and biscuits. I ask hon. members of this Committee to believe me when I say that this matter is as much in our thoughts as it is in the mind of the hon. senior member for St. Lucy. If you charge 6c. to each child, the amount will be \$1 million, and if you did not charge anything, obviously the amount will be more. Those are things which you cannot easily brush aside.

I thought that I might have heard the hon. junior member for Christ Church speak in connection with the Foundation School. The hon. junior member for St. Peter, in comparing the salaries, mentioned the salary in respect of the Headmaster of the Foundation School. That is the salary for the Headmaster at the present time. Answers have at least been given to the question of the position of the Headmaster at the Foundation School; that will be the salary of the Headmaster. The basis on which Headmaster's salaries are fixed is not the same basis as that on which that of the other masters are fixed. It may well appear as if the senior Assis-

tant Master is getting as much as the Headmaster himself. The hon. member has confused what I said about the Principal of the Evening Institute and the Principal of Erdiston Training College. I did say that for a long time I said 'No' to the question of interfering with the salaries of the Principal and the Vice-Principal of Erdiston Training College until all salaries had been revised; but when it was pointed out to me that the Leewards and Windwards were pressing for almost paternal care by the Principal of Erdiston Training College for their students, we had to consider the matter and say that this is an exceptional case, and it must be treated as such.

Mention has also been made of Mr. Hammond's Speech. I want to say that if I had replied to Mr. Hammond a week or two after he had made that speech, he would have resigned his post. He suggested that he had been constantly after the Government to consider the number of acting appointments at Harrison College, the difficulty of getting Masters and so on, and he left it in the air as if nothing had been done in that respect. The hon. junior member for Christ Church came to me with a Delegation of other members of the Governing Body along with Mr. Hammond, and I assured Mr. Hammond thus: "If you say you can get Masters for less than £600 a year, go ahead and get them, and I give you my word that the Government would support it." That took place before he made that speech. Not only that, but the Education Department was authorised or instructed to write to the Governing Body of Harrison College, and that was done; yet Mr. Hammond made that speech. Time has made me cool down, but if I had replied to Mr. Hammond immediately, what I would have said about the feeling I had at what was a dishonest speech, would have caused him to resign his post. You do not help a good cause by overstating it, and overstating it in a way that if you aim at something, you give it a different complexion from what has really happened.

3.55 p.m.

With respect to what the hon. junior member for St. Michael said, only today I was discussing with the Hon. Minister of Social Services the very point which he made. We have been considering it for some time and it is unlucky for us that the building adjoining the Housecraft Centre was sold at the time when Government was not aware of it. I was telephoned and told that the contract was going to be signed this week for selling that building. It was too late for Government to act; so Government could do nothing about it. Government agrees that the Housecraft Centre should be developed. Even as part of our placing hotel workers in Great Britain that will be necessary; and it is very advisable indeed to train hotel workers before they leave here. That is one point especially in our Emigration Scheme to which we will have to pay some attention. Work in hotels and factories is the type of work that our workers, so to speak, have not done in Barbados. We should not allow that part of our Emigration Scheme to suffer, because the Labour Commissioner gave the assurance last year that at least 100 people a month could be placed for a year in those places.

I well remember what the hon. member said about the Alexandra School. I do not remember off hand whether they asked this year about it.

The last point to which I will reply is the question of the Lodge School. It is to be remembered that all Secondary Schools are private schools aided by the Government. They are run by Governing Bodies and if the Governing Bodies had enough

money to run these schools they would have no cause to apply to Government for aid.

I hope I am not embarrassing the hon. junior member for St. John but I suppose he may be able to throw some light on the matter. I have not approached the honourable member himself to ask how this matter came about but I did let it be known that Government could not possibly condone any question of racial discrimination; and if the Lodge School were helping another Institution—whatever admirable motives there are for helping another Institution—yet because it was helping an institution which practises racial discrimination, I said it will have to stop it. It is easy to say: "Do not penalise the children of a private school which cannot provide more than two Mistresses and have asked the Lodge School to provide the Masters. What the Government has decided is that the girls who are taught at the Lodge School now and who are taking the examination this year in July will be permitted to remain until the examination is over.

Another thing which leads from the girls of the Codrington High School going to the Lodge School for tuition—and I hope that the honourable junior member for St. John will tell his fellow-members of that Governing Body—is that I have been so trusting them that I have allowed this estimate in before getting a word from them that they will carry out the wishes of the Executive Committee. Of course, there are ways and means of extracting from the Estimates things which should not be there. In any event, honourable members will have a chance later on of giving their views to what should be the relationship between the Government and these aided Secondary Schools.

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Chairman, I was not going to get up but the impression I got from Mr. Hammond when he was making his speech was that we should go ahead the best way we can within the present Budget. It was pointed out by the Honourable Premier that there were other teachers who could be utilised to advantage for a year. What the Committee wanted to bring to the attention of the Honourable Premier was that there were many masters at the University College of the West Indies who would be returning after qualifying to Harrison College and they would not get the increases which they expected they should get with their qualifications; and unless a revision of salaries was made for these Secondary School Teachers it was likely that they would be attracted away from Harrison College. The problem still exists because Mr. Hammond stressed that it was in the middle school that he was having to depend on some local masters who were of great value to him: but when those teachers who were taking out a post-graduate course at the U.C.W.I. returned and there was not a little increase in salary for them it would be impossible to keep them.

4.05 p.m.

That was one of the major problems that was brought to the Premier; and of course we are waiting the report of Mr. Petter on the whole structure of secondary teachers' salaries. I would really like that to be brought to the attention of the Premier because I am much of the opinion that little good has been done under the existing setup. Now, there is another point I did not raise about Foundation School, but in the original scheme—at least the scheme that has been submitted to us for the building—there is a plan for a principle—a Headmaster and a Headmistress. I wonder if at this stage it has been finally decided whether that will be so, because the building is going on and there

are staff quarters for the Principal. Will that continue to be or will you just appoint a Headmaster and a Headmistress without a Principal? We, the Governors, cannot understand what would be the duties of the Principal. It might be a little early for you to make the decision, but now that the school is going on,—the Girls' School will be finished before the end of this session—at least we would like to know as soon as possible.

Mr. LEWIS: Before the hon. member replies, I would like to say while I appreciate what the Premier said about enlarging the Housecraft centre there, I would like to say the land on which it is erected is not Government land. It belongs to the Methodist Church and I do not think that if the Government come to the Legislature and ask for powers to purchase the necessary lands compulsorily, that they should wait until somebody is going to sell it. I do not think Government should be excused for that at all because it might be sold and they do not know. I am not accepting that explanation at all.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: There is one point I would like to have cleared. The Premier said these schools are private schools and I would not like,—I am a Governor of one of these schools,—the Governors of these secondary aided schools to get the impression that these schools are private schools and these governors can do as they like; because these governors do not put any money in these schools. Some do not have ½c. to put in the schools; so I would not like this idea to be circulated in Barbados that they are running secondary schools. The Headmaster is appointed by the governors, as well as the teachers; and I do not like the impression that these are any private schools—I mean in the sense that they believe they are running the schools and they can do as they like.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The question is....

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: No, No!

Mr. CHAIRMAN: If you are going to address the Chair, I ask you to address it properly. I object to those remarks.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: I am sorry Sir. Is that all right? If you are going to put the question that members cannot hear, I cannot hear; and I do not know who else over here heard or pretended to hear.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: What caused you to get up and say, no, no?

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: Watching the mumbling of your mouth; watching your lips moving!

Mr. CHAIRMAN: You will address the Chair as you should.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I regret that I have to speak on this particular Head after the honourable learned Premier has replied. But on this question of education, I take it you are going to pin me down to one item, especially since I have raised your hair and therefore, before I start I am going to mention the Item. Item 60, Island Scholarship. I again say I apologise for having to say or ask anything after the Premier has spoken and replied. University College of the West Indies: I want to find out something, and may be, the Premier would tell me. What is the policy and actually what is done with those scholarships? That is, do they actually recommend the Classics, Mathematics and Science and so on, to one, two and three and allow the local authorities to select the winning scholar? In other words, do they actually say that two or three have come up to scholarship standard and either can be awarded or do they pin it down to one and say this is the one? I have raised that for reasons, because quite recently in my position on the Board at Harrison College, the question was raised and I know a dissatisfied parent had

to be going around taking legal opinion. The result was that those of us on the Board had to direct the Headmaster to allow the children to know exactly what the position was with their marks and so on. This is the question I would like the Minister of Education to enlighten this House on, and in so doing relieve a lot of anxiety and prejudice among the parents of children who enter for the Barbados Scholarships and others at the expense of the people of the colony. It is not asking any favours. It is just that these scholarships are awarded at the expense of the people of the colony and so the children are entitled to know what is the policy adopted. That is the question which I pose for the Premier to answer. I again apologise for speaking after he has replied.

On this whole question of secondary education I think myself that there is a tremendous lot of caution which should be taken. Sir, you are aware, quite recently of what happened in this country with masters who accepted positions here under false pretences. Mr. Chairman; that has caused quite a number of children to suffer. I am among those people who really feel that whether they are West Indians or from other countries, no one can really expect people to study for any particular degree and come back here—and especially when their salaries are compared with youngsters who go into commercial life after two or three years with possibly no school certificate—and start off for \$80 or \$100 a month.

4.15 p.m.

That is simply a joke, and I counsel the Hon. Minister of Education that the sooner the matter is dealt with, the better it will be. There is no question of waiting for any Committee to revise the entire Service; but as soon as possible, the salary scale for specialist qualified Teachers should be revised. I am hoping that the Hon. Minister of Education will pay very great attention to this matter.

On the entire question of elementary education, there is much dissatisfaction. One wonders now if after you have been relieved of one of your square pegs in round holes which you have had with you for a long time, whether the situation will be any better. Sometimes you find in positions men who are very affable, nice and charming, but who are most unsuitable for the particular offices they occupy. I feel that on this entire question, much is left to be done.

On the question of Supply Teachers—

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Will the hon. member help me with the number of the Item on which he is speaking?

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: I am speaking on Item 31, "Relief Teachers." On this question of Relief Teachers, only today one saw an advertisement calling for Relief Teachers. The hon. junior member for St. John has been constantly raising this question about the payment which is offered to these Teachers. I appeal to the Government to see that where you have these Relief Teachers in schools, some of them carrying for two, three or four years, it is not at all equitable to have the services of these people for all these years and only pay them for the days on which they go to work. You actually want them, you cannot do without them, if you must augment your staff, but you only pay them for the days on which they work.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: The hon. member was not here earlier when I spoke, but all of that has been changed. These teachers are now put on the permanent staff. If the hon. member looks at the figures, he will find that 67 of these Teachers have been removed from the temporary staff to the permanent staff. Therefore, what the hon. member is saying now cannot happen.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: What the Hon. Premier has said is not correct. What has happened, is that you found you wanted more Teachers and you had to promote these Supply Teachers; but you are still carrying on the system of Supply Teachers as you were doing before. I do not think that the Hon. Premier has said what he has said in order to mislead us wilfully, but he is so busy that he does not know what is really happening. Actually, what we are complaining of still remains to be remedied; what we complained of years ago was that you had Teachers in elementary schools who had between 60 and 80 children to teach. That statement was not denied, but now they have remedied that condition. They have said that they must take on more Teachers on the staff, and they have gone to the list of Supply Teachers and taken the best of them, so as to increase the number of permanent Elementary School Teachers. That does not remedy the situation which this Chamber has complained of. It is a fact that you cannot do without these Supply Teachers; and seeing that they are a part of your set-up, it is not fair—and it is not to be expected that a Socialist Government would ask dozens of people—purely because you have a number of people with the qualification which you need, purely because it is a question of people on the market, to do this work and pay them only for the days on which they work. The Hon. Premier cannot say that all the Teachers who have been working for all these years have been taken into the new system.

You have taken advantage of the number of people in the Colony because the market is a big one. If you had been in the position where you could not get these teachers—I hope you will be in that position, because these people will soon be finding their way to England. What I am saying, Mr. Chairman, is what you and every other member of the Government will agree with. We have 126 Elementary Schools; because of the system of teaching, we must have so many schools. All along we have been saying that we have too many children to one school. I challenge the Director of Education and his staff to dispute what I am saying because I was willing to carry them and show them the state of affairs. You will hear that somebody has spoken to the representatives of the people, and that person was fired. There is a lot of victimisation going on in this Colony; as soon as you open your mouth to a member of the House of Assembly, you are pushed out and fired.

4.25 p.m.

What I submit to the House today is this: you have 126 Elementary Schools with a number of children in them, and your recognised policy is that you must have so many teachers to so many children. If that is so, prepare for it in like manner. I challenge this Government to say that it is providing the requisite number of teachers for children in Elementary Schools in the year 1956. It is still doing what a Tory Government would do. Upon that aspect of your policy on education, you should cease to take advantage of Relief Teachers. You are now trying also to take advantage of some honourable members; it seems that unless something comes at them, it is not their duty to express an opinion on it on the floor of this House. I make bold to say that I am here to express an opinion whether it be on a matter which comes home to me or not. I look at things in a broad way. I come across people suffering from these hardships. Does the honourable senior member for St. Joseph think that because a girl or boy wants a job and is glad to take one actually at the bottom of St. Lucy that if the rain falls or the sun shines, he or she must get there and if he has to turn back because the rain falls, he does not get any pay for that

day that is right? It is inhuman. You have to keep Relief Teachers because you are not keeping the number of teachers which you require in the School! If you take up the "Advocate" newspaper of today you will see that a number of Relief Teachers have been advertised for and the notice sets out that they must have five certificates. Now, these teachers must have these certificates and then you give them the paltry sum of 7/- per day or something like that. Added to that, if they do not work a whole day they do not get paid for it, and during the hurricane when the Schools were used as shelters they got nothing.

I read a debate which took place in the Other Place in which a member wanted to enquire into the system of education in this colony. While he may not have the same reason as I, I am saying that it strikes me that after certain educationists are elevated to certain positions and are sitting right and tight and are satisfied that their pensions are good, they seem not to worry any more; they take very little interest in matters of education.

I suppose when I make such a sweeping statement like that which I am going to make you will want to fire every Relief Teacher in this Island. Now, you are calling for certain qualifications from a person who wants to teach. I think a tremendous lot of time is wasted by using qualified Elementary School Teachers to do work which a sort of assistant to a teacher should do. Just as you have an assistant in big countries at Hospitals where there are nurses and where it has been found that it would not pay to use a trained, qualified nurse to do the minor jobs, therefore, they brought about the system of a Nurses' Aid or an Assistant Nurse, so, too, you should have an Assistant Elementary School Teacher.

What is happening in Barbados with our education system is that it is taking a different turn today from what it was before. I am one of the managers of some of those schools. If I may digress for a moment I will tell you this story. A Clergyman put my name up to be a manager of an elementary school. A gentleman from the Department of Education had the audacity to ask if he could not find somebody else to be a manager; if he did not think I would cause too much confusion. He was right, because I would not be one of those people who would sit on the Board and take things lying down. So long as I was there, I was going to ask questions, I was not going to be one of those who would hold their heads down and say, "Yes, I agree."

I am going to make a suggestion to the Hon. Minister of Education and I think it would relieve a tremendous lot of your teachers. If you go to any elementary school today you will find a number of teachers who are assigned to the nutrition scheme. They have to devote their attention to that scheme and not to teaching possibly for a whole day during a week or some appreciable time. They have to share biscuits and milk to the children and then see that the cups are washed and put away. I will ask this question: Are we getting the best for the money we are spending? It is necessary to take a Higher School Certificate girl with all her knowledge of school management and what not and ask her to devote her time to sharing biscuits and milk and seeing that the cups are washed and put away rather than to teaching the necessary subjects in school? Can you not have an Assistant Teacher to do that?

4.35 p.m.

We have a tremendous lot of young women in Barbados who would be glad for work. It is going to make things worse if I suggest it, but if anybody outside of Government suggests anything, they do it, because the type of people you have in official circles here and who hold office are afraid or so small that

they cannot adopt or put anything up, but this hon. Chamber will agree it is not absolutely necessary. When you walk up there you will find a teacher paid to teach and she has to attend to the milk and biscuits. Ask the Director to put up some scheme. I appreciate the Minister of Education has dealt with that. Have Directors and assistants and what not, but surely you can suggest some of these views, and you will be relieving qualified teachers to do that work they are suited to do. Remember, I am not saying this because any teacher has complained, far from it. Not one has complained; but I realise the children are not getting the best when you have teachers who must be devoted to their job and also detailed to do that type of work. The children will suffer. Then as a result you have one teacher caring for so many in a class. I am suggesting that you do not actually need a super-qualified teacher to do that work in the schools; and therefore, it would be a good idea if the Government in the very near future would employ a scheme by which there would be teachers' assistants to look after detail. Anyway, you would not have to have them in the same grade as regards salary, just like girls going to England to become assistants to nurses, (some without qualifications, to become domestics), so they will accept the position in your services. I throw that out as a suggestion and I make bold to say you will be relieving better people to do the actual teaching in the schools. You will be creating a system to have people assistant to the teachers to do detail jobs in the schools and it would not only be a question of employment; it would be better for the educational system. I think, Sir, there is one other question which I would like to raise. We have been for a good many years thinking of the increase in the number of scholarships and although I was not here, the Premier has intimated he is going to adopt the principle of maintaining a scholarship for girls. I have got a note to sound and it is this: on the question of education—may be a lot of people are afraid to say it—we have done well to increase our votes and our number of Barbadians for higher education; but while I have never been in favour, Sir, I do think it is a secret, because I do not see the country being able to stand up to a system of free secondary education, although the present Government had that as part of its platform. You cannot fool people with that because you cannot afford it now. Therefore, I am quite straightforward to say again that I do not see the prospect of free secondary education for Barbados at the present. But in the absence of that, Sir, I think we should not merely concentrate on higher education to the extent of giving more scholarships to Universities.

Now, if you like, take it that your Barbados Scholarships have increased from one to five, 500%; can the Minister of Education say to what extent the scholarships from elementary schools to First or Secondary schools have been increased by Government vote? Will he therefore not admit that there is the absence of an appreciable increase of boys and girls to have an opportunity to go into secondary schools at all; so merely by increasing the number of Barbados Scholarships, he is creating a top-heavy structure. In other words, I remember well before I came here that somebody suggested then that you should have increased the Junior and Senior-to-First Grade by 500%. It is true that everybody should get the opportunity of winning a Barbados Scholarship, but you know the older you get the more you think of this; it is not the scholar nor the University graduate that runs the country or the world. I for one would prefer to see—not that I am against the five scholarships—a greater opportunity given to a great

er number of persons to enjoy scholarships at first and secondary schools in this country. In other words, it would be well for the Government in power to say not only that we have given opportunity to five Barbados scholars, but we have also given opportunity to 200 or 100 more Barbadians who attend elementary schools to get a free scholarship at a secondary or first grade school in this country. I am suggesting to the Government they should increase the number of scholarships or exhibitions at Lodge School, Harrison College, Queen's College, Combermere School and so on. I think myself that that in itself would in the absence of free secondary education be a very correct thing to do. On the other hand, I would not be true to my constituents and to myself if I did not sound this as a warning. The feeling is with some of these gentlemen who win these scholarships and go to England, they seem to forget that although they have merited them by brain and hard work, that they have received them from the expense of the taxpayers of this country; and the snobbery of these doctors and lawyers leaves a lot to be desired. For indeed some of the Barbados scholars when they become doctors or lawyers even forget the school teacher who had to teach them in the secondary school. And they have the audacity to say the white boy is full of snobbery? That is the best thing for them. They themselves practise the snobbery as much among the same black-headed, black-faced children; they themselves practise the nasty, lowdown snobbery in treating their own family in such a way that indeed they appreciate how the other people snob them. They appeal to members like myself when they are snobbed. They were not the people who put me here.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The honourable senior member for the City is not addressing the Chair. Let me know the Item on which you are speaking.

4.45 p.m.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: Examination expenses, Item 34. I have no more to say on that. I am sure that has touched your corn. That would be very palatable to you because you know it is true.

Now, Sir, Mr. Chairman, therefore on this entire question of the educational system in Barbados. I counsel the Government to go very carefully into it. Some years ago there was the question of age grouping and what not, but one did not stop to wonder if it was going to work well or not.

I was saying, Sir, that everybody could not sit here quietly and not let these gentlemen know that we are fully conscious of the fact that after they have got their scholarships and are qualified, we expect them to return here and assist the Country. I take it that those who have had the opportunity of going to the Universities should be able to help other people and not merely perpetuate the oldtime system. I hope that the questions which I have posed to the Hon. Premier will be given consideration by him, and above all this question of the increase in exhibitions to First and Second Grade Schools. I hope that that question will be given serious consideration in the very near future.

I am one person who will appreciate the fact that you cannot talk about giving free Secondary Education, when there are so many other things to be done. I say that these exhibitions should be increased 300%, if not 500%.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I give the hon. member the assurance that Regulations in this regard have been prepared by the Director of Education and submitted to me, and they will go much further than the present system.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: What about the question of the Barbados Scholarship?

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: The hon. member had asked about the University College of the West Indies. The examiners are not local examiners; they

go around the Islands and decide who have come up to entrance standard.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: I said that there was great dissatisfaction among parents.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: Nobody locally has anything to do with this matter.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: Do they recommend anybody —

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: The hon. member asked about the University College of the West Indies, and I told him that the examiners go around from time to time. They are due to be here next week. They set the examinations and they award the scholarships. As regards the Barbados Scholarship, they give a list and they set out the order in which people have come. The examinations are now set in four classes, Science, Mathematics, Classics and Modern Studies, and it is on the recommendation of the examiners that the Scholarships are awarded.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, I was not present earlier when the Hon. Premier dealt with this matter, but he is aware of what actually happened on the last occasion; the parent of one of the candidates actually heard some whisper that the boy had got more marks than anybody else, and that parent went into a Solicitor's office to enquire about certain things. What happened was that one boy was said to have got more marks than anybody else, and his father was actually tempted to get legal opinion as to what he could do in connection with this matter. It has happened with Messrs. Thorne and Daisley; it has actually happened here already. If I had a child who, I heard had got more marks than anybody else, I would move Heaven and Earth in order to see what the position is. I am therefore asking what the position is; what did the examiners say? Did they award any scholarships? We have never been able to get any information out of the Headmaster of Harrison College or the Director of Education. The person who has to clear up the matter is the Hon. Premier. I am trying to avoid the suspicion which is going around.

4.55 p.m.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: The Director of Education and the Headmaster of Harrison College are not the last persons. As far as I know, since the Barbados Scholarship started, the Examiners say who is first. I went through the results of 30 consecutive years and there is no instance of leaving it to the Education Board. There was a case where Mr. Freeman Boyce and Mr. Belgrave tied in Classics, and the Examiners said it was extremely difficult to separate them. No choice is made here. The Examiners go as far as to say: "we recommend so and so for the Hawkins Memorial Prize." Everything is said by the Examiners and the Executive Committee goes by the Examiners' recommendation.

Mr. LEWIS: Mr. Chairman, I am wondering what is the Government's answer to giving the present accommodation in Secondary Schools free. I claim that on page 134 of these Estimates—and I must be grateful to the people who compiled these Estimates for giving those figures—that the amount collected in School fees from those Secondary Schools amounts to \$147,549; therefore, if Government agrees to pay that amount, there will be no need for School fees. There is a method of admission to Government Aided Secondary Schools. It is not by money or by colour. The children have to sit an entrance examination, so you are guaranteed now that only those children who are capable of benefitting from Secondary Education can enter the school. There was a time when so long as a parent could pay the School fees he could get his boy to occupy a space in any of those schools. I am glad to see that there is a system now for entrance to those schools and that there is superannuation although some people disagree with it simply because they hope that one of these days

their children will be able to benefit from the education you are giving.

I know some honourable members of this House will say that if you provide secondary education free, you will have to build schools to carry every boy or girl of the age. I answer that by saying that primary education has been free for very many years now. Have you got schools enough for it? Have you introduced a system of compulsory education? If you give your present accommodation in Secondary Schools free, you will not have to consider awarding Scholarships to anybody. This country can afford to give secondary education free. According to these Estimates, the amount of \$137,549, to pay for free secondary education is nothing to this Government which has over \$2 million in revenue for expenditure accrued in the course of a year. For several years they have collected a balance between Revenue and Expenditure of \$2 million. [A VOICE: What about the Private Secondary Schools?] You say that some people have Private Secondary Schools and they charge pupils school fees. Do they not charge more than you charge at your Secondary Schools? You are making up the difference now and if you use your money wisely you will be able to help some of those people who have successful secondary schools. Perhaps, you can offer the Headmasters of some of those schools a pension or something of the sort.

Mr. Chairman, when I say that this Government is going to train policemen and is giving—

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I do not see anything of policemen here.

Mr. LEWIS: I am talking on the grants to Secondary Schools. On page 134 of these Estimates the sum of \$147,549 is set down as the amount of revenue you collect from those schools. In last year's Estimates you voted \$7,000 to train policemen and this year you are voting \$21,000 for that purpose. If you collect only approximately \$148,000 in revenue from those schools, at least you can try it out for ten years.

5.05 p.m.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: Since the honourable member needs an answer, I will give it to him. He said that the children have to sit an entrance examination and that is so. The forms are already out. Now, you only have room for 60 places at one school but there are 100 boys who sit the examination and are up to standard.

Mr. LEWIS: Tell me, Sir, what are you doing with the boys who pass the entrance examination and cannot get into the schools? Can you answer that question? What are you doing about it? When you have 200 people and you have five places, what do you do about them? You do nothing because you have not got the room. It does not seem to be any of your business. When is the last time you built a secondary school in Barbados? You are going to rebuild Combermere School; that is all you are planning for. You are rebuilding Foundation School; you are not building new ones, and with technical education and secondary modern education, these people who cannot take technical education will get something. Let us consider the number of children who have passed the examination and have not been admitted and let us come and vote money to accommodate them. So what is the idea of not being able to give everybody free education? Give the space you have now free; create a situation in which your attitude is to give free education and when you build more schools it will come.

Mr. VAUGHAN: Mr. Chairman, as I have been challenged, even at the risk of prolonging this debate, the honourable member is labouring under one of his famous impressions.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Under what Head are you speaking?

Mr. VAUGHAN: Under the same Head as the honourable member. Item 48. Anyway, Sir, I have gone into research on this secondary education. No one in this country, least of all a progressive politician, could be opposed to free secondary education. If we are to accelerate our programme towards nationhood especially, free secondary education is very deserving. But what is political is not practical, nor financially possible. The honourable member is saying it would cost the Government the fees the schools are now receiving. It would not. He misses the subsidy. Secondary education costs \$517,000; the fees received are approximately \$150,000. If you release these fees secondary education would cost Government \$600,000. Free secondary education would cost the subsidy plus the fees now received—\$600. But it is something further than that; take 300 people in a school, each place would cost Government \$200; two thousand are leaving elementary schools annually and with free education, multiply that two thousand by \$200 a place and that would give you about \$400,000 additional for the first year. In five years, free secondary education alone would cost Government more than the whole system of education is now costing. So you can see how impossible it is for the Government in the present financial system to embark upon this scheme.

Mr. LEWIS: He means this: that there are two thousand children leaving elementary schools who are entitled to it. When I started off, I really did not call the name or the constituency of the honourable member. I took it for granted that he knew that we were voting money to these schools already. I did not know I would have to mention that. The figures are here, \$664,577. He is going to vote \$517,028 and I told him to add \$147,000; and he tells me I would have to add them together as though neither one is being voted now. If I thought that would be the type of mentality that I would get from secondary education, I could not possibly support it.

Mr. Chairman, when I was talking on the Estimates I read out all these figures, but he was so stifled and his brain was so befuddled that he thought I was talking nonsense. I excuse him. He was not thinking at all. Add \$150,000 to this vote and no body will have to pay school fees. Isn't that right? Two thousand leaving elementary schools does not mean they can take academical secondary education even if they could provide the place, and Barbados cannot be so exceptional as to have that. You are providing other schools for people with a different bent and I am glad to see the ones you superannuate may have a bent for using their hands and going into the crafts.

The question that the sum of \$1,323,571 be voted under Head XX was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

On motion of Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS seconded by Hon. M. E. COX, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported progress and asked for leave to sit again, and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

The question was put and Mr. SPEAKER adjourned the House accordingly.

On re-assembling,

ESTIMATES—Cont'd

Mr. SPEAKER: On the adjournment, the House was in Committee on the Estimates for 1956—57.

ESTIMATES

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

Mr. CHAIRMAN: On the adjournment, Head XX of the Estimates had been passed.

Head XXI — Science And Agriculture

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Chairman, I think that the Hon. Minister of Social Services had promised to get some information for the hon. junior member for the City relative to the Revolving Fund in connection with the Lancaster Factory, under Head XXI — Science and Agriculture. I understand that the information is here; therefore, let us have it.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Mr. Chairman, from the information which I have about Lancaster Factory, a Revolving Fund was established in 1943, and the amount credited to the Fund was \$76,800. The accounts of the Factory are being audited by the Audit Department at present, and the audited Statement will, as a matter of course, be laid before the Legislature as soon as it is ready. This sum of \$15,000 is to meet the ordinary expenses of the Factory during the next Financial Year, and a part of this amount will be recoverable.

I may mention that this Fund has been gradually depleted through losses on the working of the Factory, chiefly in the processing of the food crops, during the past five years. As hon. members will know, the Factory is used chiefly for processing surplus food crops, and it is necessary to keep the Factory in a working state, so that when the surplus provisions occur, the Factory can process them. Apparently, there has been some loss every year in that respect.

Hon. members will, of course, appreciate the fact that after the recent Hurricane, the Factory proved very useful in salvaging some 50 tons of Hurricane damaged corn; this corn was taken to the Factory and kiln dried. As I have already stated, the accounts are being audited at present and we will lay a more accurate statement on the table of the House when these accounts have been got through. The Hon. Minister of Agriculture proposes to lay a statement on the future policy with regard to this Factory, and the plans in relation to its use in respect of an increased production of local foodstuffs. I think that plans are being made now to make far greater use of this Factory in processing this increased amount of foodstuffs.

The question that the sum of \$634,224 be voted under this Head was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Mr. ALLDER: I am asking that this Head be re-committed.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Which Head?

Mr. ALLDER: Head XXI: There are a few comments which I would like to make in connection with this Head. What I want to suggest to the Government is this: I notice that there is no increase in the provision —

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: On a point of Order. The hon. member cannot come into the House and ask to have something re-committed, and then begin to deal with it before it is re-committed.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I was only giving the hon. member a chance as the Hon. Premier had asked *sotto voce* what the points were. However, the hon. senior member for St. John is out of order.

Mr. ALLDER: I believe that the Government would permit the recommitment of this Head. When I came in the Committee, I was in my place, and even when we were —

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The hon. member is out of order. He should move for the recommitment of this Head.

Mr. ALLDER: All right, Sir, I beg to move that this Head be re-committed.

Mr. GODDARD: I beg to second that.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I suggest that the hon. member should tell the Committee why he wants a recommitment of this Head.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: The hon. member was sitting at the dining table. The bell was rung so as to summon hon. members to this Chamber, and the hon. member felt that it was better for him to carry on a conversation there than come into this Chamber and deal with the points with which he wanted to deal. I do not think that hon. members should be delayed in order to accommodate the hon. member; I do not know if the Government is willing to accommodate hon. members on this sort of pretext that you can have re-committed something which you did not have the opportunity of dealing with. The consideration of this Head was postponed because certain information was not available, but we cannot be held up because the hon. member was carrying on a conversation instead of being here.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I was not trying to accommodate the hon. member.

Mr. ALLDER: The reason why I am asking for a recommitment of this Head is this: I just wanted to draw to the Government's attention its failure to make provision for increased food production. The people of this Colony have to purchase certain items, and it is a very noticeable fact that we do not seem to be making any attempts —

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Let me put the motion for the recommitment of this Head to the Committee.

6.00 p.m.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman —

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I am speaking.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: With the greatest respect, Mr. Chairman, I am always willing to abide by your ruling: but it is rather annoying when I stand up to speak you tell me I cannot do this or that. Whatever may be your ruling, I intend to abide by it, but I object most strongly to your being told by the members of the Government that you should do this or that. They are trying to belittle you.

[VOICES: Order! Order!]

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: You hear now, Sir, what they are saying. They are implying that you cannot keep order in this House.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I cannot strike him in his mouth.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, am I in order to say that a motion was made for the recommitment of Head XXI?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Allow me to explain. The honourable senior member for St. John is asking leave for the recommitment of Head XXI and there is an objection. I am asking you to allow me to put the motion.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: Am I entitled to speak on the recommitment of the Head?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: There is nothing for you to speak on.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: I am entitled to speak. Leave has been asked by the honourable senior mem-

ter for St. John for the recommitment of Head XXI. I am saying in support of the application for leave for the recommitment that there is just one question which I would like to ask under the Head and it is nothing to hold up the Head. I am sure the Government will readily agree to it; they would hardly object to it.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Did you say that you want to make a few remarks on the Head? If so wait and see what will be the outcome of the voting.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: Before the vote is taken I want to show the Hon. Premier that there is justifiable reason for asking leave for the recommitment of the Head.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: Is he appealing for something?

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: I do not want to hear any rules from him. I do not have to ask anyone any favours. I am speaking in support of the motion for application for recommitment of Head XXI and I can speak on it.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Allow me to put the question.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: The reason why I got up to support leave being granted is because it has been intimated that there is objection to it, so it is obvious what is going to be the outcome of the vote. I want to ask one or two questions.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: You cannot ask questions until leave for the recommitment of the Head is granted.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: I know that. Allow me to say that I am absolutely sure that such enquiries as I shall make on the Head will do the Government well. There has been a certain atmosphere in which these enquiries have been made officially but they have not been brought to the notice of the Government and that is the reason why I got up to say that I support the question of leave for recommitment of Head XXI.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Allow me to put the question. The hon. senior member for St. John is asking leave for the recommitment of Head XXI. If there is no objection.

Hon. M. E. COX: I object.

The question was put and resolved in the negative, the House dividing as follows:

Ayes: Mr. BRANCKER, Mr. VAUGHAN, Mr. ALLDER, Mr. GODDARD and Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY—5.

Noes: Hon. G. H. ADAMS, Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS, Hon. M. E. COX, Hon. R. G. MAPP, Mr. FOLDER, Mr. F. L. WALCOTT, and Mr. J. C. MOTTLEY—7.

Public Library

Head XXII, Public Library, was called.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I beg to move that the sum of \$20,506 be voted under this Head.

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

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, as you know, this is one of the important hardy annuals. This is something like giving free hot meals to elementary school children and securing an increase for jurymen. I will deal with Item 18, Reading Room, first. This is a matter which I refer to every year and I am always promised that it will receive either more consideration, or further consideration. Last year I was promised that it would be given better consideration. I refer to the opening of the Reading Room at least until 10 o'clock p.m. so that people who work all day would have the opportunity of going home for dinner and then going to the Library and avail themselves of the accommodation of the Reading Room.

I would like to know if the Minister responsible for this educational department has anything to add to what he said last year, the year before and the year before in connection with the opening of the Reading Room on nights.

Mr. ALLDER: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Minister in charge of this Head a question. There was a suggestion made for the setting up of a Branch Library in St. John and this House passed an Address in July 1948 to bring about such a condition. Recently, there has been the construction of buildings for a Post Office and Community Centre in the parish and one would have thought that the opportunity would have been taken to attach a Branch Library for that parish to one of those buildings; but nothing has been done. I understand that the matter went as far as a suggestion being made that some property would have been acquired for the purpose, but I see no provision in these Estimates for it.

I would like to say that it is a very needy case in that parish. Some time ago, a few books were sent to the wife of the former Rector of the parish to be loaned to people, and they used to lock them up in the cellar of the Rectory which caused the reading public to have some difficulty in getting them to read.

6:15 p.m.

It is of no use the Headquarters of the Library in Bridgetown sending books out to a resident's home to be stacked away under the cellar and other out-of-the-way places, when it is very easy to have a public building in the parish where an officer or so could be attached for the purpose. I do not know what is the intention of Government but certainly it is easy to have the erection of a building to accommodate a library service. You have got the Post Office which has recently been built at Cross Roads. There is sufficient room there, and I discussed it with a couple of officials and they are favourably inclined to such a suggestion, but that it all depends on the decision of the Government. You have got a Police Station at Four Roads and there is sufficient room there that if it were the intention of the Government, they could easily add on an additional room to either of the two properties which they already own there. In addition, there is a community centre in the parish where I am told intelligent discussions and things of that sort are to be carried on, and even there, Sir, a part of the building could be utilised for the purpose of a reading room and the keeping of such literature as the library has to offer. I am hoping, Sir, that the Hon. Minister will make a statement in that respect.

Mr. VAUGHAN: Mr. Chairman, I do not hope for any statement or ask for any excuse: neither am I accepting any. I am making an accusation. The Minister does not think a Library for St. John important enough. That is the only way I can see it. He does not think that the parish of St. John is important enough to have a Library and I am not accepting the excuse that "Janet" prevented it or anything else. I see a lack of appreciation in things cultural where the Ministry is concerned. They just do not think that the type of people up there are particular about reading. You will be amazed to see the type of books some barefooted people pick out to use. St. John is remarkable for its educational institutions, particularly Codrington College. The people up there are accustomed to a certain cultural outlook; they mixed with cultural people and institutions very dear in Barbadian history and I cannot at all be sympathetic with the Minister's indifference. It is time for us to have one. We are at a stage in our

history where the acceleration of culture is overdue, and I think that the Ministers concerned do not look upon this department of development as important as they should. It means everything to us and to the West Indies as a whole—the importance and the appreciation of a higher standard of a cultural civilisation. I am not accepting any excuse for not having one at St. John.

Mr. J. C. MOTTLEY: Item 13. Mr. Chairman, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister for Social Services if the Branch Libraries—especially the one in St. Philip—have a permanent staff. Well, I think, speaking subject to correction, that the Postmistress is doing two or three jobs and I wonder whether he would consider appointing some assistant to take charge of the Library. I do not feel it is good enough. With all respect to the Postmistress; she had the Postmistress' job, the Old Age Pension Officer's job, and now the Assistant Library job. That is going too far. I do not want to be too drastic but I hope the Hon. Minister of Social Services will see and make a change in the running of this Branch Library at St. Philip as soon as possible. This is a case of giving one person all the food, and I do not subscribe to it at all.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The question is that the sum of

Mr. ALLDER: Mr. Chairman, the hon member

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order. The hon. member is out of order. He cannot rise when you are putting a question. If he has an objection let him rise before and if he does not know what words to choose let him remain seated.

Mr. ALLDER: Mr. Chairman, everybody cannot indulge in gate crashing like the hon. junior member for St. Peter.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I am again appealing to hon. members that if they are going to speak not to wait until I have got half way with the question and then get up with "Mr. Chairman." I will hear you now, but I will not hear you on another occasion.

Mr. ALLDER: What I was saying, Mr. Chairman, is that questions were put to the Minister and one was waiting to see whether the Minister would answer.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: It is quite evident that I do not have the file now. I sent to get it. As far as the St. John Branch Library is concerned both hon. members know that the Government was taking active steps to give them a Branch Library up there. There was a separate offer made from a place which fell through and since then we have been discussing with the Director of Public Works the cost of a building, but the hon. member said he is not taking "Janet" as an excuse. After "Janet," the Director of Public Works has been busy and is still busy and we have not been able to do anything further. I will assure the hon. members that it is not a dead issue, and I hope that action will soon be revived on that Branch Library. The hon. senior member for St. Lucy raised the point earlier on the question of a reading room at night. I remember well that it is an old question with the hon. member, but the Librarian thinks that there are certain things that would have to be provided and in addition there would have to be additional staff in order to have a reading room operating at night. I promise the hon. member I will chivy the matter up with the Public Librarian on that point and I hope before the next Estimates to be able to give him definite information on that point.

The question that the sum of \$20,506 be voted under Head XXII Public Library, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.
6:25 p.m.

Director of Medical Services

Head XXIII—Medical (1) Director of Medical Services—was called.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I beg to move that the sum of \$93,647 be voted under this Head.

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

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, in respect of Item 42, "Purchase of Bicycle," the note says this: "The opening of the St. Michael Health Centre and the proposed removal of ministerial offices to Bay Street necessitate the use of a bicycle for the despatch of correspondence." I am making this comment because I think that this is a very good innovation here, and it is likely to save the Government some money. This is something desirable and it is better than what I have heard suggested before, that is, the expensive system of buying a van to take around these things. It is more expensive to run a motor van than to have a man going around on a bicycle, and who will do the job more expeditiously except when there is any inclement weather. The removal of these offices to Bay Street will necessitate a provision of this sort and I hope that something similar will be done at some of these offices in Bridgetown.

Mr. GODDARD: At this stage, Mr. Chairman, it would be interesting to hear from the Hon. Minister of Social Services about the campaign which is going on relative to the eradication of the Yellow Fever Mosquito. I think that they have finished in Christ Church and the campaign is going on in other parishes. Whether it is going on simultaneously or not, I do not know, but it was proposed on the last occasion when the matter came before this House, that a greater effort would have been made. That was when the Government came down to this House in connection with the acquisition of a motor truck; it would be interesting to hear how the campaign is going on and when it will be finished.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: The Hon. Leader of the Opposition has asked a direct question of the Hon. Minister. I am going to make some observations which I hope the Hon. Minister will take note of. I support these matters relative to the help of the community wholeheartedly but I want to say that I have come to the conclusion that you are wasting money. If the Hon. Minister would make an investigation into this matter, he would find that that is so. If you were to see what is being done, you will also come to the conclusion that they are wasting money, even if you are a layman like myself. You find that Assistant Inspectors are going around spraying; what are they spraying? When they started to spray houses and so on, we all agreed with that. When they started to spray the cellars, I agreed with that; but now they are going back and spraying receptacles. They have actually gone into people's houses and sprayed buckets in which there is drinking water, and tubs in which people are washing. Tell me what sort of Minister of Health would say that they are not wasting money? They are spraying the water in the tubs and then the people are going to the standpipes and washing them. They are going to the sanitary conveniences, the earth pit system and spraying and then these lavatories are washed. When they started to spray the houses so as to eradicate the mosquitoes they went behind the pictures and so on and sprayed, and I told the people that this was necessary to be done. Now they want

the sum of \$34,354 in connection with the eradication of this mosquito, and the note gives the items under which this money is to be spent.

I ask again; what are you spraying? I am sure that the Hon. Minister will be able to explain that for us. I have not yet raised this question; I have nothing against any particular individual, but I am amused to see an Inspector ask people to throw clothes out of their tubs in which they were washing, and then spray the tubs. I should like to know why they did not spray people's skins as well.

Would you also believe this? It has been represented to me that the people have been asked to throw the water out of their barrels and not to put any water back in those barrels for some time, and then they will put back water in the barrel. World Health Organisation or no World Health Organisation that spells ignorance.

6.35 p.m.

The idea that a layman cannot tell a doctor anything about something is a joke. If you are doing foolishness, you are doing foolishness. Somebody has a little can or barrel in the kitchen in a corner with water and they tell that person to throw out that water. They then spray the barrel two or three times. Does the Hon. Minister know that this is the sort of thing which is going on? I have had to defend the Sanitary Inspectors of St. Michael by telling them not to do it. At the lectures which were given to the people who have to spray, they were told that they must go under the cellars of houses and pick up all the bottles which the householders threw under there and those around gardens and then spray the outside and inside of those bottles. They were also told to do the same thing with cocoanut shells which the people have set aside to burn (*Laughter*) I am not joking; I am serious. Because they have a little milch cow called Government, they come here and tell people to bring out their water-barrel or their wash tub, their frying pan and the one in which they clean fish to be sprayed. That is something I would like the Hon. Minister of Social Services to explain. I am sure that if it is brought home to him forcibly he will say it is nonsense and will not allow any more of the taxpayers' money to be spent on it.

I know the Government has been gracious enough to give the Acting Director of Education the opportunity of becoming Director of Education so that he would be able to draw a better pension. I am wondering if the same opportunity cannot be extended to the Acting Director of Medical Services who will be soon retiring, now that the post of Director of Medical Services is vacant. You cannot say that this opportunity will not be extended to a Barbadian because the holder of the post is a Barbadian who was drawing a nothing salary for all the years. Now he is coming to the evening of his days, I think it is but right that he should be given such an opportunity. As I have said, I heartily agree with your policy of appointing the Acting Director of Education to the Office of Director of Education. I wonder if the Hon. Minister of Social Services will exercise his influence in this respect. I know the answer will be given that it is a question for the Public Service Commission. However, when the time comes I am going to come in here on the floor of the House and do what I did at the time when Dr. Peat was recommended for the Office of Director of Medical Services and the Colonial Office said he was unsuitable because of social conditions; of course, that was due to his pigment. Dr. Peat has gone back to Jamaica where he is now Director of Medical Services. There are certain things which you cannot help feeling proud

of; therefore, in the course of time I would like to see the same facilities which were extended to the Acting Director of Education extended to the Acting Director of Medical Services. Men might be qualified as doctors but that does not necessarily mean that they are qualified as doctors of public health. You can get some men who are wholly unsuitable for certain jobs. I am asking the Hon. Minister of Social Services to give to the Acting Director of Medical Services the same facility as was given to the Acting Director of Education because he too will soon be retiring. I would also like the Hon. Minister to know that the people of this country are hoping that the Medical Officer of Speightstown will be appointed Director of Medical Services when the office becomes vacant again. I know that when you mention a man's name, they do not want to give him what he is entitled to but if the Health Officer of Speightstown was a green man, a blue man, a yellow man, an Irishman, an Englishman or a Japanese, I would say the same thing of him. I would say he is a humane man. He knows how to treat human beings. I have not said so merely because he is a West Indian.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The hon. member is straying a bit.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: Yes, Sir, it seems as if I went to Speightstown, but I come back now to Bridgetown! Finally, allow me to ask the Hon. Minister of Social Services this question. Will he tell me what stupidity they are getting on with when it comes to spraying for the eradication of the *Aedes Aegypti* mosquito? I think it would be well if he pays a little surprise visit to places where they are carrying out the spraying. He will see them telling people to take clothes out of the wash tubs, open the privy door, and things like that, in order for them to do a little spraying.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: As far as the spraying is concerned, I think the hon. member is aware that it is done under the auspices of the W.H.O. I am informed that that organisation is spraying the whole of the Caribbean area and I think Barbados is the last of the colonies to be sprayed. They are carrying out the same method as was done in the other places and they have met with some success in other places; therefore, I am sure they will meet with the same success here. As far as what the hon. member has mentioned as going on, I will only say that it is carried out under the auspices of W.H.O. and I have no right to interfere. [A VOICE: Do you mean to say that we have to give them \$34,354 and we have no right to interfere?] However, I will discuss what the hon. senior member for the City brought to our notice with the Acting Director of Medical Services so that he can see whether what is done in the districts conform to public health standards.

As far as what the hon. member mentioned about the appointment of a Director of Medical Services, I am not going to reply to that.

6.45 p.m.

The *Aedes Aegypti* Campaign as everybody knows, was held up by Hurricane "Janet" and no spraying was done in the later part of September or in October, and it was not until the middle of November that they recommenced; therefore, the campaign is not proceeding according to the original plans as a result of that hold up. That is all the information I can give on the campaign.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, I would like to say I appreciate the hon. member's answer though it is not what I expected from him. Originally when you make a statement of this sort, it is

not good enough to say that the World Health Organisation is carrying out the Campaign; but let me remind the hon. member what was said before. When they sent down certain instructions I said it was a waste of time because they were spraying this and that; but because they were from the British Government, we must not express our views! If what I say is true, the Hon. Minister is correct in saying that he cannot interfere technically but when it comes to voting \$34,354 and it is brought home to you that the people are now spraying water receptacles that are immediately washed out, isn't that saying we are throwing money down the drain? He is a doctor and as such he knows something of public health; therefore he must appreciate and realise that if you are spraying something which people are going to use immediately after, you are doing nothing. In certain parts where people keep them they are for the purpose of catching water when the rain falls, and that is why I said in the statement which I made that he could not interfere technically with W.H.O. They took the receptacles in the market and in their houses and said, "let us spray them." It is nonsense, it is nonsense whether it be W.H.O. or anybody else.

The question that the sum of \$93,647 be voted under Head XXIII (1) Medical, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

General Hospital

Head XXIII — (2) — General Hospital was called.

Hon G. H. ADAMS: Item 26 is to be increased by \$624 (to be voted) \$2,636 to provide for the salary of an additional Stenographer Typist for the X-Ray Department, and Item 94 — Cost of Living Allowance, to be increased by \$107 to be voted \$55,107 to provide an allowance for the additional Stenographer and Typist.

I beg to move that the sum of \$832,016 be voted under this Head.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: In seconding that, Sir, I am bearing in mind the question made by the hon. senior member for the City on the last occasion about Mr. Tudor who was advised to go outside and have an X-ray done. The facts are that Mr. Tudor was at the Hospital for some time; there is a double arrangement for every day in the week and the kind of X-ray Mr. Tudor wanted done takes about five hours. He had two X-rays in which because of certain conditions the results were not very good. [A VOICE: Where?] At the Hospital—and as a result of certain conditions that existed, the results were not satisfactory. He was asked to have a third but he had to wait his turn because of the regular programme that is arranged for weeks ahead, and as I have said an X-ray of that sort takes in the vicinity of five hours. To interrupt that schedule would have thrown the whole thing out of gear and Mr. Tudor was advised to go outside in order to have it done more quickly. It is not a question of inefficiency or anything of that sort. It is a question that he wanted it done as quickly as possible; [A VOICE: Who was his doctor?] Dr. Leacock; and he could not await the time with the proper arrangements of this rigid schedule that they had to adhere to.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, on that same question I would like to say that I am commissioned not to name the person so I cannot name the person; but I know another case similar to that raised by the hon. senior member for the City in which someone was asked to take an X-ray outside of the Hospital. I say that should be drawn to the atten-

tion of the Minister because it does seem a little strange that if you go to Hospital and consult one of the specialists that you cannot get the X-ray within the Hospital itself.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: On a point of order, Sir. I did not say you cannot get it done in the Hospital: it is a matter of time.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: I was not saying that, but I am telling him something that has been reported to me subsequently to this case where the person was asked to go outside for the X-ray. The person did not ask the reason because very often when a person is ill you dare not ask. Under Item II — Commission to debt collectors, there is \$1,000 put in the Estimates to pay commission at the rate of 20% and count charges for collection of overdue accounts. This is a serious state of affairs in that I remember that this was necessitated at the Waterworks Department. The Waterworks Department situation is a little more suitable because that has a more commercial atmosphere for bill collecting of this nature than the patients at the Hospital, and I thought that the policy was that you were required to pay these bills in advance and whilst you do not want to be hard on people in illness we will have to investigate the case, because if someone wishes to go to the General Hospital and they want certain privileges, it becomes very difficult if the Government must undertake expense to collect from them and it should be a better system of people paying if they want these privileges at the Hospital. If one wants to go into the Pay Ward to get better treatment than in the General Ward I think he should be required to pay bills in advance, because the fact that you estimate for \$1,000 gives the impression that the Government has people owing an amount approximating to \$5,000.

6.55 p.m.

That is a substantial amount of money to be paying for medical fees and I would say that it could only be given to very privileged patients. I suggest that there should be a better method of dealing with this matter.

The Hospital fees in Barbados are 5/- per day and \$4.80 per day for Pay Ward "A" and the Tercentenary Ward respectively, and they are some of the cheapest fees in the world. The Tercentenary rooms, I suggest, are too big; the only place in which you can get rooms bigger than those, is in New York. It is a pity that Captain Tomlin was not here when we were building that Ward, because we would have got more space. I think that people should be called upon to pay these bills without calling on the Government to go to this expense.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: I will begin by paying the Government this tribute. At the General Hospital today, it must be admitted that you have in your Medical Superintendent, a wide awake, interested man in his job. If I have to criticise any part of the administration, let it not be thought that I am just criticising the individual. I want the Hon. Minister of Social Services to listen to me very carefully. First of all, I must thank the Hon. Minister of Health for the reply which he gave me; there is only one thing I have to say about it. It has been reported to me that an outside doctor wanted a patient to get quicker X-ray treatment than that provided at the Hospital, and that patient was sent outside to get this treatment.

What is of immediate necessity in Barbados is the acquisition of another machine, and the appointment of another Radiologist. We want to keep abreast of the times; we have one machine, but we want another. Health must come first. Those of us who can go to Trinidad and elsewhere and get treat-

ment are alright, but what about those who cannot do that? I am in the fortunate position, not because of the choice of the Government, but by accident, to be on the Advisory Body of the General Hospital, and I want to say that no complaint which reaches the Superintendent goes unnoticed. However, if there is justifiable criticism, mention it, and let it be remedied. The Hon. Minister has admitted that a five-hour examination required by a patient would upset the schedule. How would you feel if you knew that delay meant danger? How would the Hon. Minister feel if he were on this side of the House? I counsel the Hon. Minister to look at the matter in the same way as if he were not in the Government. I have not mentioned anybody's name; there are certain people who have asked me not to mention any names. Quite recently, the Hon. Minister's selection as a candidate for the City in the next Election [Hon. G. H. ADAMS: Whose selection?] The Premier's; went to the Hospital and was advised to go outside, otherwise he could not get an X-ray examination. He had to go outside because it was impossible for him to get an X-ray examination within the Hospital. The Hon. Minister has minimised the reply so as to let people believe that all was well at the Hospital, but the man's doctor wanted him to go outside. I took this note from a letter

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The hon. member cannot read that letter.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: I am not reading the letter; I have notes of the letter and you cannot make me give it up. This is what I am drawing to their attention. A doctor quite recently sent a patient to the Hospital suffering from abdominal troubles. The letter was received on 16th February, it was written on the 14th February telling this person to be present on the 10th February. In the letter, this was stated, "Please do not take anything on the 8th and the 9th because you are coming for an X-ray on the 10th." Mind you the lady is in America now; she had to fly over there within two days. You have trouble; people die and so on. In the name of all that is good, what is really happening? If you ask every other doctor in Bridgetown now, he will not advise one patient at all to get any X-ray examination at the Hospital. I am not criticising the Radiologist, but do not worry to go up there.

7.05 p.m.

The whole trouble is that there are many people waiting to get X-rayed. What is the answer? Do not wait. The Hon. Minister said a few weeks ago that the question of a new Hospital was under consideration. Why is that under consideration? Let me say that too many people are really suffering. I may say that "Enmore" is doing a fine job. It is taking away a number of cases that would have gone to the General Hospital, but even with that the pressure is still great on the General Hospital. The answer is simple. The more you educate people along health standards, the more they appreciate seeing a medical practitioner when they get a headache. Years ago, one of the first things somebody would tell you when you took sick was that you should go to the obeah man but now you will say "I am going to see the doctor." And the doctors of today are not using too much of their brain matter. Right away as they examine you and they see that your case is a little difficult, they tell you to go to the Hospital and when you are there, they say you have to be X-rayed. Sixty percent of the cases are X-rayed. Therefore, let us face facts. We pay a Radiologist \$6,000 per annum; let us get another. Our people are willing to pay for the service.

I know the Hon. Minister of Social Services may say that he thinks I have a tremendous lot of courage to mention what I am going to say. Sir, do you know what I really think is necessary? You are talking about a new place to site your Hospital. Now you want a Radiologist and it is not because of the ordinary X-rays that you want such a person; it is because you suspect that there are many people suffering from malignant diseases and some of them needs therapy. It is a question for us to address to our minds, therefore, I am going to make this suggestion. As a layman, I am suggesting that you get another Radiologist and another set of X-ray equipment. To my mind it sounds good; it sounds political; I might be entirely wrong, but you have in your midst people like Sir Rupert Briercliffe and Dr. Harkness. Our people are not getting the best in therapy, why don't you now get people like them to go into this matter? You should appoint a Committee right away to go into this matter. When you have complaints like what you are getting, when the Minister comes in here and says that there are people in the Hospital who for weeks are waiting to get X-rayed—and I may tell you that I have heard that the Surgeon Specialist is telling people to go to Dr. Bayley and get it—you can realise what is happening is not all well. I am not suggesting that you should take what I say but I am recommending that you see men like Sir Rupert Briercliffe and Dr. Harkness and ask them to go into this matter for you not later on, but now.

As Churchwarden of the parish of St. Michael I have had people sent to the General Hospital with what was suspected to be malignant diseases. I am speaking of poor people who cannot go as far as Pelican Island to get treatment. Three months ago I instructed them to go to the General Hospital to be X-rayed and it was told them there that they could not be attended to before the next two or three months. Would you like that to happen to your daughter? I saw that with my own eyes because I saw it in black and white. That is no accusation against the Radiologist. She might be quite honest in her statement. What is the remedy? Do not take what I say when I suggest that you get another Radiologist; get Sir Rupert Briercliffe and Dr. Harkness to tell you that you are not getting the best.

It is my belief that your present X-ray equipment can do more work if you get another Radiologist. I go further than that when I say that you should act now. I am sure the gentlemen whom I have mentioned and who are men of great experience in medicine will tell you that your X-ray equipment can work 24 hours a day.

7.15 p.m.

Before you get a new X-ray machine you should get a Radiologist. You cannot get one so easily. But let me make this strong statement here now. Anatomy is the same today as it always has been. If you are West Indian and you study medicine, you study medicine, but you must offer facilities for your own West Indian people. No man is going to take on and do further studies with a starving wife. Ninety percent of the Barbadian qualified men will come back and live in Barbados because it is a lovely and healthy country; but when he has finished and graduated with his M.B., he is not going to come back and do medicine and then go and qualify again. The average boy when he qualifies has not got two red cents. Send them into the University to do a radiology course. What I am worried about is the case of people having to go to the Hospital with malignant breasts. Are we

getting the best? Do you not think it is time that we should have an expert to take charge and to work upon them? Do you know that learning to take pictures in radiology is not all? Do you know you have one of the most modern machines? Of course, it is time you get a new one, and do you know, Sir, that the suggestion that if you have a little investigation you can work that machine instead of from eight in the morning to four in the evening, and you had another man you could work during the night? I am making this as an appeal on behalf of those who cannot appeal for themselves. Do you know those are the real conditions that exist up there at the General Hospital? Mr. Chairman, I hope the Hon. Minister will appreciate this is more a general observation than a ranting criticism. If I wanted to make a ranting criticism, I could do so from the Radiologist back down, because even if a doctor tries to kill you and you are not to die, you will not die. But I am not trying to rant or destroy, I just feel that in such you have not been honest and that you can do something. I suggest you appoint a Committee. It is not good enough for you to say you have a new hospital; but for now you have five or six graduates from the University, find out which of them would accept the appointment as a radiologist and let him take a post-graduate course. Let me tell you what I mean: Dr. H. H. Bayley did not come here as a radiologist but with experience he became one. That is a fact. So with all these graduates you should see what can be done. It is a special study and I am not satisfied that you are getting the best and therefore on this Head I am very glad that I am here. On the last occasion it was passed without my being here. These are matters that I have been drawing to the attention of the Ministry for some time, and the question of the Hospital is one I would always criticise. To-night I tell you without any rash statement that these things actually exist there to-day. There is absolutely no reason why the unfortunate and under-privileged who cannot pay should not be entitled to the same treatment as those who can. I think, Sir, that with the Surgeon Specialist—as the honourable junior member for St. Peter said, money is not his only interest; for from what I have read and seen and from what people have said, a man of his qualifications, if money meant anything, could make £10,000 a year; so that when I hear people talking about extra fees and what not, it is only a joke. We have no complaint with the services of your Physician Specialist and Medical Superintendent as we had years ago. There is not the same condition with the doctors and Medical Superintendent at the Hospital where nurses were afraid to call the doctors because they were out gambling and getting drunk. The same conditions do not exist now. I know it is harsh but it is the truth. You have not got a wheel-chair Medical Superintendent. You had a Superintendent who if he went into a ward twice went enough. You have not got that to-day. You have a wide-awake man, and at least he is doing something and no complaints can be made against any doctor. Therefore, you cannot level the same criticism at the Hospital. I hope not to have to come back here in the next Estimates to offer similar criticism. Do not let the next Estimates catch us saying: We are waiting for a new Hospital. I will put this to you now though your answer to me will be: "but how does the honourable senior member for the City expect me in view of the fact that we are going to put up a new Hospital to do that?" Do not take what the honourable senior member for the City says. People like Sir Rupert Briercliffe said that the machine up there is unique,

but we cannot expect the staff to work 24 hours a day. My answer is still the men at your service cannot work more than a given time, but your machine can do more work. Therefore, get somebody to carry on until you have got another machine; even if it is on contract. May I suggest you should do what is being done in the United States to-day. An expert Radiologist is not a person expert at taking pictures, but a person who can read pictures. Now I remember this: I had some X-ray pictures taken in Barbados some years ago and I went around to some doctors and I found that as a layman we were all looking. Somebody said to me, "You know Dr. Salmond has a good record, he was among the best three Radiologists in the United Kingdom, but he is a man you cannot approach." I asked whether he was a lion because I know how to approach lions. I saw what was happening, everybody was looking. I did not take one doctor's opinion. One good doctor is as good as the other. I will tell you something now from experience; you will get a man who is not a doctor to give you the right opinion.

7.25 p.m.

To be serious, I am dealing with the Radiologist. I went to Dr. Salmond, and I was told I could not approach him; however, his explanation was different from that of the other doctors I had seen. I suggest that you do what is done in America and England; get your machine and get it up to date. If you have a Radiologist who is an expert, you need not have an ultra-expert Radiologist. If the picture is taken, the Radiologist can do the reading. What is happening is that they feel that the expert cannot afford to use his time in one direction and you have the Assistant who can carry on. We want to do something to prevent all those cases which are thrown back on the doctors. I am asking you to do something now. Ask Sir Rupert Briercliffe or somebody you have about here to go into the matter and do something about it. Are the women who are suffering from malignant illnesses getting the best treatment? I say emphatically on the floor of this House to-night from the reliable information received, that the answer to that question is "No." They are not getting the best treatment, and it is for the Hon. Minister of Social Services to tell us why that is so. I hope he will let us know the reason before the end of this session.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I just want to let the honourable member know that he is not the only person who is thinking along the lines which he is suggesting. The Government is aware of the position, and we are taking the steps which we can take. These Specialist people are not so easy to get. I have been through the West Indies; I have been to Jamaica and even Trinidad, and they are suffering from the lack of these Specialist people. I appreciate the honourable member's suggestion, although he is a bit late, that is, to contact some of these qualified people. I did that a few weeks ago when I was in Jamaica; I took the opportunity to interview some of the ladies and gentlemen who have recently qualified. I am glad to hear that the honourable senior member for the City is in favour of this idea.

That is the position as far as the question of the Radiologist is concerned; the same thing applies to Specialists. Just the other day we increased the salaries of the two Anaesthetists at the Hospital, but nobody has taken it on. The same thing has happened in Trinidad; I repeat, that these Specialists are not so easy to get.

Mr. GODDARD: The criticism of the honourable senior member for the City is most constructive; he did not go out of his way to level any accusation

against anybody, even the Government. He was only pointing out what he knows and what we all know. We all know that there has been a long waiting list at the Hospital for a long time. We do not know if the position has improved, but still people bring letters to me stating that they have to wait for two or three months for operations, and while they are waiting, they cannot work; and they are fortunate if they have an employer who is sympathetic enough to keep them on the pension list until they can get into the Hospital. I had a case only to-day where a doctor said that a man is suffering from hernia; he gave him a letter to the Hospital, and he was assured that he would have to wait for some time.

The honourable senior member for the City has addressed the Committee at great length, and I do not intend to repeat anything he has said. Under the Item "Fuel, light, heat and power," the note says that the increase is due to provision for fuel for the new mechanical laundry. It would be interesting to know if that laundry is likely to be ready for operation because if it will not be so for a few months to come, there seems to be a very large increase of \$10,000, in respect of this vote. They are now using power in the laundry, and it is necessary to know why such a large increase has been asked for.

Under the Item mentioned by the honourable junior member for St. Peter—payment for the collection of debts—I wonder if the doctor's fees are guaranteed by the Hospital, and then they are collected afterwards. In other words, is this an expense purely and simply if the Hospital should have had debts, or is it shared proportionately with the Surgeon Specialist?

I do not know what arrangements are made. The doctors get 50% and the Government gets 50%. I wonder if the Minister can tell me what is the exact arrangements and, if there are any bad debts, whether that will be purely for the account of the General Hospital or if they are shared fifty-fifty between the Hospital and the Specialists.

7:35 p.m.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I am not in a position to say off hand what are the arrangements; I will enquire for you. I do not know whether the doctors bear expenses of collecting. As far as the Mechanical Laundry is concerned, that is due to be opened about the 15th of next month.

Mr. CRAWFORD: Sir, what I am concerned about is the continuing inadequacy—

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Will you mention the item under which you are speaking; I would like to know whether it is one under "voted" or "fixed by law."

Mr. CRAWFORD: If you will allow me to speak, you will find that it is not necessary for me to give you the item. What I am saying is in connection with the General Hospital. Sir, I am considerably concerned—

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of Order. The honourable member knows that when we are in Committee on the Estimates a member picks out an Item and speaks on it. You do not make a general speech on the Head.

Mr. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, I intend to give it to you as soon as I develop the point on which I am speaking; I see no reason why the Hon. Minister should be so anxious. I am saying, Mr. Chairman, that I am deeply concerned about the continual inadequacy—

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I rise again on a point of Order. Will the honourable member give the item on which he is speaking? The honourable member has been a member of this House long enough to know that.

Mr. CRAWFORD: Perhaps the Hon. Minister has not long enough been a member to know—

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I am waiting to hear the particular item on which you are going to speak.

Mr. CRAWFORD: What I am talking about, you will find under Head XXIII (2), the Head with which we are dealing. It concerns an amount of money which is included under Capital Expenditure for the provision of new hospital accommodation in the new financial year and I am saying—

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I rise again on a point of Order. Under this Head—Head XXIII (2) General Hospital, the question of cost for hospital accommodation is not included. It is not mentioned under this Head.

Mr. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, I am appealing to you.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: We are dealing with Head XXIII (2); call the item on which you are speaking.

Mr. CRAWFORD: I am not a parrot. I will begin to talk and then develop on it.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Every honourable member for the whole time we were sitting in Committee has quoted the number of the item on which he has spoken. I am asking the honourable member to do so.

Mr. CRAWFORD: I am going to make a point and in the course of my remarks I will quote the item.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I am not allowing you to do it that way.

Mr. CRAWFORD: There is no law to prevent me.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: If you are not going to do what I tell you, I will have to call the Speaker.

Mr. CRAWFORD: You can call the Speaker in you like.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: I want to hear the principle.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The honourable member is out of Order.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: I am not out of Order, how can I be out of Order?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: (to the Marshal.) Call the Speaker.

Mr. CRAWFORD: An honourable member has spoken on the same thing tonight.

Mr. CHAIRMAN reported to Mr. SPEAKER, and Mr. SPEAKER took the Chair.
7:45 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: His Honour the Chairman has reported to me that the honourable senior member for St. Philip has refused to give him the Item under the Head on which he is speaking. A matter of this sort should never have reached the Speaker. As a matter of fact, as I see it and as the honourable Chairman has seen it, as soon as the honourable member speaks under a Head and develops and strays from the subject, the Chairman has the power to bring him back to the subject. But as I see it, the Chairman did not know and has not been satisfied that he knew under what Head the honourable member was speaking. It is a negative point. Certainly the honourable member might have accommodated the honourable Chairman and the House and this would have saved a scene that should not have been exhibited; but I do not see it punishable on the part of the honourable senior member for St. Philip, because he has not developed anything, and as he said, he would have done so in the course of his address in Committee. I must say it strikes me as a most unnecessary thing. I do not see anything I can charge the honourable member for, because he said he would give the subject matter under the particular Head, and then if he strayed the Chairman had the power to bring him back. That is as I see it.

Mr. CRAWFORD: Your Honour, you have been inspired by the sound commonsense and the rational judgment which you bring to bear on problems arising in here. I made it perfectly clear to the Chairman, very early in my remarks that I intended to tell him under which Head I was speaking. I began by quoting remarks made under the same Head during the same debate. That is all; and the Chairman would himself have made no issue of the matter were he not misguided by people who should know better and people who knows more than himself.

Mr. SPEAKER: I sincerely hope that as soon as the Chairman returns that that spirit of give-and-take and peace will prevail.

Mr. SMITH: May I say something on the matter? You can see the attitude of the honourable senior member for St. Philip even by his remarks to you in the Chair. Now, it was the custom before you were in this House for every member, as soon as he begins to speak under any Head of the Estimates, to quote the Item number so that the Chairman would be in a position to find out if the member is going to speak under the column that is "voted", "fixed by law", or not, and for the whole session of the day every member quoted his number. Now, the honourable senior member for St. Philip comes instead with the attitude of a fighting man and refused to quote the number and said as soon as he developed it he would do so. Must I sit in the Chair and let the honourable member come in here and try to make me look like what? When other members get up they quote the number under which they are speaking. Out of mere decency he should respect the Chair, but if he had any kind of respect for the Chair he would have quoted the number. Some members even quoted wrong numbers and I will not return to that Chair for the honourable senior member for St. Philip to bring . . . well, I will not call what it is in this Chamber. You, Sir, could have told him that . . .

Mr. SPEAKER: I am on my feet and all hon. members please sit. Is the hon. member accusing me and telling me what I should have done or said to the hon. senior member for St. Philip? Is the hon. member serious? Let me make absolutely sure of that, because if there is any charge being brought against me, I am going to be very positive in defending myself. I am in charge and I need no advice from any hon. member of the House as far as this Chamber is concerned. If the hon. member has resigned from the Chair I am going to take it quite seriously. Let the House be well acquainted of it and let the House see about appointing a Chairman. All expressions made here should be taken seriously.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I beg to move that the hon. junior member for St. Michael be appointed as Chairman for the rest of the Session.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: I beg to move that the House do now adjourn for three-quarters of an hour. That is the best thing to do now in my opinion. Tempers are high.

Mr. GODDARD: I beg to second that.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: Speaking on the motion for the adjournment, I will still at the end of the three-quarters of an hour move that the hon. junior member for St. Michael be appointed as Chairman of Committees.

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

On re-assembling,

NOTICES

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I am asking leave to give notice of a Bill which was not ready at the appropriate time.

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

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I beg to give notice of a Bill intituled an Act to grant a sum of money out of the Public Treasury and to appropriate the same for the service of the Island for the year ending on the thirty-first day of March one thousand nine hundred and fifty-seven.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I beg to give notice of a Resolution to advance the sum of \$2,896,600 from the Public Treasury (to be subsequently refunded from Loan Funds) to be placed at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to meet expenditure to be incurred during the financial year 1956-57 on the Capital Works included in the Estimates, 1956-57, Part II — Capital, A — Loan Funds.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, I am asking leave of absence for the Hon. Minister of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries for one month as from today.

There being no objection, the leave was granted.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I do not think that the Hon. Minister will be away for that length of time, but he is ill. He is expected to be back here next week and it may be that he cannot travel. I say that because it is only fair that hon. members should know what the position is.

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I am asking leave to move that the Appropriation Bill, of which I have just given notice, be now read a first time.

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

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I beg to move that a Bill intituled an Act to grant a sum of money out of the Public Treasury and to appropriate the same for the service of the Island for the year ending on the thirty-first day of March one thousand nine hundred and fifty-seven, be now read a first time.

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

The motion was put and agreed to

CHAIRMAN APPOINTED

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the hon. junior member for St. Michael be appointed Chairman of Committees for the remainder of the night's sitting.

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

Mr. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, before you put the motion—

Mr. SPEAKER: I am on my feet. A motion has been offered by the Hon. Premier that the hon. junior member for St. Michael be appointed Chairman of Committees for the remainder of the night's sitting. I see that the Chairman of Committees is in his place. [VOICES: Hear, Hear!] The Chairman of Committees will have to be absent from the House in order that somebody else might be appointed to act as Chairman of Committees. As long as the Chairman of Committees is in his place, nobody can be appointed to act as Chairman; therefore, the meet expenditure to be incurred during the financial as long as the Chairman of Committees remains in

his place, that motion is out of order. That strikes me as being very obvious. I have nothing more to say about the matter.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: The Chairman of Committees, in clear and explicit terms, has resigned his office. There is no Rule which says that he must resign his office in writing. The Chairman of Committees, I repeat, resigned his office in explicit terms and His Honour the Speaker heard it; and from that moment the office of Chairman of Committees was vacant. There is no provision for a member to resign his seat in the House, or how a Minister or the Deputy Speaker or the Chairman of Committees might resign his office. There is no Rule governing the procedure as to how such resignations should take place, and therefore, a clearly expressed declaration by the Chairman of Committees is sufficient for the purpose.

Mr. SPEAKER: When the Chairman of Committees made reference to his would-be resignation, I told him that such remarks ought to be seriously taken by the House. I have made a check with the Reporter who took down what the Chairman of Committees said, and I have been made to understand that he has said: "I will resign my office." If the Chairman of Committees signifies to this Chamber—and he will have to do that for me to allow the motion to be made—that he has resigned his office or if he says: "I do now resign my office," then the Hon. Premier's motion will be entertained. I now call on the hon. junior member for St. Joseph to let this House know if he has resigned his office.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I respectfully beg to resign my office as Chairman of Committees.

The question that the hon. junior member for St. Michael be appointed Chairman of Committees for the remainder of tonight's sitting, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

RESUMPTION OF COMMITTEE ON THE ESTIMATES

Mr. SPEAKER: On the adjournment, the House was in Committee on the Estimates for the year 1956—57.

Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair, and the House resumed Committee on the Estimates, Mr. BRYAN being in the Chair.

9.00 p.m.

Head XXIII—Medical (2) General Hospital

Mr. ACTING CHAIRMAN: The question is—

Mr. CRAWFORD: Before you put the question, Mr. Acting Chairman, and before we proceed any further, may I be permitted to extend a warm welcome to you in your temporary appointment, and to express the hope that if you desire to fill the vacancy permanently, that your tenure of office might be far longer and more auspicious than that of your immediate predecessor.

Now, Sir if I may proceed with the debate, while this matter was being discussed this afternoon more than one or two hon. members made reference to Item 19 Visiting Anaesthetic Service and Item 18 Visiting Outpatient Service. Hon. members also touched on previous items dealing with remuneration and the fees of certain Medical Specialists—the Surgeon Specialist and the Radiologist Specialists. Comments were made on the terms of service and the conditions of work which these officers labour. More than one hon. member, Sir, made exhaustive comments on whether or not these Medical Officers receive their fees even before a patient pays them into the

Treasury and what not. In connection with these observations, I want to mention a report which came to my ears and it is that quite apart from inadequate accommodation at the General Hospital, people who desire to enter the Hospital as patients find it almost impossible to find accommodation unless they are going for an operation. The accommodation is limited and the opinion has been expressed in many responsible quarters. If anybody who is suffering from an ailment wants to get into the Hospital for treatment, that person is more lucky to get in unless he is going for an operation; therefore, it seems to me that the emphasis on the part of previous speakers has been more on the lack of accommodation for people to go to the Hospital to be treated by the Specialists there, rather than on the terms and conditions under which those Specialists work.

I do not know if due attention has been paid under this Head to the question of providing more adequate accommodation at the General Hospital for the people in this country who are in need of medical attention. The greater part of my remarks, as I hinted earlier, will be postponed until we are dealing with the item of providing new accommodation for the General Hospital under Capital Expenditure. However, I do want to impress upon the House at this stage that these Specialists have no grievance. They are more than well treated. Within recent times we have added to their remuneration a proportion of the fees paid by the people on whom they perform operations. Speaking for myself, I should much prefer to be able to know that the attention which is being paid to the claims of these Medical Specialists or extra remuneration and improved conditions of service is paid to the people who would gladly utilise the services which we have for them but which they are unable to get through lack of accommodation in the Barbados General Hospital for them. That is the burden of my complaint.

The question that the sum of \$832,016 be voted under Head XXIII (2) General Hospital, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Head XXII—Medical (3) Mental Hospital

Head XXIII—Medical (3) Mental Hospital was called.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, under this Head there are a number of Items to be added. I am asking hon. members not to talk of the inclusion of any of these Items under the column "to be voted" and that there should not be included under the Column "fixed by law." The Hon. Minister of Social Services has already explained that the Civil Establishment Order creating these new posts has already been put before this House, and when it is passed it would automatically wipe out the question of "to be voted."

The Items to be added under this Head are as follows:—

Item 15 — Head Cook — \$960.

Provision of \$960 (Fixed by Law) to be deleted as the post of Head Cook is to be abolished.

Item 15—Storekeeper and Head Supervisor—\$1,512.

Provision of \$1,512 (To be voted) for the salary of a Storekeeper and Head Supervisor on scale \$1,512 x 72 — 1,800. This post replaces the post of Head Cook referred to above.

Item 15(a) (New)—Supervisor—\$720

Provision of \$720 (To be voted) for the salary of a Supervisor on scale \$720 x 48 — 960.

Item 18(a) (New)—Driver—\$720

Provision of \$720 (To be voted) for the salary of a Driver on scale \$720 x 48 — 864.

Item 34 —C.O.L. Allowance—\$18,621

Increased by \$252 (To be voted) to \$18,873 to provide allowances for additional staff.

Item 48—Uniforms—\$7,584

Increased by \$120 (To be voted) to \$7,704 to provide for uniforms for the Supervisor and the Driver.

I beg to move that the sum of \$285,111 be voted under Head XXIII (3).

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: In seconding the motion, I take the opportunity to explain that the office of Head cook will be abolished. The holder of that office is really a supervisor and therefore the office will be abolished and the Item "Storekeeper and Head Supervisor" will appear in its place. The holder of that office will be supervisor of the kitchen instead of Head Cook.

It is also proposed to add the new post of "Supervisor." The reason for that is that there is a lack of supervision at the Mental Hospital. Hon. members will remember that during the last Estimates certain criticisms were made by the hon. junior member for St. Lucy who is not in his place today, and as a result of those criticisms an investigation was made, and it was discovered that there was not enough supervision at the Mental Hospital.

9.15. p.m.

The secretary is really too busy with the other departments of the Hospital to give adequate supervision; therefore the office of Storekeeper and Head Supervisor is necessary with the terms as set out here. A supervisor or and driver is also necessary. Formerly they were one or two men on the staff who would do the driving, but they have begun to complain that it is interfering with their regular hours of work and that they have to work overtime. [A VOICE: Were they paid for it?] They were paid for it; but it is better to appoint a whole-time driver who would drive these ambulances, and the cost of living, and uniforms for the supervisor and driver adds to the vote.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: Mr. Acting Chairman, I am going to speak under all of these Items to be voted. Now, while I appreciate the remarks made by the Hon. Minister of Health, this Department of the Medical Services has been causing some concern for some time now. I wonder if the Hon. Minister would be able to answer a few questions I am going to ask him. They are very important. Before I pose these questions however, I want to make a few observations. I think the numbers in the Mental Hospital are very high when compared with the population of this country and with other countries; the percentage so to speak. Now, I am sure the Minister is bound to admit that, if he has the figures; but I have made it a point to discuss this with experienced psychiatrists who know. On the other hand, Sir, there are in the vicinity of 700 people there. For sometime this Government has been spending a lot of money on this Institution, and a great effort is being made to train assistants in the method of handling these unfortunate people, and we are bringing it, or have brought an Order and increased the salaries within the last few months. If I remember correctly, when the Hon. Minister brought the Order here, we gave very handsome increases to the Assistants there. What has been worrying me for sometime—with all that and with all your modern and scientific treatment and modern medicines—is the fact that I have been told on reliable authority that a great number of cases in our Mental Hospital are those caused by contact with patients of social dis-

cases. Now, it is, I think, universally known that within recent years people who have studied psychiatry have decided on the various categories in which you place these people. I would like the Hon. Minister if he is able, to say tonight, how you break these cases down at the Mental Hospital, the percentage of the cases which are really considered to be of social diseases, those who are persons of D.T., those of nervous frustration and so on. The Minister knows the categories and I would like him to tell me, because it is considered among the medical profession, and while I do not want to call names publicly, I am prepared to speak privately to the Minister of a medical man in this country for whom he has a great respect because of his unique position in the colony, who feels that a lot more can be done. I am not satisfied that sufficient is being done. Could he tell me now what percentage, since you have brought over the experts, and with the expert treatment which we hope the experts know something about, of the inmates have been released within the last three years? The treatment of medical cases today as I understand it as soon as they have been placed in the various categories, has been such that to continue to keep in the vicinity of 700 people down there without showing any visible signs of responding to that treatment, leaves much to be questioned. I pose that question because I want the Minister to be able to explain something to this House. In other words, we are voting this handsome sum, to our regret, for treatment at the Mental Hospital. Our Medical Superintendent and Assistant Medical Superintendent draw comparatively good salaries; so they ought to be in the vicinity of experts. But what I am at a loss to understand—and also the Medical man—is that when people are sent down to the Mental Hospital, they either remain under observation or are sent out without any treatment, plus the fact that the numbers there have not been reduced by the treatment. In other words, the Minister has tonight told us of the van and all the other things which you have for the facilities of the staff and what not. That to my way of thinking, matters very little when it comes to a Hospital for the mentally ill. What does matter, Sir, is whether you are reducing the numbers like all other countries with those modern drugs which I do not think the Hon. Minister can challenge me on tonight as regards this institution. I should like the Minister to be able to tell me that before I go any further and in what percentage are they being reduced.

And I know that when I posed these questions to the Hon. Minister of Social Services, who is a professional man, he might think that a layman has no right doing that. I want to find out these things; I have discussed this matter with many eminent practitioners who have been very worried about this matter, and I have recently discussed it with a Psychiatrist for whom I got the figures.

9.25 p.m.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I hope the hon. member appreciates the fact that I am not in a position to give him that information tonight. One would not ordinarily anticipate that a question like that would have been asked. We have men down there as well qualified as they are anywhere else, to treat people. They use all modern methods—shock treatment, modern drugs—and I did not think that anybody thought that with the introduction of these modern methods, any Hospital would be impeded. There are certain incurables which nothing will cure. I was in Jamaica the other day, and I can say that our percentage compares very favourably with theirs. [Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: It is very much higher.

I read] I saw! [Laughter]. However, I cannot give the hon. member that answer tonight.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: That is a straightforward and honest reply. On behalf of the people of this Country, I am demanding a reply because this question is worrying the doctors in this Country very much. I am going to reserve the criticism which I will make, but medicines for the treatment of mental ills were procurable for sometime now. You have men as qualified as you can find anywhere else. That, I have accepted. The Hon. Minister has said that they are using the best medicines that they can possibly get; but, do they know how to use the medicines? There is a difference between having the medicines and having the qualified man and knowing how to use those medicines. We are spending a handsome sum on this place, and if you take these things in the various categories, as the Hon. Minister knows, there is shock treatment for one thing, antibiotic drugs for another, X-ray treatment for another, and so on. However, I have been made to understand that the bulk of your cases could be placed in a particular category, and that in keeping with modern treatment, more could be done for these people. It matters not how well you get your attendants trained, or the farm working, or how many pick-ups you have or what not; what most matters to us or what must matter most of all, is that when such an illness comes to a member of a family, with all the system of Government you have, and with all you are doing in your medical services, are you getting what you are paying your money for?

I am warning the Hon. Minister of Social Services, as soon as the consideration of these Estimates is over to ask for a Report such as I have asked for, and if he decides to set up a Committee of medical experts to get a Report on the matter, he will see what the position is. I know what I am saying, and the Hon. Minister knows what I am saying also. In 1953, you had a big amount, but you might have been following things up, and in 1954, you will find that the amount of antibiotic drugs have been improved by so much, that you might not have followed them up. I do not agree with just bringing people here; medical officers who are Specialists of this kind, should not be worried about the running of farms or about the administration of the place, and what not. We want to know about the physical condition of the people. I want the answers to the questions I have posed for the benefit of this House and for the benefit of the people, because members of the medical fraternity have very little faith in this matter. They feel that more could be done for the people than what is being done. I say that sufficient is not being done for the people; I make allowances for those cases which are incurable, but the health of the people must come first. None of us can escape when those things are in the air.

Mr. ALLDER: It has always been my opinion that the medical profession should start to think of new methods of combatting the disease which is existing at the Mental Hospital. What has happened in recent years is that the numbers continued to increase, and although extensions have been made from time to time, yet the extent to which you might have to extend that Institution might become frightening. I do not know much about such illnesses, but I have done a little reading on such matters, and what I am going to suggest now is purely what I have read being done by more advanced communities than ours. What I have been told is that most of the cases down there are due to syphilis.

Mr. ACTING CHAIRMAN: May I ask the hon. member what is the Item on which he is speaking?

Mr. ALLDER: I am dealing with Item 40, and what is more, I am dealing with all the Items which are not voted by law. I am told that most of the cases down there are due to syphilis, and therefore one would have thought that, with the increase in the antibiotic drugs which are being used at these Institutions, more patience would have been used at that Institution. It has been said that larger numbers have been at that Institution than formerly, but I have noticed that there are certain characters around Bridgetown, whom you see down there and after a few weeks you see them back on the streets. Then you see them back down there again, and there is a kind of constant repetition.

3:35 p.m.

There is provision under the British constitution which deprives a lunatic of his citizenship; that is to say, there are certain things which he cannot do because he is not mentally responsible. A lunatic is not entitled to vote because he was a lunatic at some time or the other. It is considered that he is not responsible for what he is doing.

What is more, those people are permitted to have children. I am also told that many cases of lunacy are inherited; others are developed. That means that if one or the other of the parents of a child has been suffering from lunacy, the offspring is likely to be tainted and he or she is likely to become a lunatic too.

There is another very technical thing which I would like to bring to the notice of this House. It is not the first time that a scheme of eugenics has been introduced in a progressive society. I am told that the Romans of old have practised such things and nations have become interested in the physical nature of their people. I am wondering if such a suggestion should not be made in respect of Barbados. Of course, that will be a matter for the Medical profession. I do not presume to be able to suggest to them what they should do but we do have to give some consideration to the continual increase in the population of that Institution.

I notice under the same Head that although we have voted large sums of expenditure on the farm there with the hope that the Institution would become more self-sufficient as a result of that, the vote for "Provisions" continues to be the same, as a matter of fact, it is more than what it was in 1953-54. When we were discussing that item last year, it was pointed out that the sole purpose of extending that farm was to provide a means of work for people at that Institution, because making use of those patients by their assisting in the running of the farm, attending to cattle, or planting a potato, was one of the therapeutic treatments of the people of that institution. If that is one of the methods of treatment of people afflicted with that illness and if it were carried out, why is the vote for provisions still at the same figure? I am wondering if the extensions have been carried out under proper lines. I do not know, but certainly if you had decided to extend the Farm and the extension was carried out on proper lines you should have more cattle, therefore, you should buy less milk, you should have more pigs, therefore, you should buy less meat; you should have that large track of pasture which was formally in grass cultivated, therefore, you should buy less potatoes, and certainly less provisions.

I do not know if the Advisory Committee of that Institution is as active as it should have been to put forward these suggestions. I feel it would be difficult for the Medical Superintendent to be able to see everything that should be noticed, therefore,

it just depends on the kind of membership which he has on the Advisory Committee of that Institution to help him. I am hoping to see a reduction in the expense of that Institution in view of the fact that you have made provision for an extended farm, which I hope will help to supply the things which you have to buy outside.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: In reply to the hon. senior member for St. John I do not propose to go into the question of eugenics, [A VOICE: Is it too deep for you?] Yes. I am wondering if the hon. member will be willing to support the question for sterilisation of the individual. [Mr. ALLDER: If it is the best method for the society.] You will remember that the Nazis practise it.

Anyhow, to be serious, there is one allegation which the hon. member made which is not true. It is with respect to his saying that the numbers at that institution are increasing year by year. That statement is not true. [A VOICE: Yes, it is.] I am saying that figures which I have in my possession show that that is not so. The hon. member also mentioned that sometime ago he saw someone who was an inmate of that Institution previously, on the streets and then a few weeks afterwards he saw that person readmitted to the Institution again as a patient. According to the recent law, everybody who goes to the Lunatic Asylum is not a lunatic; they are not patients for medical treatment. They are not certified as lunatics. They go there as temporary patients for medical treatment. According to that law a person can go there and stay a few weeks and then return if he takes sick again.

9.45 p.m.

On the question of syphilis I do not know if he feels all the patients there are suffering from syphilis. All the patients suffering from syphilis down there are taken care of until blood-tests reveal that they are cured. He did make some allegation about the farm. It is true we had high hopes for the farm, but the hon. member will remember early last year we had a period of draught; there was no rain and therefore there was no produce from the farm: and we had to buy vegetables outside which were even dearer in most cases than what was estimated. The hon. member will be surprised to hear that at one time last year, the farm produced enough milk to satisfy the patients and some was sold to the General Hospital; but of course after the hurricane, plus, as I said the drought which reduced the amount of grass and so on, the farm yield was reduced and we had to buy meat and fodder and concentrated feed. Anyway, we are still going ahead with the farm and we hope in the not too distant future to be able to report that the farm is a success. We have every hope that it will be a success.

The question that the sum of \$285,111 be voted under Head XXIII Mental Hospital was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Head XXIII—Lazaretto

Head XXIII (4)—Lazaretto—was called.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I beg to move that the sum of \$29,592, be voted under this Head.

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

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: Now, Sir, I have missed something from here. This is the Leprosarium. The Minister of Health knows I will not let anything on that pass without querying it. Under the Cost of Living, I notice that After Care is removed from this Head. Let me say on this question of after care, I am wondering whether the Hon. Minister can tell me whether any increase has been given.—

Mr. ACTING CHAIRMAN: On what Item is the hon. senior member for the City speaking?

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: I know. All the Items to be voted under this Head. Do you want me to call them? It is usual here, I think.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: It is not here under this Head, but it will be found under another Head.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: I know; it is under Social Welfare. I am sorry for most of you who are like little children who have to do what people say. Medicine, \$2,500. I am wondering, Sir, if the Minister can tell me if when these people come out from the Leprosarium part of their after care is to let them see the doctor and have treatment still, and if he can tell me if for that after care they are paying \$2,500. I have had the experience, Sir, of having discharged lepers come to me wanting to get extractions. Well, you know as well as I do that a few dentists in private practice outside will want to have discharged lepers; however it might be signified that they are cured, and it is difficult to get Dental Surgeons to do the job. I would like the Minister to tell me if in this vote for \$2,500, provision is made for discharged lepers to get extractions or if it is only for the inmates inside? That is one point; and I would not want to raise it after now. The same thing applies to Eye Treatment. You have this amount for Eye treatment and dental treatment, but what about discharged patients who happen to want this treatment? On the other hand, representation should be made to increase the allowance given to discharged inmates so that they can actually eke out an existence, because it is felt, and you know well enough, that nobody will hire them although they will have a medical certificate to the effect that they are perfectly all right. So I would like the Hon. Minister to tell me whether this dental and eye treatment applies to them and if he can tell me now or have I got to wait. Have they made any improvement in after care?

9.55 p.m.

Mr. ALLDER: The Hon. Minister of Social Services knows that this is a very dreadful disease, and that when a person has contracted it, he is ostracized, and such people find it very hard to eke out an existence. I have had complaints that such persons have been treated very harshly by the After-Care Committee. Anyhow, the Minister of Social Services will know who is responsible in this matter. I have met some of these persons who were formerly patients at this Institution, and they complain about the difficulty which they experience in getting employment. Whether it is the Barbados Government or any other Government. The Government is always responsible for the existence of the people in the community, and when the people fall by the way, thereby finding it impossible to eke out an existence for themselves, they automatically become a charge on the Government. I know of a good carpenter who came from Speightstown, and went into that Institution, but before he went down there he used to get a lot of work.

Mr. ACTING CHAIRMAN: The hon. member is dealing with the same question of After-Care; I think I have given him quite a lot of latitude.

Mr. ALLDER: I am wondering if the Government could not make some arrangement whereby these discharged patients who have skill could be employed at the different Government Departments. This is nothing to do with working in a kitchen where condemnation could take place; my personal

feeling is that these discharged people should be assisted.

Mr. ACTING CHAIRMAN: The question of After-Care does not come in here at all.

Mr. ALLDER: Where can I raise this question?

Mr. ACTING CHAIRMAN: Under the Head "Social Services."

Mr. ALLDER: Anyhow, the Hon Minister of Social Services knows what I am trying to bring forward. If a man is a carpenter—

Mr. ACTING CHAIRMAN: I rule the hon. member out of Order. I have spoken to him on more than one occasion.

Mr. ALLDER: I am saying that after you have assisted in training these patients in certain skills, when they have been so trained and released from that Institution, there is no avenue whereby —

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I am appealing to the hon. member. He is one of those hon. members who always endeavour to obey the Chair, and to abide by the rules of procedure. There is no necessity for him to follow anybody else to do what is wrong. When we come to the particular Head, the hon. member can deal with it.

Mr. ALLDER: It seems as if the Hon. Minister knows what I am aiming at, and I will leave it to him.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: For the sake of Democracy, when we ask questions over here, let the appropriate Minister have the opportunity to answer, otherwise I will get up and talk. I am not making any apologies to anybody for that; please, Mr. Acting Chairman, do not put any question until the appropriate Minister has the chance of saying something in reply. My right in here is the same as anybody else's right in here. If they do not want it to be so, then let us have a showdown. If the Hon. Minister has not got an answer, well, he has not got it; but let him get up and say something.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: The hon. member asked two questions, and in both cases I say that I know there is some difficulty about rendering service to these people after they have left the Institution. However, if these people return to the Institution on the day on which the Dentist visits the Institution, they will get treatment.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: I appreciate that answer, but that does not happen now. I have been experiencing that trouble, and I am asking the Hon. Minister to make what he has said quite clear to the Superintendent of the Institution. I thank the Hon. Minister for his reply; that should also apply to the question of the eyes. In passing, I could hardly allow the observation of the Hon. Minister to go unnoticed; this prejudice does not only exist among the Dental Surgeons and the general public, but also among the Medical Practitioners and the general public, because we all know of the celebrated case in which a Matron at the Hospital had to perform an operation for appendicitis on a patient of the Mental Hospital, when not one doctor would perform that operation. That person lived. I repeat; this prejudice exists not only in the community but among the doctors as well.

The question that the sum of \$285,111 be voted under this Head was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Head XXIII—Medical (5) Board of Health

Head XXIII—Medical (5) Board of Health—was called.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I beg to move that the sum of \$17,545 be voted under this Head.

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

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, nearly all these Items under this Head are "to be voted." This Item deals with infectious diseases but what I really want to say on that question will be more appropriately said under another Head which we will come to later. I notice under Capital Works that there is provision for proper isolation. I want to know what are going to be the arrangements made for it, so I just give notice of my question now so that the Hon. Minister will be aware of what I am going to ask when we are considering that Head.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I did not hear the question.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: On this question which I am going to raise when we are dealing with proper isolation under Capital Expenditure. I want to know whether provision is made under the Department of Medical Services for the proper isolation of infectious diseases.

The question that the sum of \$17,545 be voted under this Head was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Head XXIII—Medical

(6) Bacteriologist and Pathologist

Head XXIII — Medical (6) Bacteriologist and Pathologist was called.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I beg to move that the sum of \$9,675 be voted under this Head.

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

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

Head XXIII—Medical (7) Health Centres

Head XXIII Medical (7) Health centres was called.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, this is another Head under which a number of Items are to be added. They are as follows:—

Speightstown.

Item 3 (a) (New)—Staff Nurse—\$528.

Provision of \$528 (To be voted) for the salary of a Staff Nurse on scale \$528 x 48—864.

St. Michael.

Item 9 (a) (New)—Laboratory Supervisor—\$4,128.

Provision of \$4,128 (To be voted) for the salary of a Laboratory Supervisor on scale \$4,128 x 192 — 5,280 x 240 — 5,760.

Item 12 (a) (New) — Staff Nurse — \$528

Provision of \$528 (To be voted) for the salary of a staff Nurse on scale \$528 x 48 — 864.

Item 13 (a) (New) — Female Clerk — \$624

Provision of \$624 (To be voted) for the salary of a Female Clerk on scale \$624 x 48 — 1,008 x 72 — 1,440.

Item 17 (a) New — Laboratory Attendant — \$480

Provision of \$480 (To be voted) for the salary of a Laboratory Attendant on scale \$480 x 48 — 816.

St. Philip

Item 19 (a) New — Medical officer of Health — \$6,000.

Provision of \$6,000 (To be voted) for the salary of a Medical Officer of Health on scale \$5,520 x 480 — 6,480 together with a non-pensionable allowance of \$480 p.a.

Item 19 (b) (New)—Senior Health Nurse—\$1,560.

Provision of \$1,560 (to be voted) for the salary of a Senior Health Nurse on scale \$1,560 x 72—1,920.

Item 19 (c) (New)—Junior Health Nurses—\$2,592.

Provision of \$2,592 (To be voted) for the salaries of 3 Junior Health Nurses on scale \$864 x 48 1,344.

Item 19 (d) (New)—Laboratory Assistant —\$600

Provision of \$600 (To be voted) for the salary of a Laboratory Assistant on scale \$600: 600: 660: 840 x 72—1,128 (E.B.) 1,296 x 96 — 1,680 (E.B.) 1,872 x 96—2,160 x 120 — 2,280.

Item 19 (e) (New) — Staff Nurse—\$528.

Provision of \$528 (To be voted) for the salary of a Staff Nurse on scale \$528 x 48 —864.

Item 19 (f) (New) — Stenographer-Typist —\$624

Provision of \$624 (To be voted) for the salary of a Stenographer-Typist on scale \$624 x 48—1,200.

Item 19(g) (New)—Messenger—\$480

Provision of \$480 (To be voted) for the salary of a Messenger on scale \$480 x 48 — 816.

Item 19 (h) (New)—Unestablished Staff—\$390

Provision of \$390 (To be voted) for the wages of a Labourer paid at Key Scale rates.

Item 20—Living-out Allowance—\$2,272

Increased by \$624 (To be voted) to \$2,896 to provide allowances in respect of 3 Staff Nurses. (Items 3(a), 12 (a) and 19 (e)).

Item 20(a) (New)—Health Visitors Allowance —\$1,440

Provision of \$1,440 (To be voted) to pay an allowance to 12 Health Nurses at \$120 p.a. each.

Item 21—C.O.L. Allowance—\$3,050

Increased by \$1,833 (To be voted) to \$4,883 to provide allowances for additional staff.

Speightstown

Item 22—Uniforms—\$240

Increased by \$60 (To be voted) to \$300 to provide uniform for the Staff Nurse.

Item 29(a) (New)—Cleaning—\$215

Provision of \$215 (To be voted) for the wages of a part-time Maid.

Item 31—Laundry and Ration Allowance—\$1,188

Increased by \$297 (To be voted) to \$1,485 to provide an allowance for the Staff Nurse.

St. Michael

Item 32—Uniforms—\$360

Increased by \$60 (To be voted) to \$420 to provide uniform for the Staff Nurse.

Item 42—Laundry and Ration Allowance—\$1,188.

Increased by \$297 (To be voted) to \$1,485 to provide an allowance for the Staff Nurse.

St. Philip

Item 44 (a) (New)—Uniforms—\$300

Provision of \$300 (To be voted) to provide uniforms for 4 Public Health Nurses and a Staff Nurse at \$60 p.a. each.

Item 44(b) (New)—Furniture and equipment —\$960

Provision of \$960 (To be voted) for furniture and equipment.

Item 44(c) (New)—Stationery —\$75

Provision of \$75 (To be voted).

Item 44(d) (New) Public Health Education —\$240.

Provision of \$240 (To be voted) for magazines, pamphlets, charts, maps and demonstration material.

Item 44(e) (New)—Travelling Expenses—\$400

Provision of \$600 (To be voted) for travelling expenses of Medical Officer of Health.

Item 44 (f) (New)—Upkeep of Car—\$600

Provision of \$600 (To be voted) for gasolene, wages of chauffeur and insurance.

Item 44 (g) (New)—Drugs, disinfectants and dressings—\$2,250

Provision of \$2,250 (To be voted) for drugs for V.D. Clinic, anti and post natal Clinics and dental Clinics.

Item 44 (h) (New)—Upkeep of Laboratory—\$75

Provision of \$75 (To be voted) for stains, reagents, solution, slides and cover slips for laboratory use.

Item 44 (i) (New)—Light, power and water —\$200

Provision of \$200 (To be voted).

Item 44 (j) (New)—Cleaning—\$215

Provision of \$215 (To be voted) for the wages of a part-time Maid.

Item 44 (k) (New)—Laundry and Ration Allowance—\$1,485.

Provision of \$1,485 (To be voted) to provide allowances for 4 Public Health Nurses and a Staff Nurse.

Item 44(l) (New)—Incidentals—\$250.

Provision of \$250 (To be voted) for laundry, linen and incidental expenses.

Item 45—C.O.L Allowance—\$232

Increased by \$146 (To be voted) to \$378 to provide allowances for additional staff.

Item 46 (New)—Motor Car—\$3,450

Provision of \$3,450 (To be voted) for the purchase of a Motor Car to be used at the St. Philip Health Centre.

Item 47 (New)—Bicycles—\$330

Provision of \$330 (To be voted) for the purchase of a bicycle for each of the three Health Centres for use by Health Visitors.

I beg to move that the sum of \$113,776 be now voted under this Head.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: In seconding this motion, Mr. Chairman, I would like to give a little more information. This increase in Staff before us is really significant of the activities of the representatives of W.H.O. They have come according to an agreement to assist us in setting up Health Centres and Health Services in general, and they have asked in many cases for assistance of new staff and as a result, we are regrading the whole staff.

In St. Michael there is need for a Laboratory Supervisor. You will have Laboratory Technicians at the St. Michael's Centre as well as at Speightstown and at St. Philip when that Centre is built. In addition to that, it is felt that we should have a Laboratory Supervisor who will so to speak co-ordinate all three of these laboratories at the Health Centres. 10.15 p.m.

The provision of \$4,123 is for that officer, then there are the staff nurse, Female Clerk, Laboratory Attendant in connection with the Health Centres. These are all new Items consequent upon the recommendation from the W.H.O. experts. As you will see, everything in St. Philip will be finished later on this year, probably about July and this provision is for staff. Instead of having to come back in a short while when this building has been erected and about to function, we present the whole picture to the Committee so that they will see what staff is required, bearing in mind that the figures in some of these cases will only represent half of the salaries, that is, in as much as we do not expect the Health Centre to function during any more than half the financial year, provision is made for half of the staff as far as the emoluments are concerned, except that in such cases you will need furniture, uniform and things of that sort and the full expense to meet this

is put here; otherwise provision is made for only half the year. The amount for bicycle and motor car is only made for half the year. That is the position as far as these Items are concerned. I beg to move that the sum of \$113,776 be voted under Head XXIII (7) Health Centres.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: This is one of the Heads under Medical Services at which, I suppose, you are bound to admit you cannot level any criticism. I want to say that if the Government is as successful in securing for St. Philip an officer of the type of those which you have in St. Michael and St. Peter then you will be assured of the success of that clinic which you are going to open in St. Philip. I say that because as I said earlier today the officer in St. Peter besides being a doctor—and this cannot be said for every doctor—is a man worthy of the post which he holds. I have never met a Medical Practitioner who can get on more easily with people and make them understand and appreciate what is being done for them than Dr. Byer. I can say the same for the officer for St. Michael, Dr. Cochrane. I must admit I have met few officials who have taken such immediate interest in the work they have to do as Dr. Cochrane; and if you get a man of the calibre and the sympathy and understanding for human beings as you have in St. Michael and St. Peter, you will be doing a great service to Barbados. These two Departments are doing a wonderful job. I observe, Mr. Acting Chairman, I am dealing with Item 25 and may be Item . . . whatever is the Item of Health Education. Look at it carefully. Does the Hon. Minister not think the amounts are very small? It says for St. Michael \$480 and for St. Peter which covers St. Lucy and so on \$600. For St. Michael £100 includes provision for visual aids to Health education, magazines, pamphlets, charts, maps and demonstration material. I am sure the Hon. Minister knows how "Enmore" has 'taken on' in the public eye, and how much more it is doing. I think Health education can go a bit further, and I have always advocated that to enlighten people on public health matters and the prevention of disease, they should give better service to the public. You give \$600 for the parish of St. Peter where you have St. Lucy, St. Thomas and all the parishes for which it caters while for St. Michael you give £100. I think there is a greater necessity to give more propaganda to the public health in St. Michael where you have a greater density of population and slum areas. I wonder if the Hon. Minister will agree if he looks and sees there is only \$480 for St. Michael and \$600 for Speightstown. Four hundred and eighty dollars is a very small amount and I know surely if he has been looking at the figures, especially in the actual T.B. campaign carried on there by the two officers, he realises that. He knows what I am talking about. One hundred pounds is nothing, and I should hate to think that in mid-year when you really have a campaign going among your Boards of Health Inspectors and you get down—I hope you are going to get down—slides to go from school to school on a real Public Health Campaign, you should find it is not enough.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: If it is necessary we will get more.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: I hear the honourable member say that. I know in this Department they are going to be parsimonious in using the necessary propaganda for public health, but why is it you can find \$600 for public health for the population in a place where the three parishes would be less than half the population of the parish of St. Michael? I have nothing more than the greatest praise for the way these two public health centres are being

operated, and I say unhesitatingly that it is because you have been successful in selecting two able, humane men to be at the Head.

The question that the sum of \$113,776 to be voted under Head XXXII (7)—Health Centres—was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Head XXIII (8) Maternity Hospital

Head XXIII (8) — Maternity Hospital — was called.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I beg to move that the sum of \$35,404 be voted under this Head.

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

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: Mr. Acting Chairman, when you look at this Head, you will notice that there are no Items under it fixed by law, and you are voting \$35,404. What I would like to ask the Minister is why are we continuing this system? Is the Maternity Hospital still an experiment? We have the Health Centres into which we can absorb it, and especially if you look at certain posts you will find a clerk that is graded in accordance with the Civil Servants and other people. I am therefore wondering when you are going to appreciate that this is a necessary Department in the Medical Service and have it established.

10.25 p.m.

As the position stands now, it seems to me as if you are treating all of these things as at an experimental stage, and you do not have any desire to bring them under your medical establishment. I believe that that Hospital has become a factor in our medical establishment and it should be regularised. It came in under C.D. & W. Funds, and we know that it must have outlived the 5 years when it was worked under C.D. & W. I am wondering whether we are treating this Head as a Department which is not standing on its own feet.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: The honourable member has answered himself; this is still an experiment. Under the provisions for a new Hospital or an extended Hospital; the Maternity Hospital will be absorbed; therefore we cannot establish it.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: This is a waste of time; these services should be in your General Hospital. If this building is a gift, it should be sold and the money used in respect of the Hospital. I am saying that as far as this Maternity Hospital is concerned, it has served its purpose, and I agree with the honourable junior member for St. Peter that these services should be absorbed in the General Hospital. It makes the training easier if you put these services at the General Hospital.

In connection with Item 12, "Servant for Matron," I observe that the sum of \$312 is to be voted. I should like to know whether you pay the servants for other Matrons at the same rate. I should like to see the Government being consistent in the salaries which they pay to servants. I recall that this is not at the same rate at which you pay the servants at Erdiston Training College. I think the Government should have a regular pay for domestic servants. I am asking the Hon. Minister of Social Services in future that they go into this question of the wages of domestic servants and get them all on the same basis.

The question that the sum of \$35,404 be voted under this Head was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Head XXIX—Barbados Regiment

Head XXIV—Barbados Regiment—was called.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I beg to move that the sum of \$56,135 be voted under this Head.

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

The question that the sum of \$56,135 be voted under this Head was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Head XXV—Public Works

Head XXV—Public Works—was called.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I am asking leave to make amendments to this Head.

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

Item 12 (a) (New) — Telephone Operator — \$528

Provision of \$528 (Fixed by Law) for the salary of a Telephone Operator on scale \$528 x 48 — 912 under the authority of C.E. (G) (Amendment) Order, 1956.

Item 16 — C.O.L. Allowance — \$9,027

Increased by \$100 (To be voted) to \$9,127 to provide an allowance for the Telephone Operator.

Item 92 (New) — Plant and Equipment — \$3,000

Provision of \$3,000 (To be voted) for the purchase of a concrete mixer to expedite the Capital Works programme.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I beg to move that the sum of \$256,087 be voted under this Head.

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

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: I will deal with these Items as I go along. The first one is Item 21, "Winding and Repairs to Clock," I believe I can safely say that the Public Buildings Clock is gradually becoming a disgrace in that when it is keeping any time at all, it is not carrying the correct time; and at other times, it is difficult to see what the time is. I do feel that an important factor such as that Clock should be kept in a proper condition and give the service which you would expect from our local Big Ben. I hope that in time, we will be getting proper service from that Clock.

The next Item is Item 32, "Customs." The note to this Item says that this amount of \$1,480 is in respect of general maintenance, repairs and minor alterations, and that the increase from \$700 is due to extensive roof painting and replacement of steel doors and iron windows. I would like to say that the Customs Department is one of the biggest revenue-bearing Departments in this Island, and it is a detestable and disgraceful Department. No country like Barbados which is spending money on Public Buildings, should continue with the Customs House which you have on the Wharf and at the Baggage Warehouse. This Island is entitled to something much better for a landing place than the Baggage Warehouse, and I think that something should be done to the Customs landing pier. I should like to know if there are any plans within the future Five Year Development Programme to make better buildings for this place.

10.35 p.m.

Then, Mr. Chairman, there is another Item — Item 86 — Bicycle Sheds at Government House and Belmont Police Post — to which I would like to refer. I do not know much about building but it does seem to me somewhat high to spend \$400 on providing bicycle sheds. How many bicycles are you proposing to house at Government House and how many at Belmont Police Post, that it is going

to require \$400 to build the sheds? In Barbados, at times, there is the urge to make certain things too elaborate and I do feel that some attempt should be made to have more modest buildings and equipment when it comes to things such as these. You do not need to have any elaborate structures for bicycle sheds. I would really like to know what kind of building they propose to erect for these bicycles. I do hope that the Hon. Minister will pay some attention to the points I have made on Items 21, 32 and 86.

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Chairman, I thought that an extension of the programme of building Bus Shelters would have been carried out this year. Government started the programme by building a few. On the last occasion, I hinted to them that one should be put at the corner of the Pine and they agreed with my suggestion. I notice the Item has been left out entirely in these Estimates. Apart from the need for one at the corner of the Pine, there are many places where bus shelters can be put for people who are awaiting buses. The need for them has become so great, that I think the Item should be left in the Estimates annually. People have to wait at stop poles for buses in the rain or hot sun, and there should be some sort of shelter provided for them. The one they have erected at the corner of Culloden Road is serving a useful purpose and I do not think they have spent the money unwisely. For that reason I regret that Government did not see its way to put the vote in again this year.

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Chairman, I must apologise to the honourable junior member for Christ Church for apparent shortsightedness. I did promise him on the last occasion when the Estimates were discussed to give some attention to the erection of a bus shelter at the Corner of the Pine. However, the Estimates for the coming year are not yet passed; we still have to deal with Capital Expenditure, and I will raise the question at Executive Committee meeting and if an agreement is reached we will be able to put something in Capital Expenditure for that purpose.

I do not appreciate the remarks made by the honourable junior member for St. Peter relative to the clock in the first place; however, I will promise him that I will take up the matter with the Director as well as the other matter he referred to about the Customs Buildings and the Baggage Warehouse. As far as I am concerned, I do not know if it is advisable at this stage to do anything to the Customs or Baggage Warehouse, in view of the fact that it is proposed to construct the Deep Water Harbour and presumably the traffic will be diverted to that end. I presume the honourable member is speaking of the construction of something of a permanent nature instead of repairing that old wooden building which exists today. I regret I am unable to inform him of the number of bicycles for which provision is made in the Estimates for the erection of sheds for them but if I get the information tomorrow I will pass it on to him.

The question that the sum of \$256,087 be voted under this Head was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Head XXVI—Pensions

Head XXVI—Pensions—was called.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I beg to move that the sum of \$729,954 be voted under this Head.

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

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Chairman, I intimated to Government that we should continue until 10.30 p.m. It is now that time. We have been sitting here from 12 o'clock (noon) and we are prepared to come tomorrow.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: We will carry on until 11 p.m.

Mr. ALLDER: Mr. Chairman, I am speaking on Item 1. What I want to draw to your attention is that in recent months we have noticed a mass of resignations.

[A VOICE: Item 1 is Premiums under Pension Act, 1907, Part II.]

Mr. ALLDER: I am sorry; I am not referring to that.

The question that the sum of \$729,954 be voted under this Head was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

10.45 p.m.

Head XXVII—Charges of Debt

Head XXVII—Charges of Debt—was called.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I beg to move that the sum of \$398,161 be voted under this Head.

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

The question that the sum of \$398,161 be voted under Head XXVII—Charges of Debt was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Head XXVIII—Subsidies and Grants

Head XXVIII — Subsidies and Grants — was called.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I beg to move that the sum of \$574,877 be voted under this Head.

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

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Acting Chairman, under Item 31, New Haven Day Nursery \$120. From the beginning of that nursery they have given a grant of \$120, and on every occasion I have drawn it to the attention of the Minister of Social Services and I believe he has promised me from time to time on the next occasion he would look into it. It does a real good service and is the same thing on a smaller scale as what Mr. John Beckles does at his Centre. Mrs. Hall and her workers do an excellent job in raising money both by concerts and dances, and she has quite a trying time in keeping it going. It is only by her persistence and her personality that she has been able to keep the doors of that Day Nursery open. I have been there and I have seen those children; and if there was not a place like that, many of the mothers would have to remain at home and would not be able to go out to work. It is a type of voluntary work that we should be encouraging, because we can do with more people like these voluntary workers at the Day Nursery not only in one parish, but throughout the island. It is a real service they are doing to the people around that area, and I regret that we come back again with such a small sum. We should show our appreciation to people who are willing to do something to better the conditions of the labouring class.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Acting Chairman, allow me to answer the honourable member. I quite realise that all the honourable member said is true and I do remember that I made the promise, but Mrs. Hall has not applied for any further assistance. If she puts a case to me, I will give it due consideration.

Mr. GODDARD: Well, I am sorry you told me that, because, personally, I think the Social Welfare

Department if it is existing and is working, would see that. It should be one of their duties to see the type of voluntary organisations that are really active and try to assist them. Personally, I believe it was through that Department that the small grant was given in the initial stages, because they were then beginning and she did not think it would have kept the doors open; but it has survived for four or five years, and it should have appeared to the Social Welfare Department that it was deserving of more.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: On the last occasion when you discussed the Estimates, you took opportunity to discuss Subsidies when the other members went home. That is the sort of thing you try to do all the time. I am moving the deletion of the \$10,000 to B.W.I.A. I think it is dishonesty.

Last time I had to go home because the Premier thought the only way to get it done was to carry on till morning. Ten thousand dollars to B.W.I.A. Item 41 reads: "It is proposed to make an agreement with other Governments for payment of a subsidy to B.W.I.A. Airways." After that was voted last time, I am sure if the Hon. Premier recalls, he said it would be given consideration. None of us expected it would come back in here.

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I hope the honourable member will not mind my interrupting him. I said I did not agree with several of the clauses in that Agreement and unless B.W.I.A. would agree with what we wanted in the Agreement, we would not pay out the money and that assurance still stands. The Agreement put to use has clauses that we cannot agree to and anyhow we cannot agree in this and the money cannot be passed over unless this House agrees with the terms of the Agreement.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: Thank you very much. Then the Estimates are wrong. What happened to last year's money?

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: No money was paid out.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: Mr. Acting Chairman, I do not think the Premier should bring this back here. This thing stinks to high heaven. Everybody outside of the Government knows that. This whole thing stinks to heaven. That is the way you can do things today. What are we getting for the \$10,000 to B.W.I.A. subsidy?

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: I must interrupt again. We will get for it what this House says. Not one cent is going unless the House approves of the clauses of the Agreement. If in the Agreement they are going to overcharge us, until the House passes the Agreement, they cannot get a half cent.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: Then why put it in here? Why not let us see the Agreement?

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Acting Chairman, on a point of Order, the Agreement was handed to every member of this House in discussing the Estimates on the last occasion. We have nothing to hide.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: If that is so why put it in here? What is the idea of giving this \$10,000 subsidy? What are we getting for the subsidy?

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: Read the Agreement.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: You do not know yourself what you are getting for it. This is one of those things upon which the country is being taken for a ride. I really could never understand it. What are we going to get for it?

Hon. G. H. ADAMS: Go home and read the Agreement.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: I do not have to do that. Why don't you as Premier tell the public what they are going to get for the \$10,000? This is being done because you have the votes and you can get it. You ought to be ashamed to put it in and penalise the

people of Barbados. You know as far as Barbados is concerned you should not spend this money on this service. I am very cautious tonight for a lot of reasons. I think the best thing to do with this is to move the deletion of it. It would satisfy my conscience and the people of Barbados that this should not be in here.
10.55 p.m.

You have the sum of \$50,000 for the Publicity Committee and \$40,000 for the Regional Economic Committee. We can appreciate these things because we are thinking of the development of the West Indies; we are realising that we are on the threshold of nationhood; we realise what the Caribbean Tourist Association means and the reason why we are voting this money. But for what reason are we giving this subsidy to B.W.I.A.? [Hon. G. H. ADAMS: Why are we subsidising the "West Indian"? If it were not for B.W.I. Airways, Federation would be 25 years off] Not for B.W.I. Airways? If the Hon. Premier is saying that we voted \$10,000 for B.W.I. Airways last year, you are not getting one cent of this money until we have gone into this Agreement as to the things we want done. Why have they not put down a token vote? Why have they put down this vote of \$10,000? I have seen that we are going to have an Agreement, but why are we asked to vote this \$10,000? Of course, I do not agree at all that there should be any subsidy to the B.W.I. Airways, or any other Airways at all.

Sometimes I really wonder how the people of this Colony could believe in the tenets of Socialism which they, on that side, preach. Well, if this is Socialism, then we are standing on a submarine. Led by the Hon. Premier, they preach Socialism, but the Hon. Premier has said that when an English firm comes here, we have to give them assistance in spite of what my friends might say, or words to that effect. [Hon. G. H. ADAMS: When did I say so?] At the Marine in the presence of Sir Miles Thomas. If this is the action of a Socialist Government to give a few racketeers, as I would call them, this treatment,—well, this Company has never made a cent yet that is what they say: but we are to subsidise them in Barbados when other Airways Companies are willing to come here and operate.

The Hon. Premier has been asking why are we subsidising the "West Indian"? Well, that is not on all-fours to giving this subsidy to B.W.I. Airways. The service rendered by the "West Indian" is a service which was created, but in the case of B.W.I.A. this is not a service. As a non-member of the Labour Party, I have been going around listening to this preaching, and I wonder what the Ministers would have said if the honourable junior member for Christ Church or the honourable junior member for St. James had come in here and said: "We are going to subsidise a private Company; we are going to subsidise Capitalists." They would say: "Oh no, they have money;" but now it suits them to tell the Barbados public that they are subsidising B.W.I.A. to the extent of \$10,000. They will not get one cent of this money until we have the Agreement sanctioned.

When they came for this subsidy, I had travelled by B.W.I.A. We have about 3,000,000 people in the West Indies. What is amazing is this: the Hon. Premier of all people says that they are giving this \$10,000 as a subsidy to a Company which would not employ anybody of his colour even to wash a plane; but whatever goes up must come down. I am saying what I have to say; this is something dishonest in the Hon. Premier. His actions are not the actions of an honest Socialist which he pretends to be. He

went to Queen's Park and all about and preached Socialism. I would like to say to these people what Clayton Powell said in Harlem: "I have to put on glasses to see what they call European."

I am no Socialist. I know that this Item will be passed whether I talk until tomorrow morning or not. However, I am not satisfied that they are doing the right thing; I do not think that this is the right thing to do. The Hon. Minister of Communications has referred to the fact that they had brought an Agreement in here. I was not present, but I suppose that after you have got power in any community, you begin to feel that you can do the things which you like to do. I am purposely speaking very cautiously in relation to this matter; I do not want to warm up on this matter for many reasons.
11.05 p.m.

I cannot reconcile the statements made by the Hon. Premier now with the speeches he made in the days when he was struggling to be Premier. Some of them are so conflicting to those of his former speeches that it is difficult to understand them.

How can you really do this? How can you think of giving B.W.I.A. a subsidy? This is really subsidising a private capitalist. Is it so or not? This is really subsidising capitalism and you cannot deny it. Everybody knows the history of B.W.I.A. Read the speech which the Premier made on B.W.I.A. in those days. Everybody knows the speeches that were made then; everybody knows the speech he made then. Now, B.W.I.A. is a subsidiary of B.O.A.C., therefore you are subsidising capitalists.

Let me ask this question. If you do not give B.W.I.A. this \$10,000 would they not still operate between Seawell, Trinidad, Puerto Rico and those colonies up to Jamaica, or would they let somebody else come in and operate a service? Are you going to give this \$10,000 to B.W.I.A. because you fear your people will suffer as a result of this Company not operating here and therefore another company would come? This is against the principles of socialism and you have stood up in the Lower Green and told the people that. It is absolutely against your principle. If he had come in here and said that it is against Government's policy, what would be the sense of beating your head against a wall when you know you cannot get another air service to operate here, (and it is absolutely necessary to have a service to carry your passengers, mails and what not from here to Trinidad and so on) I will be bound to say "Do not talk nonsense, the Premier is right." I see things in true perspective. But is it so?

I want it to be recorded in the Minutes of the House of Assembly so that everyone can see that I move that this amount to be voted under this Head be deleted by \$10,000 which is proposed to be given to B.W.I.A. as a subsidy. We did put it in the Estimates for 1955-56 and we were told then that unless B.W.I.A. agrees to the terms of the Agreement Government would not grant it. Government has not paid it out because, obviously, B.W.I.A. has not agreed to the terms of the Agreement. [A VOICE: Oh no; he did not say so at all.] Well, B.W.I.A. has not agreed yet, and you have put it back in. Are you going to convince B.W.I.A., or is B.W.I.A. going to convince you? I do not agree that you should subsidise this airline company at all because you cannot satisfy the people of this colony that you are getting something for the \$10,000.

Sir, I formally move that Item No. 41, B.W.I. Airways, for which \$10,000 is to be voted be deleted from the Head.

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Chairman, I do not want to delay the Committee too long, but I must repeat what I said before. I think when this Item was under discussion I made it clear that there was a Conference on this very question attended by representatives of the Eastern Caribbean as well as Jamaica. Originally, there was a ten-year agreement between the other B.W.I. Islands and the Company, but Barbados did not enter into it. At the expiration of that Agreement, this Conference was called and the matter was discussed at length and it was pointed out then that for the service which was operating in the area, B.W.I.A. was losing money. A balance sheet of the company was shown and it was suggested that there should be another agreement for ten years. I made it clear that Barbados did not join the original agreement. The other Islands agreed to give up all landing fees, duty on spare parts and petrol and things of that sort and I said then that we could not agree to that.

11.15 p.m.

I said then that we could not agree to that because we largely depended so far as our Revenue is concerned on the landing fees that were charged, and I said then I would take back the recommendations to the Government of the discussions with a view to reaching some agreement, but I did not give any promise that we would enter like Trinidad and the others to give up landing fees and so on. Since then we have had the representation made to us and we decided at the time that in order to show that we were not unwilling from a regional point of view to joining to the other territories that we would make a grant of \$10,000. I think the Jamaica delegate while not expressing at the time the amount they were willing to grant the company—not that Barbados expressed any amount either—said their Government would be willing to grant a lump sum rather than to give up landing fees, and I think the only two Governments that stood out on that were Barbados and Jamaica. Since then as I said we agreed, and as a result the \$10,000 was inserted in the Estimates for the occasion. [A VOICE: What has Jamaica given?] That has not yet been decided. The Agreement has not yet been signed for one reason or another, but as the Hon. Premier said not long ago, the reason for putting this money in the Estimates is because if an agreement is reached we would not have to come to the House of Assembly; but in so far as the terms of the Agreement are concerned it would have to be brought to the House. We suggested that one of the terms of the Agreement should be one we made with the West Indian Navigation Company, the point that if at any time we wanted to withdraw we claimed the right to do so, and we also made that clause a condition that if at any time we wanted to withdraw at the end of five or ten years we could do so. But as I said, we agreed to give a lump sum rather than to give up landing fees in the vicinity of \$25,000 and we decided, if anything, to put up \$10,000 rather than to give up landing fees, and for obvious reasons: because you never can tell—we may get larger planes coming here which would eventually increase the amount of revenue. Therefore, we said we would give a lump sum of \$10,000. As the Hon. Premier quite rightly pointed out, it is not intended that any funds should be given to this Company until the Agreement is brought to the House. The form that was circulated on the last occasion has to be to some extent modified to fit in with our wishes, therefore, as soon as that is done we will then come back to the House with that Agreement for ratification by the House before any money is paid. The Minister for Communications and Works in Trinidad was appealed to and we pointed out the line

which we would be prepared to take in this particular case, so I would like to assure honourable members it is not a question of Government paying out one cent. [A VOICE: You are a Socialist.] I do not know, Mr. Acting Chairman, how socialism gets into what I am saying now. It is rather strange that Capitalists do not want support from a Government that is willing to make them richer; it is rather surprising, but however, that is the position as it stands.

Mr. CRAWFORD: Before you put the question Sir, I do not propose to be very long on this matter because unfortunately, we are now about to witness what I call the fullness of time, and it is not very necessary to waste time in this year in here on matters of the sort. The time and energy can be more profitably expended outside. On the recent honourable member's remarks I am going to make one or two observations. If it be said that Jamaica and Barbados were the only two colonies who refused to agree to support B.W.I.A. . . .

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Acting Chairman, I never said that at all. What I said is that we refused to give up landing fees and that we preferred to give a lump sum.

Mr. CRAWFORD: Jamaica and Barbados refused to commit themselves by giving up landing fees. Trinidad agreed. Apparently, Trinidad agreed for good reasons, because Trinidad has everything to gain from B.W.I.A. They have their big repair shops and do the servicing of aeroplanes and everything in Trinidad, and the other poor Crown Colonies are in no position to stand up to the Colonial Office. If we have the best constitution of the Empire we should have it for something, and both Jamaica and ourselves without constitutions can afford to tell the Colonial Office they cannot take us for a ride.

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: The Colonial Office has nothing to do with this.

Mr. CRAWFORD: Who do the members think, is backing B.W.I.A.? The British Government. Do honourable members think they would see this Item here in the Estimates, unless the Premier knew the British Government was behind B.W.I.A.? This is no question merely of some obscure company called B.W.I.A. wanting Barbados and the West Indian colonies to subsidise its service. This is B.W.I.A., B.O.A.C. and the United Kingdom Government, and it is more than strange, Mr. Acting Chairman, that we should be willing to inflict this financial hardship upon the community which can get so little financial assistance from Great Britain. We just had a hurricane that cost us \$4 million and will probably cost us more. We got an initial grant of £50,000 and do not expect anymore. We have gone through our resources properly, we have squeezed every single cent in taxation; our cost of living is one of the highest in the area and we are not getting any more help from the British Government, because in saying we have to make out a case that we cannot carry on our development plan to get money, is a way to say you cannot get more money; and because of the way in which we run our affairs—by having the highest taxation in the West Indies so that the community has to provide the money for anything we have to do, and even when we have more money than is required for normal expenses—there is no remittance on taxation direct or indirect.

11.25 p.m.

I was saying that we were given a meagre £50,000 to assist us with the expenditure in relation to the hurricane, but we do not expect anything more. We have to furnish the greater part of this \$4 million by ourselves, and yet we can afford to give nearly one-half of our landing fees as a subsidy

to B.W.I. Airways! To begin with, this Item should not have been put in the Estimates at all, until the Legislature has ratified the Agreement. It is immoral, unfair and everything else to commit the Colony to that extent, even nominally, until such time as we have the particulars on which the Agreement will be based and on which this subsidy should be paid. What will happen is that, with a thin House, this Item will be passed, and the members of the Government will say that it was put in the Estimates. It would be in order to pay this subsidy when the Legislature has ratified the Agreement on the principle on which we will pay this subsidy; not before then.

We have sat here in this Chamber repeatedly and seen the Government do things with which the greater part of this Chamber were in complete disagreement, and the members of the Government said that the particular Item was in the Estimates. We will be told that the Legislature will have further say in the matter, but it is more than passing strange that the entire year has passed and this Agreement was under consideration. We have included another \$10,000 in the Estimates. [Hon. M. E. COX: That is not true.] The Estimates say that we are to vote this \$10,000. The explanatory note says this: "It is proposed to make an agreement with other Governments for payment of a subsidy to B.W.I. Airways." In other words, the only deduction which we can make is that if you reach agreement this year, the payment of this subsidy will be effective as and from when the Government promised to consider the matter. Normally, when we vote money during the Estimates in one year for a matter which has not been dealt with, the notes say something about it; the notes usually say that the money has lapsed or something or the other. But the notes here say nothing at all, and what other conclusion could you come to but that the matter was under consideration, the Agreement was concluded and that we would have to vote \$10,000 for last year and \$10,000 for this year? Whether it be \$20,000 or \$2,000, the principle remains the same, and we are yet to be told in actual fact, or in actual principle, whether this Colony could be justified in subsidising B.W.I. Airways to the tune of \$10,000 a year.

When it comes to the question of Steamship communication, it is an entirely different matter. I am therefore going to second the motion, in fact, I beg to second the motion for the deletion of this entire amount of \$10,000 from the amount to be voted under this Head.

Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: I do not take the same view as the hon. senior member for the City has taken because, on the last occasion, this was an Item which was carried on, or which carried us on, until the next day. However, when I heard the Hon. Premier's remarks today, I am wondering why, if you did not spend this money in 1955-56, did you put it back in these Estimates. Both the Hon. Premier and the Hon. Minister of Communications have used their arguments. If the Agreement would have to be subject to the approval of the Legislature, why is it that, at this stage, you have to allow money to be voted to precede the Agreement? This is a very simple matter; this Item has not got, of necessity, to be in these Estimates: the Legislature has to ratify the Agreement. [A MEMBER: We have agreed with the principle.] Why did you not spend this money last year? Is it because some of the other Governments have not reached Agreement in this matter? The hon. member can correct me if I am wrong; this matter has not yet been settled by the other Governments. People had to go up to

Antigua in respect of this same affair. [Hon. M. E. COX: The Antigua Delegates agreed at the Conference.]. Yes, but the Government has not yet voted the money; you can agree in principle to the Statistical Department. Have you put in a token vote for the statistician?

This is a matter with which we have to deal by Agreement. You do not know what it will cost you this year; you know as well as I do, that this is a matter of opinion. If you do not put this Item in the Estimates, it cannot prevent you from having agreement in this matter by way of a Resolution. The point is that you should have the Agreement first, and then the Resolution, but you are working in the reverse way in this matter.
11.35 p.m.

You are working it in a way which can be regarded as the reverse position. You do not vote money for anything until you reach an agreement on something to do. You said that other West Indian Governments have agreed but has this Legislature agreed to the subsidy of B.W.I.A. in principle? We have not yet debated that agreement. You say that the Barbados Government has agreed in principle with that agreement. There is no point in the Barbados Government saying that we agree in principle when the Hon. Premier said that nothing can be done until the Legislature has been ratified. Therefore, let us ratify the agreement first. Sir, I am saying that from an objective point of view, you should not budget for something that has to be the subject of an agreement when you yourself have not agreed upon it. Why clutter up this Head with something which is the subject of an agreement which you yourself have not agreed upon? How can you put in the amount when you have not agreed on anything?

Last year you put in \$10,000 for the same purpose but you did not pay it out. It made you show an expenditure of \$10,000 more than what you really needed. You put it in on the hypothesis that an agreement would have been reached on it if certain reservations which you had in mind were acceptable to B.W.I.A. You went as far as to say that if B.W.I.A. did not accept those reservations you were not going to sign the Agreement. If that is so, why put the Item in again? You repeated to-day that it is not your intention to provide the subsidy unless B.W.I.A. agrees with the reservations which you have in mind.

Mr. Chairman, I have reached the stage now, speaking personally, that it does not matter to me what you do; but what you are doing does not seem to me logical because you are arguing on the basis that as long as you put it in here it does not make any difference. It does make a difference in the reading of your expenditure. It does appear to be a good argument to say that the agreement is subject to your reservations, but you cannot bring an Agreement to the House to be amended because the various Governments concerned cannot meet on that basis. You cannot say that the Legislature is refusing to provide you with the money, but there should be an agreement. If any agreement which the Legislature makes should be binding, then there are certain things which should be put in that agreement. I would not like to see the Legislature ratifying an agreement and then for Government to come down with a Resolution saying that it will have to be thrown out because certain reservations which it has is not in the agreement.

It should be just like the R.E.C. We agreed to the setting up of R.E.C. Can you say the honourable member was serious in saying he is not going to vote money for R.E.C. if the Government has a contract with the other Governments? Can you see the insist-

ence of putting this amount in the Estimates? It does not make any difference to the Government because if the Government says we want to put \$10,000 into it, it does not mean the Government would not get the \$10,000.

The question that the sum of \$10,000 be deleted from Head XXVIII, was put and resolved in the negative, the House dividing as follows:—

Ayes: Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY, W. A. CRAWFORD, Mr. F. L. WALCOTT, Mr. ALLDER and Mr. F. C. GODDARD—5.

Noes: Hon. G. H. ADAMS, Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS, Hon. M. E. COX, Hon. R. G. MAPP, Mr. L. E. SMITH, Mr. E. ST. A. HOLDER, Mr. SPEAKER and Mr. J. C. MOTTLEY—8.

The question that the sum of \$574,877 be voted under Head XXVIII—Subsidies and Grants was put and resolved in the affirmative the House dividing as follows:—

Ayes: Hon. G. H. ADAMS, Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS, Hon. M. E. COX, Hon. R. G. MAPP, Mr. L. E. SMITH, Mr. E. ST. A. HOLDER, Mr. SPEAKER, Mr. F. L. WALCOTT and Mr. J. C. MOTTLEY—9.

Noes: Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY, Mr. W. A. CRAWFORD, Mr. ALLDER and Mr. GODDARD—4.

On motion of Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS seconded by Hon. M. E. COX, Mr. Acting CHAIRMAN

reported progress and asked for leave to sit again, and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until to-morrow at 3 o'clock p.m.

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

Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, as an amendment to that, I beg to move that the House do now adjourn until Tuesday, 13th March, 1956, at 3 o'clock p.m.

Mr. ALLDER: I beg to second that.

The question was put and resolved in the negative the House dividing as follows:—

Ayes: Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY, Mr. W. A. CRAWFORD, Mr. ALLDER and Mr. GODDARD—4.

Noes: Hon. G. H. ADAMS, Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS, Hon. M. E. COX, Hon. R. G. MAPP, Mr. L. E. SMITH, Mr. BRYAN, Mr. E. ST. A. HOLDER, Mr. F. L. WALCOTT and Mr. J. C. MOTTLEY—9.

The question that the House do now adjourn until Thursday, 8th March, 1956, was put and Mr. SPEAKER adjourned the House accordingly.
11.45 p.m.