THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SESSION 1959

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Friday 20th March, 1959.

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

PRESENT

His Honour Mr. K. N. R. HUSBANDS *(Speaker);* Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS, C.B.E., M.D., C.M., *(Premier);* Hon. M. E. COX, *(Minister of Trade, Industry and Labour);* His Honour Mr. L. E. SMITH, J.P.; *(Deputy Speaker);* Hon. R. G. MAPP, *(Minister of Communications, Works and Housing);* Mr. T. O. BRYAN, *(Chairman of Committees);* Hon. F. E. MILLER, *(Minister of Social Services);* Mrs. E. E. BOURNE; Hon. D. D. GARNER, *(Minister of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries);* Mr. C. B. SEARLES; Mr. G. E. S. STRAUGHN, and Mr. J. W. CORBIN.

Prayers were read.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that the Minutes of the 10th and 11th March have been printed and circulated amongst hon. members, and unless there be any objection, the Minutes will be taken as read and confirmed.

There being no objection, the Minutes were taken as read and confirmed.

PETITION

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to present a Petition from the Caribbee Hotels Limited praying the House to pass a Bill to allow them to construct groynes with or without seawalls. The Petition is respectfully worded and I beg that it be taken as read.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Bill to authorise the Caribbee Hotels Limited to construct groynes with or without seawalls.

BILL READ A FIRST TIME

On motion of Mr. GODDARD, seconded by Mr. CORBIN, the Bill to authorise the Caribbee Hotels Limited to construct groynes with or without Seawalls, was read a first time.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Mr. SPEAKER: The first Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Leader of the House: To move the House into Committee of Supply to consider the grants of sums of money for the service of the colony.

Hon. M. E. COX: 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 without division.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair and the House went into Committee of Supply, Mr. BRYAN in the Chair.

RESOLUTION TO APRPOVE $8,460,987 TO BE MET FROM LOAN FUNDS

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, this Resolution is for the sum of $8,460,987 to be met from Loan Funds towards the capital expenditure for the year 1959-60. The Addendum to the Resolution sets out the various Heads and the amounts of money towards which this loan will be spent. What we are concerned with today is that this sum of $8,460,987 will be met from Loan Funds and we are asked to give formal approval for the issue of advances.

The money will be appropriated as follows:-

Deep Water Harbour	..	$6,800,000
Housing		
Housing Authority	..	417,396
Development Board	..	500,000
Water Supplies		
Repair and replacement of old pipes	.. ..	100,000
Development of water resources		208,755
Education		
Loans for Higher Education		15,036
Communication		
Terminal Building	..	10,800
Road Transport		
Purchase of Buses	..	409,000
		$8,460,987

In moving that the Resolution do now pass, I would just like to remind hon. members that these Heads were included in the Estimates and last night during the consideration of the capital expenditure these Items were mentioned and approved in connection with the Appropriation Act.

As I have said, a certain amount was put in the Appropriation Act but, as I have said, the amounts set out here are all to be taken from Loan Funds.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

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

3.25 p.m.

Hon. M. E. COX: I beg to move, Mr. Chairman, that you do now report the passing of one Resolution in Committee.

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

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

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

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

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS CONCLUDED

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, that concludes Government Business for today.

THE ADJOURNMENT

Hon. M. E. COX: In moving the adjournment of the House, I should like to say that I regret having to bring out hon. members again next week. Hon. members will remember that the Public Assistance Bill and the Public Health Bill will be going to the Other Place on Monday, as I expect, and there may be the question of amendments being made to those Bills. For that reason, I am moving the adjournment until Thursday next, the 26th instant, so that if there are any amendments made to either of those Bills or even the Appropriation Bill, we may be able to deal with them before the end of the month. That is the only reason why I am asking hon. members to come back here next week.

The suggestion has been made that if we adjourn for a few weeks, in case there are any amendments made to those Bills which I have mentioned, we could summon a special meeting to deal with them. We must bear in mind that the amendments, if there are any, will have to be passed before the 27th of the month. That is in so far as the Public Assistance Bill and the Public Health Bill are concerned and, of course, the Appropriation Bill which will have to be finalised before the end of the Financial Year. I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday 14th April, 1959, at 12 o'clock noon.

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

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, I have no objection to that motion because it is a more reasonable one than that which was previously made. We do not want to pass legislation in the manner in which the Hon. Leader of the House has indicated. From what he has suggested it seems to me as if we pass Bills on the hypothesis that they will be amended; therefore, in the case of amendments being made to a Bill, we will come back here. That is one of the things in which I do not believe unless there is a fundamental error which has been made. If there is no such error made, I do not see that you should say that this Bill will go to the Other Place and you are hoping that there will be a correction of the errors. Whatever is in operation now, there must be something which is taking the place of public assistance. I take it that the Public Assistance Bill will have to come into operation by public proclamation. This Bill has to go to the Governor for his assent and it will have to come into operation when the Governor gives assent to it; it is not an Act until the Governor assents to it.

As I say, I do not like the idea of our passing a Bill hoping that the errors will be corrected in the Other Place; if you feel that nothing is wrong with a Bill, I do not see why we have to meet. I do not like the idea of summoning the House after a specific adjournment; you would have to be satisfied that this Bill could not come into operation until we have met and approved of the amendments. I have only mentioned these things in the interest of this Chamber so that we may not give the impression that we are waiting here for amendments to a Bill to come from the Other Place.

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, I am sorry if I gave the impression or the understanding that when we pass Bills they will have to be amended in the Other Place. I never intended to convey that impression. As far as the Other Place is concerned, hon. members will know that sometimes a Bill goes to the Other Place with a typographical error, for instance, the word "or" occurring when it should be "of". The Other Place will say: "We cannot pass it; we have to send it back to the House."

3.35 p.m.

Sometimes the Other Place sends back a Bill or whatever it might be because a "comma" is left out; so I am only referring to such typographical errors which might be sent back to us and not really any amendment in substance or anything of the sort.

The question that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday, 14th April at 12.00 noon was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER adjourned the House accordingly.

3.40 p.m.