

X

THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SESSION 1958

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 10th June, 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*); His Honour Mr. L. E. SMITH, J.P.; (*Deputy Speaker*); Hon. R. G. MAPP, (*Minister of Communications, Works and Housing*); Mr. T. O. BRYAN, (*Chairman of Committees*); Mr. F. C. GODDARD; Hon. F. E. MILLER, (*Minister of Social Services*); Mr. E. St. A. HOLDER; Mr. C. E. TALMA; Mr. J. C. TUDOR, M.A.; Hon. D. D. GARNER, (*Minister of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries*); Mr. H. A. DOWDING, M.B.E.; Mr. C. B. SEARLES; Mr. L. St. A. THORNE; and Mr. G. E. S. STRAUGHN.

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.

PAPERS LAID

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

Message No. 14/1958 regarding the departure of His Excellency the Governor on leave.

Statement showing gross Customs and Excise Receipts for the eleven months ended the 28th February, 1958.

Statement showing gross Customs and Excise Receipts for the twelve months ended the 31st March, 1958.

Statement showing gross Customs and Excise Receipts for the month of April, 1958.

Statement showing the amounts advanced by the Government of Barbados, and the amounts received from Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom under the provisions of the Colonial Development and Welfare Acts, for the period ended on the 31st March, 1958, in respect of the schemes sanctioned by the Legislature.

Reply to Question No. 2 asked by Mr. F.L. Walcott, O.B.E., regarding the payment of unestablished staff on public holidays.

Reply to Question No. 3 asked by Mr. F.L. Walcott, O.B.E., regarding the making of "May Day" as a public holiday.

Hon. R.G. MAPP: Mr. Speaker, I am commanded to lay the following:

Post Office Advances for the payment of Money Orders to the 30th April, 1958.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Hon. Dr. H.G.H. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Bill to amend the Rate of Interest Act, 1754.

Hon. R.G. MAPP: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Bill to amend the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act, 1937.

QUESTIONS

Mr. L.E. SMITH:

To enquire of the Honourable Minister of Communications, Works and Housing:-

Is it a fact that the Housing Authority is unable to contact one of the owners of Lammings Plantation in order to negotiate the sale of the parcel of land for the purpose of starting a Housing Scheme, communal bath and latrines in that area?

2. If the answer is in the affirmative, will Government take immediate steps to purchase the same land under the Land Acquisition Act?

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME

On the motion of Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS seconded by Hon. D. D. GARNER, the Bill to amend the Rate of Interest Act, 1754, was read a first time.

On the Motion of Hon. R. G. MAPP, seconded by Hon. D. D. GARNER, the Bill to amend the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act, 1937, was read a first time.
3.25 p.m.

MR. DOWDING DRAWS SPEAKER'S ATTENTION
TO TWO PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERS
BEING DISREGARDED

Mr. DOWDING: Before the Orders of the Day are entered upon, I would like to draw to Your Honour's attention the fact that two privileges of hon. members of this House are completely being disregarded, either intentionally or accidentally. Your Honour and hon. members of this House are looking forward to a new era in the debates of this House of Assembly; but it is impossible for hon. members to give full due to the debates in this honourable House when hon. members are not provided with the privilege - to which they are entitled - of having the Laws of this country.

I think Your Honour will agree with me that in the past it was a recognised fact that every member of this House was provided with the necessary volumes of the Laws of this country. I think Your Honour will agree with me that when an honest member is trying to do his work and he has to look up an Act, say one of 1890, to which he has no reference, it would be an impossible task for him to give good constructive debate on it. I think it is time Your Honour - and I think it is your wish that such things as these be remedied and that hon. members be given the necessary tools to do the work of the public.

Mr. Speaker, it is a downright shame that hon. members of this House have not got the laws of the country to do

their work and it is my opinion that it is an insult to the taxpayers of this country for us to be making believe that we can do our work without the laws of the country. I do appeal that this privilege which in the past was given to all hon. members be re-instituted. If, Sir, there is a lack of volumes printed or the inability to get them printed, or whatever the case may be, I feel that an appeal can be made to the public that those persons who have the Laws of Barbados could give them up to us, or we could make some arrangements to purchase them. That is privilege No. 1. of which I think Your Honour should take notice.

Privilege No. 2 is this: For this whole Session, I have not yet received a copy of the debates of this Honourable House. It is this House of Assembly which is supposed to make the laws of this country and there is a law which says that "within a period of twelve days, so allowed fifty numbers of copies of the debates and proceedings so previously published in foolscap size double column shall be furnished to the Clerk of the House, who shall distribute the same among the members of the Legislature and otherwise as the Committee shall direct."

Again, Sir, I feel no honest effort can be made by any hon. member of this House unless he has the facilities of reading past debates, understanding them and in his spare moments digesting the arguments laid before Your Honour by hon. members of this House and thereby being able to come and give competent debate rather than pure argument based on ignorance.

I sincerely appeal once more to Your Honour to whom we all are looking to help us and not only us but the public of this island in raising the standard of debates of this Chamber and other matters of this House. I fail to see how it can be done if our privileges are disregarded as they are now.

MR. SPEAKER: I will give the hon. member the assurance that I shall as expeditiously as I can explore all the possibilities of furnishing hon. members with volumes of the Laws of the country. I take it that the hon. member is referring to the Laws themselves but not to the recent publications. I take it that the hon. member is making reference to the first six volumes of the Laws of Barbados. I shall endeavour as quickly as possible to examine means of accommodating all hon. members; and as far as the printing of the debates is concerned, I will give that matter serious consideration and attention.

MR. DOWDING: Thank you.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

MR. SPEAKER: The first Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Communications, Works and Housing: To move the House into Committee of supply to consider the grants of sums of money for service of the colony.

HON. R.G. MAPP: Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to take the Item under this Order standing in the name of the Hon. Minister of Trade.

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

HON. R.G. MAPP: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Your Honour do now leave the Chair and the House go into Committee of Supply.

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 of Supply, Mr. BRYAN being in the Chair.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE 1958-59 NO. 2

HON. R.G. MAPP: Mr. Chairman, as hon. members will see from the Order Paper, the Minister who is really responsible for this measure has introduced a Bill to set up a Tourist Board. This project for which the sum of \$1,200 is being asked is really the type of project to be undertaken by that Board. It is expected that that Board will be set up towards the end of the year, of course depending on the good progress of the legislation dealing with it.

In order to give that Board a clear idea of existing tourist facilities and the lines on which the industry can most profitably be developed, it is intended to carry out

this survey. In reality, this sum of \$1,200 will be taken from the sum which is allocated to the Tourist Board. I do not know if the committee is aware of it, but it is intended to set aside the minimum of \$150,000 to that Board and then this Government will give another \$50,000 on a dollar for dollar basis; that is for every dollar that that Board can get from outside sources, it will be supplemented by another dollar from the public Treasury.

3.35 p.m.

In that way, if the Board can be assisted to the tune of \$50,000 from outside, it will receive \$200,000 from this Government, all of it going in the interest of tourist promotion. This project is really a part of the functions of the Board, but in view of the fact that we want something concrete to go on instead of basing all our plans on mere assumption, we will have a survey of the potentialities and the room there is for expansion. In order to get ahead with that, we are asking this Committee to grant us this amount. The Pan American World Airways have offered free of charge the services of this expert. I can tell this Committee that similar services have been done - I do not know if they have been done by this Body, but they have been done by other Bodies for the Jamaica Tourist Board, whose knowledge of tourism in these parts is second to none, and he felt that we need this service, because he felt that not enough was being done to galvanise things.

I think that this Committee should see the wisdom of agreeing with this Resolution and so allow us to get ahead with this work, if the Tourist Board is to function properly.

As hon. members will see from the Addendum to the Resolution, this survey is really costing us nothing; it is simply to provide this sum of \$1,200 for local expenses and it is expected that the survey might take about ten days. I think that from the point of view of the industry itself, from the point of view of the promotion of tourism and the advertisement which a survey of this sort will give us in American quarters like these, especially now that we hope to attract the building of hotels, I think that this Resolution is to be commended.

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

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

MR. GODDARD: Mr. Chairman, I am very pleased to see that the Hon. Minister is handling this matter today, because it is a matter of urgency. It does not mean that in another couple of weeks we will see a team of experts travelling around the Island in order to make their report. This \$1,200 which we are voting today, is only a small part of what it will cost Pan-American to send a team of experts down here to travel throughout the Island and make a report to the Government as to the facilities available in Barbados for tourist development. We all know that we have these facilities, but it needs a team of experts to tell us as a matter of priority where we should pay attention. We know the Hastings area has been developed; there is easy shopping, there is a nice climate; and very recently, we had the St. James district developed. But there are other parts of Barbados which we think could just as well be developed. Let us take the district below Paragon; there is lovely land up there not being used for any great agricultural pursuits. There is nice sea bathing and the time will come when some development will take place along that coast; nothing can prevent a big development taking place along that coast. Recently, I heard of a scheme to be started in St. Lucy; people who are seeing out of a different pair of glasses from ours will put up something of which we have not yet thought. This team of experts will map out for the Government and the Tourist Board and any foreign or local investors where they should pay attention for development. This team of experts have already visited and reported on Central American States. I saw a report on the development of Costa Rica. I had the booklet here last Tuesday, because I thought that the matter would have been dealt with then, but this booklet sets out all the amenities which are available.

This is just a beginning being made, and with the appointment of the Tourist Board, this will be the centre. The Tourist Board will call for a survey to be made Islandwide. When you appoint the Tourist Board and a Manager, and you can hand him a survey and a report made by an expert team, you can start him off very well. Again, this

is only a very small part of the cost of this matter. I commend this Resolution to hon. members; I know that it will get the full approval of this House. We feel that we have been behind other territories in this matter of Tourist development. We realise that our mainstay - our sugar - has its limitations and we must look to a secondary industry to assist us in the development of this island. Tourism will meet the bill. I am happy to see that the Hon. Minister has introduced this Resolution today although it is not on his portfolio.

Mr. STRAUGHN: Mr Chairman, I should like to know the full significance of the words "survey of the potentialities of the tourist industry". I should like to know if it means whether there are those potentialities or how best these potentialities should be used or whether it means both.

Hon. R.G. MAPP: I do not know if the hon. member thinks that that term means something different from what it means ordinarily. It has no sinister or hidden meaning; it simply means that we are anxious to find out the maximum expansion possible. Let us take hotels; you will have a survey of hotels and what amenities there can be to attract more hotels especially of the American type. It all means that we should develop these amenities. This matter is more within the province of the Board and not so much within the province of the Government. We are going ahead, because this Board cannot be properly set up until the end of the year.

Mr. TALMA: I, too, would like to support the passing of this Resolution as the hon. junior member for Christ Church has done. I want to say that the question is not whether or not Barbados has potentialities for the development of the tourist industry, because that is patent. It is not a question of whether there are potentialities; the object of the visit of the experts is to make a survey of something which already exists. I think that everyone in Barbados is fully aware of that.
3.45 p.m.

I am not attempting to assist the Minister, but there are potentialities, and this man is an expert with an eye to advising Government and the Tourist Board as well as the ones who have capital to invest, as to how to invest their money on the various priorities which will be undertaken. The parish which I have the honour to represent possesses great potentialities in the Tourist Industry for development purposes, and I am hoping that my colleague, the hon. junior member for Christ Church, will use his best offices as a member of the Tourist Board in seeing that development takes place, not only in that area where we have many spots. We have Dover and other places. I am hoping, Sir, that Government will see fit to allocate even larger sums for advertisement purposes, because although many of us feel that Barbados is well-known in the big countries of the world, it is surprising to say that Barbados is very often unknown; but I suppose with the coming into being of the Federation, Barbados is becoming better known. Too little is spent on advertising Barbados although there are potentialities here with a limited number of rooms and accommodation for tourists; and we have only touched the fringe of the problem.

This expert who is from Pan American World Airways and who has been in this business for many years will be of help to the Government; so this can be regarded as money well spent, because with the building up of the Tourist Industry, more jobs will be created and there will be more money in circulation generally.

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

On the motion of Hon. R. G. MAPP, seconded by Hon. D. D. GARNER, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported the passing of the Resolution in Committee, and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On the separate motions of Hon. R. G. MAPP, seconded in each case by Hon. D. D. GARNER, the Resolution was read a first and second time and agreed to.

Hon. R.G. MAPP: Mr. Speaker, I am asking leave to postpone Orders Nos. 2, 3 and 4, and to take Order No. 5 as the next Order of the day.

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Speaker, I do not intend to oppose,

or can I instruct Government what to do, but I am told that Order No. 2 is most important, and at this stage, unless they have a very good reason, I would ask the Minister of Agriculture to pay attention to that, because I have been told that Order is very pressing and should be dealt with at an early date.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member is asking leave to postpone Orders Nos. 2, 3 and 4 and to take Order No. 5 as the next Order of the day, and unless there be any objection, leave will be granted.

There being no objection, leave was granted.

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the day stands in the name of the Hon. Premier: to move the passing of a Resolution to approve the Order entitled "the Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) No. 5 Order, 1958."

THE CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT (GENERAL) (AMENDMENT) NO. 5 ORDER, 1958.

Hon. Dr. H.G.H. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker, this Order seeks to provide an increase in staff at the Government Printing Office.

You will remember, Sir, that when the Printery started it only had a skeleton staff, and since then it has been necessary to increase the staff. There has also been an addition in the machinery. As set out in the Addendum, it is necessary to have two Varitypists at a salary of \$1,020 - \$2,016; one Supervisor, Composing Section, at a salary of \$2,112 - \$2,880; one Printing Machine Operator at a salary of \$1,008 - \$1,560; one Binders Assistant at a salary of \$768 - \$912; the replacement of one of the two post of Stenographer by a post of Departmental Assistant at a salary of \$912 - \$1,392. It is also intended to upgrade the post of Foreman Binder from \$1,632 - \$2,400 to \$2,112 - \$2,880.

One Stenographer is adequate for the Department, as the temporary holder of one of the two posts now on the establishment has been employed mainly on sub-clerical work of the nature which could not be done by a Departmental Assistant.

The responsibilities of the Foreman Binder (\$1,632 - \$2,400) are equally as great as those of the Cameraman, Mechanic, and Accounts Clerk (\$2,112 - \$2,880) and it is accordingly proposed to upgrade the Foreman Binder's salary to the same level.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Hon. D.D. GARNER: I beg to second that.
3.55 p.m.

Mr. BRANCKER: Naturally, Mr. Chairman, the Government Printery has always been my pet. As you know, I have pressed for the institution of such a Printery and, naturally, I am very sympathetic towards any request for increasing the efficiency of the Printery; therefore, when it comes to a Resolution like this, I naturally view it with sympathy and understanding. But, Sir, I would like to be satisfied that these proposed staff adjustments will be sufficient to ensure the efficient functioning of the Office, although of course I will be told that the mere addition of a certain number of people does not necessarily mean that you will get things working well because it will more or less depend on whether those people will not be square pegs in round holes.

It has been intimated to me that the reason why the Government Printery is so backward and things are so much in arrears is simply because they do not have the best available human material. When the Government Printery started, it was expected that the Government would have started it, lock, stock and barrel, with the human material from the *Advocate*. As a matter of fact, what many of these employees from the *Advocate* expected was that they would be taken over by the Government Printery to do the Government work, and they would then be in the fortunate position of being Government employees and being assured of pensions. I understand that this did not take place.

Certainly in many respects the Government work is very much behind hand, particularly as regards the work of the Courts. I am told by solicitors that there are certain

documents which have not been printed for a very long time and which are holding up much important work of the Courts. There are certain forms which they have run out of and which have not yet been printed by the Government Printery. Certainly, because one cannot obtain certain of these forms, one cannot take steps to have a matter settled. For instance, someone may be able to register a judgement before someone who was there before him, simply because that person was able to get a judgement form outside of the Court. All this is taking place because the Government Printery is not turning out the work. A solicitor has given me the full list of forms of which they have run out.

Sir, as we are asked to pass this Resolution, I think we should be given the assurance that this will not only bring the staff of the Printery up to number, but up to a standard of efficiency which would ensure that the Government Printing is done at least as well as it was done by the private Printery which for so many years had the contract of Government printing.

According to a paragraph in the Addendum of the Resolution, one Stenographer is adequate for the Department as the temporary holder of one of the two posts now on the Establishment has been employed mainly on sub-clerical work of the nature which could not be done by a Department Assistant. I trust that when the Stenographer goes on leave that there will be some means of effecting a rapid transfer from another Department of a Stenographer to this Department because I know how they suffer in the Courts when the Stenographer there takes ill. They cannot find anybody to fill her place. Either there must be a great shortage of stenographers or it is too much beyond the capacity of the present Government to find a typist when one goes ill. There should be in the employ of the Civil Service at least one or two more stenographers than are actually necessary for the normal purpose particularly so with the female species when they are indisposed every now and then, so that the work of the Department will still go on. One wonders whether this one stenographer is adequate. That would in a position depend on whether, when that person is ill, there would be somebody immediately available to be taken on. I have just called to mind that in the Federal Court last week, the Stenographer was not available and we had the Federal Registrar wandering around the place to get somebody to do that important work. What they had to do was to borrow a young lady from the Registrar's Office.

Then, Sir, there is the question of the Foreman Binder's salary as regards that of the Accounts Clerk. You propose to upgrade the Foreman Binder. Presumably either you regard the Foreman Binder as being worth more than what he is getting or it is because you feel that the posts of Foreman Binder and Cameraman are both worth the same salary. I am only hoping that the Cameraman who originally got more would not say that since you upgrade the Foreman Binder it is only fair that you gave him a proportionate increase.

However, Sir, the important thing in respect of this Resolution is for us to be satisfied as a result of its passage, as soon as it is passed, that the Government Printery will be able to do the work as well as or better than it was done in the past by the private contractor.

MR. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I certainly am not one of those who question the propriety of there being a Government Printery. I know it is possible to find some people who at some time thought that the very idea of establishing a Government Printery was something wrong and that the business of Government Printing should be left to private enterprise, whether it was the printing of the debates of this House or Government business generally. I never subscribed to that view. I think Government business is so great a volume that their establishment of its own Printery is quite justifiable. But much as I agree with the establishment of a Government Printery, and to this one in practice, I am bound to say, as most hon. members on this side, that I am profoundly dissatisfied with the results which we are getting for our money. It is true that we were asked to grant supplies of money for the supplies and stocking of this printery the House of Assembly readily granted it and we warned the Government at the time that while we did not mind spending any amount of money to get an efficient printery, members of this House were not going to tolerate

lack or indifferent work which we are now getting from the inability of that Printery to do the work.
4.05 p.m.

You can imagine, Mr. Speaker, that in an Assembly like this which has been established for so long, it is now indeed a point of argument as to whether or not you are to read debates which have taken place in this House a year ago, a year hence. That is the most shameful thing that can happen to a deliberative Assembly, to be able to say that you do not know when you will read in print the debate which is now taking place. Even when the Advocate used to print these debates, we had this same sort of trouble, but it used to be argued that since you were hiring out your work on contract you had to put up with all the exigencies of staffing and other troubles with the private firm, and you had no control either over the work or the men who were doing the work; and therefore, you could not lay down what time you would receive the finished product. That is not now the case with the Government Printery; instructions can come from the Government Office directly from the Clerk as instructed by Your Honour and the Government Printery can be told what has to be done and when it has to be sent back.

Mr. Speaker, we have received notice or communication that the Other Place has amended the Markets and Slaughter-house Bill about two or three weeks ago. I thought that it would be a simple matter to have these amendments printed and circulated as used to be the case in the old days - I understand that, in this case, there are 53 amendments and it will take some time for hon. members to see what those are in order to study them so that when we have to debate them, we will be able to get the matter through as quickly as possible. You would be surprised to hear why we have not got those amendments.

It is the custom for the clauses of the Bill as passed to be printed on the left-hand side and the amendments or be printed on the right-hand side. It would surprise Your Honour to hear that the Printer and his staff are finding great difficulty in laying out the form which would print the amendments to the Bill on the right-hand side. A simple matter like that is what is causing the hold-up of this particular Bill.

Further, when it was pointed out that it was an age-old custom of this House of Assembly to have the amendments from the Other Place printed like that, the Government Printer wanted to know whether he could not appeal over Your Honour's head to a higher authority. That is a breach through ignorance. The idea that instructions from Your Honour to the Printer should be queried on the ground that there must be a higher authority over your head is so impertinent that it passes comprehension.

Secondly, with respect to the staffing of the Government Printery, no hon. member of this House would be against that, if after investigation it appears that more staff is needed for the completion of the work in hand, this House will readily grant the facilities for employing such staff; but we have to make it quite clear that we want to see the work properly and quickly done. When hon. members are asking for copies of Bills or motions or Resolutions of which notice has been given so long ago, they should not be told that they are still in the hands of the Government Printery. I may disclose this to the House, that so worried is the Attorney General over this matter and other allied matters that I understand it is his suggestion that a certain part of the official printing should be taken out of the hands of the Government Printer and sent back to the Advocate. If that is true and if the Attorney General feels that his own work is suffering because of the slowness and inefficiency of the Government Printery, then that is a very bad reflection on the Government Printery itself.

I have only to say that it is felt in some quarters that a part of that state of affairs - a part although not all of the trouble - comes from the fact that appointments to the Printery are not based on efficiency and suitability. I have nothing against the capabilities of the Government Printer because he has worked for many years in another sphere and he carried out his duties conscientiously; but I think that it takes some time to become a Printer. I hope the Printer will not think that I am carrying tales out of school,

but I happen to know that the appointment to the present post was made a day or two before he assumed the reins of office as Premier, by the outgoing Premier, and the appointment was made not only without his knowledge but contrary to his wishes. I say this, only to emphasise that in this matter we must not blame the present Premier who, had he left Your Honour's Chair two days earlier, might have anticipated the confusion which is now upon us. (Laughter)

Mr. DOWDING: Mr. Speaker, I have never tried to apportion any blame to any person concerned with the staff of the Printery; it is my opinion that it is the Government which is fully culpable in this matter. This is a Government staff and, frankly, I am wondering if it does not need a potential survey. I understand that it is not a matter of the human element, but that the machines which have been ordered are not capable of handling the Government's work. Let us come to the point where a decision can be made rather than, as I look forward in the near future, to the whole legislature, judicial and administrative machinery of this Island coming to a standstill, because it cannot get anything printed. Surely, it is time that the Government go into this matter seriously and tell this Hon. House, not that it is now clear that the proposed staff adjustments are necessary to ensure the efficient functioning of the office, but that steps have been taken either to get more or better equipment if necessary or to get more or better staff and see that this utter nonsense stops at once.

4.15 p.m.

Hon. members of this House and members of the Administration on the judicial side of this colony should not be treated in a manner of having to await documents. Far from that, they should have them long in advance, and it is quite time that the Government looked itself squarely in the eye and sum up what is happening and what is to happen in this Department. Throughout this island difficulties are arising due to the lack of printing facilities, in whatever direction that difficulty may be, and they should look themselves squarely in the eye now and digest what they have committed themselves to, and if necessary start completely anew, because it is amazing to me that hon. members sit quietly around these Tables and receive reports on important matters which they should have studied since 1956 in 1958. How can we conduct the business of this House in the manner that we should when Reports which need study, contemplation and assiduous cogitation are given to us some two years after the happenings have occurred?

I fail to see, Sir, why Government cannot at this juncture give this Hon. House a definite commitment, when the hon. member gets up to answer, that that this is going to solve the problem immediately. Now as far as I can trace from my Reports, it is now becoming popular that as soon as you cannot get the printing done, the only excuse is pressure of business. If hon. members are satisfied with the amount of work which this House has done in the past Session, I am not. We are doing little or nothing and if we are not to be given means of doing the taxpayers' work, we should do what the hon. senior member for St. Joseph said on the Radio a few nights ago, "fill coffins with the people's money and mark their names on them".

The fact that the Government has not seen fit to call a halt to this situation is attributable only to them. Even the suggestion given by the hon. member who has just sat down is worthy of consideration. If it is necessary, whether it is machinery, or the staff, Government should appoint a Utility Board to find out what is wrong with it. If there is too much pressure of business or if they have not got the capability, Government should appoint something in the interest of the taxpayers of this country to get this matter settled. It is amazing to me that the Government has not seen fit to say there is "X" work to be done, that that work can be done according to the manager - or whoever he is - of the Printing Office in "Y" weeks, that that time is too long, and that they will take "A" from "X" and hand it out to any private firm in any part of the West Indies or in the United Kingdom in order that the wheels of justice, administration and legislation in this island do not continue to go so slowly. Frankly, Sir, the taxpayers are not getting the returns for their money, and I see nothing wrong with my suggestion. If

they have built their nest, let them decide what they are going to do; if it needs further feathering, let it be feathered.

Government cannot say that there is any member of this Opposition who is opposed to (a) the Government Printery, or (b) increasing the staff, or that any suggestion has even been put to this House that better or more equipment is needed. Sir, when it comes to the state that hon. members of this Legislature are presented with reports etc. two years after their occurrence, I fail to see that Government must not take notice immediately and act on this situation.

Mr. F.G. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I shall not be very long, but I too would like to voice my dissatisfaction with the state of affairs which exists in this Department of Government. I am quite prepared to concede that it is new Department and that Government should have its own Printery, but you will find, Mr. Speaker, that for one reason or another, the printing of Government is not being done as well and as fast as it should be done. The money spent on that Department is money well spent, but something seems to be wrong somewhere, and I am warning Government that they must make sure even at this early stage that any investment in this Department will bring the return which is necessary.

I know for a fact, Mr. Speaker, that the new Judicial set-up which His Lordship the Chief Justice was hoping to bring into operation in July is unlikely to come into force in July as originally planned, because the Printery cannot get the Rules of the Supreme Court and all the necessary rules ready in time for that deadline. That is something which needs serious consideration, and when you get a Chief Justice who is keen enough to change up the antiquated system and to bring into operation Acts of this Legislature passed some time ago, and when he is ready, is handicapped due to the fact that the Printery cannot produce the necessary documents and Rules in time, something is certainly seriously wrong. I am asking the Hon. Premier to see to it that any defects or the reasons for this delay be explained, as well as the necessary remedies taken. As I said, Sir, I do not think that the Government themselves would deny the fact that they have not been getting debates of this Hon. Chamber in time. It is very important that matters of public interest and matters which have been debated in this Legislature should be in circulation throughout the length and breadth of this community if not within a week, certainly within two weeks, and certainly not within a year, because, as far as I remember, the only debate which I have seen in the *Official Gazette* which I have got is that regrettable and lamentable debate on the first day of the Session of this Chamber.

4.25 p.m.

I think the Government will agree with the Opposition in that respect that they too deplore the present state of affairs that the debates cannot be printed as fast as they ought to be. Not only is it vital for the efficient running of this country that the debates of this Chamber should be printed expeditiously, but it is almost impossible to get certain necessary legal documents printed in due course since the Government Printery has taken over. The Legislature passed the 1955 Small Holders Land Tenure Act and it was assented by His Excellency the Governor that year. The Rules were only printed a few months ago. It is a fact that documents which are necessary to the administration of justice are far behindhand. There are certain advertisements which are necessary and which must be done according to law but which are lagging behind. Sir, even although we are going to vote for this additional staff, we want Government to give us the assurance, now that we are voting for this Resolution to bring the staff of the Government Printery up-to-date, that we will see a corresponding improvement in the production of debates and other matters of this Chamber. I say again that a Government Printery has long been a necessity but we must not be complacent and we must not put ourselves in the position where we will find that we are not getting as quick and good results as we were getting when we were paying private enterprise to do our work; therefore, I am asking the Hon. Premier and the Government now that this staff has been increased to their requirements to let us get better production.

Mr. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, like my colleagues on the Opposition Bench, I too realised the necessity of a Govern-

ment Printery but the whole fallacy of the Government in my view lies in the fact that Government feels that establishing an elaborate building and calling it a Government Printery is all, and after having equipped it with certain machinery that it will function as a Printery. What is necessary is not plant, equipment and machinery and, above all, the printers must have the necessary ability. You must establish it with men who have had some experience of printing. You cannot pack a printery with people who are greenhorns. There is no point beating around the bush. You have an enormous building which is very spectacular and you may have some machinery; but the Printery lacks printers with the necessary experience and ability, with the result that it is much worse than when contracts were given to the *Advocate*.

You have come down with a Resolution which set out that as a result of the operation of the Printing Office from July, 1957, it is now clear that the proposed staff adjustments are necessary to ensure efficient functioning of the office. The Office up to now has not functioned efficiently; it is functioning everything else except efficient. If the filling of these posts will assist in that direction, by all means we are willing to assist Government and have these posts created; but I still contend that the creation of posts in themselves will not fill the role and bring about improvement. I have had experience in the Law Courts where there are innumerable numbers of forms, such as Common Pleas Judgment forms, Ejectment Notices, Assistant Court of Appeal Forms, which are unavailable now for many months, apparently since the Government Printery has come into existence.

Because of that, I say that the Government should reconsider allocating certain portions of this work to certain private contractors - and it is the only way out because the present position as regards the Government Printing Office is that the majority of its staff is inexperienced, green and need training. They will take three years to be trained; therefore for another two years it would mean that we would have a low standard of work at that office before we have improvement. I think the Printing Committee should go into the matter and re-allocate a certain proportion of work to private contractors so that we would have better service and would have our debates printed in time.

Sir, I am willing to vote for the passing of this Resolution but I hope that the Printing Committee will go into this matter carefully and see what can be done to improve this Printery.

HON. R.G. MAPP: Sir, I as Minister of Communications have had probably more to do with the Government Printery than anyone else and I, therefore, cannot allow certain criticisms to go unanswered. We have never pretended when this Printery was established that it would do all the work that was to be done, but I wonder if in the circumstances hon. members can expect that in the course of one year this Printery can really reach perfection. Everyone knows that new machines take time before they can be put to high speed and the hon. senior member for St. George should know when he is indulging in caustic criticisms of this Printery that you do not start off new machines in the same way as if they had already been tried out; you have to nurse them. Let him remember that these are new types of machines that have never been worked in this island. The Varitypers are completely new to Barbados and you had to send one of the staff overseas to be trained, and he had to come back and train other members of the staff. The hon. senior member for St. George said that he would like the House to get on with the work. All we are asking you to do is to give us the tools and we would get on with the job more efficiently and better than in the past. I feel that the hon. member's criticisms at times are rather coloured by the fact that he has a jaundiced eye. The hon. members opposite have always argued in favour of the establishment of a Government Printery so that some of their criticisms have really been made justifiably on certain apparent delays.

4.35 p.m.

I should like to assure them of one or two matters. The hon. junior member for St. Lucy referred to the delay in the printing of the debates of the Legislature, but that has not always been the fault of the Government Printery in anyway. I may say this: when the Printery took over the work from

the Advocate Company on the 3rd July, 1957, the Advocate was asked to continue with the back numbers of the debates, and these back numbers were nine months in arrears of the House of Assembly and seven months in arrears of the Legislative Council. Before they were asked to do that, while they had the contract for the printing, their charges used to be \$4 a page. After we finished giving them the contract and the Government Printery was printing debates, they said that they would have to submit a new quotation which was \$12 a page - three times as much as what they charged previously. We refused to pay this increased rate and the Government Printery had to take over all this work. That is part of the explanation and the reason why there has been this long delay in the printing of the debates of this Chamber.

Another hon. member - I think it was the hon. senior member for St. George - referred to the Government Departments. It so happens that some Heads of Departments always feel that theirs is an immediate need, and they do not consider that other Departments also have their needs. I think it was the hon. junior member for St. Andrew who referred to the Legal Departments. These Departments will say that they must have this or that by tomorrow and when that happens, how can we cope with all the work? We have had to issue departmental instructions as to how these requisitions should be sent in. These administrative delays will always take place whenever you have something new; we have had to issue these instructions and these orders are now coming in a little better than how they used to come in. I do not know where the hon. senior member for St. Lucy got it from, that the Attorney General has stated that certain work should not be given to the Government Printery. The hon. member has a way of saying things as if he knows them to be gospel truth. If he would attend to his little back yard, then we will attend to ours. I will give the hon. member this information; the printing of the *Official Gazette* is up to date and we hope that the number dated the 9th June, will be available within two days, on the 11th June.

As regards the Hansard we are now printing, the debate of the 21st January, this year, will be published in the *Official Gazette* of the 9th June and the Debates of the House of Assembly for the 28th January, will appear in due course.

As regards the supply of House papers, that has been improved. I have not heard the hon. senior member for St. George complaining recently about them and I think that the timing of these papers has been improved. We have realised a saving of \$28,000 up to the end of the financial year by virtue of the establishment of this Printery. From the time that the Printery was established, if we had to send out work to a private firm, we would have had to pay \$28,000 more. We have got this additional machine and we may have to get more machines, because the hon. member must remember that Departments are being created every year, and therefore, the needs for printing are growing. We have created another Ministry and another Department in the Estimates, and that means that more forms will be required. We may have to come back here for more staff, but it all represents a saving which would not be realised if we had to give out all this work.

Mr. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. Will the hon. member be a little more specific as to what he means by a saving? Does he mean that that \$28,000 is the difference between what it would cost in having the work done by the Government Printery and having it done outside or is he taking all the factors into consideration?

Hon. R.G. MAPP: We are taking all the factors into account, administrative and other costs, and the information given us is that the sum of \$28,000 will be saved. I may say that we used to send out some over sized forms, but with these new machines, we can print these forms, and therefore, that means an additional saving. If the hon. members on that side who have supported the idea of a Government Printery would have patience and not indulge in carping or unjustifiable criticism, they will see that the Government Printery is justifying its existence, and, as I have said, if we are given the tools we will get on with this job to their satisfaction.

MR. CRAWFORD: Sir, I sincerely hope that in this amount of \$28,000 which the Hon. Minister says represents an actual saving, they are not misleading the public in the same way as they did with the figures as regards the Transport Board (*Laughter*) for the simple reason that there are so many factors to be taken into account. The capital cost of the Printery itself has to be amortized over a certain time, then you have the depreciation of machinery and you have pension rights for the staff, because the staff are now Government employees and they are entitled to all the terms and conditions of public servants; so that I trust the Hon. Minister will have the figures kept and revised so as to be in a position sooner or later to tell us accurately what the position is.

Of course, we do know that the price paid to the Advocate was something enormous and the Printing Vote was considerable. We are only too glad to effect a saving, but we also want to know what are the accurate figures and we do not want any imaginary totals given to the House and the public which do not represent the actual position. 4.45 p.m.

I agree with the Hon. Minister, Sir, that the process in operation at the Government Printing Works is peculiar to Barbados. It is the only type of machinery of its kind in the island. So far as I know, there are no other Varitype machines in operation anywhere in Barbados, and the offset process is confined exclusively to the Government Printing Office in so far as printing in Barbados is concerned. I say that, Sir, to make the point that if the entire process is peculiar to the Government in being the only Printing Works of its kind in Barbados utilising this process, it therefore follows that the Government has to have a properly trained staff. The Hon. Minister said that the Superintendent has been trained abroad; no other member of the staff has been trained to use these machines.

The first Government Printer or rather the official who managed the plant was the Public Librarian. So far as we know, he has had no professional training in this sort of work; but I will admit for him that he did a fairly good job. Then the Government has appointed recently a Government Printer, a former member of a Secondary School staff. Now he might be an excellent teacher; but for the life of me, I cannot see him as being in charge of a Printing Office utilising an entirely different process of printing from that in effect anywhere in the island. It seems to me that what Government needs immediately is another man trained abroad in case the present trained man takes sick as any ordinary human being will— in case he goes on vacation, or in case he is promoted to be Chief Secretary or something, because, you know, this Government believes in putting square pegs in round holes, and they will put a secondary school teacher as Government Printer and put a trained Government Printer to run a fish market; so I shall not be at all surprised if they picked up the only trained man from the Government Printery very soon and put him as an Inspector in the Highways and Transport Department. So that there is reason for having at least two properly trained printers at the new Government Printing Works.

I hope, Mr. Speaker, that the new Government Printer will have a very successful tenure of office, but I am really at a loss to discover how effective his administrative can be when in truth and in fact he must know little or nothing about the operation he is called upon to administer. If the position be that the Superintendent or Government Printer is not to be a printer, he is the correct man for the position or if he is merely there as administrative of the plant and to possess administrative ability, he will carry it on effectively; but if he is supposed to know something of his job, well, then God Almighty help the plant. I think I have said enough, Sir, to convince even the most obtuse Minister that in the interest of the overall efficiency of the plant, in the interest of expediting the work and in the interest of seeing that the money invested there is not wasted or the machines are not badly treated, at the earliest possible date they should bring in another trained official at the plant.

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

THE CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT (GENERAL) (AMENDMENT) NO. 6 ORDER, 1958.

Mr. SPEAKER: The next order of the day stands in the name of the Hon. Premier to move the passing of a Resolution to approve the Order entitled "The Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) No. 6 Order, 1958."

HON. DR. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Order No. 6, Sir, is a General Amendment Order having for its object the re-arrangement of certain staff at the General Hospital. There is no increase in personnel or increase in money. There are at present three Grade A and four grade B officers, and the object of this Order is to allow a certain amount of fluidity in the appointments to these posts. I will give an example of what I mean. At the moment there is one Grade A post vacant; for months now there has not been a qualified person obtainable to fill that office. There are one or two people who have not got that amount of experience but who can still be useful at the Hospital. A person who will go on as a Grade B officer will remain in that post until such time as he might be promoted to Grade A; so the idea is to give the Administration an opportunity, instead of having four Grade B officers, of appointing another Grade B officer when necessary, so that you will have seven officers.

As regards the Specialist Anaesthetists, it is now suggested to have two posts; one will be a senior post for a person who is qualified as an Anaesthetist and has a diploma, and another person who might have the experience but has not yet obtained that specialist qualification, so that this will give the Hospital authorities greater opportunities to fill these posts when the occasion demands it without, so to speak, breaking the Law.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

MR. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I must say that it is rather like old times again to hear a Resolution or indeed any measure concerning the Barbados General Hospital introduced by the hon. member who has just sat down, and while of course it would be too early yet in his career as Premier to prophesy what will happen to the hospital, at any rate at this stage, yet I must say that we are just as nervous about it and just as interested in it as when he had the honour to conduct the affairs concerning it in this House, and our criticisms will be just as stringent and just as forceful as they were when he was where he is now, at any rate, sitting on the floor of the House on that side.

There are a lot of people, Mr. Speaker - and some are members of this House, and a lot outside - who believe that you cannot criticise doctors, because if you do that they will poison you. I am not one of those persons. If ever I am ill, my family already know which doctors I must be sent or taken to and those which I must not be sent or taken to. They know that and therefore I am in no danger of being poisoned by Hospital political doctors. 4.55 p.m.

So I can speak my mind freely about the General Hospital and the health of the people, as well as well as the medical profession generally as and when the occasion requires it, because I know who is who and I know whom I am going to be attended by and those by whom I am not going to be attended.

Now, Sir, the one thing which we have always contended about the entire General Hospital is that it should not be in all respects treated merely as a Government Department because only certain matters connected with it fall within the general administrative scope and as such should be treated as routine matters just as a Government Department; but the General Hospital is a different department from say, the Department of Highways and Transport or the Public Works Department in that the people who have to run it have to deal with human beings and the health of human beings. In that respect, the Hospital is vastly different from another Government Department.

If you admit that, you will admit that the staffing presents problems, and therefore should be treated rather

presents problems, and therefore should be treated rather differently and with more care and circumspection. The first thing I have to say is this - and it has been drawn to Government's attention long before - that it is time that this silly distinction of Grade A and Grade B Medical Officers be abolished. It is no longer necessary and it no longer corresponds to the real facts of the case. The interpretation of this is that some doctors are longer qualified than others and have a little more practical experience and therefore because of that you call them Grade A Medical Officers while those who are little fresher from their books and from their University are called Grade B Medical Officers, though of course their qualifications may in some cases be the same. It is alright for administrative purposes to have two grades of doctors, each with the same qualifications though with varying experience. That is alright for routine matters; but this Hospital, Mr. Speaker, should be a hospital where you should expect that doctors should be promoted as rapidly as possible if their service merits it and if they are doing good work. If you are only having three Grade A and a larger number of Grade B Medical Officers, when you have three Grade A and your Grade B doctors have been there for a certain number of years, each of them is going to leave the Hospital. But, if on the other hand, you had a system where you could increase the establishment and bring it more in line with the size of the Hospital, not only would you be attracting the best people but those whom you would be attracting would be assured of promotion when the time comes. That is now the case. The Barbados General Hospital has not yet abolished the Visiting Surgeon Scheme and it is a curse not only to the Hospital administration but to the Hospital generally in this island. You have not got at the General Hospital at the present time a lot of doctors - I am not saying anything against them professionally; I am looking at them as business men - who have taken a vested interest in what they do at the Hospital and they are the most bitter opponents of the changes which that establishment clearly calls for. As long as they can go in and take advantage of a very long waiting list and can work it in such a way that those people who can pay the most get attended to the earliest, and those who cannot pay anything wait back, they are going to be the bitterest opponents to the increase in the Civil Establishment. They are going to look with disfavour on local coloured people to the highest posts of the General Hospital because the more permanent staff you have there, the more you increase the Department of the General Hospital; and the more every department of the General Hospital is filled, the less will there be need for these Visiting Surgeons who may have served their day and generation but do not serve it now and are the curse of the Hospital today.

I say this to let both the Hon. Premier and the Hon. Minister of Health know if they are afraid to act in a stern and firm manner with those people that we on this side of the House are not afraid to voice criticisms which we know are true and which should be made for the better administration of the Hospital.

While we are certainly not opposing the increase or the regarding of the medical staff, yet at the same time I want to emphasise that it is our wish to see the General Hospital so staffed that doctors can come in at the bottom and within a reasonable time work their way to the top. If you take the General Hospital as it is today, you will notice that those doctors who are the best qualified are those who have come into the Hospital and joined the staff with all their qualifications already. There is possibly one exception but, generally speaking, both the holder of the posts of Physician Specialist, Surgeon Specialist as well as other Specialists, have come into the Hospital already qualified. If you can attract that type of personnel, that is something which should be encouraged, but the Hospital should not be worked that way. Doctors should not only be allowed to work their way to the top but should be able while working in the particular institution to increase their skill and qualifications. It is true, for instance, that in the case of Dr. Skinner who is now undergoing a course in Canada, his case is such that when he comes back he will be appointed specialist in Anaesthetics but that is really not a case of the general picture. With a Grade B man now coming in, he should be, by process of using up study leaves, sent periodically on scholarships of a year or two years' duration, and should be able to further his studies while working on the staff so that in the process of time, those people would be able to

become sort of specialists in the same way as the people who come in already qualified. When you talk of the difficulty of staffing it is not always due to staffing because not all doctors are money grubbers or money sharks. Most doctors like to do a good job of work because they are really interested in the health of the people.
5.05 p.m.

But you cannot expect a young man or a young woman to go into a Hospital like this one without any prospect of being promoted within five or six years and at the same time to discover that if he or she has interest in a particular field of research or study, he or she cannot receive a firm assurance from the Barbados Government that a study leave period will be granted or that a scholarship will be granted as a routine matter. What make a Hospital flourish is not so much the number of doctors you have on the staff, although that helps, but the fact that at any given point or time some members of your staff are pursuing further studies so as to come back and enrich the life and the knowledge of the Hospital itself. We have a case in the West Indies and Your Honour will recall it readily when I call the name of Sir Henry Pierre, a distinguished Trinidadian Surgeon of world repute. How do you think he acquired his eminence? Not by flying from Hospital to Hospital, but by remaining in Trinidad and utilising the conditions over a period of years until he is acknowledged to be a world authority on certain aspects of surgery, and he is a West Indian. There are other whom I could name, and that is the idea which should be forested here. I am speaking to the Hon. Minister of Health; let him see that study leave is given to the doctors and let him see that more scholarships are given not boons or favours, but as the right of every doctor to have if it is his inclination to study and further his knowledge.

If you do that, you will find that the staffing of the Hospital will be much less of a worry and you will not have doctors leaving you after one or two years. Promotion as well as opportunity for further study, I think, are the two things which you are bound to give so as to have better results. Another matter which arises is a very important one. Dr. Humby has retired from the post of Medical Superintendent and since then, the Physician Specialist, Dr. Harold Forde, has been acting as Medical Superintendent. Now, I hear on all sides that Dr. Forde is to be highly commended for the work which he is doing, not only in his own chosen field of Medicine, but also with regard to the general level of the administrative work which he is doing. It used to be said two years ago when the Premier was then administering the Hospital, the great rallying cry of the Opposition was that there were two people sleeping in one bed. I, myself, investigated that particular aspect of the Hospital administration and I found to my great relief and pleasure that in the Medical Wards of the Hospital, it is no longer so. I am not in a position to say what it is on the surgical side, because I have not investigated it, but I think this House should know that the position is no longer what it was and you will hardly ever see two people in one bed in the medical Wards.

From my investigation it now happens that we no longer have two people sleeping in one bed, and that good fortune is due in large measure to the administrative action of Dr. Forde. Any doctor who could have achieved in so short a time such a good thing, well deserves the praise of the public, of people like hon. members of this House, and, speaking for myself, he deserves not only the praise but the highest recognition which could be given to him. I want to know - and I hope that one of the Ministers will be able to tell me - why it is that the vacant post of Medical Superintendent has not yet been filled. It used to be said in the old days that you could scarcely find a well-qualified person for that sort of job, but with Dr. Forde we could not argue that point. His distinction and scholarship in the field of medicine are both so well known that you do not have to speak about him; his reputation both at the University College of the West Indies and in the United Kingdom stands on so high a level that he could easily be attracted to any large Hospital in Great Britain, in Canada, in the United States of America or anywhere else in the world today. However, he has chosen to be here and to do his work at the Hospital in his native land.

I hold no particular brief for him, but I wonder whether the delay in appointing him to that post is due to any prejudice or is due to the fact that it is felt since this those of the Medical Superintendent, a saving is thereby effected. It is no part of the duty of members of this House to argue cases for particular public officers; I have never done it and I think it would be a bad day when that is done. But in a matter which concerns the health of the people, it is well to ask that the post of Medical Superintendent be filled as quickly as possible.

Mr. Speaker, the matters which I have raised are important. I have deliberately made my criticism in a quiet manner, because I think that in what I have said there is room for a large measure of agreement on both sides. Naturally, I do not expect either the Hon. Minister of Social Services or the Hon. Premier to say what measure they propose to institute, but I think that they should give the House an assurance that these and other matters which have been brought to their attention will be handled as expeditiously as possible. Not only do we want to see more doctors, but more qualified doctors in the course of their long association with the Hospital.

5.15 p.m.

Now the Democratic Party is interested in this matter for a lot of reasons; but one of the reasons why we pay great attention to this matter is because we hope to see the time when working people, instead of being forced to crowd the Casualty of the Hospital every day and wait for long hours before they get attention, will be able on evenings after work up to ten o'clock to go to Clinics and Health Centres all over this island and receive treatment without necessarily losing a day's pay. That is something which we have in mind. If you can manage to have a staff of well-trained people at the Hospital, you might be able shortly to ease this matter of staffing in the evening Clinics, and you will find that the response of the people of this island will be very great when that is done but it can only become a possibility when at the General Hospital there is a large and well-qualified staff to work, some in the day and some at night. For that reason, we urge these matters on the Minister hoping that he will take them to heart.

Hon. F.E. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, before I reply to the remarks made by the hon. member, I should like to state first that I have been to some trouble during his speech to find out whether he was attempting to criticise the institution of the Hospital or attempting to lecture on the technique of hospitals found all over the world, and whether he was attempting to advise Government on how the Hospital should function. In his last remarks, he said that his Party was interested in the Hospital. We want to see all the things he said written in a manifesto.

I know that just a few days ago that he was inquiring about Grade A and Grade B doctors at the Hospital and elaborated on the members of that particular Department of the Medical Profession together with a number of other things which he said. It is very unfortunate that he wants to touch on the appointment of a Superintendent at the Hospital. We are aware of Dr. Forde's efficiency; he is a person who has had a scholarship in the United Kingdom and who has held an appointment at the University College of the West Indies. He is doing a magnificent job in this country and Government is particularly grateful to Dr. Forde, and I do not think that the hon. member for St. Lucy should touch on the decision to be taken on his appointment. It is a policy which we accept and respect on the floor of the House that the proposal with the high appointment of Superintendent of the Hospital would do Dr. Forde no good, and may I add, the institution itself. I said earlier that I was trembling for a moment to find out whether the hon. member was criticising the institution. I will say that never in the history of that institution has it been operating with the ease and comfort as it is today. If you look back for one decade, you will find that it has never been like this, and I believe that by the end of July for the first time in the history of the Hospital, it will have its full complement.

When I was sent by the Premier to the Ministry, we were having something like 4,500 patients in the Casualty and Out-patients Department; today we are operating with 11,000 and with ease. As regards the question at that Institution of two people in beds it is farcical for the hon.

member to think that with a growing population of 230,000 people and with a hospital with something like 450 beds, this would not be the case. The very reason that Government has engaged-----

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I cannot hear the Hon. Minister and I do not know if he would speak a little louder.

Hon. F.E. MILLER: I am very anxious that the hon. member should hear me. There was a quibble in which the Government made a decision which was expressed in their manifesto last time and in the Five Year Programme to build a new hospital with 525 beds, because it did appear to them possible to revamp the old institution, bringing it in line with modern hospitals. If that is so, what is his argument at the moment, if you think of development expansion at the hospital and the old dilapidated institution? We want to be grateful to Government for bringing it into being, but it has served and out-lived its purpose and should give way to a new institution, and then get rid of the bits of creaking machinery over which we had no control. To reflect on that today is unnecessary. We are anxious like anybody else to get the new hospital, and I made a public statement as Minister of Health that sometime during the last quarter of this year the foundation of this new hospital will be started. I do not need to say more at the moment.

It is unfortunate that the hon. member is not hearing me, but his early discussion as to whether or not we should change the approach in that institution by recruiting Grade A and Grade B officers is obvious. We have been thinking whether or not to make a scale to attract officers, and wondering whether we would find ourselves in the awkward position of searching for Grade A officers. That is a simple amendment and the reason for this Resolution before the House is that we must be free to take Grade B officers. We have been operating in the Hospital and having correspondence to recruit people from the University College as well as the United Kingdom as Grade A and Grade B officers. This move is a decision to operate the two Grades and be able to take Grade B officers instead of Grade A in order to keep the number of doctors at the Hospital going. We have instituted a scheme where we use part-time officers in the Out-patients Department working on a basis of three or four hours a day. That is a magnificent job, and I would hate to think that I was replying to criticisms by the hon. member on the Hospital. I do not know what more could be expected from the Hospital under the present circumstances. I am very happy about it myself and take some measure of pride, but I want to be grateful to the Director of Medical Services, and Dr. Forde who is doing a magnificent job. The Hospital is running like a well-greased clock. I should like to make the hon. member happy by saying that we have reached the stage where we are recruiting nurses at the rate of sixty a year, and very shortly we will have to reduce the number.

If you want to criticise the Hospital, I would be at pains to listen to you in the interest of the Hospital and to correct anything that could be regarded as criticism; but under the circumstances I believe it is asking too much, and I would like to remind the hon. member when he referred to something like poisoning if he had to use that institution, that I doubt very much if there is any doctor who would have it on his conscience that he is responsible for that.

However, Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member has the permission of the House to say something which we could use to the benefit of the institution, I would be very happy to hear it.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I am sure if there is anybody who would criticise doctors in this House, I would be that person. The Hon. Premier could let the Minister know that I am not afraid to criticise doctors, because when I have to praise them, I do that, but when I have to criticise, I will do that also. Doctors are just other men making a living; some do it not altogether honestly, and others do it honourably and above board. I always welcome any addition to the hospital as important, but did I hear the Minister say that the hospital was above criticism?

5.25 p.m.

Hon. F.E. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member would give way, I would just like to say that it is unfortunate that he did not enter the House before. I said that if there is

anything as regards the institution which he would like to criticise which I could consider and make an improvement, that I would be very happy indeed to know of it and I ended on that note.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Sir, may be it was a slip on my part. I want to know if that institution is spending my money. If it is spending my money, then I can criticise anything that goes on up there and there is no man who is beyond criticism, not even the Bishop.

It is always a welcome Resolution when you get one before the House dealing with the General Hospital. I may say that for a long time I have kept a bit quiet on matters dealing with the Hospital. As a matter of fact, I have nothing but praise for the new Medical Superintendent and I want to make it clear that it is not because he happens to be a coloured man because I know of some coloured doctors whom I would rather see you put them in a boat and take them away; so it is not because he is coloured but because he is a human being. I will tell you an instance. A few weeks ago in my capacity as member of the Advisory Committee, something was brought to my notice and as I felt that it was a case where somebody was suffering, I got on to the Secretary and I informed him that I wanted to know something about it; therefore he should call a meeting of the Board. It was a case of a boy calling on me at about 1 o'clock in the day telling me that he was suffering from a pain in his right side going down to his leg. I asked him what he wanted me to do about it. He said that he was 16 years of age, he was going to trade and was from Jackson. His father could not afford to pay for him; therefore he went to the General Hospital yesterday morning for treatment and was told that his case was not one of a real emergency, therefore come back tomorrow. He went on to say that he turned up the following day - which was the day he called on me - and they told him to come back at 1 o'clock. When he went back at 1 o'clock he got a bit of paper and put it in his pocket. He was told that his suffering was not a case for the General Hospital and to go and see the Parochial Medical Officer. I got so mad when I thought in terms of human suffering - and here it was a case of a young boy who could not afford to pay for a medical treatment and were it not for the grace of God I would be in that position - that I got on to the Medical Superintendent and told him about the case. The Medical Superintendent said to me: "Send him up to the General Hospital now; do not matter who is the doctor, I would see that he will be attended to." I call that man a human man; I do not think of him as masquerading with degrees. Sir, it is not because I am the Churchwarden of St. Michael; but I have had experience, where there is a case of anybody who is suffering, that this Medical Superintendent would say: "send him up". It is not a matter of whether it was a case for the Churchwarden; you should attend to the case and then argue your case afterwards.

Sir, I am very glad that the Government has brought down this Resolution. I must ask you this: why did you not bring this down when you had Dr. Browne who was a well qualified man? He used to come into this House and talk to us and you knew that he was well qualified. Why wait until the horse was out of the stable and now put grass in it? Let me remind the Hon. Ministers that it is their duty to answer questions put by the Opposition. Will the Hon. Minister also answer this question? Let me say beforehand that I do not wish to hear of your firing anybody because somebody comes to a politician and tell them what is going on. I understand that you fired the cook whom you had up there for the nurses. As a matter of fact, that is the baby of the Hon. Minister of Health. We met on several occasions to discuss the appointment of somebody so as to get the nurses satisfied about their diet. You appointed a cook for them and I understand that you fired him without reasons. I suggested to him that in all fairness you should have told him the reasons; therefore I advised him to go to the Secretary and ask him to call a meeting of the Board. He was told that no useful purpose could be served. You do not fire people in that way now.

The third question is that I understand the Hon. Minister to say something about creaking machinery and 'old time hospital'. Let me pay him this compliment. Since he has taken over the portfolio of Minister of Health, he has done a good job and he has been trying to do some-

thing. Of course, he has the energy, and it is also because he has me in the Opposition who is so interested in social welfare that he has to do something. He has made a lot of changes. Let me ask him this. You have been talking about a new hospital. The other day, my physician came to this country and I thought that I should take him to the General Hospital and introduce him to Dr. Forde. I was a little embarrassed when I went there to still find the case of a sixteen-year-old boy in a bed with his head at the head of the bed and a man with his head at the foot, his feet in the face of the boy.

5.35 p.m.

He has done a lot of good in trying to alleviate these conditions. I recall well when there were two persons sleeping in one bed, and I doubt whether you could go in there now and find two persons occupying one bed in his ward. It is a matter for you if you appoint him or anybody else. You must know what is good for the country because you say that you are all-powerful. I have spoken with a lot of medical men from other countries - medical men who came out here. I am not taking the petty criticisms of the newspapers. This man is not only a well-qualified man, but he is a 'human' man. If he wanted to go into private practice he could make four times as much as he is making now. We talked about the appointment of Mr. Chenery as Judge, and there was a hell of a row in the House, but they wanted him to take Your Honour's Chair. (Laughter). That is how they look at things. I heard that there was some criticism of the Visiting Surgeon System. I am not opposed to that. I fought the last Director of Medical Service whose idea was to push out all the youngsters; I have never subscribed to that. This is our Hospital and these are our people. Our sons and daughters go out and study medicine, and this is the place for them to come back and practise medicine. If you don't want them to get experience, you cannot do that without getting your due criticism from me. I ask: how many cases are there on the waiting list for surgery? Let them answer that question. There are those of us who can afford to get preference. All of that must go - and that applies to the Visiting Surgeons. There is no reason why my own child should have preference in a minor case because I can find \$120 as against my servant's child whose case is a major one. All of that should cease. Thank God there are not many like that; but where you have some like that, they must go.

I expect the Hon. Minister of Social Services to get up and defend his doctors, but I believe that in his soul he is as worried about the matter as I am. I am asking: why are you still having two persons in a bed?

I happened to meet a very wonderful man at the Hospital, and, of course, we discussed things from every possible angle. You can have your technical knowledge and everything else, but, Sir, do you know how I approach these matters? I have one thing; and that is Barbadian common-sense. Convince me if you can, but you must not stop this casualty as we know it as a casualty. I know that you have your Casualty for cases of emergency, but I want to know if the type of person who feels he can get assistance at the Hospital will get it. One doctor said to me when some medicine was for 18/-, well, he was kind enough to say to someone "go into the Hospital and get it". He saw that people could not afford to pay that price for medicine. You must make a difference between the absolute pauper and the person who can pay. I say that the Hon. Minister has to see after the people who have to go to the Hospital with their heads tied, and so on. What about the Hospital sites? We understand that one is at "Enmore" and the other is at the Deanery. Have you said anything to the people in charge of the Deanery that you want that site? Have you had any communication -----

Mr. SPEAKER: The matter of personnel is before us, not the site.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I appreciate that, but the Hon. Minister spoke of the Hospital sites.

Mr. SPEAKER: But, he did not elaborate on it.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I make this passing reference because that is the only way in which one can appeal to the members on that side. However, I will not go any further with that. I hope that the Hon. Minister will be able to answer this

House the questions which I have asked. Does the Hon. Minister see the necessity for appointing an additional number of Visiting Surgeons? If you see that Hon. Dr. Cato has been appointed as a Federal Senator - well, they can do what they like.
5.45 p.m.

I want you to listen to this; if Dr. Cato - or Dr. Massiah, Dr. Boogles or Dr. Jekyll for that matter - has been appointed as Vice-President of the Senate of the Federal Legislature, and as such his business calls him away from Barbados, and if he is among the leading visiting surgeons who have made a valuable contribution at the Hospital, will the Minister say whether it is not time that somebody should be appointed to deputise for him, or will he say that there are so many doctors on hand that it does not matter whether Dr. Cato stays away five or six weeks, and there is a waiting list of five or six hundred? If Dr. Cato takes this as personal, it is a matter for him because when I leave here I am going to Eagle Hall. As a matter of fact we nearly had a fiasco when Government sent and called a doctor from the surgery - and he appeared in his white coat - to ask him whether he would run for the Federal Legislature. They always wonder how I know these things! And they call a meeting on Mondays to censure people! Well, you will have to censure the whole Hospital staff and all the people at the Ministerial Buildings, but I know that my friend was just coming out of the gate. I have been worried for some time as a member of the Hospital Committee as to how you can possibly have such a long waiting list. If the policy of the Hospital is the same as it has been, and I take it that it is, that visiting surgeons must perform private cases and be paid for them, and if for the privilege to perform private operations with our nurses, instruments, and all the paraphernalia at our Hospital you in turn must perform operations on paupers, that is the practice all over the world. The only difference between Barbados and all over the world is that all over the world operations performed by visiting surgeons are usually two on the paupers and one on the paying patients. Quite recently in Barbados the position was reversed. You must contradict that on the floor of the House because the Ministers are fond of replying by means of statements when people are out of the House. I have been studying my Rules and I am going to find a different way to reply. As I was saying, if the practice is the same as I have stated before, can the Minister not see that if anybody at all, be it my child or my brother, is given the opportunity, and is among the best visiting surgeons, is out of the island for three or four weeks and the staff is depleted, that he should find ways and means of appointing somebody to take over for him? I am not saying for a minute that you should have him removed but you should use your human sympathy and appoint somebody; otherwise, you are not doing your job; you are just accommodating one man and forgetting hundreds of people who would be suffering. You have to call a spade a spade, and I hope the Minister will not think that he can answer questions by making a Statement.

I have very much pleasure in supporting the Resolution, but the questions which I posed should be answered by the Minister. I admit that since he has taken over the Ministry he has done a good job, but I was at a loss to hear those words drop from his lips about the Hospital being above criticism. He, the Hospital nor any Department cannot be beyond criticism in this country as long as they are spending money. As a matter of fact, criticism is the finest thing for the running of a democratic Institution, and I think we are drifting back to running democratic institutions. I therefore hope that the Minister will be able to answer these questions. This is not a criticism of Dr. Cato as Dr. Cato, because I feel he has done a good job at our Hospital and has been kind to people; but I repeat, he is a Visiting Surgeon and has certain privileges and certain responsibilities, and if you allow him an opportunity to be away and thus deplete your service, and if there is such a long waiting list, it is time that you come to this House and answer these questions. How are you going to substitute? Do not shake your head because I will warn you what I will do; I will suggest to members of the Opposition to move the postponement and I will then get up and reply to you. Do not believe that you can get away with any nonsense by making a Statement to the Opposition when you know they cannot reply. I hope you will answer my questions.

Hon. F.E. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask permission of the House to answer the questions.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Minister is asking permission to reply to questions and unless there be any objection, leave will be granted.

There being no objection, leave was granted.

Hon. F.E. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, it is incumbent on me to reply to some questions asked by the hon. senior member for the City. It is a bit awkward to learn today that the Hospital is returning to be a democratic Institution; it has always been.

Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair, and Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER took the Chair.

I am surprised at some of the things which the hon. member said. The hon. member is on the Advisory Committee of the Hospital, but it must be clear that he is an advisor in the sense of advising the Superintendent, but by no means the Ministry. I should like to answer the questions in the order in which he asked them. Take Dr. Browne. It was unfortunate that we had a Training Scheme and not one doctor on whom the Government was willing to spend money was willing to be sent abroad and return to the Hospital. In the meantime Dr. Browne came in and it was a question of whether or not there was need for a Specialist. It was difficult to take a decision and to come to Parliament, for an additional Surgeon Specialist. However Dr. Browne was not particularly interested in the appointment as an Anaesthetist; he was concerned with a post-graduate opportunity at the University College of the West Indies, and I believe that every hon. member is aware that he has taken advantage of that opportunity and is in Jamaica now. His main idea was to return to the colony or some where in the area as a Specialist and there was nothing we could do about it, even if it were possible to get a Resolution before the House. It would be impossible or asking too much of a Doctor who was concerned with a Teaching Hospital to work in a slave shop as the Hospital here. We have been in unfortunate circumstances, and there is nothing we could do about it. Our only hope is to wait two and half years for the new hospital.
5.55 p.m.

In reply to the question of discharging of the cook, I think the hon. senior member for the City ought to explain what happened to the Chef. I heard it for the first time when he told of it that the Chef was dismissed. I am not expected to learn of such things except through the grapevine.

MR. MOTTLEY: Sir, may be he is right. I am talking about the Chef of the Nurses Dormitory who is a man from St. George.

Hon. F.E. MILLER: There is only one Chef.

MR. MOTTLEY: I mean Mr. Spencer.

Hon. F.E. MILLER: I am hearing it for the first time now and I want the hon. member to believe me. I will only hear of that through the grapevine. In the Ministry, you do not have anything to do with appointments, transfers or dismissals. You must accept that and you must accept that loyalties must flow up and down, and it is not for a Minister to say anything whatsoever as regards appointments or such things. I have not been informed of it by the Medical Superintendent or by the D.M.S. and a thing of that sort is not even likely to be passed to my Ministry for information. We are bound to respect the Public Service Commission which is appointed to look into all these things. The hon. member is a member of the Advisory Committee which discussed the appointment of that Chef. I would go as far as to say that the question of having a Chef at the Hospital was not a request by the administration of the Hospital or by the Advisory Committee; it was initiated by my Ministry. I advised the institution of that post because I was unhappy about the feeding conditions at that institution. The Ministry decided that we should have a Chef and we had a battle and a struggle with a sub-committee which was appointed to go into it and then with the Advisory Committee. Of course it was not necessary for me to say a word of it to them at all but it was through a question of courtesy that I felt it was incumbent on me to discuss it with them.

I want the hon. member to be reasonable. It is impossible to imagine that this Government in our own lifetime can

change hands, but if it does happen you will have to agree that it is not the duty of a Minister to look into the domestic affairs of an institution. You appoint a Medical Superintendent and you expect him to run the Hospital. You would not have to bring a thing of that sort to the Ministry.

MR. MOTTLEY: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

Hon. F.E. MILLER: I do not think that is anything to cause him to rise on a point of order.

MR. MOTTLEY: It is not what you feel.

Hon. F.E. MILLER: Sit down.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The hon. member has risen on a point of order. I must hear him.

MR. MOTTLEY: Mr. Deputy Speaker, the hon. member seems to be important with himself. He has said that he is not responsible for dismissals. I give him credit for what he said about making this appointment and will go as far as to say that the man whom they put in the job has been dismissed. As a matter of fact, they have done away with the idea of having a Chef. The Hon. Member cannot make me believe that he does not know of that.

Hon. F.E. MILLER: If for any reason the Establishment decided to dismiss the Chef, the first thing they will have to do after that is to advertise for a new Chef. We established the post.

MR. DOWDING: Has the post been abolished?

HON. F.E. MILLER: You cannot abolish the post. If for any reason a decision was taken by the administration to dismiss the Chef, the next thing in line for them to do was to advertise for a new Chef.

The hon. senior member for the City was concerned about the new set-up at the General Hospital. Is he interested from a real estate point of view or is he interested from the Government's point of view re the purchase of 8 1/2 acres of land?

MR. MOTTLEY: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I have never objected to selling the Government anything. I come in here as a member of the House. If I had to sell the Government anything I would sell and draw the money without any qualms whatsoever. The Hon. Minister must think first and search his own conscience; he cannot measure me with his own bushel. I am free to sell the Government anything and I want the Hon. Minister to get that straight. I am absolutely free to sell the Government whatsoever I like. I can talk here all day and I can pay credit or criticise the member's Ministry but let me tell him this; never throw any aspersions at me. What does the Minister mean when he said: "If I am interested from a real estate point of view"?

MR. F.G. SMITH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I rise on a point of order. The hon. member is not speaking on a point of order; he is making a speech.

MR. MOTTLEY: Even that is not going to make them take him over there and give him a Ministry. The Hon. Minister is casting aspersions when he asked whether I am interested in real estate or from a Government point of view. I am only warning him that as far as I am concerned I am free to sell the Government anything.

MR. F.G. SMITH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I ask again, is that a point of order?

MR. MOTTLEY: The hon. member went to Harrison College and yet he rambles in his speeches in here just as some donkeys going up Old Work Hill. I am only saying to the Hon. Minister of Social Services - and I can speak as long as I am in here - that he must not cast any aspersions and I am warning him not to do it.
6.05 p.m.

-Hon. F.E. MILLER: We have not heard about this. It is not likely that he would be given the opportunity of selling that property which is Church property. You would not imagine that the hon. member would have the opportunity of selling a place like the Deanery which is Church property. Why is the hon. member unhappy about that? All I am saying is that we are negotiating for the purchase of the property. I am not in a position to say anything more than that, and I hope the hon. member will not press me to say anything more from this side. Are there any further questions which the hon. member has asked? The hon. member is concerned about the Waiting List at the Hospital, but could he tell me immediately the number of persons whom he has on the Waiting List? It is for that very reason that the request has been made for a Records Officer. The hon. member was a member of the Hospital Advisory Board. I should like to say that we are now operating two Surgeries at the Institution; what is the hon. member quibbling about.

MR. MOTTLEY: On a point of order. Is the hon. member saying that there is no such thing as a Waiting List?

Hon. F.E. MILLER: We have a second Operating Theatre and I have been told by the Director of Medical Services as well as by the Acting Medical Superintendent that we have no long Waiting List. I say that we can reduce the number by 300 a month, and that has been done. I am telling the hon. member that we have no Waiting List as such, that the Waiting List has been cleared. That is what I have been told on good authority. (MR. MOTTLEY: That is not true.) How dare the hon. member say so when the Director of Medical Services and the Acting Medical Superintendent have said that there is no Waiting List as such?

MR. MOTTLEY: On a point of order. The hon. member has said he has been told that there is no Waiting List, and in the same breath he has said that he has reduced it to 300 a month. Is the hon. member serious? How can he tell the public that there is no Waiting List, because I ask that they put somebody to act in the place of one of the Visiting Surgeons who is away? I am asking that they get somebody to act for him. If there is one untruth which has been told to this House, whether by accident or by design, it is the statement that there is no Waiting List. He has been sending people there and they have been placed on the Waiting List, and how can he make such a misleading statement to this House?

Hon. F.E. MILLER: The hon. member has now made his fourth speech. He knows that a year ago we opened that second surgery and it has been operating for twelve months. That has reduced the list by 300 a month. What is the hon. member's argument? Is it a question of his human nature being debased or is it in the poverty of one's mind? I have told the hon. member that we had a new operating table a year ago. (MR. MOTTLEY: Is there a Waiting List?) By whom must I be advised? I have been advised by the Director of Medical Services and by the Acting Medical Superintendent, and I have been told that, in the sense of the word, there is no Waiting List. It is possible that you have somebody sent to the Surgeon Specialist for some operation and he can decide whether or not that person should go under observation.

I repeat, that I have been told by the Director of Medical Services and by the Acting Medical Superintendent that in the sense of the word there is no Waiting List. I do not think there is anything else to which I should reply. I do not know if the hon. member wants to make an issue about the Visiting Surgeons. There is a particular visiting surgeon who gets a fee of \$40 a month. He is entitled to his fees as the Surgeon Specialist is and \$20 a month is paid to the Assistant Visiting Surgeons. We have no problem with regard to surgery; we are not in trouble relative to the appointment of Dr. Cato as Visiting Surgeon. We are not in trouble any longer; if you want me to repeat it, I will repeat with all the conviction and emphasis that my nature is capable of. We are not in any trouble where surgery is concerned.

Let the hon. member leave out the Hospital and look for something else about which to talk; he is just making sport when it comes to the Hospital and he will not unnerve the community when it comes to the Hospital any more.

You are not going to unnerve this community anymore

as regards the ancient problem which we have had at the Hospital.

Mr. MOTTLEY: You should be Prime Minister of the West Indies.

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

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Hon. R.G. MAPP: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to move that that this Sitting 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. DEPUTY SPEAKER suspended the Sitting accordingly.

6.20 p.m.

On resumption

Hon. Dr. H.G.H. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker, I should like to draw your attention to the fact that there is no quorum, and ask that you direct the Clerk to ring the Bell.

The Bell was rung, but no quorum was formed.

Mr. SPEAKER: It being after the half hour for which this Sitting has been suspended, and there being but three members present, I now declare this House adjourned until Tuesday, 17th June, 1958 at 3.00 p.m.