

THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SESSION 1958

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday 29th July, 1958.

Pursuant to the adjournment the House of Assembly met at 3.00 o'clock p.m. today.

PRESENT

His Honour Mr. K. N. R. HUSBANDS (*Speaker*); Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS, C.B.E., M.D., C.M., (*Premier*); Hon. M. E. COX, (*Minister of Trade, Industry and Labour*); His Honour Mr. L. E. SMITH, J.P., (*Deputy Speaker*); Mr. F. L. WALCOTT, O.B.E.; Hon. F. E. MILLER, (*Minister of Social Services*); Mr. E. ST.A. HOLDER; Mrs. E. E. BOURNE; Hon. D. D. GARNER, (*Minister of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries*); Mr. C. B. SEARLES; and Mr. T. W. MILLER.

Prayers were read.

MINUTES

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

Hon. R. G. MAPP, Mr. THORNE, Mr. STRAUGHN, Mr. F. G. SMITH and Mr. BRANCKER entered the House and took their seats.

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that I have received the following from the Honourable the Legislative Council:-

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
TO
THE HONOURABLE THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

The Legislative Council have the honour to return to the Honourable the House of Assembly the Bill to amend the Apprenticeship Bursaries Act, 1928, which has been passed with amendments which are shewn written on the Bill.

H. G. MASSIAH,
President.

Legislative Council Chamber,
22nd July, 1958.
Also,

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
TO
THE HONOURABLE THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

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

amend the Rate of Interest Act, 1754, which has been passed with amendments which are shewn written on the Bill.

H. G. MASSIAH,
President.

Legislative Council Chamber,
22nd July, 1958.

Also, Report of the Select Committee appointed to consider and revise the Rules of the House which has been circulated to hon. members.

PAPERS LAID

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker, I am commanded to lay the following:-

Statement of sums of money paid over to the Accountant General by the Commissioner of Police during the quarter ended 31st March, 1958.

Barbados Statistical Service Selected Monthly Indicators - June, 1958.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: Mr. Speaker, I am commanded to lay the following:-

Report of the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture for 1956-57.

Report of the Eastern Caribbean Farm Institute for the year 1957.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to place the sum of \$24, 484 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to supplement the Estimates, 1958-59, Part I - Current as shown in the Supplementary Estimates, 1958-59 No. 13 which form the schedule to this Resolution.

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of my intention to move the House into Committee of Supply at its next meeting to deal with the Money Resolution of which notice has just been given.

QUESTIONS

Mr. THORNE: To enquire of the Minister of Communications and Works:-

1. Is Government aware that there is grave dissatisfaction existing at the various pumping stations of the Waterworks Department in this Island?
2. Has a Petition dated 26th June, 1958 by the members of the staffs of the several pumping stations setting out the causes of discontent been brought to the attention of the Government?
3. If the answer to Question 2 is in the affirmative,

will Government state what steps are being taken to remedy the conditions complained of?

To enquire of the Minister of Communications and Works:-

1. Is Government aware that the residents in the middle avenue of Sherbourne and in Rose Gate, both districts in the parish of St. John, suffer grave inconvenience through lack of a proper water service?
2. Will Government immediately take steps to extend the water mains into the said districts so that the said residents may install the private water services for which they have applied?

To enquire of the Minister of Communications and Works:-

1. Will Government immediately erect standposts in the Pot House area and in the upper part of Pool Tenantry, both districts in the parish of St. John so as to provide water for the inhabitants of the said districts?

Mr. THORNE :- To enquire of the Hon. Premier:

1. Will the Sixth Form of the St. Michael's Girls' School be closed as from the term beginning 9th September, 1958?
2. If the answer to "question one" is in the affirmative, will the Hon. Premier state:
 - (i) What provision has been made to enable those Fifth Formers of the St. Michael's Girls' School who are still of school age and have not gained entry to the Sixth Form of Queens College to continue to pursue their courses of study if they so desire?
 - (ii) How many pupils of the St. Michael's Girls' School exclusive of those who have gained entry to the Sixth Form of Queens College will have to leave that school because of the closure of its Sixth Form?

MR. THORNE APPOINTED CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE FOR THE DAY'S SESSION

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the hon. junior member for St. Michael, I beg to move that the junior member for St. Andrew be appointed Chairman of Committees.

Mr. F. G. SMITH: Sir, I beg to decline.

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the hon. senior member for St. John be appointed Chairman of Committees for today's sitting.

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

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

3.25 p.m.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Hon. M. E. COX: I beg to move that Your Honour do now leave the Chair and the House go into Committee of Supply. With Your Honour's permission, I would like to say that I hope that the debate which was started last Tuesday in respect of the Natural Gas Corporation will be continued. If hon. members are not here to continue that debate, I shall take the opportunity on the adjournment to reply to some of the accusations which have been made not only by hon. members, but by the Press as I saw them reported. (Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: He cannot reply; he has already spoken.)

Hon. D. D. GARNER: I beg to second the motion.
The question was put and agreed to.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1958-59, NO. 10

HEAD II - SECRETARIAT - HEAD XIII - LEGISLATURE

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: The first Resolution, Mr. Acting Chairman, is a Resolution of \$2,397. This Resolution is to implement a promise made to this House and to the public generally by Sir Grantley Adams with regard to the institution of a Ministry of Education. As is set out in the Addendum to the Resolution, it is proposed to establish as soon as possible a Ministry of Education and to appoint a Minister. This Resolution seeks the provision of funds to meet the cost of travelling allowance for the proposed Minister of Education and for the purchase of necessary furniture and office equipment etc. for the Ministry of Education.

Provision is also being sought for the sum of \$168 to supplement Head XIII, Item 25 - Travelling Allowance for Ministers, to meet the payment of travelling allowance consequent on the appointment of a Minister Without Portfolio during the latter part of the financial year 1957-58.

In the Schedule to the Resolution the various Items are set out, Stationery, \$25; Incidentals, \$75; Furniture and Office Equipment, \$1,409; and Travelling Allowance for the Ministers \$888 making a total of \$2,397.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Acting Chairman, I am wondering if we can get a little more light shed on this Resolution than what appears in the Addendum and more than the brief introductory remarks made by the Hon. Premier. Is this Resolution anything to do with the appointment of the Junior Minister of Education of which we have heard so much some time ago, or has the idea been abandoned? I have heard a distinguished member of this House named in connection with this post. I am wondering if there is any relation between this post and the present post or if the idea has been abandoned, or possibly there may be a Minister of Education and a Junior Minister of Education. There was a feeling before I came into this room that the choice was between two persons, but since I have been in here - it is strange to have a Minister addressing questions in this Chamber to another Minister or Minister-Elect. All I would like to know is this: What is the policy of the present Government as it is at present constituted in respect of education? Do they propose to have a Minister of Education along with a junior Minister, or if either of these Ministers will be a junior Minister and not a full fledged Government Minister such as we look upon when we are sitting on this side of the Table.

Another point is this: in the Addendum the phrase, "as soon as possible" has been used. That is a phrase which can cover a lot of things; that phrase may mean at any time at all; it can refer to an unlimited period of time. Even if I am not expecting to be told that this phrase means within a few days or weeks, I would like some information as to how soon or how distant "as soon as possible" is likely to be. We are entitled to know these things if we are asked to vote this money today. We are asked to vote this money today, because the Addendum says that it is proposed to establish this post as soon as possible. There may not be the usual parliamentary summer recess and if we pass this Resolution today, how soon can one look forward to the creation of a Ministry and the appointment of the Minister? I gather that all that has to be done about the matter is to gazette it, unless I am sadly misinformed.

As to the other aspect of the Resolution dealing with the question of Travelling Allowance for Ministers, I would like to have some further information about the payment of this allowance. Is it to be paid on a lump-sum monthly to each Minister, irrespective of any proof of the mileage done? In other words, are Ministers above

having to prove their mileage? Heads of Departments have to establish their mileage and if Ministers do not draw their travelling allowance in accordance with the mileage, then obviously, I may be told that it is a fixed amount of so much a month or so much a year; and if it is divided by twelve, it comes to so much.
3.35 p.m.

As you know, Sir, we are setting a great example to the whole world to those people who doubted that the best form of education was travel, and we are trying to demonstrate beyond all doubt to our fellow human beings that the best means of education is by travelling and our Ministers are certainly doing some travelling; but we are still awaiting the results of the education which they thereby obtain through the mileage which they are consuming as they go around the world to various places. Sometimes they are out of the island for one or two months. What happens to the travelling allowance for a Minister if he is away for one or two months? Is it drawn or is it not drawn? If it is drawn, not having been used, does the Income Tax Commissioner get what is obviously due to him of that amount? At this time it is not travelling but becomes part of his salary.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I do not know if the hon. member has finished, but it is a coincidence that I rise at this point. His speech about travelling is out of order. Not so long ago this same travelling allowance for Ministers drew a long debate in this House, and I just want to remind the hon. member that he is out of order.

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, it is time that all members of this House realise that whoever is in the Chair - and only who is in the Chair - is in the position to say what is in order and what is out of order. There is one Chairman only, and I must draw to the hon. member's attention that you have been appointed to act as Chairman for the day.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: On a point of order, the Hon. Leader of the Opposition ought to know something about Parliamentary procedure, and he ought to know that it is fitting for a member to draw to Your Honour's attention anything that is considered out of order.

Mr. BRANCKER: It is too hard to make certain people understand. What I am pointing out is that it is only for you to say whether or not a thing is out of order.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I should like the hon. junior member for St. Lucy to understand that I will rule.

Mr. BRANCKER: Exactly, and I fully understand and appreciate your ruling.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I also want you to understand that according to what has been drawn to my attention, you are not to reflect on any vote of the House. If that happens, I will stop you.

Mr. BRANCKER: That will not happen with me. As for anyone saying that I am out of order, that person is hopelessly out of order.

Under Item 25, "Travelling Allowance for Ministers" we are called upon to vote an additional \$888; and to have it suggested that one has to vote for this amount without discussing, questioning or referring to it in its various aspects is an indication of the ignorance which he or she thinks is right when he or she so expresses himself or herself. What I am saying, Sir, is that before we vote for this \$888, we want to be satisfied that none of it will be paid out in respect of any ministry in which the travelling is not done in any given month while the Minister is on holiday, or is travelling outside of the island. We are entitled to say whether or not we will vote the amount and we are not prepared to vote this amount unless we are satisfied that not one

cent of it will be paid out when the person to whom it is assigned is not in a position and could not possibly have used it for the purposes for which it is voted. For anyone to suggest that in a money Resolution one could not discuss that aspect of it is to show the childlike mind of the person who so misconstrues Parliamentary procedure.

If we could get information on these three points we would be very grateful. Just to recapitulate, I should like to know how long "as soon as possible" means in terms of weeks, months, or years. I should like to know, too, if this Minister of Education is to be a junior Minister of whom we heard so much for so long, or a real full-fledged, full-blooded Minister, or if it is proposed to have a junior Minister and a senior Minister of Education. Thirdly, do we have any assurance that, if we vote this \$888 for travelling allowances for Ministers, it will not be paid out if the Minister in question is out of the island at the time, and thereby unable to use this travelling allowance whilst at the same time he is drawing so much per day when he is out of the island?

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, I will have to take a slightly different view although I do not want to criticise my hon. friend. I am not particularly concerned with who is going to be Minister because I am satisfied that the talent in the Government Party is very lean indeed, and therefore it is going to be very difficult to find the Minister they require. We have seen that the Party had to go outside of Parliament to inflict us with a Minister without portfolio. I am not going to be worried about who is going to be Minister, because the Party in power is very lean for talent, and it might mean a disruption among the Ministers themselves as so many plums are being offered.

Under this Resolution it is proposed to establish a Ministry of Education and appoint a Minister, and there is money to provide for equipment for this office..

I believe that this is the time that Government should have a reassessment of the whole structure of its Ministerial system. It has been working for four years. We know that some of the members of the Government do not understand precise language, and when you say there should be a Ministry of Education, some of them believe that you should add another person to the Ministry in order for that to come about. I do not subscribe to that view. I am satisfied that you need a Minister of Education, but not that the person who is Minister of Education cannot find other things to ally with education in his administration and departmental duties, and I will proceed on that point.

Let us make an example with the United Kingdom. The Secretary of State for the Colonies is Secretary of State for about thirty or forty various territories. Would one suggest that there should be a Minister within the United Kingdom Government for each territory that exists in the British Commonwealth? Look what we have in Barbados with its present economy: we have a Minister of Trade, Industry and Labour; we have a Minister of Agriculture; we have a Minister of Communications and Works and we have a Minister of Social Services. Then we have a Premier for all purposes; he is the big "Pooh-Bah." There is nothing within this whole structure of Ministries to indicate that the present needs of Barbados, or the present needs of a changing economy in the Twentieth Century in any part of the world with its finance and development, are treated with the importance with which they should be treated.
3.45 p.m.

Now, let me give the Government and the public of Barbados a suggestion. This country can carry the four Ministers whom they now have with a reassessment and regrouping of their duties without the infliction of asking the country to look for \$10,000 more per annum to set up another Ministry. Mr. Chairman, I am going to produce reasons. The Minister of Trade, Industry and Labour, apart from name functions in the light that the

Minister of Labour has a Department and he is only the big policy maker because in the present Government's context, trade, industry and labour in Barbados is only a name.

What do you do about trade? You ask the Chamber of Commerce each time there is something. It is a matter of what Mr. K. R. Hunte and what the merchants of Bridgetown say. Those people determine what is Government's trade policy. What has the Government of Barbados shown in matters of trade? Can they say that this is our trade policy? They have none. The Minister of Trade has already said in this Chamber that so far as Barbados is concerned, there is very little for us to do except as regards sugar. When you talk about fisheries, there is very little so far as that concerned. The Minister of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries is only that in name because he has no lands, no forestry, no wide developments other than within the confines of pure agriculture; therefore, if you wish to use the Minister more appropriately, he can undertake trade and industry without any infliction on his present duties; and if he does that along with what he has to do now, he can go home at 4 o'clock. If he is a man who can work hard, he can go home at 2 o'clock.

Sir, I will not interfere with the duties of the Minister of Communications, Works and Housing because if he does his work, he surely would be entitled to the travelling allowance which he gets.

The Ministry of Education has now come into the picture and it is one of those social matters which you can easily group with some of the social and community services which you now perform. The Minister can say what should be done as regards the community services and leave it to the Department to allocate the type of welfare and community services to be done.

In Barbados, what we have to get away from is the feeling that we are like the U.S.A and the United Kingdom with a population of 163 million people. You talk about a Minister of this and that in big countries; but in Barbados when you begin to talk about a Minister within the same context and say that he must rule over a Ministry in this narrow confine, then you are talking nonsense. You must give him work by which he can accomplish something in a year. We do not want to subscribe to the nonsense that in Barbados a Minister of Education is an educational expert. Is he going to tell teachers how to teach? Those are not his functions. I say that the social welfare services and community services are services which are allied to education, and I am speaking of such services as adult education and other things which you do after school.

In Barbados you talk about social services and that embraces everything; but that covers so many branches that you have to define them for a Ministry. You have to say in what context you mean. If I may give an example of what I was just talking about, in the United Kingdom when the Labour Government was in power, Mr. Bethel was Minister of Labour as well as Minister of Housing; so there is nothing new in my proposition. You want a Minister of Labour, a Minister of Health and a Minister of Education who can do your social services other than those social services which you put under your Ministry of Health. You can have a Ministry of Agriculture, Trade, Industry and Labour, a Ministry of Communications, Works and Housing, a Ministry of Health and Social Services and a Ministry of Education doing those social services which are allied to education. You can have those four Ministries and there would not be any question of anybody losing their job or any question of anybody going home. You must bear in mind that there is the question of greater efficiency for the money which we propose to spend in Barbados, and as it is the taxpayers' money and everybody's money, therefore we have a right to have a say in the spending of it. I would say that any Government in power can construct its Ministries as it pleases, but I also say that the construction of any Government must bear relation

to commonsense. You can only have this assessment if you are looking for something to give somebody a plum. If that is so, then everybody would have to say that that is a good tactical plan; therefore, we will have to vote for it.

Actually, Barbados is reaching the ridiculous stage where its Ministries are going to represent one-third of the total membership of this House. Soon the Ministers will represent a quorum of the House and a quorum of Ministers means that the Government can transact its own business in the House. In the United Kingdom, the Government does not have anything like 200 Ministers, but I do not want to carry this percentage system to too narrow a conclusion because percentage would vary according to the number of members you have.

I have just heard a member on that side in a *sotto voce* remark asking what about Trinidad. Let us not follow that country which has just put forward 199 million dollars for its Development Programme. We are just a small country. We have just begun a project which is going to cost us 121 million dollars and that is the biggest thing we have done; and with the Government's method of undertaking that project, it is going to cost us \$240,000 more every year. When you multiply that, you will see what it represents. That is only the interest rate on the sum.

I ask: do you not think it is time for us to have a reassessment of the Ministries? No hon. member should say that because this thing is done in Trinidad and in Zanzibar, therefore, you should do it in Barbados. Let me ask this question. Can you say that the Minister of Agriculture or any other Minister is over worked? Can anybody say that in these Ministries there is no scope for reassessment and that you cannot add something to these Ministries which you have now without losing efficiency?

3.55 p.m.

We know differently from that. If you want a re-assessment of your organisation, well, you can have it. You have just had one in the Ministry of Finance. You can have Labour, Health and Social Services; Agriculture, Trade and Industry; Education; and Social Welfare and Highways and Transport can remain as they are. I said earlier that if we did not have the infliction called the Minister without Portfolio - if you want a Minister to work for you, if you have a Minister of Finance and Development, have someone who is devoting his time to it. Some nights ago, Dr. Williams made an interesting speech; here was a man speaking about the Telephone Company and in statement after statement there was basic material, not any airy-fairy stuff. Whether you agree with him or not, here is a man who has given a study to what was coming before the Legislature. You have a Minister of Finance and the emphasis is being placed more on what we require. It is true that your Department of Finance has a Finance Minister, a Financial Secretary and an Assistant Financial Secretary and the Minister is therefore not required to do much, because the work is already being done by these two officers. The Ministry of Trade should come in for a little review; if the Minister is fair to the public and fair to himself, he knows that they have a lot of time for Trade Union interference; if they did not have that time, they could not go around and tell people what to do.

Mr. ACTING CHAIRMAN: That has nothing to do with this Resolution.

Mr. WALCOTT: I am saying that before we provide another Ministry, let the Ministers do their work and keep out of the Trade Union business. You find that the Ministers have a lot of time to interfere with the business of the Barbados Workers' Union. (pause) I think that the Clerk of this House will have to decide to become a member of this House and give up the safe place which he has, which does not require the hustle and bustle of election time. (Laughter) That is by the way. I have to come into contact with these things daily. I see people coming and whispering around that what you say is true,

but they cannot say it; therefore, somebody must say these things before it is too late. I am not satisfied that there should not be a reassessment of these Ministries; I am saying that, without any less efficiency to the Island, it can be worked. I cannot see why the Minister of Agriculture cannot undertake the Ministries of Trade and Industry. From the point of view of industry, agriculture is the main industry in Barbados anyhow, and you read all the nonsense of people asking them to consult the Chamber of Commerce and carrying somebody to Trinidad to deal with rice; you can do all that, but I cannot see why Trade and Industry cannot come under the portfolio of Agriculture without injury to the heart and soul and conscience of the Minister of Agriculture.

On the question of Education, I do not think that anybody would suggest that, because you have a Minister of Education, the Minister must sit down apart from what is now taking place in Barbados - I refer to the upsurge of the debate of the Sixth Form at Harrison College and the various forms into which I do not propose to enter now, although it would be quite appropriate for me to do so. Those hon. members who have given some thought to this matter can do so. Something which would appear to be new and apparently revolutionary would be a Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Services, but in the United Kingdom, Mr. Bevan covered that area in one Department. There are more interchanges in labour than all the Departments put together; there are more people employed in the Ministry of Labour in England than in the whole Civil Service in Barbados. Mr. McCleod, who is the Minister of Labour in Great Britain today, has a staff of people which is bigger than the whole Civil Service of Barbados. I am only quoting these examples. When you come to Barbados, an island of 166 square miles, I am sure you cannot tell me that the Minister of Health and Labour cannot perform those duties because they have already been performed.

I am suggesting that no matter what Ministry you have, the staff is nothing to do with the Minister as head. You have a Minister, but you still give him a staff; the Ministers do not work by themselves. It may be sooner or later that they come down here for more staff and the House would be in an invidious position to say that they do not require more staff.

On the question of travelling allowance, I take a different view from that of the Leader of the Opposition. I was not here when the original debate took place. It is true that even when the members of the Government have a case they cannot explain what the case is. These are days in which people all over the world get travelling allowance, but how the travelling allowance is paid is a matter for the House. I believe that this travelling allowance is paid on an all-embracing basis and you pay travelling allowance which is all embracing and which the Ministers need not draw if and when the time comes, because the salaries are paid on a month to month basis, but there is nothing to make anybody draw them from the Treasury.

4.05 p.m.

What I would say is that there can be no justification for paying Ministers travelling allowance within the context of Legislatures. If members of the House are afraid to say this I am not afraid to say it, because I am a man elected in here in the teeth of a lot of opposition, and so I am always ready to face opposition. I cannot see that you can give a Minister \$90 a month as travelling allowance and another member who has to go to his constituency does not get \$1. The Ministers as well as the members get a salary, and there is no justification in saying that you require \$90 a month for the Ministers when an ordinary member gets nothing. Do you believe that he has no travelling to do? Do you think that he can get out of his bed and roll into his constituency like a barrel? Why is it that ordinary members of the House do not need travelling allowance? As a member of the House he is entitled to as low as \$25 a month as travelling allowance, because it would assist him in buying gasoline. In these days of Adult Suffrage a man cannot

wait until five years to go back to his constituency. Nowadays the electorate does not send and call anybody; you have to go to them and you have to go with your guns blazing. If the members of the Government Party are afraid to say what I have said, I am not, because I am not looking for any plums from the Government. This travelling is paid in the other places where there is the Ministerial system; it is paid in Trinidad and in Jamaica. I am not suggesting that you should do what is done in Trinidad, because I agree that in Trinidad these things are too exorbitant and we would have to come down with something more modest.

Mr. Chairman, I want to draw your attention to the rudeness of a gentleman in the Gallery, whom you have once had to eject. We cannot have these people coming into Parliament and getting on with uncouth behaviour.

You will agree, Mr. Chairman, that the points I have made are that we should take this opportunity to re-assess the position of our Ministerial structure and see to what extent these changes can take place, and at the same time try to urge more efficiency.

The last point I want to make is this: I do not know whether it would come within the strict confines of this Resolution. I am not trying to put one over, but the introducer said it was a question of office equipment and so forth, and I am wondering if it would not be appropriate for Government to consider acquiring a building that is suitable for certain educational work and facilities. There should be an organisation for training Civil Servants, and in this island there is no facility for that sort of training, nor a place where they can group together from time to time. There is no place where you can have week-end courses and things of that nature, like the Housecraft Centre, where people can group together and I was wondering if Hastings House could not be acquired by this Government for the purpose of using it as a Training Centre. There is no place outside of Erdiston College, and for community development and aspects of educational expansion, that can be used for training Civil Servants, Private Secretaries and so on. That would be a very good thing, because its offices and building can be used for accommodating even students who have to live there.

I mention that because some time ago it came to me that it was something that could be investigated in expanding the facilities for education in Barbados. I throw out these suggestions in the interest of good government, and that is why I say it is a matter of re-assessing the Ministerial structure and seeing what can be done to bring it up to date.

Mr. F. G. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, I think I am correct in saying that many months ago the Legislature amended the Governor-in-Executive Committee Act to give the Prime Minister the power to appoint as many Ministers as he sees or thinks fit. In spite of the opposition which then took place, that measure was passed and I feel that there is a considerable amount of common sense in what the hon. senior member for St. Peter has said. In making my speech I will perhaps couch it in a different way, and I may not express myself as forcefully as he has done, but before we vote for money for an additional Ministry and provide offices for it, I think we should get the assurance from the Hon. Premier that in the interest of the economy of the country, he has considered the regrouping of the Ministries and after much thought and discussion he has come to the conclusion that for the efficiency, proper running and the maintaining of our educational standard, he thinks this is the only method that can be adopted, because in a community such as ours when we are called upon to spend money on what some politicians may term 'jobs for the boys,' the Government should give the Hon. House and the public of the country the assurance that the measure they have brought down is the only solution to the problem which they are trying to solve. I think you will see the wisdom in that of a Premier who knows the limited resources of this country and who is conscious

of its economy, and I think you will see that that assurance should be forthcoming in order to do away with the suspicion that you are creating a job for any member of your Party. If I were Premier, that would be my first approach to a Resolution of this nature. If he can assure this House that he has considered the grouping of the Ministries and that this is the only method, I can assure him of my unstinted support. As I say, that hinges from my fear that we in the West Indies, in view of our constitutional advances, are apt to lose sight of the very high cost of administration, and even the Federal Government does not pay attention to questions of this nature, because as you know, by way of comparison, Mr. Chairman, there are Ministers without portfolios in the Federal Legislature who have nothing to do. 4.15 p.m.

Even with the limited financial budget of the Federal Government you still get this extravagance as we have witnessed and which exists today. Therefore it seems to me a West Indian feeling in dealing with matters of constitutional advancement that we in our desire to advance to a stage of political development are apt to lose sight of the socialistic points. Therefore, in our community in which we enjoy only a one crop economy, we should see to it that in our spending money of this nature, it is money which is worth spending.

Sir, I am not concerned as to who will be Minister of Education because I always feel that the appointment of a Minister is an exclusive matter within the province of the Prime Minister, and if I were a Prime Minister I would not allow even a member of my Party to tell me who should be something - although I would say that if I were a Prime Minister I would always try to be fair and would award wherever I have ability and integrity. That is the position as I understand it constitutionally, and that is the right thing. Therefore I hope the Hon. Premier in the creation of this Ministry would exercise that judgment in the selection of his new Minister and I have no doubt, knowing him as I do, that he will not be dictated to in matters of this nature.

What I am wondering is this. In a conversation with a fairly high-up Civil Servant, he says that he is not too sure the educational system as at present existing is such that the Minister of Education will have enough work to occupy him full time and I am wondering whether at this stage of our development, when we are about to introduce a new Local Government Set-up, we could not attach to the Ministry of Education the Ministry of Local Government. I feel, Mr. Chairman, at this stage the change over to Local Government is going to call not only for matters of policy to be determined, but it is going to cause a great deal of headache; and if it is attached temporarily and, if necessary, permanently to the Ministry of Education, I think it would be a good thing. I think in view of the new change over to Local Government that it should have some direction from the Central Government because, as the new Act stands, it calls for a great deal of policy, and also the financial implications of it will depend to a large extent on the Central Government.

There is a great deal in what the hon. senior member for St. Peter has said and, that is, you should never make comparisons with other countries unless the comparisons are fair and equal. You should never compare what takes place in Jamaica or Trinidad with what we are going to do in Barbados. You should only attempt to bring from those islands those things which we can afford and which can fit without undue hardship into our way of life, economically, socially and otherwise.

I would prefer to see, much as the hon. senior member for St. Peter objected, another Ministry being set up but instead of a Ministry of Education I would prefer to see a Ministry of Development and a Minister guiding an Economic planning Unit. I am one who feels, and feels very strongly, that in Barbados the future of this country is far from rosy; and I am one who as a young man is convinced that Barbados is not moving on economically but that we are only enjoying the reward of God's good kindness and

mercy. There is really nothing moving on towards any expansion or otherwise to give hope to any young man. If the sugar industry fails tomorrow, we should have something to fall back on. In Jamaica, Mr. Manley is head of the Economic Planning Unit as well as Minister of Development, and you also have that Minister in Trinidad. You certainly have to admit that in those two countries the economic and industrial expansion is greater than anything which we have witnessed in the last five or ten years and greater than anything taking place in Barbados.

If I may again deal with this new Ministry of Education, having the assurance that it is necessary, I just want to say that I am not one of those who harp back to the times when we had Rev. Nichols and Mr. Greenhalgh of blessed memory riding around the country on bicycles inspecting all the schools; but I feel this Department of Education is a bit top heavy, and if you are appointing a Minister of Education who is going to have a Permanent Secretary, I do not see the necessity then for a Director of Education and a Deputy Director. What a Minister has to do is to direct and lay down policy. What a Permanent Secretary has to do is to advise on policy as well as to get the facts necessary for the Minister. I am of the opinion that a Chief Education Officer would fit the Bill and that you do not need, now that you have a Minister of Education, both a Director and a Deputy Director of Education. I am one who feels that the Education Department today is top heavy, and that we are not getting the best results for the money we are spending on education. I think the public will agree with me that if the Minister of Education is likely to raise our standard of education to the great heights which it formerly enjoyed - and I defy anyone to say that our educational standards have not slipped within the last five to ten years - then if he can re-establish those high standards and regain for us that respect which we once held and enjoyed in the educational world, the money we are spending on the establishment of this new Ministry would be money well worth spending. I am sure that the person whom the Premier will appoint as Minister of Education will have no easy task at this stage because of the controversies which have been existing in this sphere. For example, we have this controversy over our Sixth Forms at Secondary Schools, and there is the necessity for bringing into effect compulsory education. There is also the necessity for expanding school places and increasing the number both at secondary and primary schools. However, if he is a man who is prepared to work and work hard, I for one think this money is money well worth spending. As I have said before, I am not concerned in the least with who is likely to be Minister of Education. I may say in passing that I am of the opinion when I look over on the side of the Government that it is my personal view that some of the Ministers of the Government are 99% better than some whom I have met in my travelling around some of the small islands and they are equal to some whom I have met in Jamaica. 4.25 p.m.

I think that they are doing a good job within their limits. I am not going to allow it to be said that they are worse than anybody in the world; I feel that the Ministers are doing the best they can with the material they possess. (Laughter). Therefore, I am supporting this Resolution and, as I say, I hope the Premier who is steeped in constitutional matters, will, in the creation of this post see to it that he rewards loyalty and ability and give us a Minister who has the educational interest of this generation as well as other generations to come at heart.

Mr. TUDOR: Unlike the hon. member who has just sat down, I do not think I would worry about the travelling allowance; I do not begrudge them of it. The constitution of this Island is such that it does not permit the members of this Committee to amend Resolutions. I would cheerfully add another digit at the end of this \$888 or as many digits which would be necessary to defray the expenses of all the Ministers who want to travel as far away from Barbados as is humanly possible for them

to do - a one-way ticket for each of them. I do not begrudge them their travelling allowance; what I am concerned about is that whenever we have the opportunity to discuss the travelling allowance of Ministers, it is usually very late at night when few of us are in the House. We are never told in any detail the amount of travelling which individual Ministers do. I know that occasionally, we see photographs of the Minister of Social Services cutting a ribbon or distributing books or prizes to Nurses, and we were a bit astonished to see the photograph of the Premier who was standing on the sand sucker with his retinue, Mr. Burton and the whole lot of them getting explanations of what is being done. There can be no doubt, whatever, that they travel; whether they travel about the Island in a manner or with a frequency necessitated by their duties is another matter. If they do not tell us in some detail how much travelling they do, we are not able to assess whether they are justified or not in receiving the money which is being voted.

I think it has been said that they were doing something like 800 miles a month in travelling. Occasionally, we see a photograph of the Hon. Minister of Agriculture at a Livestock Station, and it is a good thing to note that he concentrates on that aspect of the work of his Department. Here again, we do not know how often he does it or if the cameraman only catches him in an off moment when he is relaxing with his pipe. If they want to still the controversy which rages around the question as to whether Ministers get enough or too much travelling allowance, a little table prepared and setting out the travelling done by them over a particular period of time would be sufficient to give the House an indication as to whether the money is well spent or if it is spent at all.

I am not concerned with who the Minister of Education is to be; I know it will be whoever Sir Grantley Adams wants to be Minister of Education. It matters little to me who is or who is not Minister of Education. I am sorry that I will not have the pleasure of congratulating you, Mr. Acting Chairman.

On the question of furniture and office equipment, whenever we are about to discuss these matters, it always appears that we have to find an entirely new set of furniture for each Minister. It is difficult for me to see why that should be so in each case. In setting up a Ministry of Education, there is not now to be found in the present Department of Education, new furniture and office equipment which can be used in the Ministry itself. I know that some hon. members on the other side of this Committee can argue that the spending of \$1,400 is not very much and that we have to think ourselves lucky that we could equip this office for such a little outlay. That is arguable, but I think we are overdoing this question of furnishing Ministerial and Government Offices. I hope that it is not the case in Barbados that the prestige of a Public Officer and the importance of his work are to be gauged only by the amount of the work and the quality of the furniture that is in his office. I read about the early establishment of the Colonial Office in London, and it has been said that in Downing Street, you can tell the status of any Civil Servant by having a gaze at the size of his carpet and at his typewriter. That is true of the Civil Service in those days, but it need not be true of the Government today. I think that the Government should economise whenever and wherever possible on the matter of office equipment and furniture, because it should not be necessary to duplicate every bit of furniture merely because you are setting up a new office.

4.35 p.m.

It is possible, too, that if Government knows what it is doing, it might be necessary to abolish or change some of the offices which now obtain in the Department of Education, and the furniture released from one office might easily be used in another. Of course, that can wait until later and will be a matter for the new Minister when he assumes duty next month.

Now, Sir, a much more important aspect of this matter is this: some time ago the Government sent a

Circular to the Governing Bodies of the Secondary Schools telling them

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I do not see how that comes in.

Mr. TUDOR: Had you listened, Mr. Chairman, you would have seen. Not knowing what I am going to say, you cannot anticipate me that way. The Government sent a Circular to the Governing Bodies of Secondary Schools pointing out that where furniture for schools is to be made or ordered, it would be better that local products should be encouraged and that desks, tables and chairs for Secondary Schools should whenever possible be made locally. That is a sensible thing to do, although I may say in passing that I wonder how Government managed to do it and at the same time.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I am asking the hon. member to make the point with respect to furniture for the office and not to worry about schools.

Mr. TUDOR: I always do that. I hope in this case, Mr. Chairman, that the same thing holds good and that the same Circular has gone the rounds to all the Government offices, pointing out that local industry ought to be supported wherever necessary. The Minister of Education himself will be occupied - at least part of his time - in promoting handicrafts and manual skills. It would be a bad thing for the work he set himself out to do if he did not encourage the making of local furniture and if he did not use local furniture in his own office. I know that sometimes Government sends out a Circular to one Department saying that such and such a course of action is desirable, but when they get nearer home they forget to use the maxim to themselves. Let us hope that this matter is being looked after on that level.

When my colleague the Hon. Leader of the Opposition was speaking on travelling allowances, Mr. Chairman, he ended, I think, on this note; he was trying to seek the assurance from the Premier that Ministers while travelling outside the island will not be drawing travelling allowance, which is primarily meant for Ministers travelling inside the island. This is a sore point with us because we have mentioned it in this place more than once and we have never been given a satisfactory reply to it. The question asked by my colleague was not meant to trap the Premier or to make him tell tales out of school, but just to ascertain from him what the policy is and what the agreement among Ministers is about their travelling allowance. It is arguable that if a Minister is out of the island he is travelling; obviously he is. What we would like to know in this Committee is whether travelling allowance is due to him for travelling inside or outside or both, and if the Hon. Premier can remember to clear that point up, we should be very thankful.

One other point about the establishment of this Ministry is that, unlike the hon. senior member for St. Peter, the Democratic Labour Party believes quite firmly not only that there should be a separate Ministry of Education, but that indeed there should be a Minister of Education. Where we would probably part company with the Government on this matter is just here; we did not think that Government would create a Ministry and appoint a Minister just like that. We thought that after this long delay since the announcement was made at the beginning of the present Session, Government would have taken the opportunity to have brought its educational policy up to date, so that the House, its Committee and the public generally should know what is the new policy which is being put under the care and charge of the new Minister, and we feel that it would have been better to have brought in some time ago perhaps a new Education Act, setting out the policy of the Government in education, and almost in the first Clause of the Act to define the duties of the Minister and the organisation of the Department under him. That would have been a more logical thing to do and we should all have known what Government policy is if that had been done. As it is, by choosing the other round-about way we have to wait for the appointment of a Minister and then for an announcement by the

Minister of his own policy piece-meal as he goes along. There is bound to be friction that way because Government is bound to give the impression that they are adjusting their policy from week to week or from month to month as circumstances arise.

The Education Department is rather different in its aim and in its character from any other Department, and it ought to receive different treatment both in its organisation and in the policy pursued there. It is a matter which I regret Government has not done before, but I would urge upon them the necessity of setting out in great detail and with great emphasis what their new education policy is going to be, and what, therefore, we are to hold the Minister accountable for in future.

Mr. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I rise to support the passing of this Resolution, and though I regard education as being sufficiently important to demand the whole-time attention of a Minister, speaking from my experience in the past, I can say that this Ministry of Education which was formerly vested in the Premier has been neglected, if I may use that term. I am not throwing any aspersions on the present Premier or the ex-Premier, but their duties are so onerous that they have not enough time to devote to that particular Ministry, and when you consider that the duties of a Minister of Education are sufficiently onerous to demand the services of a full-time Minister, then inadvertence or neglect can be excused.

Now Barbados has always prided itself as being the most advanced colony educationally in the British Caribbean; but I am afraid that if we continue adopting a slipshod method as far as education is concerned by investing these duties as we have done hitherto in the Premier who has many other duties to perform - he is Minister of Finance, Education, Police and so on, we are expecting too much. I welcome the establishment of this Ministry and the creation of a full-time Minister of Education. To suggest that the Minister will be a junior Minister is folly. I expect that the Minister will be a full-fledged Minister and will be as powerful as any other Minister in that his post will be as important as any other Minister; so that this question of being a junior Minister could hardly arise.

4.45 p.m.

In so far as the Ministry itself is concerned, I think some suggestion was made that with the setting up of the Ministry you should hardly need a Director of Education. Let me say this, and I speak from my experience, the job of the Director of Education is to advise and administer the Department of Education and that is a day to day job. To expect a Minister of Education to do that is asking too much of him. It is like asking him to account for what is happening in that Department every day. He only becomes aware of what happens in a week and to expect that is folly. The member who made that suggestion does not understand the working of the Ministerial system.

Sir, I hope the Minister of Education will be a man of the proper calibre and will bring some sort of experience and assistance to that Ministry, because it is one of the most important Ministries. Everybody is craving for higher education and more education, and Barbados was prided with being one of the most advanced and educated places in the British Caribbean. I do not think that is so today; but let us hope that with the appointment of a Minister of Education of a proper calibre, he will bring some sort of assistance and experience, some sort of status as far as culture and education is concerned. It is not only education; it is also culture which is needed because it is a dying thing in this country. Because of that, you want a man who would be able to set a proper standard. How can he pose or pretend to be a Minister of Education when he himself lacks culture or he has no attribute where that is concerned? I am hoping that the Hon. Premier will put in that Ministry the right man because unless that is done we will not derive much benefit from that post.

I see in the course of time Government may be able to make savings as a result of the establishment

of this new Ministry. We may be able to save on the expenditure of a Deputy Director of Education, that is if any saving can be effected at all because as I see it, the only saving which can be made in the course of time is the abolition of the post of Deputy Director of Education. Under the present set up, the Permanent Secretary to this Ministry will be so near to the office of the Department of Education that his office should be set up in that building. If the Minister of Education and the Permanent Secretary carry on their work in this building, it will not prevent them from maintaining their status. The Minister of Education does not need to be pushed in the Ministerial Building to be a Minister. It is a question of doing the job and not getting in that big building. As I was saying, a saving may be effected if the Ministry of Education is put in the Education Department and having the Permanent Secretary to do what the Deputy Director of Education now does. That is the only saving I can see. For one to say you must abolish the post of Director of Education, that is a fallacious argument because you need a Director of Education to see after the day to day running of the Department. A Minister can never be responsible for that, because he would have to be there to do that along with what he has to do.

Sir, I feel the establishment of this Ministry is long overdue. This island has 120 odd elementary schools. I would like to ask the Hon. Premier if since he has taken up his office he has yet had the time to get around to any of these schools. I doubt whether the ex-Premier ever got around to any of them. In any case, Barbados with its 126 elementary schools along with its secondary schools does need a Minister of Education. The other private secondary schools should also receive the attention of the Minister of Education because they are there through the lack of places in Government Secondary Schools; and so like that, these private secondary schools play a great part in this community's education. I hope that a lot of time would be given to matters not only relating to education but to culture as well.

Mr. GODDARD: We have had Ministerial Status for over four and a half years and I do not think three months had passed when the then Premier then said to the House that he had found out, though he had felt he should do so in the interest of economy in the first place, that he had created too few Ministries and he would always tell us that he was going to pay special attention to the Education Department. That went on and on and he went through his four years as Premier remaining to the end Minister of Education. Today, we are now told that we do need a separate Ministry for Education and although some other hon. members have stated that it is the most important function of Government, I say that it is equally as important as any of the others because they are all important. The Ministry of Agriculture should be as important because it is on that department that our economy rests. The Ministry of Health is just as important. If we ever have an epidemic, the Minister of Health would be responsible for it.

What I should like to draw to the attention of hon. members is that before Federation was established, the ex-Premier was Minister of Finance and Minister of Education and he had to do a lot of travelling in the interest of the Federation. He was always attending Standing Committee Meetings which were held from time to time in Jamaica, London and all around the West Indies and he was called upon to play a big part in that. Now, he has established Federation, I do not think that the present Premier will be called on to travel as extensively as the last Premier. As a matter of fact, I feel that the Ministers in Barbados should be more at home today than within the last four years because we have established Federation for that purpose. When an invitation comes from overseas to the West Indies, I envisage that in the future it would be sent to the Federal Government. That should be done now. If we are to be invited to Geneva next year to a meeting of the I.L.O., are we going to send from these units ten Ministers of Labour? I think that the Federal Minister of Labour should attend. That is why we created Federation and that

is one of the savings we should get out of it. I think Government should at this stage be thinking of that along those lines.

We have to finance Federation, Central Government and Local Government and our economy cannot stand the stresses which are being put on it. It is along those lines that the Hon. Premier and his Government should be thinking if it is necessary and if it is so important that we should have a Minister of Education today. If we are to get benefits from the creation of that Ministry, by all means do so; I am only drawing to the Government's attention that it is for a matter of economy that we went into Federation and that is how they should be thinking 4.55 p.m.

We will now have six Ministers - (Mr. F. L. WALCOTT: Seven.) I am not referring to the one in the Other Place; - and this is a Chamber of 24 members. The next thing we will do, if this is so important, is to establish something else. Let us pay attention to what this Island can stand; we will still have a large number of unemployed people and we need expansion along other lines. If we were going to create a Ministry of Development, I would be wholeheartedly in support of such an establishment. That is where we should be paying our attention. The Minister of Education can play a very important part. We, in Barbados, have always prided ourselves in having a system of education in Barbados which they have not had in other regions; but there are other phases of education which we have been neglecting, and one of them is adult education. I was amazed to hear that in British Guiana they are in advance of Barbados when it comes to education. You do not expect a Government to do everything, but a Government can play a leading part to assist in organising voluntarily or otherwise the means of furthering the interests of adult education. We are behind other territories in that. The people outside of Barbados are amazed at the lack of our facilities for adult education. If the creation of this Ministry means that we will get adult education, by all means I welcome it. Let us hope that the Federation will take over some of these duties and relieve our Ministers from having to travel on every occasion to all parts of the world.

Mr. STRAUGHN: Mr. Acting Chairman, I think that the debate so far has been quite enlightened. I heard the remarks that there is a feeling that we are suffering from a top-heavy Government and I am quite certain that I, speaking as an individual member of my Party, can say that the Premier would be very careful to be sure that we are not just going to impose Ministries right and left on the country just for the sake of having Ministries. Evidently, anybody who runs a country, especially one with the limited resources of Barbados, must sometimes play Sherlock as far as the cost of administration is concerned. Therefore, I would say when references are made to too many Ministries and such other references, I would say I am quite certain that the Premier and this Labour Government must be quite well aware that a top-heavy Government is not anything which we would want to encourage.

With that assurance, I would like to say that the suggestion which has been made by the hon. senior member for St. Peter of the revamping of Ministries has already been taken into consideration to some extent by this very idea of having a Ministry of Education. From the very fact that the Premier handles the portfolio of Education, the very fact that the policy of the Government, having heard it in the Speech from the Throne, was that there will be created a Ministry of Education, you will very well see that attention is being paid to some sort of revamping even though in this particular instance you will be adding another Ministry. I cannot see that it will be necessary to increase the number of Ministries if you increase the number of portfolios; I cannot see any Government, having regard to the economic position of Barbados, failing to do its duty when the time comes.

I think it has been mentioned that the creation of this particular Ministry will be making the number of Ministries six in this Chamber and one in the Other Place, and the hon. senior member for St. Peter has said that in some

tases in the United Kingdom Ministers have under their portfolio a staff which is equal to the whole Civil Service of Barbados. That may be quite true, but the size of the staff is not the only criterion by which one would like to judge the requirements of a Ministry. When you consider that this country is spending over \$3 million on education, out of a budget of \$20 million, when you consider that it is about one-sixth of the finances of the country which is being spent on education, I say that it is time for any Government to see how this money, which is spent on education, is being spent. There may be quite a lot of truth in the statement made by the hon. junior member for St. Andrew that there is a strong probability that we are not getting full value for the money which we are spending on education. Any country which has a budget out of which it spends one-sixth on any particular project, has the right to look into that project and see if it should not have a Ministry or some other suitable requirement. I think the principle of supporting this Resolution should not have arisen; I would not support this Resolution if it meant that we were not getting the value for what we are spending.

Perhaps, in this phase of education, we may not necessarily need a Minister of Education; we may want, say, a Minister of Development. That is a very good thing, but I, like other members of the Government Party, certainly consider and look forward to the appointment of a Minister of Education as being in itself one of our phases of development, because we consider that if Barbados is always to be a good export shop, it is worth our while to invest in the brains and in the human resources which we have in this country, so that when we have to export these resources, we will be in a much happier position than that in which we would be if we did not invest in Education. 5.05 p.m.

I consider that the creation of the Ministry of Education is indirectly a part of development as far as Barbados is concerned. I was very happy, Mr. Chairman, to hear, among all members, that mention was just made by the hon. junior member for Christ Church of the phase of adult education. I think that we will be safe to say that the surface has not even been scratched and that it needs to be. I would imagine that in addition to the other administrative duties, this would be quite a fertile field for the Minister of Education to play a part in, and just in passing, Mr. Chairman, as far as adult education is concerned, I feel sorry to know that a certain gentleman who was in Barbados and supposed to be looking after Extra-Mural studies which would have dealt with adult education has left, and I am sorry that Dr. Rawle Farley has also left Barbados.

If I could just conclude on what I would consider a more humorous note, I notice that the hon. junior member for St. Lucy was questioning how soon or how distant the application of the term "as soon as possible" was. I cannot see why he has to worry over that because his own colleague, the hon. senior member for St. Lucy, has just told us that this Ministry will be functioning next month; so when the Premier from St. Lucy has spoken, why need we to go any further? We have the answer just there.

Mr. BRANCKER: I take it, Sir, that the hon. member has spoken as Minister of Education elect.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, on the 21st January when His Excellency the Governor opened the Legislature, among other things he said that a Minister of Education would be appointed early in the Session. I want to say that in reply to the hon. junior member for Christ Church who said that today for the first time we are hearing of a Minister of Education being appointed.

Mr. GODDARD: On a point of order. I do not think he got me correctly. I said that for four and a half years we were hearing that from the last Premier, but only today we are now coming down for this Ministry.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: The House acquiesced to the statement; there was nothing to the contrary and therefore it was accepted, and this debate on the creation of a Ministry and a Minister of Education is certainly out

of order. The only member who seemed to have addressed his mind to the question properly was the hon. senior member for Christ Church. He revised the history of the thing and also again brought our minds back to the purposes for which this Ministry is being created. I want to say to the hon. junior member for St. Andrew that as the hon. junior member for Christ Church has said, we have been hearing about this for a long time; this was the decision of the former Premier. I, since I took up office, have also carefully examined it and I can assure the hon. junior member for St. Andrew that I am satisfied that it is quite necessary, if we want to return to our former standard of education, to have someone who will look after education, because it is a whole-time job as the hon. member has said.

There were a few questions asked by the Hon. Leader of the Opposition. One was whether it was going to be a junior Ministry or if we were going to have two. My answer is that if the hon. member had taken the trouble to read the Addendum, he would have found the answer there. His second question was how soon "as soon as possible" was I will tell him that "as soon as possible" is "as soon as possible". The third point he made was on the question of travelling. I remember that during the Estimates this question of travelling allowance for Ministers was criticised in all its aspects, and the very questions asked now were asked then. The former Premier gave his answer then and I have nothing to add. The Hon. Ministers will draw their allowance as set out in the Act, and they will do travelling.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, this ignorance which we get exhibited in here from as high a person as the Premier cannot go on when he rises and talks about being out of order. If he does not know what to say when he gets up, he should sit down. Is it out of order to ask these questions when you are dealing with a Resolution in which you are asking for money to set up another Ministry? We are saying what is our view of the structure of the Ministries for the last four years. How could it be out of order? If he does not know how to answer a question, why doesn't he go home and sleep? If after all these years in Parliament he does not know what is out of order, let him sit down and not exhibit ignorance on this matter. On behalf of my constituency I say that you can have four Ministries, but the creation of a Ministry of Education does not deflect or take away anything from the duties of the Minister of Education, and the hon. junior member for St. Joseph has just said in supporting them that he agrees that you have only scratched on the surface of adult education. Adult Education is not *ipso facto* a part of the education policy within the confines of the Ministry of Education, because it comes within other aspects of development outside the Ministry of Education. The Social Welfare Department is not a part of the Ministry of Education, but it conducts aspects of Adult Education. The ignorance of the Premier is that the Minister of Education will have to conduct community development through the Ministry of Education. He is now looking for "Mays", but all he has propounded is gross Parliamentary ignorance.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I just want to say that the hon. member ought to know that his bellowing has never affected me in the past and it will not do so now. I will let that go for what it is worth.

Mr. WALCOTT: I will reply and say that his ignorance affects me because as a taxpayer in this community, when you get ignorance from the Premier, it must affect me because it affects the community.
5.15 p.m.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: There is absolutely no necessity to spoil the tone of the debate which has been remarkably good up to now.

Mr. WALCOTT: I have no such intention, but what do you find? The Hon. Premier rises and says that we are out of order because we made suggestions in so far as this whole question of structure is concerned. How can we be out of order when you are making a proposition and we say something in regard to that proposition?

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, none of us with the progressive spirit would attempt to deny the appointment

of a Minister of Education more especially when I am speaking to you as Acting Chairman of Committees. I can say you are the person whom the public was looking forward to for a long time, if I may not be accused as bringing any tales out of school, as the fit and proper person to fill that post. As a matter of fact, I think the Ex-Premier promised you that Ministry. (A VOICE: Oh no, you have it wrong.)

However, Sir, I would not be true to myself, even although I welcome the establishment of this Ministry, even although without any flattery I pay high regards to the experience of the person who, I understand, will be appointed to that position, even although I consider that the duties which this office entails would be very important, if I do not ask the Hon. Premier what it is proposed to pay as travelling allowance to this Minister.

I notice under Head XIII, Legislature, Item 25, Travelling Allowance for Ministers, we are asked to vote \$888 and it is stated in the Addendum to the Resolution that it is proposed to establish as soon as possible a Ministry of Education and to appoint a Minister. It goes on to say that this Resolution seeks the provision of funds to meet the cost of travelling allowance for the proposed Minister of Education and for the purchase of the necessary furniture and office equipment *etcetera* for the Ministry of Education.

I take it that this Travelling Allowance is calculated on the same basis upon which other Ministers have been paid and to which we objected and to which by virtue of your having the power you still passed. I repeat, I would not be true to myself if I did not oppose the idea of granting \$90 per month travelling allowance to Ministers. Just as we stand here in Barbados and criticise what we think in Trinidad is a racket, other people looking at this small country would say that this is extravagant. You know, Sir, everything must be taken into account with the economy of the country and the people. This travelling allowance for Ministers is not broken down in this Addendum, but I take it that it has been explained; I take it that members of the Opposition have asked for it and they have been told that it is upon the same basis as what the other Ministers are getting. If I can recall rightly, the House was told from that side during the consideration of the Estimates that one concession would be granted and that would be that they will not give consideration to the Minister without portfolio at \$90 per month. Sir, I must apologise. I have not heard what the Minister in charge of this Resolution had to say. I wonder if he has told this Committee whether that promise has been kept. I think it is the Ex-Premier who said to us that the only thing in our argument then in opposition to the \$90 a month travelling allowance was that although the Government came for the full amount, working out the travelling allowance for the Minister without portfolio at \$90 per month, that that would be reduced to \$60 a month. That has not been set out here but I think if the Ex-Premier told us that, there must be some sense of responsibility.

I think the Travelling Allowance for Ministers went from \$50 to \$60 per month. I never opposed that but I think that \$90 is extravagant. I am not among those members of the House who would think something is wrong and would not voice their disapproval. I have drawn this to the Hon. Premier and though I do not want to reduce the amount unreasonably yet I do not want to find myself voting for \$90 a month travelling allowance. I am perfectly willing to vote \$60 per month. Side by side with this travelling allowance increase, you hear members of the Government saying that you cannot afford this or that; you cannot afford such sums for such social services as we may need; yet they can vote for \$90 a month for travelling allowance for themselves. Sir, I am unalterably opposed to \$90 travelling allowance. Will the Hon. Premier tell me if this amount of \$880 is for the rest of the financial year? Let us not be hypocrites on this side of the Table. Do not let us say that we are opposed to it and then vote for it. I believe the Hon. Premier who is in charge of this Resolution will certainly tell us what portion of this amount is for this Ministry. Sir, when I say anything in regard to policy in this place, I hope it is not taken as an attack on any individual. Let me say that if I feel an individual should be criticised for his actions, I would criticise him. However, it is not a ques-

tion of my attacking the person who holds the office of Minister without portfolio because that person in my opinion is among the first gentlemen of this country. I remember an occasion, when a member of this Chamber attacked a principle, a high ranking officer, apparently though large in stature but small in mind, walked around the place and voiced his disapproval of the Members of the Opposition who had the temerity to get up and say that that officer should not have furniture given him.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: What has that got to do with the Resolution?

Mr. MOTTLEY: What are you now saying?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: We are not now talking about officers of this Government.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I think you were anticipating me a bit too quickly.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I do not think so.
5.25 p.m.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I am entitled to make such a reference in any matter of this sort, but not to policy; that is all I am doing, Mr. Acting Chairman; you have really anticipated me. You know to whom I am referring and I will not mention any names; as long as I am keeping within the terms of the Resolution, I am entitled to say what I am saying. Far be it from me to be personal, but I want to say that when hon. members of this House exercise their right to criticise policy - you do not attack an individual, but if you find that an individual is worthy of criticism, you criticise him. You have a high-ranking officer who is large in stature but small in mind, who seems to think that it is his duty to refuse to say anything to people. I have been for all my life *persona grata* with people in all walks of life and when you make these utterances, they always come back to me.

This Resolution seeks to give the Minister without Portfolio, Travelling Allowance, and I am not in favour of it. I am not saying that a Minister should not have travelling allowance, but you cannot supplement a Minister's salary by giving him travelling allowance as is done in the Federal Legislature in Trinidad. I cannot find any justification for doing this. I hope that the Premier will be able to give us a break down of this amount. Is this money for the provision of travelling allowance for the period from August to March, and what portion of this amount is for the Minister without Portfolio? As I have said, I am not in agreement with it, and I would like the Premier to tell me what portion of this money is for the Minister without Portfolio; otherwise I will move a reduction of this amount.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I will give the hon. member the information, but I want to remind him that he cannot move a reduction of the vote at this stage. This principle was accepted during the consideration of the Estimates, and unless the hon. member wants to move the reduction of the whole amount - and if he wants to do so, he would have to introduce an amendment. As to this amount of \$888, the sum of \$168, is for the travelling allowance of the Minister Without Portfolio. He was appointed earlier in this year and he was not included for travelling allowance in the Estimates of last year. The remainder of the money, \$720, is for the proposed new Minister beginning from August.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Acting Chairman, it is not very easy to hear the Premier when he speaks, but do we understand him to say that in the column headed "to be voted" it is no longer the privilege of members of this Committee to make a motion for the reduction of the amount there? He cannot possibly be right.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I know that I do not know much about this matter, but still, I am telling the hon. member this: These rates were agreed upon during the consideration of the Estimates, and the hon. member would have to amend the whole amount. That is what I said.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I am very calm in this matter, but did the hon. senior member for St. Lucy anticipate that I would

not have raised that point? What is the Hon. Premier saying? Is he saying that if they come down here with a Resolution for \$720 to pay travelling allowance for eight months to the Ministers, that I cannot move that this Resolution under Head XIII of the Estimates - Legislature - be reduced by \$240? I am moving the reduction - and I will say that when the Clerks have finished advising the Ministers, I have my "May's" and I know the Rules too. I was saying, Sir, I am moving the reduction of this amount by \$240 plus \$168 which makes a total of \$408.
5.35 p.m.

I have never been convinced of the necessity for travelling allowance for the Minister without portfolio; so I am entitled to vote against it. I must thank the Premier for the information which he has given me, but I should like to tell him that I do not agree with his suggestion for ruling. His suggestion is that I cannot attempt to reduce the vote; his ruling should be that I cannot increase the vote, because I am not a member of the Executive Committee and I have no authority for doing that, but as far as I am concerned my motion will be to reduce the amount by \$408 leaving \$480. In other words, I feel that the amount should be \$60 a month and I am prepared to discharge my conscience by voting that amount. It is for you, Mr. Chairman, to say whether I am in order. I am not among those people who are going to bow to the Chairman or anybody if his ruling is wrong; I am going to the Head of the spring; so I am making my position abundantly clear. I know I have the right to reduce any Resolution which comes before this Chamber at any time and by any amount, and I therefore beg to move that this Resolution be reduced by \$408.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, earlier today when the Premier.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I should like to enquire from the hon. member if he is seconding the motion.

Mr. WALCOTT: For the purpose of discussion, but I am not speaking on the same basis as the last hon. member. Earlier today when the Premier replied to me, I had to make mention that he should be home sleeping. This is to substantiate the point which I made. Imagine he is saying now on the floor of the House with this Supplementary Resolution before us that in order to reduce the vote we will have to pass an amendment. An amendment to what? Can you pass an amendment to the Estimates? Have you ever heard such gross ignorance? Is this a Bill? You are now asking for supplementary provision. What the Premier does not know is that if an undertaking has already been given that you are going to provide the Ministers with \$X which you had in the Estimates, and the amount has now run out, you are bound to do it. What he does not realise is that any time we vote funds and you spend them and have to come back for more, that is an opportunity for us to chide you on your administration, so that even though we voted money for you ten months ago, we are not bound to give you the remainder of two months' money which you are now committed to pay, because we are not satisfied. If the Ministers are not travelling, this House can refuse to vote the funds, and therefore the Ministers can travel no more. It is the prerogative of this Legislature that we can refuse to vote expenditure for things other than those which by Law must be given. If you have already agreed to pay \$90 a month as travelling and some Ministers are already in receipt of it, you are now passing provision for the Minister of Education whoever he is, and it is for this House to say whether it is going to provide the money. If we do not provide the money you cannot spend it, and there is no question of saying that we have to move an amendment. This is an opportunity for us to say that we are not satisfied, and if it were something in which the whole House voted against you, you would have to resign; it would be a vote of "no confidence".

I was not in this House when the undertaking was given that the amount would be \$60 to the Minister without portfolio, so I am not going to enter the debate on the merits of that, because if you can give a travelling allowance of \$90 to a Minister, I cannot see why you are giving the Minister without portfolio \$60, except for blowing a comb. He has no car; so I cannot see why you are pro-

viding for him in this amount. I do not agree that \$90 is too much for a man who has a motor-car and is travelling on behalf of Government and who has to replace his car. If a man has to get a motor-car out of his money and you have to pay him travelling allowance, I do not subscribe to the view that \$90 is too much, because no man can travel, repair his car and keep it running on the basis of \$90 a month. You cannot redeem a car with all it requires with \$90 a month and you cannot look upon it in the light that you are giving \$90 as travel because members of the Civil Service get Government to lend them money to buy motor cars. If that is the criterion on which you are working, what is going to be the position with the Minister without portfolio who is not required to do that kind of job? If you wanted to increase his salary, I would agree, but the Minister without portfolio has no right drawing travelling allowance within this context. This is meant for people who are going to travel in cars on behalf of the Government. (A VOICE: He does not have to get a car to get travelling allowance.) Why is it that he does not have to get a car to receive travelling allowance? Does it connote that you are travelling in a barrel or that you are going around in Sputnik? Do you believe, Mr. Chairman, that anybody can justify travelling at the rate of \$60 a month in Barbados without a motor-car? What kind of travelling are you doing? If you multiply the 750 miles of road in Barbados by 20 miles to the gallon, you will see how many miles you will get, and therefore you will see that the Ministers can go around Barbados like Sputnik is going around the earth. If you provide travelling on the basis that a man will get a motor car, I will concede that to Government; but when the Premier gets up and says that you have to move an amendment, I say that if he does not know what he is talking about, he should stay home and go to sleep and not inflict the community with this type of ignorance.

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

Mr. MOTTLEY: How do you mean, Sir? Have you forgotten that I am here? I believe you genuinely made a mistake. I am sure that the Premier was in the House on the occasion when the ex-Premier promised this House that consideration would be given to reducing the travelling allowance of the Minister without portfolio to \$60 a month.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I told the hon. member that that was done. By that I meant that the Minister without portfolio gets travelling at \$60 a month and the other Ministers get \$90.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I thank the hon. member.
5.45 p.m.

Lest I be misunderstood, I said on the last occasion that I think all the Ministers' travelling allowance should be increased to only \$60 and I went on to say that in my opinion the Minister without portfolio was entitled to travelling allowance and the then Premier then gave the undertaking that that allowance for him should be \$60 per month. I am now told by the Hon. Premier that that is so. The hon. member was not in here at the time, I asked them to work it out in miles. I am dealing with a Socialist Government and I do not see any Socialists setting themselves up against the mass of people. I thought only Conservatives and die hards did that sort of thing. Of course, if you get pseudo-socialists doing that, I am not surprised. I am therefore asking that it be reduced in accordance with that, because I am not further convinced that it should be more than that and let me repeat that I am doing so without any ill feeling against anybody. If the Hon. Premier says that the Minister without portfolio is only entitled to \$60 a month travelling, then I make no apologies for that.

The question that the figures proposed to be deleted stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative the Committee dividing as follows:—

AYES: Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS; Hon. D. D. GARNER; Hon. R. G. MAPP; Hon. M. E. COX; Hon. F. E. MILLER; Mr. HOLDER; Mrs. BOURNE; Mr. SEARLES; Mr. T. W. MILLER; Mr. STRAUGHN; Mr. L. E. SMITH and Mr. F. G. SMITH - 12.

NOES: Mr. WALCOTT; Mr. MOTTLEY; Mr. GODDARD; Mr. TUDOR; Mr. BRANCKER - 5.

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

Hon. M. E. COX: Sir, I beg to move that Your Honour do now report progress and ask for leave to sit again.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: I beg to second that.

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

Mr. CHAIRMAN reported to Mr. SPEAKER who resumed the Chair and reported the passing of one Resolution in Committee.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the sitting of this House be now suspended for half an hour.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: I beg to second that.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. Before Your Honour resumed the Chair, the motion in Committee was that progress be reported and to ask leave for the Committee to sit again. I now hear Your Honour say that the Chairman reported the passing of one Resolution in Committee.

Mr. SPEAKER: That is what I understood him to say. If that is wrong, the House will go back in Committee.

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

Mr. CHAIRMAN reported to Mr. SPEAKER who resumed the Chair and reported that the CHAIRMAN had reported progress and asked leave for the Committee to sit again.

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the sitting of this House be now suspended for half an hour.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: I beg to second that.

The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division and Mr. SPEAKER suspended the sitting accordingly.

5.55 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

On re-assembling,

Mr. SPEAKER: On the suspension, the House was in Committee of Supply.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES, 1958-59, NO. 11

EDUCATION

Hon. Dr. H. G. CUMMINS: Mr. Acting Chairman, the next Resolution is a Resolution for the sum of \$95,721 to supplement the Estimates, 1958-59 Part II, Capital, as shown in the Supplementary Estimate, 1958-59, No. 11 which forms the schedule to this Resolution. This Resolution is in respect of education and the expenditure is in relation to the Christ Church Foundation School, St. Clements Senior and Infants' School, extensions of other elementary Schools and the Alexandra School which is a new item. As is set out in the Addendum to the Resolution, the Ministry of the Premier in consultation with the Acting Director of Education and the Director of Public Works, has reviewed the progress of capital projects under the head of Education in the Five-Year Development Plan for 1955-60. The review has been made in the light of a recent survey of the accommodation problems in a number of districts, and in view of proposals for reorganisation of primary and secondary education.

The projects which were planned for the current financial year with the provision voted accordingly are shown in the Estimates - Part II - Capital, Head VI - Education. The sums provided in the Estimates were, however, calculated

on tentative estimates made some considerable time ago, and do not take account of increased wages and other factors such as a rise in school population, which were not then determinable. Consequently, the estimates recently submitted by the Director of Public Works are higher than the provision in the Estimates.

A summary of the position with firm estimates of the cost of the projects already agreed and those now proposed is contained in the Appendix. This Appendix also shows the anticipated expenditure on the projects for the current year and for 1959-60.

It is now proposed to abandon the Rendezvous Hill School project, since, according to information available, the land on which the school was to be erected has been sold. Other plans are under consideration for meeting the accommodation problem in Christ Church. The money voted for this purpose (\$147,500) would be used to meet (1) the shortfall of funds in respect of other projects and (2) the cost of projects which, though not provided in the current estimates, will meet some of the more pressing school accommodation problems.

I know that hon. members will be interested to know the position with respect to the last paragraph which I have just read out, that paragraph being:-

It is now proposed to abandon the Rendezvous Hill School project, since, according to information available the land on which the school was to be erected has been sold. Other plans are under consideration for meeting the accommodation problem in Christ Church."

As has been set out in the Addendum, the Rendezvous Hill School project had to be abandoned, because the land was eventually sold and was not any longer available. This new project is now being examined; it has not been finalised yet, but it is still in Christ Church and in an area which the educational authorities think is a better and more suitable area than the former project at Rendezvous Hill. As I have said, the matter is still under examination, and I do not think that it would be wise to divulge it at this stage until we are in a position to come before the House with something definite in place of the Rendezvous Hill site. It is not anticipated that we can expect the examination of this project to reach its conclusion before the end of the next financial year; so that if a little money is taken from this project to carry out other projects, hon. members will understand that the remainder of the money will have to be made up next year so as to carry on this new project. We do not know yet how much it will cost and therefore we cannot give final information as to what will be required.

The projects in respect of which supplementary provision is required are as follows:-

"Christ Church Foundation School — A Revote of \$26,694 is required to meet the cost of completing acquisition of land. The estimated expenditure of \$40,972 during the current year is dependent upon the completion of negotiations for the purchase of church property and private property."

That property has not yet been acquired and negotiations are not complete; therefore, the expenditure is as estimated here.

As regards the St. Clement's Senior and Infants' School, the Addendum states this:-

"The plans for extensions to the St. Clement's Senior and Infants' School have been revised to include facilities for the teaching of Home Economics the cost of which will be met by a grant from the Labour Welfare Fund (Rural Amenities). The up-to-date estimate of the cost of the proposed extensions to meet the need for increased accommodation (excluding Home Economics) at St. Clement's is \$25,777 as against \$18,000 provided in current estimates. A supplement of \$7,777 is required."

As was appended a little earlier, these increases are very often caused by the increase of school population and increase in cost of labour and material. With regard to

extensions to other Elementary Schools, this is what is set out in the Addendum:-

"It is proposed to provide 327 additional places at the following schools:-

Grace Hill Primary	113
St. Martin's Junior	113
Buxton Boys'	45
St. Bernard's Primary	56

at an estimated cost of \$55,205"

I have visited the Grace Hill Primary School a few weeks ago, and the children in this School are literally cheek to cheek there. As to the Alexandra School which is a new item, the information is as follows:-

"It is proposed to make alterations and extensions to the Alexandra Girls' School in order to provide an additional 150 school places at a capital cost of \$45,820. Application is now being made for an amount of \$6,000 to meet the cost of commencing work on this project during the latter part of the current financial year."

It is planned to begin the extension at the Alexandra School this year, but it will not be completed until next year. Therefore, this \$6,000 is for the purpose of carrying on for this current year. In the Appendix to this Resolution there has been set out all the information with regard to the Educational Development projects for the period 1958-60. In the first column hon. members will see the amount which has been provided in the Estimates, the second column gives the up-to-date estimated cost, and where there is an estimated saving, it is all set out. In the last column, hon. members will see the anticipated phasing of expenditure. 6.40 p.m.

The information is set out in the Appendix, and I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. F. G. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, I for one do welcome this Resolution, but at the same time I regret that Government has found it necessary to alter the Rendezvous Hill School project for which the Premier has already given the reason, but I do hope that in the very near future he will come before this Legislature for a similar school in the said parish.

There are only two observations I should like to make, and of course, taking into account the fact that the new Minister of Education must come from this Chamber, I would suggest to him that in considering increasing school places, he should not altogether abandon the idea of compulsory education. It is pathetic to find in this country, day in, day out, boys and girls at 15, 16 or 17 who cannot read an ordinary oath in a Court of Law, and when the Police Magistrate asks them to read the oath, it is like Greek to them. Of course the idea of compulsory education in this country has been talked about long before I was even wearing long pants. In 1958 we are no nearer, as I can see it, to compulsory education than twenty-five years ago, and so I am throwing out to the new Minister that he should consider seriously the increasing of school places not only at the four Primary Schools which have been mentioned, but to consider as soon as possible the necessity for compulsory education and therefore the necessity for more schools in this community.

While on that project, I should like to draw to the attention of the prospective Minister of Education, whoever he is, and who must be in the House now listening to me, that he should - if his Department cannot do it - consider the necessity for setting up a Committee to go into the siting of existing elementary schools. Some of these schools have existed for some considerable time, and villages and districts have grown up which bear no relation to the schools when they were originally sited. I will give an example of what I mean. You get a school like Clifton Hill going up to St. Joseph and you find that some children have got to go from Prout Village, some from Sugar Hill, and it is really pitiable to see little children of four or five years walking to this school; they have to get lunch, they have to walk down and back, and it is not surprising that they do not

learn very much because of the distance some children have to walk to school; by the time they reach school they are hungry, and if they are hungry they have to wait for the little biscuits and milk, and so it is impossible for them to learn as well as they should. This is another point which the new Minister and Government should consider by going into the locality and the siting of these schools, see where they are sited, and how far the children have to go to these schools. Of course most of these schools are board-and-shingled buildings and can easily be moved to places that would be more central and more convenient for children who go to school from five years of age to fourteen years of age. It is a pressing point and it may very well serve a very interesting study for the new Minister to get his Department deciding and going into it very seriously. This is also true of Dark Hole; it is not a very big village but many a morning I have had to drop children coming from St. Andrew over to St. Bernard's or St. Saviours. It is really tough and I am suggesting to the new Minister of Education and to Government that they should consider these two points very seriously: (1) increasing places after having considered the possibility of compulsory education, and (2) resiting of these schools.

Of course, Mr. Speaker, I shall leave it to other members to talk about the necessity for more Government Secondary Schools. We always hear the argument about limited resources for this and limited resources for that, but any Government that is conscious of its responsibility to the community and is following the trend, and any Socialist Government that can appreciate the continuing demand for a secondary education in this community cannot be oblivious to the necessity for more secondary schools. Of course, the Opposition is always, and so am I, in favour of free secondary education, and I have not in any way deviated from my contention that that is a necessity, but to me the primary things are more school places, compulsory education and resiting of existing schools. It may be too late to ask Government to expedite training schemes for teachers, but I think today they are repeating the neglect in sending or persuading or even assisting young teachers to qualify.

This Resolution alone, Sir, will show you the Herculean task which faces the new Minister who is prepared to give this community the best for the money it can afford, because I think everybody agrees that at present many a child is going without the opportunity of improving himself or herself or to get the education which their ability as well as their financial position entitles them.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, like the hon. junior member for St. Andrew, I agree that this is a very important Resolution in that it deals with the construction of more educational accommodation. I am very pleased to see that after many years of persuasion the Alexandra School is to be enlarged to provide additional places for 150 children. This is very important to the girls in that part of the island, because it is the only secondary school in that area, and it would provide a long-felt need.

I must take this opportunity, Mr. Chairman, to say that I have not caught up with the controversy that has been going on with the Sixth Forms, and I agree with the hon. member that while we are doing this, we should pay attention to more accommodation for secondary education. Petter or no Petter, this is a matter of commonsense. The population has grown up by such leaps and bounds since Harrison College, Lodge School and Queens College were founded, that you do not need Petter to tell you that if you had that in 1890, today the needs are greater than they were in those days. How, therefore, are you going to contend that you will allow the educational population not to have the benefit of a secondary education which is not a luxury? In the United States every child is eligible for that type of education without charge.

6.50 p.m.

The same argument which I hear people use today about free education is the same argument which people used in the years gone by and that is, that elementary education was free. The whole argument is that education is something which should not be paid for. I hope that Govern-

ment will realise that secondary education is not a luxury. The hon. junior member for St. Joseph said that education is an aspect of development. By all means, I agree with him; therefore, if secondary education is going to be an integral part of the development of our community, do not regard it as a luxury.

I see from the Addendum that it is now proposed to abandon the Rendezvous Hill School project. What I would like to say is that I hope the Open Air School project will be abandoned. We cannot afford an experiment with money on this thing. Let us experiment on things in the full knowledge that we can make progress on those things. I prefer to see that the Open Air Scheme has been abandoned rather than the Rendezvous Hill School project.

The note in the Addendum reads as follows:-

"It is now proposed to abandon the Rendezvous Hill School project, since, according to information available the land on which the school was to be erected has been sold. Other plans are under consideration for meeting the accommodation problem in Christ Church. The money voted for this purpose (\$147,500) would be used to meet (1) the shortfall of funds in respect of other projects and (2) the cost of projects which, though not provided in the current estimates, will meet some of the more pressing school accommodation problems."

What I am wondering is why are you doing that. Would it take so many months before you come back for the Rendezvous Hill School project? If you do all this as set out, then it means that the Rendezvous Hill School project will have to await another Estimate. I do not know to what extent the shortfall is going to be.

My suggestion is that you should immediately make plans to acquire a site for this project in close proximity to Rendezvous Hill even if you have to acquire the land compulsorily. I do not think anybody would object to that.

On the broader issues, I hear everybody saying that our educational system was good. I am talking of people who were educated on the old time system. I think that Barbadians pat themselves too much on the back because the illiteracy in Barbados is the lowest in the Caribbean. I do not subscribe to that view. What I would say is this. Barbados must get down to the problem of compulsory education because in my experience, there are still too many Barbadians who have been to school and that is all; that is to say, many of them have been to school but there being no compulsory education, what is free they have not absorbed and many of them have left school without the elementary standards which are provided for them free of cost. I am sure if an assessment were taken, you will find that the percentage of school children making use of free education is no more than 50%; may be, it may be a little bit better than that because of the better conditions of today. These are not the tools which are good enough for doing the job of tomorrow because the job of tomorrow requires more than a second or third standard education. Therefore, Government must see to it that what they provide free, the people take advantage of it.

On the question of secondary education, I do not think we can stress that too much. I think the time has come when we have to build a new Harrison College, Queen's College or Lodge School to take up the intake. This is a challenge which you have to take up and we should start working on it right away. Trinidad had to do something like that and if we have to do something like it, we must do it at once. I do not think the education authorities in this colony like the comprehensive school method, but what we have to do is this. Whatever system we adopt, even if it be the American system, let it be incorporated into the English system with the economy which we have. You build up your education to meet the need of the community. Everybody laughs at the Americans because they spell labour without a "U", but the fact is that America is a progressive country today and it suited the needs of the Americans to do things like that; but the results have proved beneficial to the community. We have to experiment

and see what we can use. Again, if I point to the Americans, people used to laugh at people there going to school at night but some of those people who went to school at night are today lawyers and nurses. It does not matter if you have been to school at night because it does mean that because you went to school at night you have learnt to spell a word differently. We boast about our manpower, but ignorant manpower is of no use. It is all right if such manpower only had to dig up sand and bring water, but when it comes to industrialising a country, that manpower is of no use. Let us make the best use of our manpower because if there is a shortage of manpower it is a shortage of the basic materials for industry.

The proposed alterations and extensions to the Alexandra School are long overdue and I hope Government will also give consideration to the building of at least a secondary boys' school capable of rivalling Harrison College or the Lodge School; or in case that is not possible, that you give some consideration to the expanding of those two schools in order that the secondary population in Barbados can at least be increased so as to meet the demands which are being asked today.

Mr. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I feel very disappointed in seeing that the policy is being adopted so far as the abandonment of another secondary modern school in Barbados. It was proposed to establish the Rendezvous School as a secondary modern. Christ Church has a population of 35,000 people and it cannot boast of having a secondary modern school in the parish. While I agree with the intention of removing the site on the grounds that the land is not available - I assume that is so.
7.00 p.m.

I would have thought that a more central site would have been selected around Maxwell Hill not far from Gall Hill or some part along Enterprise Road which would include the Silver Sands and Below Rock areas. Inasmuch as Rendezvous is a very small district, I do not think that that would serve a very useful purpose. However, I was disappointed about that when I know that the Government has been talking about Rendezvous Hill for the last three or four years. What does seem strange to me is that this money had been earmarked for this Modern Secondary School at Rendezvous Hill, but now the money has been diverted in other channels and it seems to be the idea that there is no school in Christ Church which needs improvement. I am not saying that the ones which have been singled out for attention are not worthy of consideration being given to them, but, for the past three or four years, it was realised by the Government that more accommodation was needed in Christ Church for boys between the ages of twelve and thirteen years; but now the money has been voted for the establishment of the Rendezvous Hill School, just on flimsy grounds you defer the matter and say that the land is not available, and you go further and say by implication that there is no elementary school in Christ Church which deserves consideration in the manner in which you consider that other elementary schools deserve consideration.

I should like to inform the Hon. Premier that the St. Matthias Boys' School is not only in dire need of extension, but also of repair. I am not trying to do the Minister's job or the Director's job, but the St. Matthias Boys' School is in dire need of repair and of extension. The same thing applies to the St. Christopher's Boys' School - I think that that is where they are experimenting on the open-air Scheme - and the Christ Church Boys' School which is quite near. Land is quite easily available in Christ Church and to divert this \$147,500 from Christ Church to other parts of the Island and say that no land is available and the money has been diverted in other channels is not good enough. By doing that, Mr. Acting Chairman, they are maintaining by implication that all the elementary Schools in Christ Church are in perfect order and that Christ Church has not got one of the largest schools both in area and in population. I am asking the Hon. Premier and the future Minister of Education to be at least fair to Christ Church and see that the Schools are examined; let them realise that accommodation is needed up there as well, that the policy of postponement of these schools in Christ

Church with about 35,000 people and the second largest number of school children is not a good one and that there is no Secondary Modern School in that parish as yet.

As far as the Foundation School is concerned, I see that some of the money which is required is a re-vote for the acquisition of land. I would suggest that as far as the Foundation School is concerned, proper use be made of the accommodation which is there. It may be that the Hon. Minister will see that proper staffing arrangements are made and that more places are made available since the accommodation is there. There is no point in having the accommodation and not having the places filled. I am hoping that some attention will be paid to the points which I have made as to the Elementary Schools in Christ Church which need as much attention being paid to them as any of the four schools which have been mentioned here in this Resolution, namely, the Grace Hill Primary, St. Martin's Junior, Buxton Boys' and the St. Bernard's Primary Schools. To pick out these four schools and say that the schools in Christ Church are not suffering from the lack of attention is not right.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I want to assure the hon. member that Christ Church has not been forgotten. I said earlier that two other sites are being examined. I did not say that the scheme has been abandoned; the scheme is being examined from the point of view of acquiring the land.

Mr. TALMA: The point is this: this is what is stated in the Addendum:-

"It is now proposed to abandon the Rendezvous School project, since according to information available the land on which the school was to be erected has been sold."

That is what is set out in the Addendum. If you are suggesting that you are going to re-site this school, then I would understand that the Government's intention to establish a Secondary Modern School in Christ Church is still present; but from what the Premier has said, it did seem to me as if the scheme had been abandoned. Money has been actually voted for the purpose and we are now going ahead with the scheme. That is the position.

Mr. CRAWFORD: I would like to begin at the last point left off by the Premier. If there is no intention to abandon the Rendezvous Hill project, why should you divert the money to somewhere else? The point is this: Let us assume, to begin with, that you had other considerations for Christ Church, because you say that the Rendezvous Hill site was not available; then you would consider other sites and keep the money to be expended on another site, after final consideration has been given to it. However, it is a fact that they have said that they have diverted the money previously allocated for Rendezvous Hill to other projects and that the cost of the projects, though not provided in the current Estimates, will meet some of the more pressing school accommodation problems.
7.10 p.m.

In other words, Sir, even for projects for which they have not provided in the Estimates, they intend to divert some of the money previously voted for the Rendezvous Hill School. Well now, it is obvious that if at some future time they intend to get back to Christ Church, they do not intend it this financial year; and if the problems in Christ Church are pressing, there can be no justification for that policy. There can be no justification for providing no accommodation in Christ Church if the problems are as pressing there as anywhere else. Let us hope, Mr. Chairman, that the decision to abandon the provision of accommodation in Christ Church is not influenced by any personal consideration; let us hope that the refusal to concern itself with Christ Church now is not a decision on the part of Government that there is any indifference to the needs of Christ Church based on antagonism.

What really intrigues me, Mr. Chairman, is the way this note reads, and if the Government wanted to enhance its reputation as a sort of circus, it could not have done

better. It says here "it is now proposed to abandon the Rendezvous Hill School Project, since according to information available the land on which the school was to be erected has been sold." In other words, Mr. Chairman, the Government solemnly and seriously provided money in the Estimates for building a school at Rendezvous Hill. They came to the Legislature and had the money voted, but they did not have the land. Could you want anything more amusing? I suggest that it is like you going home and telling your wife that you are going to build a house on the "Gold Coast" and then about two weeks after you go home and tell her "my dear, I am not building it anymore, the land has been sold." I have never in my life heard anything more fantastic. (A VOICE: Why go down to the Gold Coast?) Because it would suit you. We are not laughing stocks in here; this is not a Lunatic Asylum. Why come here with a Resolution and ask for \$147,000 to build a school when you have not got the land to build it on? Is this a fool's paradise? To me there is nothing to prevent a person from going outside and saying he is going to build a house on the grounds of Government House and then saying that he is not going to build it because the land does not belong to him. Of course it is in keeping with all the administration and the sense of irresponsibility which we have had from the present Government. It is so eminently characteristic of them that we should not be surprised at it; but I seriously want to suggest, Sir, so that the colony might not be made a laughing stock - because the Legislature would be regarded by people outside as the forum for the reflection of the highest intelligence of the country - that to come here seriously and tell us in a written Addendum - of course, if a Minister had said it, we would expect it from him - that they are going to divert the money to something else because the land has been sold is really, Sir, something out of Hans Andersen's Fairy Tales. Further, Sir, I challenge the Minister seriously to tell this Chamber that land is not available in Rendezvous Hill for this school. There are acres and acres of land at Rendezvous under cultivation in food crops, sugar-cane, and what not, which could be acquired at a very moderate price.

I do not know precisely at what part of Rendezvous it was at first intended to erect this school, but if you go to the top of the Hill going from Worthing, as soon as you pass the very first house on the top of the hill - a house I think called Cloud Walk - from there almost for a mile there are extensive acres of land under cultivation and much of it rab land which I am sure the owners would sell at £600 or £700 per acre; and on the other side there is also a considerable area of cultivated and uncultivated land which the Government can easily acquire from the owners for the purpose of a school. Let them therefore come out honestly and state that the abandonment of the Rendezvous project was for reasons best known to themselves, and not for the fanciful things they have put in the Resolution here, because they cannot expect anybody who knows Christ Church or they cannot expect the hon. member who represents Christ Church as he has made out so clearly, to be satisfied with the illogicality, fallacies and deliberate untruths which occur in this Resolution. I am satisfied in my mind that if the consideration of these other projects were nearing finality, the money previously allocated would not have been diverted to other purposes, and therefore, Sir, there is no escape from the conviction that the diversion of the money and the flimsy excuses about availability of land add up to the fact that regardless of what they intend to do in Christ Church at some time in the distant future, for the present no attention is going to be paid to the needs of satisfying accommodation for children in the area which the Rendezvous Hill School Project was primarily intended to serve. I feel, Sir, that if other than what I said is accurate, then what we have before us in this Resolution is totally misleading.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, unlike my colleague, the hon. senior member for St. Philip, I have no such grouse with Government because I am pleasantly surprised to see that things being what they are, St. Lucy is to get something. We had long given up hope in that constituency of getting anything out of this Government because we were - within the last two years at any rate - under the impression that we were cut off because the majority of us down there support the Democratic Labour Party and were thought to be

outside the pale of grace. I notice in recent weeks that the situation has changed, not the people's opinion politically, but the attitude of Government has changed somewhat because the Ministers are coming into the parishes, opening branches of their Party in that constituency and using the elementary schools for meetings, which is a good thing. I am sorry that they anticipated me in this respect; it was only a week or so that I sent notice to our Party organisations in the country that they had a right to use elementary school buildings for our political meetings too; so we can all use them.

7.20 p.m.

However, those two schools in the Pie Corner area have long been suffering from over-crowding. In both of these schools - the Senior and the Infants - there has been such a cramping lack of space that both teachers and pupils have for the last five years been complaining very bitterly. Their work has been cramped because of the accommodation which is available up to now. It is a good thing, therefore, that at long last the Government has decided to increase the accommodation in these two schools and to make it possible not only for the pupils who now attend to be more comfortable but even to make accommodation for a few more pupils.

I see that the emphasis in one of those two schools is to provide facilities for the teaching of home economics and I think that is a good thing. But there is something which puzzles me. It is this. In a parish like St. Lucy, - and I expect the same thing applies to St. Andrew - your elementary school buildings should not only serve the main purpose of accommodating school children but they should be community centres at night apart from whatever exists in the parish under that name. Therefore, the aim of the Government should always be to have these elementary schools as comfortable and commodious as possible so that after school hours the community and the villagers can foregather there in any number from five to five hundred and carry on their ordinary community affairs. The hon. junior member for St. Joseph was until recently the Social Welfare Officer of that part of the island, and he will recall how difficult it was even for him to carry out some of his duties when it was necessary for some meeting in these school buildings. There was lack of space and you had to push all the desks back just to seat 100 people. We agree, with the necessary extension which is now taking place, that Government should always bear in mind that it is always economic to make one trouble and be done; therefore, Government should provide accommodation in schools of this nature which is not only good enough for children that are going to school but to serve the parents thereafter.

It is interesting to notice in this area there is a very flourishing Parent-teachers Association. When you ask parents of children to go to a meeting of a Parent-teachers Association, you should not have to squeeze them between desks or to make them sit at desks as if they were children. There should be a separate room which could be used for a purpose during the day and which could be used as a large meeting room for parents after school hours. That is what the Government has to aim at.

While I am on this point, I have to emphasise that this Government is not building new elementary schools; it is replacing and re-grouping; therefore, while we wish to encourage them for doing what little things they are doing now, yet we do not want them to run away with the idea that they are doing all that should be done.

Returning to the condition at those two schools, at both of them the Headteachers suffer a disadvantage. Both of the headteachers live outside of the parish and therefore are away from the schools. Mr. Husbands lives in Speights-town and Miss Riley in Boscobelle. It is the function of a Headteacher not only to be present at stated periods of duty during the day, but Your Honour is best qualified to bear me out that a Headteacher's work is never done. Some people may argue that it is a good thing for a Headteacher not to be living near the school because of the interruptions which he has in his leisure time. As a Headteacher, one could always see you standing in your home long after the school is closed talking to parents and,

therefore, you know better than most of us how difficult it is for a Headteacher to stay away from parents and interested persons. You will be the first to realise that, despite the numerous disadvantages, there is solid advantages for living near one's school. For one thing, the extra curriculum activities can be better handled if you are near. There is always something going on for the Old Scholars, and some Literary and Debating Club over which the Headteacher wants to maintain an oversight and to exercise some guidance. If he or she lives six miles away from the school, he cannot do that. It is hard for one to leave school at 3.30 o'clock and come back if one is living six miles away; but if one is living within quarter of a mile of the school, one can readily do so. Nowadays, it is becoming more and more customary for parents of children of primary schools to bring their problems to the Headteacher of the School of their district, and the Headteacher in addition to teaching and administering the school is now rapidly becoming a Public Relations Officer because he has to advise on this and that. It is not a pleasant thing if a parent wishes to see him, for him to go on the steps of the school to speak to the parent or for that person to thread his or her way through a file of benches and desks until he or she reaches the spot where the Headteacher is. The advantage of a Head of a school is to interview at his or her home at stated periods of the afternoon or mornings and carrying out that part of his work in a more dignified and fitting manner. When therefore I am asking the Government to erect residences for these two Heads of schools, it is not for these two schools I am pleading; I am pleading for the benefit of the other schools in the island; but certainly these two schools are the most important because the Headteachers of these two schools are energetic people who take their work seriously, and who in addition to being responsible for their schools maintain a round-the-clock vigilance on the activities going on in that part of the parish. They are responsible for Parent-Teachers Association, Scouts and Guides and because of that you find these two Head teachers are at their respective schools sometimes four evenings out of five.

There is so much going on otherwise that it is a great advantage to the community for people like these Headteachers to have a residence almost next door to the school. For one thing, it would save quite a lot of wear and tear of their motor cars and their physical energy, and I am certain all the other Heads of the various schools, if they could be there to see so much activity, then they would feel that they could even be of more service than they are now.

7.30 p.m.

I throw that out as an idea certainly for the parish of St. Lucy, but generally for the benefit of the whole island.

When you come to secondary education and the extension of the schools, you get the impression immediately that this Government has not yet awakened to the problem of secondary education in this island. The point which has been made by the hon. senior member for St. Peter has been well taken. Nowadays, in this 20th century, any enlightened person looks upon secondary education as a privilege. All over the world, with the exception of our island where it appears that the question of secondary education is not to be our aim, the aim of all Governments is to provide wider and increasing opportunities for its citizens, however much they fall short of it. It follows, therefore, that when you talk about providing 150 more places at the Alexandra School, you are limiting yourself quite unnecessarily, because in three or four years' time, you will discover that you have spent a lot of money, when, with a little more planning and with \$5,000 or with \$10,000 more and with a detailed policy, you might have been able to achieve much more. The Education Act, 1890, provided for schools in each parish of this Island. A lot is made by the supporters of this Government who say that since Sir Grantley Adams came into power, the new Jerusalem has come to Barbados; and I have even heard it said by supporters of that Government that our educational standards, far from deteriorating, have at least been maintained by this Government. It must not be taken that that is said in

the Lunatic Asylum; there are people who genuinely believe that the decline in educational standards is only a figment of the imagination of the Opposition. People believe it; but the fact remains that since this Government has been in power, the members have not thought it advisable to consider setting up at least one more secondary grammar school in some parish in this Island, and all of them represent constituencies where the establishment of grammar schools would be of great benefit to the community. In the second place, as soon as the pressure of debate is forced upon them, there seems to be the realisation that places have to be found for children; and so we hear that the Alexandra School must have 150 more places. It may surprise this Government to know that at the Alexandra School now, there are people who come from Bridgetown and as far away as St. Thomas; so that when you provide 150 more places, because of the impression which exists and the difficulties of finding school places, you are only going to get at least 100 more people from the outlying parishes occupying these places. People from St. Peter and St. Lucy will not necessarily be any better off. This is what will happen; if you provide extra places in a Government-aided school in this Island - wherever you do it - you will get parents of the pupils of the other ten parishes of this Island trying to take advantage of the new situation. You cannot really impress us that 150 new places at the Alexandra School will mean much or anything at all to the children from the parish of St. Lucy. There is going to be a question of 150 places being divided by 11 parishes.

Would you consider the policy of setting up two or possibly three new secondary schools? That has got to be done, because there is no device which you can hit upon which will satisfy the pressure. When they hold an Entrance Examination and you hear that 900 or 1,100 children went to sit an examination for 60 or 70 places, has it ever occurred to any Minister of the Government to ask what has happened to the 820 or 840 children, as the case may be, who were not successful? Even so, it is not possible for all of them to get into the secondary schools. I was surprised to look in my Newspaper and see on the penultimate page of the *Advocate* of either Saturday last or Sunday last, what looked to me, without my glasses, like a long centipede. What was in the finest type in the *Advocate* of last Saturday or last Sunday, was a list of the names of 243 candidates who were admitted to the Modern High School. Those were 243 of the 1,400 who applied for places in the School and those 243 who have been admitted are some of the 800 or 900 who have been refused admittance at the Government-aided Schools.

Therefore, every year you have 3,000 or 4,000 children who have not got the ghost of a chance of getting into the newest private secondary schools. If you understand that and treat it as a grim fact, you cannot dodge any more this question of building new secondary schools, not as an experiment, but as a settled and stated policy. Once you grasp the fact that every child in this Island is entitled to a secondary education, every Tom, Dick and Harry - especially the Dick and the Harry - is entitled to it. If you grasp that fact, then you cannot rest in your bed at night unless you decide how you can meet that situation.

7.40 p.m.

Now I know that when members of the Opposition speak on these matters there are always to be supporters of that Government particularly sometimes in the editorial columns of the Barbados *Advocate* who pooh-pooh and try to ridicule the ideas we put forward. I know there is an element in this community which hates the idea of poor people's children enjoying any benefits, and they would like to maintain the old exclusive privileges of the few as against the many. Unfortunately we still have people like that; but we on this side, at any rate, would not be brow-beaten by that idea and it is the policy of this Party at any rate that schools should be built; and when after the next elections the hon. members on that side of the Committee are enjoying their rest - I would not say a well-earned rest, - from politics, and a new Government takes over, all the things which we are now recommending we will have to do. But the tragedy will be that the longer this Government delays in these necessary things, the more

difficult it will be for a succeeding Government to satisfy the people, because people's memories are short and it would not be sufficient for us to say we are only now doing it but they could have done it. (Mr. STRAUGHN: Are you getting cold feet already?) You would not be there in any case; we are going to run you out. Mr. Chairman, that hon. member who is making the asides, should not talk because his seat is easy to get away from him. It is like taking a bar of chocolate from a child's hot sticky hands. The significance of these problems are, Mr. Chairman, that the longer they delay in coming to grips with these problems, the worse off the people are bound to be, because obviously they are always drawing to the attention of this House and to the public that there is a large pressure of the school population and limited space available.

If you consider, Mr. Chairman, that it is true that the population increases at the rate of 4,000 a year and that in ten years' time from now you have to find 4,000 new places in elementary schools, then you have to find 1,000 new places in secondary schools. As a matter of fact, in less than ten years that is going to be the case because if a child goes to school at five years, in 1963 anybody born this year will be entering elementary school. So, far from arguing now that you are doing the best you can in putting a little addition to Buxton, St. Bernard's or Grace Hill, the Minister should be telling us what he proposes to do to find 5,000 new places in 1963, to find the teachers and to start training them for the influx which will take place and which applies also to secondary schools. Of course, I am contradicting myself, because in 1963 they would not be anything to do with it. I should have said in 1961; at any rate, I shall not go farther than that, because after that there will be a change. My colleague tells me that they may try to extend the life of Parliament; but I think that we cannot emphasise too seriously this point, and Government's tackling of it is not imaginative at all, because a year from now we will be faced with the same sort of Resolution asking for money to build more room at four or five primary schools in the island. We have not taken into account where the largest concentration of population is in the island; we have not taken into account whether our road system is such that it might not be better to carry the schools to the people instead of bringing the people to the schools.

There is another aspect too which needs a little emphasis. The Democratic Labour Party unrepentantly believes that sooner or later this or a succeeding Government will have to establish in this island a school meals service. Now we have never argued that a Government might find it possible or even necessary to provide a hot midday meal for everybody in every school at the same time. St. Lucy is certainly one of the places in need of it, but not the only one. They have got to decide that sooner or later, and the difference on this matter between them and us is just this: we do not look upon the school meals service only from the point of view of nourishing the child although that is its main object, but 3,000 or 4,000 children in a school eating together and enjoying the company of one another around a common table or as near as possible to one another is in itself an education in citizenship. The community life is built up there and it is a good thing. But that is not of course the main point. The main point is that if steps are taken to encourage more of the school going population into schools, you will find that if you throw the net wider and wider, you are going to catch in the net a lot of undernourished children in this community. You cannot help that and all those who argue for compulsory education, against which I have nothing, must take into account that from the time you pass the Law saying that a parent is compelled to send his children to school unless he can show the cause.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I should like to draw to the attention of hon. members that the reporter is being interrupted. Your asides are too loud.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I was saying that from the time you compelled a parent to send his child to a primary school, you are compelling some parents to send hungry children, and those who now laugh at the idea of

a school meals service as being impracticable or as being unworthy of the dignity of Barbadians, will very soon find themselves recommending it as the only thing which will help young children to learn properly. The school meals service will come; I know it will come, no matter how the hon. senior member for St. Michael laughs at it. He is astute enough a politician to be the first to praise it and to take the credit for it whenever at long last it occurs to him that his Party can win votes by it again. If however, he becomes convinced that they can get a majority with it, he will plug it for all it is worth; but it has got to come because it is part of an educational system as much as the milk is now.

I want to remind you that all these elementary schools that are being repaired and renovated, should be renovated with the idea in mind that provision should be made for the future establishment of this school meals service, so that at any rate when the service is established, we would not hear that we cannot extend it as fast as we would like, because schools have not got the accommodation to hold the dining tables or kitchens and what not.

7.50 p.m.

Make sure that everything which you think of now that would be necessary in the future should be provided for as soon as possible. Mr. Chairman, if the Governments before thought along these lines, we would not have had to deal with this problem. With a few exceptions, there is no elementary school in this island which is designed to provide accommodation for parents to meet. The bunch of them are nothing but cattle pens. They were designed by people who had a conception of coloured people and their children which we do not now have. I am not speaking of hon. members opposite but, Sir, look at the majority of these schools. They are unsightly, insanitary, dark and unhealthy. They are so because when they were established, the people who established them thought the children of slaves needed only somewhere to take the sun off their heads; and since the people who were going to teach those children were like the children they taught, that is to say all negro people, it did not matter how they designed the school. They are far different from the new school buildings erected nowadays. I should say that the replacements of these schools are showing a new conception of what school buildings should be. It is that which the Government has to speed up. Schools like Half Moon Fort, Selah, the Princess Margaret and Richmond and the new Wesley Hall, from the construction point of view approximate to the idea of what school buildings should be like; therefore the Government's problem today is twofold. They have to see to it that the 126 schools of the island are resited and rebuilt. It may take the better part of thirty years to do all of that, but a start has to be made. In addition to the rebuilding and resiting of those unsightly schools which now exist, there also has to be a bold policy to find money to build new halls for the schools. The housing policy of Government is now such that in the years to come with the fairly large and thickly populated housing estates all over the island, in each of them it might become necessary to erect a school or two; therefore let all the schools to be sited now be sited in areas where the population is removed because the housing estates may be in a different part to the schools, and the schools will have to go where the people go. Therefore, even before we start siting and spending money here and there, I think it is advisable that we better dovetail our school building programme in our housing programme. Let us see that the same money is spread over the economic sphere. That is why we regret that we do not know anything about the Government's school building programme. Occasionally, when some political capital is to be made, there is a splash as in the case of the Princess Margaret's School.

At this point, I will like to say that we of the Opposition are unrepentant in our belief that the secondary modern or modern secondary school ought to be abolished and should have no place in a community such as ours. It is not a secondary grammar school and its existence serves just to mislead the people of this community that their children are receiving in these modern secondary schools what they hoped for in a secondary grammar school. Nothing of the kind happens and the best thing to be done with these schools is their total conversion into secondary grammar schools.

This should happen all over the island - in St. Michael, St. Philip, St. Joseph and wherever else it is proposed to build them. The sooner this is done, the better.

Now, Mr. Chairman, in the explanatory appendix with respect to Item No. 8 which deals with the St. Clement's Senior and Infants' School, in the up-to-date estimated cost, I read that the sum of \$25,777 which is provided includes \$2,952 for a bed sitting room. I would like the Hon. Premier to tell me whether the provision of this bed sitting room as it is called in the infants school is a compromise between providing some sort of building as a full residence for the headmistress. What is it all about? The amount for this bed sitting room is nearly \$3000. It is conceivable to me that whereas it might not be possible to erect a building suitable for a residence for the headmistress for this sum which might come to perhaps something like \$7,000, \$8,000 or \$10,000, the \$3,000 or nearly that amount which is to be spent on the bed sitting room is a sort of compromise. It is true, the Headmistress of this school is unmarried and has no near relation living with her but that is no reason why she should not have a residence. To my mind, a bed sitting room does not meet the case. I would be glad if the Hon. Premier would enlighten me on that part.

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, another aspect as regards this Head concerning the St. Clement's Junior School is the question of playing fields. An adequate playing field is necessary for this school because the only place where the children of the two schools in that part of the parish can go, so far as the infant school is concerned, is the actual burial ground and, so far as the Senior School is concerned, is a plot of land which is adjacent to it. The burial ground is hardly cheerful enough for children and it is obviously unsuitable for the purpose of a playing field. That point has been completely overlooked.
8.00 p.m.

It may be that for so long we have been without the services of a Minister of Education, the Department of Education has been allowed to overlook such an important matter. The Minister of Education with a travelling allowance of \$90 a month would certainly have no excuse for not visiting the Northern parish of this Island. If the appointment of a Minister is made in the near future, and the most suitable person among the members of the Government Party is appointed, I shall look forward to his visiting the district and recommending that the immediate provision of an adequate Playing field is absolutely indispensable. If the rest of the Cabinet do not agree with him, then he can resign and the issue can go to the Electorate of this Island, because the matter represents a principle.

On the question of the Alexandra School, these additional 150 places will soon prove inadequate. We have been refusing people at this school for years, because of the lack of accommodation and the maximum which we have had to fix has caused us to refuse entry to any number of children every year; and now that the bus fares have been increased, those parents in St. Lucy who were sending their children to the St. Michael's Girls' School and to the other schools, have now got to try and get them in the school which is within the parish. You can well imagine, Sir, what a rush there will be for these 150 places and how soon you will find out that 300 places would have been more reasonable to cater for than 150. This legislation has been delayed indefinitely, and after the mountain has been in labour and it has brought forth a mouse, we cannot expect anything more of a Government. That is the sort of thing in which we, on this side of the House, cannot sit quietly and acquiesce. We know what alterations and extensions have been proposed, and I must say that we must deplore the absence from our meetings of the assistance which we once received from the hon. senior member for St. Peter who, for some inexplicable reason, is not now on the Governing Body of the Alexandra School. I do not know if he has refused to serve on that Governing Body any longer or what.

I feel that the points have been well covered and I think it is only necessary in recapitulation to ask the Government to pay attention to the question of the provision of playgrounds and in respect of the Alexandra School, that

150 places are only one-half of what is required until 1960 which will be the last year of the present Government.
(Laughter)

As to the residences for Headteachers, that is an interesting matter, and I feel that until adequate residences are provided for the Headteachers of these schools in the Pie Corner area, it would not be unreasonable or unfair to provide them with some travelling allowance. They certainly take an interest in the schools over which they preside. Whatever is their political connection, you do not know; they do not manifest it either with their pupils or the parents. In 1956 not one of them did a single thing to interfere with the course of the Elections; they did their jobs as teachers. You will find Mr. Husbands or Miss. Riley if anything is taking place at their respective Schools; even if it is not a matter strictly for the school, if there is anything taking place in connection with educational value, or with regard to the culture and general welfare of the area, then they will leave Speightstown or Boscobelle to go to their respective schools in order to do what they feel it is their duty to do to the people of the district in which they are teaching. They realise that if they benefit the district from which the children are drawn, obviously they will be benefiting the children themselves.

Of course, to a certain extent, they are making their work easier and ensuring that they are doing a better job for the general upbringing, apart from the general education of the children. They should be provided with adequate residences and you could well imagine that in that rural area suitable residences for Headteachers will not be easy to find, if they are found at all. I well remember the difficulty which Mr. Dan Maycock had in getting a residence when he was Headteacher of St. Clement's. It would not even help if these Headteachers were provided with a house allowance except that they may use it for travelling allowance. Now that the matter has come before us, the time cannot be more appropriate than the present time to advocate that since you are doing something, you should consider doing the best for these people by providing residences for these two Headteachers in the interest not only of the Teachers, not only because of their comforts and not only because you want to save them from journeying several times a week in certain weeks, but in the interest of such parents who do not find it convenient to see the Headteachers and who want to see them and who do not find it convenient to see them at the normal times when a Headteacher would be found at School; or who may happen to be living a distance five or six miles from where the particular school is situated.
8.10 p.m.

I know, Sir, that you always listen attentively to whatever is said in this House from whatever side it is said, but one is particularly addressing you now in the Chair. I am glad this subject has come up because I hope and believe it may soon come to pass in respect of educational policy in this island.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, I am sorry to rise again, but there is something that slipped me in dealing with this matter when I spoke, and it is in connection with the St. Clement's Senior and Infants School. The note reads as follows:- "The plans for extensions to the St. Clement's Senior and Infants School have been revised to include facilities for the teaching of Home Economics, the cost of which will be met by a grant from the Labour Welfare Fund (Rural Amenities)." Now I should like to say, Mr. Chairman that the time has come that the Government in fairness to those concerned should amend this outlook on the question of the Labour Welfare Fund. The Labour Welfare Fund is not a tax made out of the Government Fund; it is money that comes from a cess made in the Sugar Industry. The Cabinet system does not control any of the funds relating to Rehabilitation or Price Stabilisation; so I cannot see how this has anything to do with education. Some one will say that the Rural Amenities coming out of the Labour Welfare Fund is all right, but what I am saying is that there is an organisation which deals with employers; the workers are not on that and the Government has not seen fit to amend the Act so that the workers can be included. Now worker is included

in the Rehabilitation Act; only the employers and the Government. Now you have a Labour Welfare Fund which is being run by the Cabinet. You cannot with these changed circumstances have a situation like that where you can decide to deal with these things. That is not right. You should not be using the Labour Welfare Fund without the workers being able to have a voice in it as the employers have a voice in their own business. Why is it that these workers are not given the opportunity of saying something?

This is Home Economics which you are teaching, but you are suggesting that the workers should not have a say, but that the employers should have a say in the Rehabilitation Fund? There is no part of Great Britain where the Cabinet administers money as money by their own decision; the Cabinet gets approval from the Legislature and then the Legislature has to decide to spend this money as they please. I feel the time has come with this changed situation that you should revise the situation in which a Labour Welfare Fund Committee should be set up in which the workers should have predominant representation similar to that which the employers have with the Rehabilitation Fund.

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

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Your Honour do now report progress and ask for leave to sit again.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: I beg to second that.

The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this Sitting be now suspended for three-quarters of an hour.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: I beg to second that.

The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER suspended the Sitting accordingly.

8.20 p.m.

On re-assembling,

Hon. M. E. COX: I beg to draw to Your Honour's attention that there is no quorum.

Mr. SPEAKER instructed the Clerk to ring the Bell and a quorum was obtained.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Mr. SPEAKER: At the suspension of the Sitting, the House was in Committee of Supply.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE, 1958-59 NO. 12

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, the next Resolution is for the sum of \$1,100. As set out in the Addendum under Head XIV, Item 36, \$2,500 was voted in the current Estimates to cover jury expenses. As two Assize Courts are now in operation, expenses have increased, and to date \$2,183 has been spent on this item. Supplementary provision of \$1,100 has therefore become necessary to meet anticipated expenditure on the July and November Assizes.

I think it is within the knowledge of everyone that we have two Assize Courts sitting and because of the nature of the cases the sittings take a long time and, consequently, the expenses would be higher. I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

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

RESOLUTION FOR \$1,920 FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, the next Resolution is for the sum of \$1,920. It is for the purpose of making a loan to four school teachers to enable them to go to Jamaica to attend a conference of the Caribbean Union of Teachers. This has been done before - I think it is the third time. The money will be repaid in monthly instalments.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, for some years we have been in the habit of providing money for purposes such as this, but on this occasion I want to voice my disapproval of this method. The Addendum to the Resolution says that the Barbados Elementary School Teachers Association has applied on behalf of four teachers - two delegates and two observers - for a loan of \$480 in respect of each teacher to enable them to attend the Conference of the Caribbean Union of Teachers to be held in Jamaica in August. The Teachers Association has been in existence for all these years. There are 126 elementary schools in Barbados now. If this Elementary School Teachers Association for all these years which it has been in existence cannot manage its own affairs, it must be told at some time that public funds cannot be utilised for such purposes as this. I am the General Secretary of the Barbados Workers' Union which has a civic responsibility to this community. When we have to send anyone to attend a Conference, we do not come to the Government and ask for money. We raise money in the same way as all organisations. Why is it that in this case of an organisation with 800 members or more at its disposal, each time that its members are going away on a conference, it has to come to Government and borrow money? The last bi-annual conference of the Caribbean Union of Teachers was held in Antigua. This one is to be held in Jamaica. I do not subscribe to the view that we should vote public funds each time these people want it as a loan for this purpose. The teachers must be told this. At their last Conference in Antigua, the teachers were told that the next Conference was going to be held in Jamaica. What is the position? You have an organisation and there are many things which you should do. There are voluntary organisations for cricket, football and other such activities and they do not come cap in hand to Government. This Conference which these teachers are attending is not a conference of the Government. It is a Teachers' Conference. When will these teachers if they keep on coming cap in hand to Government asking it for money on loan to enable them to go to Conferences ever have any independence and act on their own? There are many facilities for obtaining money. They can hold a dance or they can hold fairs to raise this sum of \$1,920.

Now, if the Teachers' Association has 800 members - or it should be that or more - they should be in a position to raise this money. The Teachers Association in Barbados should do as other associations do. If they want to react like a Trade Union, I can give them advice. I can tell this Committee that we of the Workers Union are not going to ask the Government for any money. The days for these things are over because we do not want the Government to tell us what to do. I can say in passing now that the Barbados Workers' Union is going to start a training course and we are going to pay for it. We are asking the University College to provide us with the lecturers and we are going to provide for the basic things.

I do not express any Government view; I do not care what the Government feels about it. What sort of independence can one have when at each time one wants money, one begs the Government for it? The Teachers Association should be told that it is a voluntary organisation in this community, and when you are acting as a Teachers Association, you are not acting on behalf of the Government. A loan to the Teachers Association to send four of them to a conference is no part of the Government's; it is not a condition of teachers' employment. If you get to this stage,

then all the other people in the Civil Service will be entitled to get something to go to a conference.

The Teachers' Association proposes to send four teachers to this Conference. As I have said before, there are some 800 teachers. This Conference is not an extraordinary national event. The British Empire Games have just passed and we have had a Gold Medallist. I have seen that the Hon. Minister of Social Services has sent a belated cable to the winner after it had come out in the newspapers that the Barbados representative was let down. The winner of this Gold Medal was a past President of a Weight Lifting Association in this Colony. I used to be a weightlifter myself. I believe the Elementary School Teachers Association has been holding conferences among themselves for the last 28 years. What I would say is that both the Teachers' Association and the Civil Service Association do not manage their affairs properly. May be it suits this present Government to find that this Teachers' Association is not in a position to be able to manage its affairs.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I think the hon. member is going off the mark.

Mr. WALCOTT: I am sorry, Your Honour, but that is far from the case. As I was saying, Sir, may be it suits the present Government to have the Teachers Association to be in pecuniary circumstances like this so that they must come to them, because any Government in power having teachers coming and begging it with their cap in hand, knows that such teachers form a potential voting block for that Government. However, Sir, I am not concerned with the vote; I am concerned with the running of a voluntary organisation. A Teachers Association should be run like that of a trade union - as a closed shop.
9.45 p.m.

Therefore, the teachers should be in a position to have a closed shop, to have a Trade Union functioning like the Teachers' Union in England. When they go to attend a Conference on the Continent, do you think that they go to the British Government asking them to send them to such a Conference? But this is an aspect of a slavish mentality. Are you suggesting to me that the teachers, by raising a levy among themselves, could not raise it at the rate of even one dollar per annum to send their members somewhere if they are so much interested in the work of these conferences? I hear some hon. member say: "I do not agree with you"; well, I am not looking for any votes; I represent a Trade Union and I say that you must reach a stage when you must stand on your own feet. If you are going anywhere on behalf of the Government and it is not a case of extreme illness - I have already voted money for teachers to go abroad because of illness and I will vote money for them to do so again; but public money must not be used in these circumstances such as are now before us.

Look at the effrontery! They can select four teachers to go to this conference and the amount of money is the equivalent of the passages to Jamaica. I speak subject to correction; the fare to Jamaica is something like £50 each way and you are granting the teachers this money. I should like to say that it is no part of the public business to send a teacher to a conference; it is no part of the public business to send a Civil Servant to a conference and it is no part of public business to send any voluntary organisation to a conference; this is a conference in the ordinary course of things. Are you suggesting that it is quite in order for us to come to this Government and ask for this money? This is not a training course or anything like that from which the public will benefit; this is something in which the teachers themselves are participating as private citizens, not as public employees. It is the organisation of teachers in the Caribbean area which is responsible for these things.

It is time that the Barbados Teachers' Association put their house in order; they cannot send one delegate to this Conference, but they can borrow money to send four persons - two delegates and two observers. Do you not think it is better to cut the coat to suit the cloth? Somebody says that there is a precedent for this, but I ask: when are

these precedents going to stop? I would say that there is a precedent for killing people too. (Laughter). I say that there is a time when these things must be stopped. A precedent would be that you know that a situation has arisen in which the Teachers' Association is a new body; something comes along and I would say: "O.K., let us help them to go to this Conference." You have the Olympic Games coming along and you want to send somebody to Helsinki or Honolulu, and we say: "Well, let us help somebody to go to the North Pole." I say: "O.K., that is a new venture," but if the Barbados Cricket Association says that they want to play games, but the cost of the passages is so much, and they want to borrow this money, that is a different matter, because the Cricket Association will have money. The Government should get back public money for assistance in the building of the Deep Water Harbour. Are you lending this money so that it will result in this country receiving the benefit? These four people cannot afford to go to this Conference on the strength of the Association, and therefore, you say that you are lending them this money; I say let them go to the Insurance Company and borrow as we have had to do when we are in a tight hole.

I do not want what I have said to be taken that we do not have any respect for this Organisation. I would like to see the Teachers' Association or the Civil Service Association become so strong that they can go forward and have potency and virility. They should be in such a position that they would not have to expose themselves to the Legislature. They want to form a powerful Trade Union in which they can represent the interests of teachers, so that they can have an Organisation of teachers with 800 members. If I were the Secretary of an Organisation like that, instead of making this request, I would write to the Legislature and say that there should be a check-up system and they would have money to go to conferences, instead of having this indignity of coming to the Legislature and asking for a loan of this money. I do not apologise for anything which I have said; what is being done here should be done by the Association, because they have been functioning long enough so that they should be in a position to do it.

Mr. F. G. SMITH: Mr. Acting Chairman I should like to say that I, too, share the views of the hon. member who has just sat down. However, I shall not vote against this Resolution on this occasion, but I should like to say that if the Government continues to pander to this Association, you will not have an Organisation of the nature which is essential for the proper functioning of the organisation.
9.55 p.m.

A Trade Union organisation such as the Teachers Association should be of considerable assistance to the new Minister of Education, and on occasions when they find that he is not carrying out educational policy as he ought to, they should be in a position because of their strength to argue with him and to put their case to him, which they cannot do if Government every year continues to give them this sort of support. The amount is \$1,920. On this occasion, I am not voting against it because I would like the new Minister to tell them that if they cannot pay their dues - and as far as I know, there is nothing that would take up the funds of this organisation because they have not expended money in printing Caribbean literature or books or even drafting books with a West Indian basis; they have not been spending money in creating history books of the West Indies - it is not worthy of being an organisation. You have to encourage teachers themselves to organise and create in them a responsibility. Of course, it is very interesting to hear what the same teachers say when the Union walks down Broad Street on legitimate strikes. They laugh at these Union workers who have the courage to fight for their legitimate rights. You must tell them that this is the last year we will lend them money to go to conferences. If you keep voting money for them every year, you will never get the Teachers organisation in Barbados as strong an organisation as it ought to be.

As a matter of fact, teachers in this very country do not support the organisation because they think it is too weak-kneed. They think when it comes to the question of salary and conditions of work, the organisation gives in to

Government too easily and that is why they have to come for this money, because they have not created in the teachers that faith on every occasion. The teachers should know when there is going to be a conference in Jamaica; I knew last year that the conference was going to be in Jamaica this year, and if they were enterprising and had a sense of independence, they could have raised \$400. Clubs in Barbados do that often. They could have had two or three dances and a Fair at Erdiston College. The teachers at Erdiston raised money to carry a team to Trinidad. What is wrong with the general body of teachers in this country? It is time that they themselves put their house in order. Of course, if they expect conferences every year, then the amount they are asking for is not too much.

What worries me too, is that this organisation could not be a representative organisation, because if you read the Addendum, the last paragraph says: "The usual agreement for the repayment of the loans will be entered into between the officers concerned and the Government". The agreement is not between the organisation and the Government; if these teachers are really a representative body the contract should not be between the four members who go and the Government; if they are going to represent the body of teachers in Barbados, the contract should be between the Government and the organisation, because the organisation cannot ask four teachers, two as observers and two as delegates, to go and represent Barbados and then place the four members in the position where as individuals they have got to enter an agreement with Government to pay back \$480. That shows up the weakness of this very organisation. I can see Government's concern in sending them there, because I should assume that the mere fact that they travel to Jamaica and are likely to meet teachers from the West Indies now that we are federated, is an education, and unless they are the biggest silly-billies in the world, they must learn something and their educational outlook must be broadened.

If the last paragraph of the Addendum is correct, it is not fair to the members selected that they should enter the usual agreement for the repayment of the loans which will be entered into between the officers concerned and the Government. It should be between the organisation and the Government if the four members who are going are representative of the Barbados School Teachers' Association. I think that is quite clear and I can see on this occasion the Premier finding himself in this position where the Conference is to come off at least within another two or three weeks and they have approached Government for this money. It may be late at this stage for Government to say they could not lend the money, but I say, Mr. Chairman, that Government should impress upon them that they should make their own effort.

What annoys me is that the Teachers Association as I know it and from my experience of it is only concerned with increase of salaries; they will meet when there is a Godsall Report or something to do with increase of salaries and allowances or making posts for them. They are not concerned as far as I know with general educational policy in Barbados, because if you summon a meeting of the Elementary Teachers Association, you will hardly find twenty teachers attending. I am sure, Mr. Chairman, on several occasions it must have hurt your heart as a hard-working, honest teacher who has devoted your entire life to this organisation and to teaching in Barbados to see the lukewarm, lackadaisical and casual attitude of some of your fellow teachers when you were a teacher. I want the teachers of this country to know that they are not out to fight Government, but they should be in an advisory capacity to Government because it is their duty, as teachers actively engaged from day to day, to shape the minds of the youths of this country, and knowing the practical difficulties which they encounter, it should be their duty not only to advise Government, but on occasion when the necessity arises to argue and put their case to Government.

On this occasion, I shall vote for it, but I think teachers should be made to understand that they must be able on future occasions to plan for their conferences and to raise money to support their delegates when they go to these

conferences. The hon. senior member for St. Peter talked about the check-off system; you should not have to use with teachers the same method you use with water-front workers in collecting your dues. I know it is even more difficult with them than it is with water-front or sugar workers. The money is not too much that we cannot afford to lend them at this stage.

I believe in a strong, honest and properly run trade union, and the Teachers Association is a trade union. I believe a Trade Union should manage its affairs financially with little or no assistance from Government. A trade union's job is not to fight Government; it is to look after the interests of its members; and if the occasion should arise when Government is their employer, then they should put up reasonable demands to Government, and if their demands are reasonable, they should fight for them. Their position of independence would be greatly secured if they could manage items of this nature on their own without asking Government to support them. Although the delegates are likely to benefit, what does worry me is the last paragraph, because even though I am not criticising the loan, I still do not agree with the last paragraph of the Addendum that the usual agreement for the repayments of the loans will be entered into between the officers concerned and the Government. The agreement is between the Government and the four men who ostensibly are going to Jamaica to represent the Teachers Association.

10.05 p.m.

Of course, if the members concerned, undertake to have the present obligation in the interest of their fellow teachers or in the hope that their fellow teachers when the time comes to pay back this money, will pay it back in instalments, then it is up to them. If the Government gets the Teachers Association and the teachers themselves concerned entering in the agreement so as to safeguard its money, that is all right. However, I do not think it is fair to the delegates who are going as accredited members of this organisation to be forced to enter into an agreement with the Government when they are going away to represent the entire organisation.

On this occasion, Sir, I would support the Resolution; but I want the new Minister of Education, whoever he may be, to know that one of his first duties is to meet this body of teachers as such and use his influence to create in them a sense of responsibility, a sense of independence and a sense of service. That should be his first duty and I wish to say at this juncture, Mr. Chairman, that I hope that person will be you. I hope one of your first duties would be to impress on this Teachers Association with which you have worked for donkey years that sense of independence and that sense of pride, so that they will not have to come to this House and ask for money.

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, unlike the hon. and learned member for St. Andrew, I am not concerned about the last paragraph of the Addendum because I feel that the Government's chances of getting back this money are very much better if these agreements are entered between themselves and the teachers concerned and not with the Association. It simply means that their property is liable and Mr. Chairman, as you know, teachers of the experience of these four who are to attend this conference are presumably property owners. As you know, Sir, there is also the question of a teacher's pension and teachers' gratuity; so all that makes it quite sure that the Government will be repaid this loan; therefore, there is no financial risk involved at all.

What certainly worries me is the very fact that the teachers themselves will have to stand the cost of living expenses for themselves and not the Association. If this Association is not a corporate body and not a safe party with which one can legally enter into a contract - if that is so, I trust, Mr. Chairman, that you will use your influence and encouragement to see it functioning in that way and that you will take steps to have it resolved into a corporate body and legal entity so that it will have the power to be sued and to sue, and the rest of it. I think that it is time that this association sets its house in order by constituting itself into a legal entity. If they do that, there would be no worry at all about getting money.

After all, Sir, we must realise that benefits would accrue to those four teachers by the trip to Jamaica and what is more important when they come back, benefits should accrue to the pupils with whom they will be mixing. I do see the good which we should expect to accrue to at least the pupils of their respective districts after these teachers return from the trip to Jamaica. They are going to the largest island in the Federation and the island in which there is the University College of the West Indies. They will have something to talk to their pupils about after they return, and I think it is a good thing to lend them this money which seems to me to be no more than we as legislators can do in order to assist what as far as I can see is a good and worthy cause.

I would really like to know, apart from the fact that this association may not be a corporate body, why it is, or if it is, that they do not have money in hand. This association has been functioning for sometime and every now and again I am invited to a dance of some Teachers' Association. Of course, one hears very often that such and such a function appeared to be a successful function but no money was cleared. Whatever be the reasons, it is curious that this Association apparently has not taken hold of the teachers themselves; but if the individual teachers are prepared to take the individual responsibility for the repayment of this loan, I see no harm in lending them the \$1,920. We have made contributions to less worthy causes. I can never regard the Weightlifters Association as in any way as worthy a cause as the Barbados Elementary School Teachers Association. Of course, the Barbados Weightlifters Association has a mighty friend; therefore they can get what they want. We have given help to that Association; therefore, I do not see any reason why we cannot give help to what I consider a more deserving cause. There is the usual agreement for the repayment of the loan between the officers concerned and the Government. What I do feel is that the individual teachers should not have to pay their way or to borrow money to pay their way. I feel that the Association which has applied for the loan on their behalf should feel ashamed of itself in not being able to hold its own members and likewise, I feel ashamed that this Association has not put itself in order so that it can function as a legal entity and enter into a valid contract with the Government in order to raise this loan.

10.15 p.m.

This Resolution was introduced only a week ago and we are told in the Addendum that this Conference of the Caribbean Union of Teachers is to be held in Jamaica in August. I do not think that we should either reject this Resolution or postpone it from the standpoint of the representation of the island of Barbados; I would not like it to go on record that these impecunious teachers or their impecunious Association were the cause of Barbados being unrepresented at this Conference of Teachers in Jamaica, because their only hope - the Legislature - did not come to their assistance. I have no idea of who the persons are, whom it is proposed to send to this Conference; but obviously, they have already been selected. I have no hint as to the political affiliation, secret or active, of any of these four persons, but I feel we have to remember, if we are to take them seriously, that without the help of this Legislature, the Barbados Elementary Teachers would be unrepresented at this Conference in Jamaica. I feel that, from the standpoint of the name of Barbados, we should not take that risk.

I do not know if some hon. members feel that the teachers prefer to borrow from the Government, because the Government would not like to reclaim from them and they insist on borrowing from the Government rather than from anybody else. Of course, they could take their papers to Messrs. Haynes and Griffith or to Messrs. Yearwood and Boyce and get their loan; but in this case, it would be ungracious of us, to put it no stronger than that, that with August so close to us - I did not hear the date of this Conference, but it is next month - if we should take the risk of Barbados being unrepresented when the matter has been put before us so frankly that the Association has no money and that, in any event, they could not borrow it otherwise. If the Association is not a legal entity, nobody would have to repay the loan, but these teachers have properties and

they are prepared to pay interest on the money if the Government will lend them.

I see no reason for voting against this Resolution; if this matter had come before us and we were told that the teachers would pay so much and so much and they asked the Legislature to pay a stated amount, I would have viewed the matter very sympathetically. Although the arguments to which we have just listened are interesting and, as usual, I enjoyed the benefit of the forceful point of view of, and equally forcibly expressed by, the hon. senior member for St. Peter, yet this is a case which one should judge on its merits. I cannot see any reason why the Barbados Workers' Union or any other deserving Organisation should not be accommodated if they put up a similar proposition on behalf of their members and show us that these members would sign an agreement in the usual way for the repayment of the loan, in order that they can attend a Conference at which I think it is necessary that Barbados should be represented, and at which I think that Barbados would be rather unfortunate in not being represented, and I view this case with equal sympathy.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS rose to speak and sat again.

Mr. ACTING CHAIRMAN: The question is that this Resolution do now pass. Hon. members in favour

Mr. WALCOTT: Just a minute, Mr. Acting Chairman. We made a statement in a general way and if no reply is going to be given, let us go a little further. (Mr. MOTTLEY: Give the Premier a chance to speak.) He got up and sat back down and the Acting Chairman was putting the question.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: What I was about to say is this: This is the kind of debate I would have anticipated if the teachers had made a request to the Government and the Government had turned it down and the matter came to the notice of the Opposition. If such were the case, we would expect a debate like this. The position is this: on two occasions, certain teachers - by the way, I would like to correct the impression or the feeling that the Government is making a loan to the Barbados Elementary Teachers' Association. I should like to inform this Committee that the Teachers' Association has only applied for a loan on behalf of certain teachers so as to give this Conference its blessing; that is all the Association has done. The Government is dealing with individual teachers who have to repay this money at so much per month over a period of two years.

As I was saying, in 1950 when there was a Conference taking place in British Guiana, the Teachers applied to the Government for a loan and the money was repaid. Again in 1956, there was a Conference taking place in Antigua; a similar thing was done and the money was repaid to the Government. Why then, should the Government refuse to lend this money when, on two previous occasions, the money was repaid? I would like to add that there was not a word said in objection to these loans. In this case, the Government felt that we were on perfectly safe ground and went ahead following the two precedents and decided that we would lend this money subject, of course, to the approval of the Legislature. Barbadians are very fond of quoting what has been done in British Guiana and in Trinidad; well, I should just like to say that just last week the Government of Trinidad not only loaned the teachers their passage money, but advanced them two months' salary. (Hear! Hear!) That money will be repaid when the teachers return to Trinidad. The Government advanced them that money as pocket change.

10.25 p.m.

I mentioned that for those who are fond of quoting Trinidad and the other islands of doing certain things. For those who like to have somebody from whom to copy, that is what Trinidad did last week. I repeat that Government is quite prepared to lend this money on this occasion, and as long as this Government remains in power and the teachers make similar requests and under similar terms, with the precedent before us and in addition to having the money paid back regularly without having lost a cent, we will always help the teachers in a matter of this kind.

Mr. F. G. SMITH: It is obvious, Mr. Chairman, that my contribution to this debate has been completely misunderstood. I appreciate all the Premier has said but the whole purport of our debate is simply that if you force the organisation to have that sense of responsibility where it will raise the money for itself, the four teachers concerned would have no obligation to anybody for the period of two years. If the Teachers Association were forced to raise money to send accredited delegates, then the four teachers who are getting their salaries would not have to pay back money to Government or to anybody, because the organisation as such would have sent their four accredited delegates and they would be free, having no obligation to anybody. Our debate, therefore, is to the benefit of the four teachers in that we are saying that the organisation should select four delegates and should try to raise the money. Our debate is not placing the teachers in an unfortunate position; we are trying to save them the obligation which they have discharged and will continue to discharge. What the hon. senior member for St. Peter has said is in the interest of the four individual teachers, because if we lend them money and they have to pay it back - and they can ill afford it - they are no better off. So our debate is not against them because if 800 teachers want to be represented and they select four delegates, then they should pay for them and not allow them to be in obligation to the organisation, the Government, Insurance Companies, Solicitors or anybody. That is the purport of my contribution and I am urging on the organisation a higher sense of responsibility and saving the teachers for two years from having to carry this obligation which the individuals, whoever they are, can ill afford.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, by the action of the Premier, you would believe when he talks about this Government that he means that the Ministers are lending the money out of their own pockets. The Premier said that eight years ago Government did this; we agree with that because at the beginning they had no money and you had to assist them, but is it not time that they should be in a position to provide for themselves? Eight years after, you are using the same argument which you used in the first year. When the Tennis Association came along you lent them money, and when the Athletic Association wanted money to send a team to Helsinki you lent it; but this is a conference which is not unusual, because the Caribbean Teachers Union hold these meetings bi-annually. If you are providing money out of Government funds for teachers to go to conferences, then there is no reason why you should not lend anybody who asks. You might as well lend a man money to go on holiday because a conference has nothing to do with Government business. The Teachers Association is a trade union. If there was a conference in New York and the Barbados Workers' Union wanted to send a representative, they would not come to Government and ask them to lend them part of the money, because as soon as you did that, Government could lend money for anything. The whole point is that teachers have no more obligation on the Public Treasury than anybody else, and it is time that this should stop. Those who are afraid of expressing their views as far as teachers are concerned must be made to understand that I am the General Secretary of an organisation and I would not ask Government for a loan to do something which we should do as part of our own responsibility.

In 1949, there was an I.C.F.T.U. Foundation Conference in London, and the respective Governments had to be approached for assistance, but the Union never came back subsequently to Government to ask for money; there was a Conference in 1951, 1953, 1955, 1957 and there will be one in 1959. You should not give this idea to voluntary organisations that they should not raise any funds. There is the Rifle Association and other Associations; then there are a number of private clubs like the Spartans Cricket Club and the Empire Cricket Club who have got to run their own organisations; they have to tax their members; but with the Teachers Association because they can pay back the money in two years you are taking money from the Treasury for them.

It suits this Government to lend money to these people because Government does not want them to become an independent organisation. It will only be an organisation in which the members expect favours from the Government,

and that happens to be the curse of this country. You talked about Trinidad, but it was a long time before the Trinidad Government would recognise the Teachers Association, because the Minister was not *persona grata* with the Teachers Association; the Association had to fight for their own recognition. Because the teachers in Trinidad were given the money off the check-off system and have got six months' salary in advance, does it mean that you can give your Civil Service money in advance at Christmas time up to February so that they owe you two months' salary? If you made a loan to the Teachers Association in 1950, I do not see why they should not be in a position to send their delegates now without having to come to Government, because this is a conference of teachers which is not controlled by the Governments in the various Caribbean territories. 10.35 p.m.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I feel a bit embarrassed standing here and listening to this Resolution because this is probably the first occasion on which I can make out a case to justify the Government's action. What I say here must not be thought to mean that I have joined the Government Party, but I think that they have a good case at their command.

The argument put forward by the hon. senior member for St. Peter would be a good argument if it had applied to a different set of facts. The justification for lending teachers this money does not arise on whether a trade union or a voluntary organisation should or should not have its own money. All of that may well be true, but it rests on this. In any democratic community a government cannot do everything which needs to be done, and voluntary organisations have a right to expect assistance from government when government can prove that the activities of these associations are in the public interest. If it can be shown, for instance, that in attending a conference of Caribbean Primary School Teachers, four teachers from Barbados so brought their outlook to bear in the exchange of views that their colleagues got hold of a new attitude to their work so that it may be done in a more enlightened frame of mind, that would be in my opinion such an instance where a loan or a gift to the organisation would be well justified.

It is not strictly true to say that when the elementary school teachers go off to a conference of the Caribbean Union of Teachers, they go there only to discuss matters relating to their wages or their conditions of work. It is possible that when teachers meet in conference, especially from scattered islands as is the case of this Federation, they take the opportunity to exchange information of their respective modes of employment and conditions in the territories from which they severally come; but these conferences do much more work than that. As I understand it, the field in this year's conference is to the general principle of what teachers can do to build up citizens for this new nation which has come into being - education, so to speak for the nation - and in the course of their discussions they will exchange such ideas as whether or not the method of presentation as regards the teaching of geography in our area can be changed to create more awareness among the population. That is solid argument, and it is important, and it is a good thing that they can get together to discuss topics like that or of a similar nature.

I think personally that voluntary organisations, each of course being judged on its own merits, ought to be encouraged by the Government to carry on their business so long as it can be shown that their business is part of the community's business. We have not reached the stage where the Government should control every phase of community life and it does not follow that because the British Government may lend the management of a British opera house \$50,000 that grand opera has picked the fancy of the Government, but it means that the state acting through its authorities recognises that this particular form of activity is a good one for the community, and therefore it encourages it to the limit it can.

I am not competent to say whether it is a good thing to carry on this loan to this Association indefinitely. I broadly agree with the Hon. Premier because he has given us the impression that something is being done for them which could not be done by anybody else. I think he is try-

ing to make political capital out of somebody else's necessity, and if the truth must be spoken, some of the elementary school teachers have not been as sensible as they may be in looking after their own interests and as a consequence their Association is not as good as it should be. But none of that has any relevance to the matter under discussion. The only thing which you have to decide is whether the conference of the Caribbean Union of Teachers is something at which something can be done in the interest of the community.

I will tell you something which I think you have noticed and which will illustrate what these private conferences do and what it means for these people to get together. It is largely due to the influence of one of our Head teachers that the Parent-Teacher Association idea has spread over the Caribbean. The teacher to whom I am referring is Mr. Deighton Griffith. If you say that teachers should not meet and exchange ideas about their province, ideas like that which are valuable all over the Federation would not spread and would not take root. If that is true, where one good idea has taken root over all these islands, so it would be that other ideas would take root. But the trouble with this Government is that when they do something like this they try to make it appear that the teachers of this island have a reason to be grateful to them and the idea of saying that so long as this Government is in power it will lend them money is an idea which we on this side resent. If the going away to a conference is in the interest of Barbados and is so recognised that the very Addendum to the Resolution says that it is considered highly desirable that Barbados should be represented at the Conference - if the Government commits itself to the opinion that it is to our good that Barbados should be represented, then it is amply justified, and the Labour Government does not need to say that so long as they are in power they will lend them money. It can stand on its own merits.

10.45 p.m.

It would have been more in keeping with commonsense for them to say that they believe that this community stands to benefit from the exchange of information between teachers of all the units of this Federation. We believe, however, that the Primary School teachers are the one link between the thousands of children in these schools and those of the outside world. The exchange of views, the dissemination of information and of experience gained outside would be of benefit to the children. That alone is justification for furthering this particular matter and you should be able to do it without having to say that because the country has a Labour Government, the teachers will always be able to borrow money. That is not necessary at all. The community expects that its own life is enriched by the teachers and that enrichment can only come if and when teachers go outside and exchange their opinion with people in other parts of the world, and especially in the Federation. If that is done, then it is justified on its own merits without any of those extraneous and totally illogical afterthoughts.

Mr. TALMA: This is how I feel about this matter; what could be more natural and logical than for elementary school teachers, who are Government employees, to approach the Government for a loan in a case such as this? We must bear in mind that the teachers have been lowly paid from time immemorial and, as a class, they are impecunious up to now. Again, what is more natural than for teachers to approach their employer, who is the Government, in this matter? To suggest that the teachers should be organised as a Union and all of that sort of thing is all very good, but the Teachers' Association have themselves told the Government: "We have no money, we are a brow-beaten lot of people who are afraid of our own shadow, (Laughter) but we want to go out in furtherance of our education and to benefit as a result of attending this Conference from which we are sure the children in this area will also benefit or will be expected to benefit."

I will go further in this matter. I would suggest that since the Government has helped other people in such circumstances, in this instance the teachers should be loaned one-half of this money and the other half should be made a gift to them. Until such time as the Teachers'

Association gets on its legs and becomes registered in a Trade Union - the Association is just an Association in name; and when they themselves tell you that they have no money and they are afraid to register in a Trade Union, they are already nowhere, but still they want to attend this Conference in furtherance of their education. By virtue of the teachers going to this Conference, the children in the area will benefit as a result of the knowledge which the teachers will bring back from the Conference. I feel that this is a good cause. Money has been frittered away in many cases or in many ways; and if these teachers are going to benefit from this Conference and they are in need of assistance, what is more natural than for the Government, who is their employer, to give them this money partly as a loan and partly as a gift?

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Acting Chairman, I am going to adopt a different line from that adopted by other hon. members. I have listened to the Hon. Premier who has said what is now being done has been done in the past. However, I do not think that that is anything of which they should be proud. If 800 people are following what may be considered to be a difficult calling - if on previous occasions the Government has helped people who are in the teaching fraternity, I feel that it is nothing of which they should be proud to be able to say that they have been helping these people for eight years; and you have about 38,000 to 40,000 children whom these teachers teach.

The Addendum to this Resolution says this: "It is considered highly desirable that Barbados should be represented at the Conference and the sum of \$1,920 is accordingly sought for the purpose of making the loan."

If they say in this Addendum that is considered highly desirable that Barbados should be represented at this Conference, then the Government should have come in here and asked for the money to send the teachers to this Conference. If you say that this is a highly desirable thing, then you should come here and ask for this money. If you have sent somebody to represent Barbados at the Olympic Games in Helsinki, how much more so can you give this money so that Barbados can be represented at this Conference of the Caribbean Union of Teachers to be held in Jamaica next month? What the Government should do is to come in here now and say, in respect of this Conference in Jamaica, that people from the entire Caribbean area are meeting; the Teachers' Association will select four people - and whom are they actually representing? Whom would you send the hon. senior member for St. Thomas to represent if you sent him to Geneva or Ghana? And it would be better to send a Teacher to this Conference than to send somebody from here to Ghana or Geneva. I feel that many of us are disagreeing with the hon. senior member for St. Peter today.

The Government considers that something is of great importance to Barbados and it considers that Barbados should be represented. Are these teachers going out to discuss salaries later on? If that were the case, I do not think that we would agree with that because that should be done by the Teachers' Association. The only reason why I would not vote against this Resolution is that I would be robbing some Headteacher of this money. When you have a Headmasters' Conference, assistance is given, but when you come to the teachers, you do not give them these passages.

10.55 p.m.

Are you keeping them in a position where they must come and ask you to lend them money? There are 800 people in the Association and you are sending delegates to Jamaica where there will be teachers representing 3 1/2 million people in the area. They are responsible for the training of the minds of more than 90% of the youth of this country; but you are lending them money which they must pay back. If you send these people to Jamaica and they have to pay their passage and hotel bill they can only represent themselves. There is no pride in saying that you have done this for eight years; it is all to your shame to say that. You should say that you have been doing this for eight years but have come to the conclusion with your revised policy

in education that you are going to be responsible for it, because the teachers will be representative of the Ministry of Education and through them you will be able to dovetail your educational policy and so on.

I will vote on this but I regret that you have put in the Addendum that it is considered highly desirable that Barbados should be represented at the Conference and then say that you will lend them money which they will pay back. It is absurd, preposterous, unkind, unthinking and wicked.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, the hon. senior member for the City said that he does not agree with me. It is good when your friends do not agree with you and tell you openly. What I have heard seems to strengthen my point. The Association has not asked for anything, but it has asked Government to send persons; so you say it is highly desirable for these four people to go and you are going to lend them the money. What I am saying is that these four people do not represent the views of the Association because from this.....

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I never said that the Association asked to give anybody money. I said the Association asked for a loan.

Mr. WALCOTT: The hon. member said that the Association sought the request from the Government on behalf of these people. (A VOICE: They did not ask for a gift.) A request does not mean a gift. Mr. Chairman, have you ever heard anything more amusing? It is a request, whether it is a loan, a grant, or grant-in-aid. The Teachers Association made a request on behalf of these four people. These people are not representing the Teachers Association, because the Association, as the hon. member said, is moribund, but you are still taking up Government funds and lending these four persons. What it means in essence is that if the Association is an unrepresentative body, the four people do not represent the Association. It means too that you are sending four people who can afford to pay back the loan and not people who are representative of the teachers' views. You should have nothing to do with this where the Association is moribund and where the Association is unrepresentative of the mass of teachers in Barbados. How can you pick four people and say they are symbolic of the views of the Association when the Association might not have had any opportunity in a broad way of selecting these people? I challenge any member of the Government to say that he knows that these people are democratically representative of the Association, and that he knows the percentage of the votes they got. You cannot say that 10% of the teachers voted for these people; can you say that 80 persons voted for them?

You are making a loan on the strength that this Association is representative, but you are not in a position to say what is the strength of this Association which these four people represent. I should know something about these matters because I represent a Trade Union of which I am Secretary. You should be in a position to know if these people are representative of the Organisation. What the hon. senior member for Christ Church has said is true. There are more people unrepresented in the Teachers' fraternity. If you are going to do this for them, you can then take any cantonier or any person in the Civil Service and give him a loan to go to a Conference or to anything because the idea corresponds to this. When the hon. member said there was a precedent, you do not use the word "precedent" in the context of talking about the same people. You gave them a loan in 1950, but you do not have to give them in 1958, because the circumstances have changed.

Anyhow, Mr. Chairman, I am satisfied to stand alone, because I realise it is a bad thing to do to any organisation. An organisation like the Teachers organisation should be in a better position than it is today, and I am satisfied from what I heard my colleague say that I am more strengthened in my view, because what they have said shows that the Barbados Government has lent four persons money whom they are not sure are representative of the Teachers Association. You are giving these four people money to go to Jamaica, and I am saying that you are giving four persons who are most able to repay the loan and not neces-

sarily the people who are best able to represent the Association, and therefore, the whole idea of this being desirable is based on a false premise.

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Chairman, I do not want to prolong the debate, but I want to clear up a misleading statement made by the hon. senior member for St. Peter.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, I challenge the hon. member to withdraw. He cannot get up and say that I have made a misleading statement without having said anything before. The hon. member has to apologise or he will not get an opportunity to speak here tonight. He cannot get up in this House and say I make misleading statements; he has to use different words if he wants to express himself in Parliament. He has to withdraw those words. 11.05 p.m.

Hon. M. E. COX: He will agree with me if he waits.

Mr. WALCOTT: I am not going to wait.

Hon. M. E. COX: If he sits down and behaves himself...

Mr. WALCOTT: I object to the statement he made that I am misleading the House. He cannot go on to make a speech because I am not giving way.

Hon. M. E. COX: I am saying, Sir,.....

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, I say I am not allowing him to go on to make a speech. The first words out of his mouth were that I made a misleading statement.

Hon. M. E. COX: I am going to prove it.

Mr. WALCOTT: I do not want any proof. Do you know how many things I can prove?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The hon. senior member for St. Peter complains of the words used by the Hon. Minister that he made a misleading statement.

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Chairman, I can always apologise and say what I want to say. If the hon. member objects to the remarks, I withdraw them. Sir, what is the position? He tried to impress this Committee not long ago that these four teachers were not representatives of the Association. Now, the Hon. Premier putting forward this Resolution drew to the attention of this Committee that this was not the first time that money was loaned to teachers to go to a conference and he quoted the years 1950 and 1956. He also referred to Resolutions which were passed on each occasion without any comment. As a matter of fact, there was one member, the hon. senior member for the City who in 1956 got up and spoke and what did he say? The Ex-Premier moved the Resolution and it was seconded and Mr. Chairman began to put the question. The hon. senior member for the City got up and said: "Mr. Chairman, this Resolution is for the sum of \$5,760. All, right, Sir, I will withhold my comment on it until another time." That was the end of it. That was all the speech which was made by the hon. senior member for the City and the Resolution passed without division.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Is there anything wrong with that?

Hon. M. E. COX: I did not say that anything was wrong with that; I said that on the last occasion when a similar Resolution was before the Committee, that was all that was said after it was introduced. Now, this is a letter which is stamped and bears the name of the President and Secretary and all the members' names. This is a letter which they addressed to the Director of Education asking to forward to the Government their application for a loan. It starts off by saying: "Dear Sir, the Barbados Elementary School Teachers' Association desires to seek financial assistance from the Government for teachers who wish to attend a Conference which is organised for the Caribbean Union of Teachers in Antigua this year." That was in 1956 and the names of all the teachers were set out and signed. They asked that their application be forwarded to the Government. The then Director, Mr

Theobalds consented to the application and forwarded a copy of the letter to the Government. In his accompanying letter he said: "I forward a copy of the letter of the Barbados Elementary School Teachers Association asking on behalf of the twenty teachers for a loan to each of them in a sum of \$240 to enable them to attend a conference in Antigua". A similar thing was done on this occasion. The hon. senior member for St. Peter gets up and tries to impress this Committee that these people were not representatives of the School Teachers' Association and that four individual persons who by virtue of their positions and of being able to repay the loan took the opportunity of trying to get this loan so that they could go and attend this conference. He asked: "who can tell if there were other teachers who would be more representative of the Association who would have gone but cannot go because of their financial position?" Sir, that is why I got up and said that that was a misleading statement; because it was representative of the Teachers Association in so far as this loan is concerned.

I know when this thing was decided on the first occasion in 1950 the hon. senior member for St. Peter was then a member of the Government but, of course, people change from time to time and for various reasons. I am sure that this was not opposed on that occasion.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, I am sorry to rise again, but when you get this blatant kind of nonsense you are bound to say something. The hon. member's first words were that I made a misleading statement, and then he went on to say that he was going to prove it. He read out something which took place in 1956, not in 1958. We are dealing with a Resolution of 1958.

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order. I can read the letter of 1958 for him.

Mr. WALCOTT: I am not giving way for him to make a speech now.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Let him read the letter of 1958.

Hon. M. E. COX: I read the letter of 1956 and I said that on this occasion a similar application was made.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Read it.

Hon. M. E. COX: It is here for anybody to read.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, the Hon. Minister rose and said that I made a misleading statement. He further said that he would prove that I said something to mislead the House. He read out something which does not bear relation to the facts; something which has nothing to do with what I said. It only shows his intelligence of not being able to assimilate an ordinary statement which was made only five minutes ago after my colleagues said that the Teachers' Association is a moribund organisation. The Hon. Premier got up and said that the application was made on behalf of four persons. I asked what do these four people represent in the organisation. Can you say how many people they represent? I went on to say that if they are not representative of the Association, then you are making a request for four people who can afford to ask for a loan and, maybe, there are other people who would be more representative of the Association but who cannot afford to ask for a loan.

I challenged the hon. member to say that he can read 80 names and I still challenge him now to read out 80 names which would be representative of 10% of the Association. Therefore I say that these four people are people who can afford to go to that Conference, and that is not what he would try to mislead this Committee with when he said that I said that these four people came to the Government. I never said that.
11.15 p.m.

What I said was - and I will repeat it - that the representation has been made to the Government in respect of four people, and those four people whom they are sending out, cannot be representative of the Organisation, be-

cause you are lending money to these four persons, money which they are going to repay, and we do not know that they are really representative of the Organisation. How can you put that to be a misleading statement when the text of the speeches made by the Government was that they were lending these four people this money because the Association is not in a position to pay? Those of us who have dealings with organisations know that there were some football clubs where people used to pay the affiliation fees themselves. There were people who would apply for eleven persons to play cricket and they had bat, ball and everything. This Resolution means that these four people are those who can best afford to repay this loan. I say that they are not representative of the body because the body is not doing it. That is the point which I made. Those who are going are not going on behalf of the Association because the Government is permitting them to go by lending them this money.

What I would tell the hon. member is this: At any time when there is a debate in which I have taken part in this House, he must be very careful about his reference to misleading statements. What I say in this House, I say it for any hon. member to hear; and if he cannot choose his words, I may not always be in the mood in which I am now.

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Acting Chairman, I just want to assure this Committee that the letter which was signed on the 13th June by the Acting Director of Education is identical with the letter which was written in 1956. (Mr. MOTTLEY: Read it.) I am not reading anything; if the hon. member does not care to believe what I say, that is a matter for him.

Mr. MOTTLEY: The Hon. Minister has said that the letter which was signed this year, was identical with the one which was written in 1956, but we are now dealing with a loan for four people. I am only saying that if the hon. member says that this letter is identical with the one which was written in 1956, that cannot be so, because the letter in 1956 dealt with a loan for 20 people, I think. Are you now asking for a loan for 20 people? I say that that is misleading. If you say that you are not reading the letter - if the hon. senior member for St. Thomas tells you not to read it - it is your letter, it is your money and it is coming out of your pocket. (ASIDES) This is not the portfolio of the Hon. Minister of Trade, Industry and Labour; nobody wanted the letter read until you said that it was identical with the letter of 1956. I should like to say that if this letter is identical with the one written in 1956, then we cannot vote for this Resolution. They have the teachers feeling that they are lending them this money out of their own pockets.

I repeat, that if you say that this letter is identical with the letter of 1956, then that is a misleading statement, because in 1956, you were asking for a loan for 20 people.

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

On the motion of Hon. M. E. COX, seconded by Hon. D. D. GARNER, the ACTING CHAIRMAN reported the passing of four Resolutions in Committee of Supply.

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On motions of Hon. M. E. COX, seconded by Hon. D. D. GARNER in each case, the Resolutions passed in Committee were read a first and second time and agreed to.

ORDER POSTPONED

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, I am asking leave to postpone Order No. 2 which is to resume Committee on the Quarries Bill.

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

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

TRADE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1958

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, as hon. members will see from the Objects and Reasons, this Bill is to make provision for tourists to purchase certain items which will be in the Schedule to the Regulations when they come before the House. It is to allow these tourists to purchase goods duty free and to allow the seller to be able to recover that duty when he presents his certificate to the Comptroller of Customs. This is one of the means of encouraging tourists to come to this country and to spend money here. We were trying to follow the system obtaining in Jamaica, but we found out that it would be a very expensive job, because it would mean that the various merchants who deal with the items which will be scheduled would have to construct their bond houses where the goods would be kept and from where they would be sold, and we appreciate it would be a very expensive thing to operate. In addition to that, you will have what is called a wrapping system which we felt was not necessary, and this system which we now propose would be easily operated. The Comptroller of Customs went into the matter very thoroughly and he has decided that this system is easier to operate than the one which obtains in Jamaica, and we have decided to come down to the House with this Bill as it stands.

It is hardly much I can say on the Bill because I think members will appreciate that we have absolutely nothing to lose by instituting a system such as this. As I said, it obtains elsewhere and I have been informed on several occasions of tourists spending money in St. Thomas and St. Croix rather than in Barbados because this system obtains.

Those persons interested, the Tourist Association, the Hotel Association and the Publicity Committee have discussed this question and made recommendations to the Ministry to have a system like this in Barbados.

However, Sir, if there are any questions which members should like to ask, I shall be glad to answer. As I said, it is a simple Bill; it only gives power to the Governor-in-Executive Committee to make recommendations which will be brought to the House and laid on the Table. There is only one thing I would like to say. As this was originally drafted, you will see in the definition that "legitimate non-immigrant purposes" shall include such purposes as touring, recreation, sports, health or family reasons. When it goes into Committee, I shall ask to make an amendment to include any person on business who might be able to benefit from the Act.

With those few remarks, I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: I beg to second that.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, I will ask the Minister to postpone this matter for a little time so that the necessary research work can be done on it. I am not opposed to it, but there are some specific questions which I do not think the Minister can answer, and I would like to check on them. This is dealing with something new. From the experience which I have of other territories, say, like Ireland - and I believe that you, Mr. Speaker, have touched down there - you can go to Shannon Airport and buy these goods, but you can only acquire them when you are leaving the territory. This gives permission for tourists to buy goods within the island duty free, and I consider that it is likely to be open to too much exploitation. In some cases, when you buy certain items you are provided with a discount and the seller can get his draw-back, but I rather feel in this that you might give the latitude to your tourist traffic where it would be enjoying facilities living within the island by getting goods duty free when it should be buying them like any other person. If you are leaving the United States or the United Kingdom, you can purchase items at the Airports duty free if you are taking them out of the country.

I would suggest to the hon. member that he agrees to the postponement so that we could do some research, because this can be very dangerous. For instance, this can

get into the hands of some unscrupulous people, because tourists do not have to swear to an affidavit if they are leaving the country; so if the Minister is going to grant these facilities, he should tell the merchants that he is granting these facilities on the knowledge of what overseas tourists are granted at the airports. I would suggest to the Minister that in the reconstruction of the Airport he should give them an area at a cheap rent in which they can show their goods to the tourists. Any of us can get rum ex-bond when we are leaving a country, but unfortunately merchants do not offer you the same facilities which you can get in Jamaica. When you are leaving Jamaica, you can go to Palisadoes Airport and buy a carton of rum duty free; you do not have to go to the stores. I think that Government should grant people that sort of licence and it would be a better check for you. You cannot check at all the stores in Bridgetown, and therefore you should allow these things to be sold at the port of entry where it is easier for you to check.

I would like to speak again, Mr. Speaker, and I believe the only opportunity I would get is to move the postponement, therefore I beg to move that the second reading of this Bill be now postponed.

Mr. F. G. SMITH: I beg to second that.
11.35 p.m.

Hon. M. E. COX: Speaking on the motion made by the hon. member, if I may be permitted, Mr. Chairman, I do not think the hon. member understood me. Perhaps he has not read the short Objects and Reasons to the Bill. It says that this Bill seeks to amend the Trade Act, 1910, so as to enable the Governor-in-Executive Committee to make regulations. These Regulations are to follow and in these regulations will be set out, as I intimated just now, a schedule. All of that would be done in the Regulations. I have not the fears of the hon. member because the item would be either put aboard a ship or on a plane, and the merchant cannot recover that until that certificate is passed by the Customs Officer to the Headquarters. Suppose, for example, it went to the Seawell Airport, that certificate will have to come back to the Head Office.

As I told the House, we have discussed this matter very carefully and the Comptroller of Customs prefers this system as against the system obtaining in Jamaica. In Jamaica you have bond houses and you can purchase ex-bond. We have been told that this would be a very costly item, and you can see from practical experience, if you have every merchant desiring to go in for this instead of having one bond house because of competition with each other, each merchant will have to build his own bond house, and on top of that each merchant will have to keep somebody there to sell these things; whereas if you go into the stores for these things, and you claim that you are a tourist and you get a certificate on them, they will be seen by the Customs Officer at the Airport or the Baggage Warehouse with the certificate presented which will be sent back to the Head Office and then the merchant can recover the duty paid on them.

Sir, I am afraid that I cannot see the reason why it is necessary to have this item postponed. I do not know what research the hon. senior member is talking about. He was not clear as to what he wants. I do not know if he wants to do some research or whether he wants me to do the research.

However, I do not think that it is fair to the Government. This Bill was on the Order Paper for some time now and I am sure if the hon. member was interested in this matter, as he appears on this occasion, he would have made himself acquainted with the various aspects of this Bill. As a matter of fact, at the last meeting I was hoping to discuss the Bill but in view of the fact that he wanted to effect some amendments to the Bill, I postponed dealing with it. I am sorry that the hon. member has not had the chance to do his research, but, frankly speaking, a Government cannot be run that way. We have to try and get as much work done as possible; therefore, I am afraid I cannot accept the motion for the postponement by the hon. member.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Sir, I myself feel that this Bill can be postponed. For instance, if you take the new sub-section (7), you will see that it does say that the Governor-in-Executive Committee can make these regulations from time to time. Let me say now that we welcome a Bill of this nature. We have already established a Tourist Board, and if the idea is to develop the tourist industry, naturally we welcome anything which would give encouragement to the industry. But, we have to be very careful about what we do; therefore we must make comparison with what is done in other countries.

Right now, tourists buy such things as rum ex-bond. Let us take sub-section (7). It says:-

"For the purposes of sub-section (4) of this section, and of any regulations made under sub-section (5) of this section, the expression - "tourist" shall mean any person other than a person ordinarily resident in the Island who enters the Island for legitimate non-immigrant purposes and remains therein for any period not exceeding six months in the course of any period not exceeding twelve consecutive months; but does not include airline personnel, ship personnel or students at any college or school within the Island;"

"legitimate non-immigrant purposes" shall include such purposes as touring, recreation, sports, health or family reasons."

I have discussed this with my colleague and why we should like some postponement is because we see some difficulty in a person remaining in the island but is a non-immigrant for six months and who is able to buy according to the Regulations made by the Governor-in-Executive Committee. Let us say that they want to purchase woollens. I am thinking of products which they are more likely to buy than rum. Tourists from the United States get woollens cheaper in Barbados. They also get French perfumes here cheaper. Things like towels they buy and the Government will be putting up those things. What are the things you are putting on the Schedule for the purpose of tourists?

Hon. M. E. COX: Cameras and binoculars.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Yes, you will be putting such fancy goods but they are not the only things tourists buy. They buy woollens and things which they cannot get in the U.S.A. I feel the Hon. Minister should agree to the postponement of this Bill. This Chamber is entitled to know at least what it is humanly possible to know. Let us say that we ask the Hon. Minister in Committee what you earn in dollars by way of tourists. You can get this from your Customs, I know. Suppose I ask: what percentage of your dollars will be spent on such goods as you would exempt from duty or sell to tourists. If I ask such questions the Hon. Minister may think that I am asking too much; but whenever we are enacting legislation which would give some opportunity to tourists, you must ask questions like those. You see, if you are going to exempt "X" dollars in duty, you must ask would it be worth your while to do that? What are you going to lose as a result? That is how this thing is worked. 11.45 p.m.

The hon. member must realise that there are hon. members on this side of the House who would like to know that. On the other hand, the hon. member says that Government business should be run like this and you cannot postpone this matter so that anybody can get information. I quite agree with the hon. senior member for St. Peter; can the Hon. Minister give us an idea of the things which they propose to put in the Schedule of this Bill? The hon. member says *sotto voce* "binoculars", but there is a line of goods which tourists buy; they stop in at these English ports and buy articles and there are things which they have to buy from Paris. If the hon. member can give us the information, that is all well and good. I do agree on the principle of the Bill but let us be given a little more information. It may be that the hon. member is not in a position to give the information now. The hon. member should be able to give us an idea of what they are going to put in the Schedule. When you get your tourists by boat they pass through the Customs at the Baggage Warehouse

and every person has the right to buy goods. Tourists are not confined to any one store; what is going to be the position of the small people? Are you going to display goods and say you can get a certain line of woollen goods at "X" dollars per yard? You have to be very careful how you do these things; if you pass a Bill saying that you are going to establish a Tourist Board - well, you want to encourage people to come here.

As I have already said, we are in agreement with the principle of the Bill but we are asking for a postponement until next Tuesday. I should like to have some more discussions with the hon. member, although we have discussed it for a while. I do not think that I know everything of everything and nothing about nothing. The hon. member knows more of this matter than I know of it (Hon. M. E. COX: Therefore, sit down and let him talk.) The hon. member says that I must sit and let him talk. Everybody is in agreement with the principle of this Bill but this will not be the only thing which has been passed. We are asking for a postponement of this Bill for a week.

I am not begging any questions; it is a matter of indifference to me whether the Bill is postponed or not. When they meet and discuss these matters on Monday nights, it is the feeling that the backbenchers must not speak on anything. I am suggesting that the further consideration of this Bill be postponed; I do not bow to anything, neither am I begging any question. I have nothing to gain by asking any favours. Let the hon. member not fool himself that I have to "curry favour" with anybody; I say that if you do not feel like postponing this Bill, you will see the effects of what was passed through this Chamber at 2 o'clock in the morning.

Mr. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, this Bill is a Bill for the purpose of fostering the Tourist Industry. On an examination of this Bill, hon. members will see from the "Objects and Reasons", that this Bill seeks to amend the Trade Act, 1910, so as to enable Regulations to be made for the purpose of introducing a scheme whereby certain goods may be purchased by tourists duty free, as it is felt that such a scheme would further encourage the development of the tourist industry.

In the proposed sub-section 5, it is set out that the Governor-in-Executive Committee may make regulations for giving effect to the provisions of the previous proposed sub-section and such regulations may in addition contain provisions for ensuring their due observance. In other words, the danger which the hon. senior member for St. Peter envisages is in the Regulations. This proposed sub-section 5 goes on to state that all regulations made under the sub-section shall be laid before the Legislature and shall, when they have received the sanction of both Houses of the Legislature and the assent of the Governor, be legally binding on all persons.

In other words, the danger which is feared by this side of the Opposition will be taken care of in the Regulations which will come before the House and in which there will be set out the various items which will be included in the Schedule. I should like to point out that this is nothing which is new; this is something which has been in existence in Martinique for the last twenty years. This is something which is very old in the French colonies, something which I have been trying to get the Government to implement. 11.55 p.m.

This is something very old in the French colonies but something new to Barbados. It has been obtaining in Martinique for the past fifteen or twenty years, but in order for it to function successfully, it has to be done in accordance with the suggestion made by the hon. senior member for St. Peter in that the sales will have to be effected on the departure of tourists and not willy-nilly while they are staying here.

The question that further consideration of the Bill be postponed was put and resolved in the negative, the House dividing as follows:-

AYES: Mr. T. W. MILLER; Mr. WALCOTT; Mr. F. G. SMITH; and Mr. MOTTLEY - 4.

NOES: Mr. THORNE; Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS; Hon. M. E. COX; Hon. D. D. GARNER; Hon. R. G. MAPP; Hon. F. E. MILLER; Mr. HOLDER; Mr. STRAUGHN; Mr. TUDOR; Mr. TALMA and Mr. BRANCKER - 11.

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

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Your Honour do now leave the Chair and the House go into Committee.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: I beg to second that.

The question was put and resolved in the affirmative, and Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the House went into Committee, Mr. THORNE being in the Chair.

Clause 1 was called and passed.

Clause 2 was called. It reads as follows:-

2. Section one hundred and five of the Trade Act, 1910, is hereby amended by inserting immediately after subsection (3) thereof the following sub-heading and new subsections to be numbered (4), (5), (6) and (7) -

"On goods sold to tourists.

- (4) Any merchant registered in accordance with the provisions of any regulations made under the next following subsection by whom such goods as may be specified in a Schedule to such regulations are sold pursuant to such regulations to a tourist shall, subject to the provisions of the said regulations, be entitled to a drawback of the duties paid by him on the importation of such goods.
- (5) The Governor-in-Executive Committee may make regulations for giving effect to the provisions of subsection (4) of this section and such regulations may in addition contain provisions for ensuring their due observance. All regulations made under this subsection shall be laid before the Legislature and shall when they have received the sanction of both Houses of the Legislature and the assent of the Governor, be legally binding on all persons.
- (6) The Governor-in-Executive Committee by order published in the Official Gazette may from time to time amend or alter the Schedule to any regulations made under subsection (5) of this section specifying the goods that may be sold by a merchant pursuant to such regulations to a tourist, by excluding therefrom any goods specified therein or by including therein any goods not specified therein and no notice published pursuant to section one hundred and four of this Act shall apply to any goods that may be sold pursuant to such regulations.
- (7) For the purposes of subsection (4) of this section, and of any regulations made under subsection (5) of this section, the expression -

"tourist" shall mean any person other than a person ordinarily resident in the Island who enters the island for legitimate non-immigrant purposes and remains therein for any period not exceeding six months in the course of any period not exceeding twelve consecutive months; but does not include airline personnel, ship personnel or students at any college or school within the Island;

"legitimate non-immigrant purposes" shall include such purposes as touring, recreation, sports, health or family reasons."

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Clause 2 stand part.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: I beg to second that.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, Clause 2 does not say what the hon. member for Christ Church has said. Now the Governor-in-Executive Committee will make regulations to give effect to the provisions of sub-section 4 of this section. You will find that this Clause deals with the merchant and the goods he should sell; but this does not give any indication of the goods and it does not say whether it is going to be at the Airport. All this means is that they are going to make Regulations which will apply to all the merchants in town. If you pass legislation to give the right to merchants to sell these scheduled goods, you should say that they should sell them at the Port or at the airport, because they are not going to be places there. This Bill seeks to give merchants in Barbados the right to sell tourists goods on draw-back. The Regulations do not deal with tourists. The Regulations say that "the Governor-in-Executive Committee by order published in the Official Gazette may from time to time amend or alter the Schedule to any Regulations made under sub-section 5 of this Section specifying the goods that may be sold by a merchant pursuant to such Regulations to a tourist by excluding therefrom any goods specified therein." This is dealing with the goods which you can sell the tourists and therefore the place in which you are going to sell these goods is not going to be of much concern. Now the Act says that "tourists shall mean any person other than a person ordinarily resident in the island who enters the island for legitimate non-immigrant purposes and remains therein for any period not exceeding six months in the course of any period not exceeding twelve consecutive months; but does not include airline personnel, ship personnel or students at any College or school within the island." That is why I say that you want something here because you say that the persons who can get these goods under this draw-back means such and such persons. Now the Regulations cannot regulate these goods because they have been stated already. Then the Bill goes on to say that "legitimate non-immigrant purposes shall include such purposes as touring, recreation, sports, health or family reasons."

Now the hon. member mentioned binoculars and cameras as being among the goods which tourists will buy, but normally these two items are more expensive in Barbados than in some of the territories from where the tourists come. As it stands now, you do not have to be a tourist to buy certain goods as long as you are leaving the island; it is when you are returning. This also bans students and people in colleges. If a boy comes here and is attending Lodge School or Codrington College, why shouldn't he be given the right when he is leaving Barbados to enjoy the same facilities as anybody else? If he brings back the things which he bought he should pay duty on them. Why should there be that distinction? As I mentioned before, if any person was leaving Shannon airport, he could enjoy these facilities. I do not know what is the situation in Martinique, but here these things are going to preclude persons even if they are taking goods out of the country. 12.05 a.m.

For instance, if you are going to the United States and you want to take some goods, say, items of tortoiseshell and that sort of thing, to a friend in the U.S.A. you will be precluded from buying such things. That is, so to speak, a means of increasing trade. When a man leaves the island, there is something which you would like to take out of the island. Why should there be restriction to say: "Oh no, if you live in Barbados and you are going to the United States, you cannot buy an article of tortoiseshell free of duty to take to a friend" although a tourist can buy that same article duty free? As it stands now, you will have to pay duty. Why should it not apply to anybody leaving Barbados taking some gift away to a friend? That is why I say some research is required so as to know if that is something which is done in other countries. I can speak with some knowledge about what happens at airports outside of Barbados at which I have seen this thing operate. When you go to those airports, you see these things which you can buy and make a gift to some person. When I compare what I have seen with this, it does seem to me a strange bit of legislation. You are telling the merchant that if John Brown, a tourist, comes to you, he can buy these goods from you and you will give him a certificate which will enable him to get it duty free and you can eventually

collect the money back. You do that to the tourists but you do not give the same facility to yourself or to me. What is the infringement if I am buying such an article to take to a friend in America? What is the infringement if I am taking that article out of the island? It is just as with rum. I can go at the airport and buy some rum and take it to the United States. I buy that rum ex-bond, that is to say, without any duty on it. This Act says that tourists will get this facility but you will be precluded from it. That is why I say this precludes people who would be living in the island from enjoying the facilities which a tourist will have. Of course, if you want to stimulate this trade, there is nothing wrong about what you are doing.

As I see it, you cannot bring down a Regulation to change what you have in this Bill. You have here "tourists shall mean any person other than a person ordinarily resident in the island who enters the island for legitimate non-immigrant purposes and remain therein for any period not exceeding six months in the course of any period not exceeding twelve consecutive months." You cannot bring down any regulation to change that. It is my duty to point these things out. This Bill should be compared with similar legislation. If what I say is taking place at various airports and if what the hon. member says is taking place in Martinique, then you should make comparison to see if that is true.

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Chairman, I am asking leave to make a small amendment to this Clause.

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

Hon. M. E. COX: In respect of the new subsection (7) under Clause 2, I beg to move that in the definition "legitimate non-immigrant purposes" that that shall read as follows:-

"legitimate non-immigrant purposes" shall include such purposes as touring, recreation, sports, health, family reasons, or business.

I want to say that if we did what the hon. senior member for St. Peter says, then we will have to change the whole definition. If it is to apply to Barbadians, it would defeat the whole object.

In addition, I would also like to say that when I was leaving Geneva, I remember some of the Jamaican delegates having bought some items in Geneva and they presented certificates to the Customs for the articles which they had bought. They presented these certificates to the Customs Officer at the airport and had they not presented those certificates, the merchant would not be able to reclaim his draw-back; therefore, the duty would remain in the Treasury. As I have said, if the certificate is not presented to the Customs Officer, you will not get a draw-back but as long as it is presented, you get it back. As I have also said, the Comptroller of Customs went into this matter very carefully and he said that this is the best method to administer it.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, I made reference to a boy in school and the Hon. Minister said that he is not entitled to this. You do not do this to encourage tourists: you do this to encourage tourists to buy goods. The majority of tourists do not come to the island to buy clothes or cameras. Find out how many cameras merchants sell to tourists! They will tell you very few. They cannot sell cameras to tourists because they can get cameras infinitely cheaper out of Barbados. Tourists do not come here to buy watches. What I am saying is that it is no detriment to the tourist trade if any person who is living here buys any of these articles which are put in the schedule to take out of the country. More tourists buy rum in Barbados ex-bond than Barbadians and it is for obvious reasons. Rum is something strange to a tourist but it is not anything strange to Barbadians. Barbadians are permitted to buy this rum and take it away ex-bond. The whole idea of selling rum ex-bond was started for the benefit of tourists.

12.15 a.m.

It was not started for Barbadians, but Barbadians enjoyed it. You are now passing legislation, which you are not sure conforms with legislation which has been passed outside. Nobody knows what takes place in Martinique, Trinidad or elsewhere; can a Jamaican buy some of the articles which I see at Palisadoes and take them out of the country? Those are the points. A boy who is a student going back to his home would not be able to take such and such an article with him; do you need a Comptroller of Customs to tell somebody that that is commonsense? It seems to me that as soon as a matter does not strike one of the gentlemen on the other side first, they believe that something will fall down; it may be that one of the planets will fall and burn us all up.

Mr. TALMA: Mr. Acting Chairman, I do not see any reason why airline personnel or ship personnel or students should be debarred from the provisions of this Bill. Although the object of this Bill is mainly to boost the tourist trade, yet there is no reason why these categories of people should be debarred from these provisions; I do not see that any useful purpose would be served by excluding these people. However, I will say that this Bill will serve as a means to encourage more tourist ships to call here, because the tourists are aware of the facilities which they will enjoy at their port of call. I do not agree with the hon. senior member for St. Peter that tourists would not be encouraged to come here. I say that in an island which is granting such facilities as we are granting, whether at the Airport or at the Customs down here, you will have more tourist ships calling here, because the tourists will take full advantage of these facilities. Tourist ships call at Martinique, because they get a lot of luxury goods at cost price.

The question that Clause 2 as amended stand part of the Bill, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

On the motion of Hon. M. E. COX, seconded by Hon. D. D. GARNER, the ACTING CHAIRMAN reported the passing of the Bill in Committee with an amendment

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

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

ADJOURNMENT

The Order Paper having been fixed.

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, before moving the adjournment of the House, I should like to inform hon. members that it is the intention of the Government to deal with the proposed new Rules on the 12th August. It is hoped that hon. members will study these proposed Rules, and come prepared to deal with them on that day.

I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday next, the 5th August, 1958, at 3 o'clock p.m.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: I beg to second that.

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Speaker, before the question is put, I should like to make a few brief remarks. In connection with the motion which has just been made by the Hon. Leader of the House and his intimation of the Government's intention to deal with the Rules on the 12th August, I gather that it is not proposed to have any summer recess this year. For my information, I should like to know what the position is, because there are certain hon. members who are not expecting any long summer recess as is the case with the Federal Parliament, because those members seem to be interested only in their salaries and the various other perquisites which they enjoy including their long recess. I know that there are certain hon. members who make certain holiday arrangements and I am just wondering if the Government would deign to give us an intimation as to a proposed summer recess. They should do that and allow us to make similar arrangements to what their

backbenchers make as long as we are apprised of what is the intention of the majority in that respect.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker, I intended on Tuesday next to say definitely when we would have the summer recess. A couple of weeks ago, I was thinking about the matter, but it was not quite clear to me then.

However, I will say now that I will be in a position to say on Tuesday next what the position will be.

The question that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday next, the 5th August, 1958, at 3 o'clock p.m. was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER adjourned the House accordingly.

12.25 a.m.