

THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SESSION 1959

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday 22nd September, 1959.

Pursuant to the adjournment, the House of Assembly met at 12 o'clock noon today.

PRESENT

His Honour Mr. L. E. SMITH, J.P., (*Deputy Speaker*); Mr. J. E. T. BRANCKER, (*Leader of the Opposition*); Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS, C.B.E., M.D., C.M., (*Premier*); Hon. M. E. COX, (*Minister of Trade, Industry and Labour*); 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*); Hon. D. D. GARNER, (*Minister of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries*); Mr. C. B. SEARLES; Hon. L. ST. A. THORNE, (*Minister of Education*) and Mr. J. W. CORBIN.

Prayers were read.

MINUTES

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that the Minutes of the meeting held on 15th September, have been printed and circulated and unless there be any objection, these Minutes will be taken as read and confirmed.

There being no objection, these Minutes are now taken as read and confirmed.

I have the honour to inform the House that I have received from the Commissioners of Highways for the parish of St. Peter a Financial Report for the half year ended 31st March, 1959.

PAPERS LAID

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

Statement showing Gross Customs and Excise receipts for five months ended 31st August, 1959.

Annual Report of the Commissioner of Police of Barbados for the year 1957.

Annual Report of the Commissioner of Police of Barbados for the year 1958.

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am commanded to lay the Barbados Tourism Survey.

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

Reply to Question No. 9/1959 asked by Mr. F. L. Walcott regarding the erection of a market in Speightstown.

Reply to Question No. 33/1959 asked by Mr. L. E. Smith regarding the use of a tractor for the ploughing of peasants' land.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following:-

Resolution regarding the policy of the Government of Barbados to be pursued at the Inter-Governmental Conference to be held in Trinidad in connection with the working of the Federal Constitution.

I take the opportunity to say, Sir, that copies of this Resolution are ready for distribution and the Government proposes to have a meeting on Thursday, day after tomorrow, to discuss it.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following:-

A Bill to amend the Underground Water Control Act, 1951.

Oral Reply to Question No. 9/1959 asked by Mr. L. E. Smith regarding the repayment of loans by fishing boat owners, which is ready.

QUESTIONS

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

Whether he will take steps to ensure that Casual leave is made available for Constables of the Barbados Police Force as it is for senior members thereof?

To enquire of the Minister for Works:-

Whether the Ministry is aware of the inconvenience caused to residents when, without previous warning or intimation of any kind, the public water supply is cut off by the Waterworks Department?

2. Will the Ministry, in order to obviate or reduce such inconvenience, issue instructions that residents be adequately forewarned in future - by medium of Rediffusion announcement or an amplifier used in said district - before the Department so acts?

To enquire of the Minister for Communications:-

What provision, if any, is made for payment of transport workers employed by the Transport Board during cases of illness?

For Oral Answer on behalf of my colleague the hon. senior member for St. Lucy -

To enquire of the Hon. Minister of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries:-

1. What steps, if any, has the Government taken, since the introduction of powered fishing, to have fishermen instructed:

- (a) in the techniques of Tropical Fishing.
- (b) in the seamanship necessary to off shore fishing, including the rules of the road, aids to navigation, and
- (c) in the care and maintenance of boats, apart from the care of the engines.

To enquire of the Hon. Minister of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries:-

(a) Will the Minister state whether the earning power of the "Investigator" has been recorded over the last nine years?

(b) If the answer is in the affirmative, will he publish the figures of each year's earnings?

(c) If figures disclose a gradual decrease in earning power, will the Minister state what is the reason for such decrease?

Will the Minister state whether the Government has ever taken steps to discover what are the average earnings of a normal fishing boat per season, as well as the average cost of maintenance and upkeep?

Will the Minister further state whether the average boat is in position to pay its annual instalment and insurance, and still be maintained in a seaworthy and economic condition in hull, machinery and gear?
12.25 p.m.

4. Will the Minister state:

(a) What experiments have been made by the Government experimental Fishing Boat "Investigator" since her commissioning?

(b) If any, will he state by what means have the results of these experiments have been communicated and demonstrated to fishermen and/or Boat Owners?

5. Is the Minister aware of the increase in operating costs over the past year, due to rises in the prices of

- (a) Fishing gear (gill nets and lines)
- (b) Fuel and lubricating oils
- (c) Paints?

6. Has the Government ever taken steps to discover

- (a) The average annual earning power of a fisherman.
- (b) The reason for the inability on the part of fishermen to repay their loans at the times required?

7. Will the Minister state whether the Depth Recorder which was installed in the Government Experimental Fishing Craft "Investigator" is still in operating condition?

If the answer is in the affirmative, will the Minister state why it is not used in the discovery of new banks for the purpose of Deep Line Fishing, such as for Red Snapper and Bream?

If the answer is in the negative, will the Minister state how long it has been out of commission, and the reason for its being out of commission?

To enquire of the Hon. Premier:-

1. Will the Minister state whether Labour Welfare Funds have ever been used to finance the construction of Combermere School?

2. If the answer is "Yes", will he further state the amount so used, and whether legislative sanction was required for this action?

To enquire of the Hon. Minister of Education:-

1. Will the Minister state who pays for the telephones which are installed in some of the Primary Schools of this island?

2. Will the Minister state whether those Pianos which are installed in some schools are the property of the Government?

3. If they are not, will he disclose what rent is paid to the owners of these instruments?

To enquire of the Hon. Minister of Education:-

1. Will the Minister state how many new pupils have been admitted into the Primary and Secondary Modern Schools of the St. Michael area since January this year?

2. Will the Minister give the number for each school separately?

3. Will he further state which Headteachers, if any are entitled to increases of salary in consequence of the increase in numbers on the rolls of their respective schools?

To enquire of the Hon. Minister for Communications Works and Housing:-

1. Will the Minister state the number of persons employed in the Public Works and H & T. Departments who have been laid off in the last two months?

2. Will the Minister give the reasons for the cessation?

BILL READ A FIRST TIME

On motion of Hon. D. D. GARNER, seconded by Hon. L. ST.A. THORNE, the Bill to amend the Underground Water Control Act, 1951, was read a first time.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The first Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Trade, Industry and Labour: 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. Deputy 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. DEPUTY SPEAKER left the Chair and the House went into Committee of Supply, Mr. BRYAN in the Chair.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1959-60 No. 17

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, this is an omnibus Resolution and I will take it head by head.

HEAD 1 - GOVERNOR

Head 1 - Governor - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Head 1, concerns the Governor and the note to Item 18, Furniture and fittings reads as follows:-

"The amount of \$1,344 is made up of \$576 for linen replacements; \$480 for crockery replacements; and \$288 for a new carpet for the Governor's study."

This means articles that have been requested to replace certain old and worn out ones.

In addition to that, under Item 19, provision is being made for installing a new gas cooker which is required to replace the existing model which has been condemned by a Board of Survey. This amount of \$1600 is to provide for a new one.
12.35 p.m.

I beg to move that Head I stand part.

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

The question was put and carried nem. con.

HEAD II - SECRETARIAT

Head II - Secretariat - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, under Item 23 \$800.00 is asked for travelling expenses, and the Note says that an amount of \$1,000 has been included in the 1959-60 Estimates to meet claims for travelling and this amount has proved inadequate. A further amount of \$800.00 is required to meet commitments to the end of the current financial year.

Under Item 24, Incidentals, \$800.00 is asked for. The Note says that the amount of \$3,260 provided in the 1959-60 Estimates has proved inadequate and an additional amount of \$800.00 is required to meet expenditure under this item to the end of the financial year.

Item 28 (A) (New) Maintenance of Air Conditioning Unit: the amount of \$85.00 is requested. As the Note explains, no provision was made in the current Estimates for the maintenance and servicing of the Air Conditioning Unit in the Council Chamber, Government Headquarters. It has now been found necessary to provide for such maintenance and servicing an amount of \$85.00 to meet expenditure under this item to the end of the financial year.

Under Item 31 (New) Duplicating Machine, \$700.00 is asked for and the Note explains that the Gestetner machine which has been in service for ten years has become defective. A Board of Survey was appointed and has recommended that the machine be disposed of as it cannot be repaired economically.

I beg to move that Head II stand part.

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

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Chairman, although we can read quite well the Notes to these Heads, the item for travelling allowances shows that \$1,000.00 has already been voted in the Estimates and that Government now wants \$800.00 more. I think that a fuller explanation is necessary. If an estimate of \$1,000 was made at the beginning of the Financial year, and after five or six months it has run out, and you want \$800.00 more, let us know what extraordinary travelling was undertaken. There must have been some extraordinary expenditure similarly with regard to incidentals. \$800.00 is a large amount to be put down under Incidentals. In any case you should revise incidentals from time to time. I would be glad if the Premier would be so kind as to give us an explanation as regards travelling expenses and a break down in the case of incidentals.

Under Item 28(A) (New) Maintenance of Air Conditioning Unit I see that \$85.00 is needed. This is a new item. Do not tell me that every year you will have to put in a supplementary estimate for that. That should be included in the Estimates probably under Incidentals because that expenditure will be recurrent. There are air conditioning units in other Government Buildings.

As regards Item 31 (New) Duplicating Machine there must have been some break down of this machine because if after ten years a machine is getting old, the time will come when you have to replace it. It is about time now,

depending upon the amount of work it has done. If it has not broken down, how is it that it could not last until the passing of the new Estimates next year?

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, while the replies are being considered to the very useful questions of the hon. member for Christ Church, may I make a comment on Note 6, in respect of the Gestetner machine, and the appointment of a Board of Survey. It is good to know in this case that a Board of Survey is functioning. I do not know how long the Department might have been waiting on the Board to examine this machine. A Board of Survey which was requested in respect of a typewriter at District "E" took a year or over before it was appointed or at least functioning. I would like to know first of all how long this machine was regarded as defective, how long after the defectiveness was discovered did the appointment of the Board of Survey take place, and how long after that did the Board make its report; because I think that unless these Boards of Survey function more expeditiously in future they will have to become a matter of a full dress debate in this Chamber. May be, because this machine concerns the office of the Secretariat, this Board moved with the maximum speed. I would be glad as a matter of interest if the hon. member in charge of the Resolution would give us that information, so that I would know how long this Board of Survey took to function with regard to something which was reported by the Department as being no longer useful for the purpose for which it was purchased. In some cases a year passed before a Report could be made on an item which had been condemned, and due to the delay a new item could not be purchased before the report was made.

Hon. M. E. COX: I would suggest that we continue with the next Head until the information becomes available.

I beg to move that Head II be postponed.

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

The question was put and agreed to.

HEAD V - HARBOUR AND SHIPPING

Head V - Harbour and Shipping - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, Item 12, Port Management, seeks \$210.00 to meet the salary of a Messenger for the Port Manager in respect of the period 1st January, 1960 to 31st March, 1960.
12.45 p.m.

I cannot understand why, but it seems that for the first time we are appointing a messenger to that office. I do not know if it may be that a messenger in another Department probably shared the work in this office and it is now decided that this office should have its own messenger. This amount, therefore, is for payment until the end of the financial year.

Then there is Item 22. This amount is to meet further requirements of stationery - \$200 and Incidental Expenses (including Marine publications and charts etc.) \$350 for the Port Manager - making a total of \$550.

The next item, Sir, is to provide certain equipment for the Port Manager. The items are - one Loud Hailer, one Gestetner Duplicator and a pair of Binoculars, and the amount required is \$900. These last items are new, and at the request of the new incumbent of the office Government seeks to provide him with this new equipment.

I beg to move that Head V - Harbour and Shipping - stand part.

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: I beg to second that.

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Chairman, I really want more information on this. I want to know where the Port Manager's office is. I thought by reading the note that it was intended to set up an office on the Deep Water Harbour site, but in the absence of any information from the Premier if he cannot be enlightened by the Minister responsible for that portfolio, I will ask him to postpone that also. It is a matter of information as to where the office will be and what are the proposals.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Mr. Chairman, the Port Manager is usually in the Harbour and Shipping Master's office and shares the facilities there, messenger included. Since the work has started, it has grown and we have a separate office provided for him and we need the services of a separate messenger. In building the administrative offices at the Deep Water Harbour later on, of course provision will be made for an office for the Port Manager. I need hardly say that, but this is just a temporary thing.

Mr. GODDARD: I thank the Minister very much for the information because I heard it stated that Government had not yet decided whether the office of the Port Manager would be sited in the new area or up here; so now that it has been stated that it will be down there in the administrative buildings, I am grateful for the reply.

The question that Head V - Harbour and Shipping - stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Head XIII - Legislature - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Again, Sir, no provision was included in the Current Estimates for the maintenance and servicing of the two Air Conditioning Units in the Legislative Council Chamber. It has now been found necessary to provide for such maintenance etc., an amount of \$165.00 to meet expenditure under this item to the end of the financial year.

I beg to move that Head XIII - Legislature stand part.

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: I beg to second that.

The question that Head XIII - Legislature - stand part, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Head XIV - Judiciary - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, it is to be expected that with the introduction of the Federal Supreme Court a separate Court should be provided. This amount of \$650 is required to meet the cost of furnishing a room at the Law Courts to be used by the Federal Supreme Court. You will note also that the room and furniture will be available for use by the Barbados Court at all times except when the Federal Supreme Court is sitting. This estimate has been supplied by the Public Works Department.

I beg to move that Head XIV - Judiciary - stand part.

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: I beg to second that.

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, the note does not make it perfectly clear as to whether the reference of furnishing a room at the Law Courts to be used by the Federal Supreme Court refers to a room to be used as the actual Court room in which the Federal Supreme Court as such would be sitting, or whether it is a room to be used by the Federal Supreme Court, that is, the Judges thereof, for purposes of consultation among themselves when they are considering arriving at a decision or what; but apart from that, if it is to be used as a Federal Supreme Court room for the actual hearing of cases, I had thought that it was the feeling of the Federal judges that the dignity of that Court would be more greatly enhanced if their Court room were used only by the Federal Supreme Court and were not used for any other purpose, and certainly not by any other court of inferior jurisdiction. It may well be that that was put up to Government and they did not feel that either the finance available or the rooms available would enable one more room to be set aside purely and solely for the purposes of the Federal Supreme Court which might not very often be meeting in Barbados. I do think there is something to be said for the view that if finances and other considerations permit, there should be a separate room used for no other purpose than for the Federal Supreme Court to function in.

The amount seems comparatively small, Mr. Chairman, for furnishing a room to be used by a Court which

will normally comprise in certain appellate jurisdiction not less than three judges, with three desks and chairs and other furniture for officials and persons who of necessity make up the Court, and I think that we might well regard this as the first instalment and look forward to a Supplementary Resolution - unless of course they are going to use some of the old furniture - and this is simply to make up for deficiencies in numbers of the furniture presently available. Apart from that comment, Sir, there is no objection at all to the passing of this amount except as I said, it looks to be rather on the low side, and I would not be surprised if we had to supplement it sooner rather than later.

The question that Head XIV - Judiciary - stand part, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Head XV - Police - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: This item, Sir, is for the purchase of horses. The sum of \$1,800 was provided in this year's Estimates for the purchase of two horses for the Police Department, and it is found out that there has been an increase in the cost of the horses as well as an increase in the cost of transport. The sum of \$325, is now required to supplement the original vote of \$1,800.

I beg to move that Head XV - Police - stand part.

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: I beg to second that.
12.55 p.m.

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Chairman, I have not risen to oppose this item at all. As a matter of fact, I am a champion for improvement in the Police Force especially when it comes to transport.

What I want to say under the item is that there are many Police Stations which I think should be provided with better transport than they now have. I think that recently there has been some improvement.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order. I do not see anything here regarding Police transport. I see under this Head provision for the purchase of police horses. It does not say anything as regards transport or anything else.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: For the benefit of the hon. junior member for Christ Church, the note in the Addendum to that item reads as follows:-

"The sum of \$1,800 has been provided in this year's Estimates for the purchase of two horses for the Police Department. As a result of increases in the costs of horses and transport since the estimate of \$1,800 was submitted, the total cost of supplying the horses now amounts to approximately \$2,125. A further sum of \$325 is now required to complete payment for supplying the horses."

I think the transport that is mentioned in the note means transport of the horses here.

Mr. GODDARD: Thank you. But I think that the horses are used for the transport of policemen. What are they for? They are for the transporting of policemen on their duties and that is what I am speaking on. Police horses, especially in the country districts, are used for inspections between plantations and tenancies. I have seen them often used in that respect and occasionally they are brought into town for parade purposes. I say that the transport at the Police Stations can be improved for the benefit of the inspections of tenancies. If it were mechanised by proper motor transport -----

Mr. CHAIRMAN: That is irrelevant to the purchase of horses.

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Chairman, the mere fact that we have horse transport under Police is sufficient for me to ask that we should mechanise more than depending on horse

transport. My whole point is that there is room for improvement for transport at the Police Stations. I say that we can have better means of transport at these Police Stations.

The question that Head XV - Police - stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XX - EDUCATION

Head XX - Education - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, as regards the first item - Item 55, Incidentals - as is pointed out in the Note;

"The functions of the Students Advisory Committee were transferred to the Department of Education with effect from May 1st, 1959, and from that date also the Department took over from the Ministry control of routine correspondence dealing with the placing of students in educational institutions abroad."

That necessitates more correspondence, more stationery and more postage. That increase is approximately \$12 per month and a supplementary of \$132 is required to meet the additional cost of postage for the 11 months May 1959 to March 1960 inclusive.

As regards the next item - Item 87, Technical Institute - Various items of equipment were ordered in the financial year 1958-59 and provision of \$5,362 was made in that year's Estimates under Head XX, Item 78, Technical Institute, to meet the cost. The equipment did not arrive until the current financial year and a revote of \$5,362 is now required to pay for it. In short, this is a revote for items of equipment which were already voted.

The next is Item 93, Refrigerators and Washing Machines, and as the Note reads:

"The cost, \$874, of one (1) Refrigerator and one (1) Washing Machine for use at the St. John's Centre of the Evening Institute had been charged respectively to the recurrent Items 45 (Practical Education) and 68 (Evening Institute) in the 1958-59 Estimates. As the charge should have been placed to a non-recurrent item, the amounts for these acquisitions lapsed and an amount of \$874 under a non-recurrent item is now necessary to meet the cost. Similarly the cost of one (1) Refrigerator and one (1) Washing Machine for use at the Domestic Science Centre at the Princess Margaret School, an amount also of \$874, needs to be met from a non-recurrent item, and provision made for these units in Item 77 (Evening Institute) of the current Estimates will accordingly lapse."

In short, Sir, these were put under wrong items and I suppose the Auditor General did not authorise them and this is done, so to speak, to regularise that.

I beg to move that Head XX stand part.

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: I beg to second that.

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, the Note to the first item is interesting, telling us of the functions of the Students Advisory Committee which were transferred to the Department of Education as from 1st May, 1959. According to the Note, the Department of Education has taken over from the Ministry control of routine correspondence dealing with the placing of students in educational institutions abroad.

Now, Sir, I would like to throw out a word to the Department and it is that it is essential in order to deal with this placing of students abroad for the Department to have an up-to-date copy constantly at hand of the Commonwealth University Handbook. I know of the difficulties arising in the matter of correspondence in the placing of students abroad due to the absence of this Commonwealth University Handbook. It is a substantial volume which costs about £4 or about four guineas but it gives

you all the up-to-date information not only as regards educational institutions in the Commonwealth but in the Irish Republic.

1.05 p.m.

They should have an up-to-date copy of the Commonwealth University handbook so as to avoid difficulties as regards placing.

It often happens that a student has the choice of a particular University in his mind; but the Department should have at its fingertips information to let the student know that his subjects, good as they are, do not qualify him to enter a particular University. For instance, one University may require a matriculation in mathematics and the student who wants to go there may be a First Class Classical man. I am throwing out this word of advice to the Department which has taken over control from the Ministry. It is essential and indispensable in dealing adequately with what the Note calls routine correspondence in connection with the placing of students to have a copy of this handbook available. I know that three years ago they did not have one, or at least it was not up-to-date. I know a particular individual who has one, but naturally he does not lend it out to anyone. I hope that instructions will be given to have a standing order left with the publishers of this handbook so that on publication a copy will be sent to the Department for the specific purpose of enabling them to deal intelligently and effectively with this same routine correspondence *apropos* the placing of students in these institutions abroad.

The question was put and agreed to.

HEAD XXV - PUBLIC WORKS

Head XXV - Public Works - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, under Item 31 Government House the amount of \$2,400 is requested. According to the Note the amount of \$6,900 which has been provided in the Current Estimates has been expended, apart from general maintenance, on redecoration of the Governor's Study and bathroom, repairs to the north porch, and mainly for rehabilitation of the Police Orderlies' Quarters.

The amount of \$2,400 requested includes \$1,400 which is required to meet the cost of painting and redecorating a number of rooms and staircases at Government House; and \$1,000 for repairing the plumbing and carrying out essential repairs to the servants' quarters.

I beg to move that Head XXV stand part.

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: I beg to second that.

The question was put and agreed to.

HEAD XXIX - MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES

Head XXIX - Miscellaneous Services - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, Item 3 deals with a refund of contributions under the Widows and Orphans Pension Act. As the Note says, due to the fact that up to the end of the last financial year the legal business in connection with the Estate of a bachelor who died in service had not been completed a refund of \$881.89 has had to be made for this year's provision. In addition, on the basis of other expenditure under this item this year, supplementary provision of \$2,500 is required.

Then we have Item 4, Purchase of Safes for Government Departments. Under this Item \$300.00 is requested. As the Note explains, bursary apprentices are now paid at the Technical Institute, and as it is necessary for money drawn from the public Treasury for this purpose to be kept for short periods at the Institute, a small safe has been acquired. Also, the lock of the safe at the Post Office St. Peter, is defective. To provide proper security at all times for money, stamps etc. at this Post Office a replace-

ment safe had to be provided. The costs of these safes are approximately \$120 and \$290, and it will be necessary to supplement the item by \$300.

I think hon. members will remember that quite recently it was decided to pay these bursary apprentices at the Evening Institute instead of formerly when they were paid by the Officer who looked after Public Works. The whole position has been changed and they are now being paid at the Evening Institute, and quite correctly the Principal has said that if they are to keep money to pay the apprentices they must have a safe to keep it in.

Opportunity is taken at this time to provide proper security for the Post Office in St. Peter by putting in a new safe as the old one has been broken and is not in proper condition.

Item 5 deals with Stamp Duty on Stock Transfer on London Loan.

Payments made by the Crown Agents on behalf of this Government for the first four months of this year amount to \$5,978.40. On this basis and taking into account the provision of \$4,000 under this item, supplementary provision of \$14,000 will be required.

Item 49 is in respect of Clerical Assistance. The amount of \$10,000 voted under this Item has proved inadequate on account of requests from various Departments for the services of temporary additional staff in varying numbers and for varying periods throughout the year. In the light of present trends, it is estimated that an additional \$10,000 will be required to cover the cost of Clerical Assistance and for temporary and Emergency purposes.

Item 78 (New) is in respect of the Students Unit United Kingdom. The annual contribution of W.I. Governments to the Liaison Service for W.I. students in the U.K. had to be increased owing to increased salaries and staff for the Service in 1955. An amount of \$478.68 is therefore required to meet this Government's proportionate share (8%) of the additional costs of the Service prior to 1st April 1956 when the Regional Economic Committee took over the responsibility for the Service.

1 15 p.m.

I think it is quite clear that on account of the increased salaries of staff in the Service in 1955 this amount of \$478.68 is required to meet the Government's share of 8% to the 1st April, 1956 when the Regional Economic Committee took over the responsibility for the Service.

The next Item, Sir, is 79 - Historical tablets for the Law Courts and the Public Buildings.

It is considered fitting that the historic buildings presently known as the Law Courts and which were formerly used simultaneously not only to house the Law Courts but also the Legislature and the common gaol should be marked by a tablet.

It is also considered that the date of the opening and other historic information about the Public Buildings should be recorded on a suitable tablet to be fixed to the buildings.

In short, Sir, this amount of \$400 is required to prepare historic tablets to mark the use of these two buildings the Law Courts and the Public Buildings.

I beg to move that Head XXIX - Miscellaneous Services - stand part.

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: I beg to second that.

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

Head XXX - Inland Revenue - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: This Item, Sir, is for legal expenses. I think hon. members will remember that there was a certain amount of litigation between this Gov-

ernment and the person responsible for the estate of Lady Carter in which the Queen's Solicitor was involved in preparing documents and doing the necessary work, and his fees amounted to \$2,183.

I beg to move that Head XXX - Inland Revenue - stand part.

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: I beg to second that.

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

Head XXXII - Highways and Transport - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: The note sets out, Sir, that it has been found impossible to undertake the normal maintenance work of the Department and at the same time execute the heavy programme of capital works without an increase in the strength of the Transport units. This Resolution therefore seeks the provision of funds to purchase two additional motor lorries.

I beg to move that Head XXXII - Highways and Transport - stand part.

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: I beg to second that.

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Chairman, I am going to repeat again what I said a couple of months ago. Instead of resorting to buying two lorries at this stage of the unemployment situation in the island, we should be farming out a lot of this work to numbers of the small lorry owners who would be only too glad for an extra job. When I spoke on that on the last occasion when you were about to buy two lorries for the transporting of milk and biscuits to the schools, I did not realise then how right I was. Next day a contractor met me and said that that work was first undertaken by the Highways and Transport, but it was done so badly that they asked him to do it and he had been doing it ever since, and to his surprise they were then making a change. Now we come right back to the same thing. I am not saying that work of this nature cannot be done properly by the Department, but at this stage with the drought taking such effect this year and next year, there is going to be a number of lorry owners out of work. They are coming to me daily and asking for work and I am providing some. Only today I refused to let my man go out and allowed a lorry owner to go and break a job, and I say that Government should be doing that now at this stage of the unemployment situation in Barbados. Lorry owners are coming to me and asking that they be given some of the work from Highways and Transport and the Public Works Department, and I would go as far as to say that even if you put down some of your lorries you should do that to help the situation that is so aggravated today caused mostly by the drought. I would ask you to withdraw this now and not buy the lorries. You should shelve this and give up some of that work even if it involves the whole \$14,000, because it is a means of relieving unemployment today.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Mr. Chairman, I cannot allow that false argument to go unanswered. The hon. member talks about unemployment, but he is not really pleading a case for the unemployed; he is pleading the case of some private lorry owners who at this particular time find it difficult to get jobs. I wonder if the hon. member feels that members like him or others feel that the Government alone in an economic set-up like this is responsible for private lorry owners. Private enterprise also has a duty to see to it that the economy is so primed that these people will also find work for the lorries today. They must stop investing money abroad and try to invest in the island. I thought, Mr. Chairman, that in an economy such as ours there was the Government's sector and the private sector. What is the private sector doing? It is a false economy to argue that because we are buying lorries we are therefore throwing people out of work. Are we to stop employing people on these lorries as well? Don't we have to look for drivers and hands? The money we save by using our own lorries we could use in providing work in the same Department for people to do. We can use it in other jobs and in building tenantry roads which will provide work as well for

the unemployed people. Where is the economy he is talking about? If the hon. member wants to make a plea for private lorry owners, he can do it in a practical way; he can get his colleagues to invest more money in this island and start up businesses, instead of investing abroad, to give work to those who expect Government must do everything.

I hope the hon. member will see that I tried to be mild although it was difficult, when what he is speaking really has no logic about it at all. After all, we can provide employment for people by merely shifting sand on the beach, but surely the hon. member would hardly put that up as being a good economic measure to adopt, and in this particular instance it is in our interest to save as much money as we can, because next year is going to be a very difficult year with the drought facing us. 1.25 p.m.

He draws reference to the fact that we are supplying milk and biscuits to these places and at one time a contractor was called in. I do not think that was the fault of the Department. It so happened that all of the units in the Department of Highways and Transport did this work and when the holidays came, they were drawn into the Department; and with work galvanising the Department it found it difficult to transfer that part back to the schools. For the sake of efficiency, the Department of Education had to make its own arrangements. As I have said, these trucks were put into work during the holiday period and when the holiday period ended the Director found out that if they were put back into service in that respect there would be dislocation in the programme and that did not make for efficiency. He found out that the Public Works Department would be better able to manage the scheme.

This Government has to be financially wise; it has to be efficient and it has to save money wherever it can so that we can employ it fruitfully elsewhere as well as there are other methods to adopt to help these people to whom the Hon. member made reference.

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Chairman, the hon. member has not answered me. As regards the position today, the Hon. Minister probably does not appreciate the hardship of certain sections of the community such as the lorry owners. This might be a small bit of relief but it is for you to give relief. It is for the Government to give relief wherever it can. Of course, if you sit down and wait for somebody to give relief, you will always be following somebody.

If I were running the Government at this stage, with conditions as they are today, I would not come down here with a Resolution for \$14,000 to buy two motor lorries. I am sure that the Hon. Minister as Minister of Labour ought to know the unemployment position today. The people must have been knocking at his door asking for work. They come to me and I am sure that they go to other members and this is a way which would help relieve the position. Hon. members of the Government seem not to realise the position. They do not; else the Minister could not have answered me like that and told me "stop investing money away and bring it here."

Of course, we want capital here. I only wish that I had money outside to bring it here. I am not as wealthy as some of the Ministers; therefore, I cannot send money out of Barbados. Every penny of mine is being invested here for people here.

I do hope that when the Hon. Ministers next meet at Cabinet and are all sitting down, they would discuss this point in Cabinet and do not come down here again with a Resolution to buy rolling stock which can be provided here by the little fellow. I am serious about this matter. This is not vote catching. I am putting forward the situation to the Government as it is. I am trying to enlighten the Government on the situation. I am saying to them: "go back to your Cabinet, discuss it and see that the work is farmed out both from the Highways and Transport Department and the Public Works Department and let the local people do the job."

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Chairman, I am not replying on behalf of the Hon. Minister of Communications, but

in view of the fact that labour falls under my portfolio, I am tempted to reply to the hon. member who has just sat down. No doubt the hon. member at every opportunity he gets will play politics although he may say that it is not a question of catching votes. Nobody accuses him of catching votes. The more guilty man is the man who is not accused but who accuses himself. The hon. member says that it is not a question of playing politics. What is it? Apparently, his heart is very sympathetic towards the unemployment situation in this island and he suggests to Government that the Government instead of purchasing these lorries should farm out this work. I think the Hon. Minister has answered that and made trash and hash of it because he has made it clear that it is a question of one contractor doing the work who can buy 100 lorries and rent them out and that contractor alone would be benefitting apart from those few persons who would be working on the lorries.

Now, Sir, the Government is purchasing these lorries but is employing people to work them. Let us take a leaf out of the book of the hon. member. What has the hon. member been doing in recent years? He says he is sorry for the unemployment situation in the island and for those persons who find it difficult to get employment: yet he is making it more difficult for them because he has introduced a self-service business which has put a large number of people out of work who years ago depended on that work to earn a living. These people are now put out of employment and the buyer can go right in a store and select what he wants.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I think the Hon. Minister is going too far.

Hon. M. E. COX: I am only drawing a comparison. The position is this. While on one side of his mouth he says how sorry he is, how sympathetic he is, and how his heart bleeds for these unemployed people, on the other side, he is helping to create this unemployment. I appeal to the Chair to give me a little latitude because the hon. member is a public man and this is a public question; and I believe the Government ought to be given the privilege to defend itself against statements made or depositions put up by members at any time. I think the Government is in order to refer to any similar set of circumstances whether in private employment or not. I appeal for your tolerance. Has the hon. member tried to lower the unemployment situation by giving out similar work on contract or has he a lot of private vehicles to do his work? The hon. member does not give out that work on contract. He finds it economical to get his own vehicles and run them himself and he does not farm out this work; otherwise he would not have done that; he would have given the work out on contract. The hon. member buys all the vehicles he wants and hires people to operate them. Of course, the Government may be wrong in following him.

The hon. member has chosen the worst item to speak on this afternoon. The Government knows that the action taken in this respect is the best and the right one, and it is more in the interest of the people than what the hon. member suggested. It has to be borne in mind that these people who have been employed by the Government for the most part are not the people who will be chased out of employment after a month's notice and without a day's pay. After they have been qualified along the lines of working for a number of days per year, these people when they retire from their jobs are going to be pensioned and given gratuities which they cannot get if this work is given out on contract. It is known that contractors exploit these people. It is well known that after some of them have worked for forty years with an employer they are chased away without any reward. 1.35 p.m.

That is what we are up against now. Too many people who have given all their labour and the best of their days to these private undertakings have to go home and sit down after having given the cream of their youth to private enterprise. That is why the Government has to come in wherever possible and employ those people not only for employment's sake, but to make sure that when they can no longer

work, or when they reach the age limit they can go home and sit down on something and feed their families instead of going cap in hand on Saturday morning to buy stale bread.

That is our policy, and however much the hon'ble member may try to make it appear to the people from whom he is trying to catch votes that we are doing something wrong, we are convinced that we are doing what is right and in the interest of the same people; and I would suggest to him to do likewise.

Mr. GODDARD: That is exactly his mentality. He has got too big now.

Hon. M. E. COX: On a point of order, Sir, what does he mean by that?

Mr. GODDARD: That is not a point of order.

Hon. M. E. COX: He runs about talking foolishness all the time. What is he talking about?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: May I ask the honourable member --

Mr. GODDARD: Let me finish what I was saying. I said that he has got too big.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: May I ask the honourable member to whom he is referring?

Mr. GODDARD: He mentioned about playing politics. He can only think in those terms. If he wants to farm out jobs only to the big people that is not my view.

Hon. M. E. COX: I object to the honourable member saying that I have got too big. What does he mean?

Mr. GODDARD: He has had his say and I will have mine. He can only think in terms of giving out contracts to the big people. That is not what I believe in.

Hon. M. E. COX: On a point of order, sir --

Mr. GODDARD: I will not be interrupted all the time.

Hon. M. E. COX: You will be interrupted as long as you misinterpret me. I have not spoken of big or little contracts.

Mr. GODDARD: I did not talk about contractors at all. I say it is the small lorry owner, the man who drives his lorry himself, that needs these jobs. He thought that he had a point. Now I will answer him. Whatever he says has some political motive behind it; but that is not in his human heart. He cannot think in those terms. I am speaking of the situation as it is today. The small lorry owner, the one man who drives his own lorry, is seeking work. But the work is not there. It is getting worse and worse. Next year with the short crop he may even lose his lorry. I am saying that it is time to start to help that type of man. It is only one section of the community that he has helped. There are many more. I am pleading their cause today.

As soon as you tell the Government members something, they talk about contractors. The big contractors can put down their lorries. They have sufficient reserves to stay put. It is the little fellow who needs help, if you do not understand what I mean; the man who has a single lorry or may be two lorries and drives one himself and employs someone to drive the other. They are the ones that want these jobs.

When the honourable member makes these references to changing conditions I would like him to tell me what industry, whether the Sugar Industry or any other, is not today putting in labour saving devices. Even the Government is doing that. Can he remember the days when the roads were being repaired and freight was done by donkey carts? Twenty carts with 20 drivers were needed instead of one truck. Do you wish to go back to days of the donkey cart? I do not. That is his mentality. People are demanding modern methods and business and industry have to

move forward. I will also enlighten the honourable member because we employ more people today because it is bigger business. He would not understand those things. He was not brought up in it. That is the difficulty you get when the Government is being led by people like that. There is no proper leadership, and that is why the people will suffer. When people go to him and tell him they want work, he will tell them that he did not know that the situation was like that, or he would not have ordered those trucks. He would have farmed out the work.

If I were running the Government I would not come down for a capital sum of \$14,000 to buy two trucks when so many small people are suffering from want of work. I will repeat it on every occasion. I have replied to the honourable member and there is no more that I can say; but I do hope that on reflection the Government will see that nothing like this comes down here again while these conditions prevail. And, I repeat, the conditions are getting worse.

The Minister of Agriculture is next to the honourable member. Let him give an estimate of what next year's sugar crop is going to be, and see if the situation will be a happy one for Government, private enterprise or anyone else. We will all have to share the responsibility. Government will have to share theirs and we will share ours.

I do not want to delay the House anymore, but I hope that on reflection the Government will try in the coming season to farm out more work as long as it is done with efficiency. If that happens I will feel that I have done my duty.
1.45 p.m.

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Chairman, with reference to Head XXXII, Item 70, I have sat and listened to both sides, the Hon. Minister and the hon. junior member for Christ Church. I have looked through the Resolution and I do not see that there is anything so grievous. I have balanced both arguments and to me if the Government purchases lorries the poor man will have a job, and the hon. junior member for Christ Church is seeking out for employment for poor people also; so no matter how I look at it I can see that if the Government purchases the lorries, the poor man will get work, and if the Government does not purchase the lorries the other side will get work. (Laughter) Both are fighting for the poor man; so there is nothing to argue over in this Resolution. I think, Sir, that we have plenty more work and we should get on with it.

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, just before this passes, may I mention this in connection with the printing of this Resolution? Now there is on the extreme right hand side a column marked "Explanation" and the explanation goes as far on that page from "See Note 1 to the second page "See Note 20", and then where it should go on in the copy I have received and perhaps in the copies of hon. members after "See Note 20", there is a blank page whereas in the copy which the Clerk has there is a page which continues with explanations to "See Note 21" to "See Note 27". In other words this entire back page of certain copies before this House is blank.

I wish that you in your capacity would draw it to the attention of the Printing authority that in certain instances the copies distributed have one page absolutely blank. Perhaps, Sir, you may care to have this for your report to His Honour the Deputy Speaker, and I am sure he will take the necessary steps to try and have some proof reader take a little more interest in the Government Printery than he is obviously doing now.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I will make a note of that.

The question that Head XXXII - Highways and Transport - stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Head XXXIII - Civil Aviation - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: This supplementary provision is needed to enable payment to be made of an

increment which becomes due to one of these officers during the present financial year.

In other words, this is for the Air Traffic Control Assistant whose increment becomes due during the present year; apparently no provision has been made for it, and this Resolution seeks to correct that omission.

I beg to move that Head XXXIII - Civil Aviation-stand part.

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

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

Head XXXIV - Electrical Inspection - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: This amount, Sir, is required to pay rent for the offices occupied by the Government Electrical Engineer. The rent has been increased from \$60 to \$90 a month with effect from 1st August, 1959, and this additional amount of \$240 is required to meet this expenditure to the end of the financial year.

I beg to move that Head XXXIV - Electrical Inspection-stand part.

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

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

Head XXXIX - Statistical Service - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: This, Sir, is a revote of an amount of \$1,018 which lapsed at the end of the last financial year and also includes the new provision of \$187. The Note says: the amount to be revoted is needed to meet outstanding commitments which could not be cleared by 31st March, 1959, and the \$187 is required to pay the additional rent on a motor-driven machine which it is proposed to install in place of a hand-operated machine.

I beg to move that Head XXXIV - Statistical Service stand part.

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: I beg to second that.

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

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the Resolution for the sum of \$63,545 do now pass.

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

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Chairman, did you not postpone one Head?

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I am sorry. Mr. Chairman, I am asking leave to withdraw that motion. I forgot there was a Head that was postponed.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The Hon. Premier is asking leave to withdraw the motion and unless there be any objection, leave will be granted.

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

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Chairman, the form in which the hon. member asked for that information is not available because he wanted a break-down on the travelling allowance and information concerning incidentals. The incidentals include water-pots and things of that sort which were purchased recently for the various Departments. I have not got all the break-down with me but if the hon. member will agree to pass the Resolution now, I will promise after lunch to get the information for him.

As far as the travelling is concerned, travelling is done at the rate of approximately \$150 a month and there-

fore it would be necessary to have this additional \$800 to carry us to the end of the financial year, which is 31st March, 1960.

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Chairman, I am not objecting to passing it now. I did not want a break-down on travelling expenses; I only wanted a break-down of incidentals, but I have no objection to passing it now.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Head II - Secretariat - stand part.

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

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

1.55 p.m.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I beg to move that this Resolution for \$63,545 do now pass.

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

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

On motion of Hon. M. E. COX, seconded by Hon. D. D. GARNER, the CHAIRMAN reported the passing of one Resolution in Committee and asked leave for the Committee to sit again.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On motion of Hon. M. E. COX, seconded by Hon. D. D. GARNER, the Resolution was read a first and second time and agreed to.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It now being 2 o'clock p.m. the sitting of this House is now suspended until 2.30 o'clock. 2.00 p.m.

On Resumption,

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Deputy Speaker, there is no quorum and I ask that the Bell be rung.

The Bell was rung and a quorum was obtained.

QUESTION TIME

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER called Question Time.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: Mr. Deputy Speaker, in reply to Question No. 9/1959 asked by Your Honour, on the 21st April, 1959 the replies are as follows:-

"The Government is aware that some fishing boat owners have for various reasons failed to meet the instalments on their loans by the date due. In cases where the Ministry is satisfied that a genuine hardship exists, sympathetic consideration is given to an extension of the repayment period.

2. The Government has under examination its general fishing loans policy especially in regards to (a) size of loan (b) repayment period (c) insurance and (d) marketing facilities, with a view to remedying any defects in the existing arrangements. The Legislature will be informed of any change the Government decides to make."

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER called the first Order but the hon. junior member for Christ Church was not in his place.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The next Order is to resume debate on the passing of the following Resolution:-

Resolution re Statement of Hon. R. G. Mapp on 21st April, 1959.

On the last occasion, the Hon. Minister of Communications, Works and Housing, was speaking when Government Business was resumed.

It has been intimated that hon. members are not desirous of carrying on with Private Members' Business and if there be no objection, this House will now revert to Government Business.

There being no objection, the House reverted to Government Business.

RESUMPTION OF COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE, 1959-60 No. 19 PUBLIC PENSIONS AND GRATUITIES

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, this Resolution for the token sum of \$1 is really to get legislative sanction to what Government proposes to do as regards the appointment of officers on contract.

I think we all are acquainted with the position regarding employment of professional staff, and I am not thinking of professional staff such as the Medical Staff at the General Hospital alone but as regards other professional staff such as engineers and other people who are professionally occupied and whose services Government finds it difficult to obtain.

Briefly, this is a scheme - and it is a scheme which is being done in the other islands and other places as well - to pay 20% additional salary by way of pensions to people on contract; that is to say, if the salary offered is \$1,000, to pay 20% of that salary for periods of not less than one year to the officer on the satisfactory completion of his contract.

Hon. members are aware that very often nowadays we advertise for professional staff and nobody takes cognisance of it. We therefore propose to offer 20% additional salary to a person whom we get on contract, to one who might be willing to accept that; that is to say, if the post carries with it a salary of \$1,000 we propose to offer \$1,000 plus 20%. As I have said, that is being done in the Caribbean area as well as in Africa and in other colonies where circumstances exist which cause the particular colony not to get the professional staff they want to get. This Resolution of one dollar is to get legislative sanction to show that the Legislature agrees with this proposal.
2.35 p.m.

There is nothing more I can add, and I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Hon. M. E. COX seconded the motion.

The question was put and agreed to.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE 1959-60 No. 18 PART II - CAPITAL HEAD VIII - COMMUNICATIONS AIRPORT

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Mr. Chairman, as hon. members will see from the Addendum, this Resolution is to supplement the Capital Estimates so as to supply additional funds to complete the terminal building at Seawell Airport. We have to add these additional features which can be regarded as embellishments which will not necessarily make it more beautiful but improve it. As the Committee will see the original Estimate was \$398,000, and at the end of the financial year 1958-59 a total of \$243,815 was spent leaving a balance of \$154,185.00. An amount of \$108,000.00 was provided in the Capital Estimates in 1959-60, and a revote of the remaining balance of \$46,185 which lapsed from the provision in the 1958-59 Estimates is now required. The estimate of \$398,000 has been exceeded by approximately \$3,500 due to the carrying out of many unforeseen extra works.

The Committee will appreciate that in a major work of this nature you will have these unforeseen items cropping up from time to time. We feel that we should further improve the amenities of the building by the following:-

- (a) tiling floors to visitors' waiting areas, incoming passengers' lounge and briefing room.

At present they have a cement foundation and it is recommended that the floors should be tiled because that would make it easier for cleaning purposes and the floors will also be more lasting and easier on the eye.

- (b) a covered canopy to the incoming passengers' entrance.

I know that at some airports in the world you get airlines providing passengers with umbrellas when rain is falling. This is not provided by all airports and airline companies. We think that there should be a covered canopy so that in case of heavy rain incoming passengers will have some protection.

- (c) electric goods lift between airlines catering section and main kitchens.

It has been recommended that this will be a much cleaner method than bringing food from upstairs in the restaurant right over the hall.

- (d) aluminium awnings to outgoing passengers' lounge.

We have provided a duty free shop in that lounge, and in order to do that, part of the lounge area had to be given up. We are now providing these awnings so that we can have a covered area for seating of outgoing passengers at very low cost. The original lounge would have been bigger, but as I have said we have used part of it for an additional shop.

- (e) air-conditioning to Administration Office.

From the way in which the Administration Office is situated, it suffers from a lot of dust from passing cars, and apart from that it is very hot. We think it will add to the comfort of the staff if we had it airconditioned. That is provided for in this Supplementary Estimate.

Hon. members will see from the Addendum that Messrs. International Airadio (Caribbean) Limited who are responsible for the aeronautical telecommunication services at Seawell Airport, desire the construction of an extension to the Transmitter Building which they now occupy for the purpose of housing equipment and stores for the V.H.F. Scheme that will improve telecommunications throughout the islands. It is a valuable scheme and one that is very welcome in view of Federation. This building is owned by the Government, and we propose to build this extension at an estimated cost of \$3,740 and charge the company an economic rental for its use.

Now, Sir, these additions are not extravagant and they will add to the comfort of the building which is acknowledged on all sides to be one of the most attractive, and from the point of view of utility, one of the best in the area. People from outside have congratulated us on what is a fine building which compares favourably with others in the area from the aesthetic point of view.
2.45 p.m.

As I said these additional items and embellishments will be provided at very low cost, and I therefore have no doubt that the Committee will agree to these supplementary provisions.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Hon. L. ST.A. THORNE: I beg to second that.

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

On the motion of Hon. M. E. COX, seconded by Hon. R. G. MAPP, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported the passing of two Resolutions in Committee and Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On the separate motions of Hon. M. E. COX, seconded in each case by Hon. L. ST.A. THORNE, the Resolutions were read a first and second time and agreed to.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order No. 2 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. 20) Order, 1959".

THE CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT (GENERAL)
(AMENDMENT) (No. 20) ORDER, 1959

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: The object of this Order, Sir, is to provide an additional post of Surveyor for the Department of Highways and Transport, and the salary is \$3,528 to \$6,240.

The duties as set out of the officer are to undertake surveys of such major projects as (i) access roads to the Deep Water Harbour, (ii) river training and control, (iii) the East Coast Road and (iv) road alignment in the Scotland District Soil Conservation area.

The Addendum goes on to say that it is important that there should be no delay in the building of access roads to the Deep Water Harbour and it is planned to have the Bulk sugar installation in operation by May 1960. It has therefore been necessary to rely on the services of a temporary officer to carry out the necessary survey, but the services of such an officer are not easy to retain.

It is hoped to have the bulk sugar installation operating by the end of the crop in 1960, and therefore it is necessary and urgent that these access roads be built, and in order to build them they have to get surveyors to do the preliminary work.

After the completion of the works mentioned above there will still be sufficient work in the Department to occupy two surveyors.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

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

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order No. 3 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. 21) Order, 1959".

THE CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT (GENERAL)
(AMENDMENT) (No. 21) ORDER, 1959

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: This Order, Sir, is in connection with the Social Welfare Office.

The Addendum sets out that the present field staff of the Department is as follows:-

1 Senior District Welfare Officer	\$3,000 - \$4,392
2 District Welfare Officers	\$1,632 - \$2,880
2 Community Welfare Officers	\$1,632 - \$2,400
(temporary)	

Now, Sir, the field work of the Department has expanded with the formation of Clubs, groups, community centres and inter-club activities. With a population of nearly 1 1/4 million it is not easy, with the present number of field officers, to pay due attention to "the small-group" and render assistance to the leaders. The recent creation of a post of Sports Officer for the Department will result in further expansion in the volume of field work and increases the necessity for proper and regular supervision.

I think, Sir, that this House is very well acquainted

with the fact that recently a Sports Officer has been appointed, making an expansion of the work on the staff.

The Senior District Welfare Officer should normally supervise the work of the other field officers, but this duty cannot be adequately performed because the officer has to assist the Head of the Department with the daily administration of the Department. The administrative duties will be further increased under the new system of Local Government, the administration of Public Assistance and Children's Legislation, and new organisations such as "Youth Town".

You will see from that, Sir, that we are continuously expanding. In addition to the above-mentioned things, in a very short time we will have Public Assistance and Children's Legislation which will add to the duties of that office.

Much of the Senior District Officer's time is also taken up with voluntary organisations now that Government maintains liaison with them through the Department. The two Senior District Welfare Officers will share these duties in respect of defined areas.

In short, Sir, it means that with the addition of all these duties one Senior Welfare Officer cannot do the work properly, and we are now seeking to appoint another Senior District Welfare Officer so that the work of this Department may be carried on expeditiously.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

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

2.55 p.m.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT (GENERAL) (AMENDMENT) (NO. 22)
ORDER, 1959

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Premier: To move the passing of the following Resolution:- Resolution to approve the Order entitled "The Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) (No. 22) Order, 1959."

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, this is another Civil Establishment Order and in this case and in the next Order with which we will deal, they affect the holders of two offices, one is the Commissioner of Inland Revenue and the second is the Auditor General.

This Order itself seeks to increase the salary of the Commissioner of Inland Revenue from \$7,680 per annum to \$8,160 per annum but the explanation is intended for the two offices, that is to say, this Order (No. 22), relates to the holder of the office of the Commissioner of Inland Revenue and the next Order (No. 23) relates to the office of the Auditor General.

With the coming into being of the Local Government, the Department of Inland Revenue of which the Commissioner is head is responsible for much additional work which is to make preparation for Valuation Lists. That office was working on these Valuation Lists for some time. In fact, his predecessor who was on agreement terms was doing the work and he was paid extra for it. The present holder of the office which is permanent is carrying more responsibility and more work in so far that he has seven or eight additional members to the staff of his Department. These were added in order that the Department may carry out the work adequately. The same thing applies to the Auditor General's Department. There was an additional member added to his office so that he might adequately carry out the duties of auditing the books of Local Government and of other Departments concerned with Local Government.

I know that objection might be raised, and I believe it is an old principle to say that because additional work

and additional duties have been placed on an office it does not necessarily mean that there is the necessity for additional payment to the head of the Department. In certain circumstances I might subscribe to that myself; but in this case, with the duties of these officers and not only the additional staff but so many added to the personnel of that Department it must entail additional duties to the head of the Department and I think it is only fair that under such circumstances that such work should be rewarded.

Sir, these two Resolutions now appear before us, but while we are now dealing with one, the explanation goes for both.

I also want to take the opportunity to make this statement in connection with the Civil Service staff and payment. There is the feeling, and I think it is mere politics, that when you are dealing with professional staff, the payment of professional staff should be related to that of certain senior staff. That might have been all right in the days gone by; but with the difficulties with which one is faced today in recruiting professional staff, there has come the time when you must place professional staff in a category by itself. That is happening in the West Indies at least. I believe that in the case of professional staff it is a question of supply and demand. I do not suppose it applies to all cases, but in these days the trouble with supply is that it is always in short supply and, consequently, the demand is greater. We have to cater to these circumstances not only in Barbados but in other parts of the world, those of us who have to recruit such professional staff.

About two years ago, we created the office of Electrical Engineer of Waterworks and that office is still vacant up to today. The salary which we have offered cannot attract a suitable person and, as a result, that office is still vacant. So it goes especially in engineering and in medicine. Sometime back, we created the post of Senior Pathologist at the General Hospital and I do not believe that it is filled yet simply because the salary offered is not enough to attract suitable applicants.

As I have said just now, it is the policy of this Government to divorce from now on senior staff from professional staff and I want to make the announcement that the salary paid to professional people from now on will be divorced from that paid to the Civil Service as has been the case in the past.

Not very long ago this Committee acknowledged the policy by accepting on principle an addition to the salary of professional staff by way of 20% of the salary offered as bonus.
3.05 p.m.

I thought I would take this opportunity to make that point quite clear. We think the time has come when the salaries of professional Civil Servants should be divorced from those of non-professional Civil Servants, because on the salaries offered it is almost impossible to obtain suitable staff. We create offices and they remain unfilled for possibly two and a half or three years.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

The question was put and agreed to.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE "THE CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT (GENERAL) (AMENDMENT) (No. 23) ORDER, 1959"

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: The same explanation that I gave as regards No. 22 Order applies to this Order. In this case it referred to the Auditor General. There is nothing more I can add to that, and I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

The question was put and agreed to.

A BILL TO AMEND THE JUDICIAL AND LEGAL SERVICE COMMISSION ACT, 1956

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Again Sir, this deals with staff and in this case it applies to the Legal profession. I think hon. members are aware that recently we created the office of Crown Counsel and Crown Solicitor; and his office has been fixed. The object of this Bill is to include these two offices under the First Schedule of the Judicial and Legal Service Commission Act, 1956, so as to make it possible for recommendations for appointments to these offices to be made by the Judicial and Legal Service Commission.

As set out in the Objects and Reasons, opportunity is also being taken to delete the reference in the Schedule to the now abolished office of Public Trustee, and to include therein the office of Provost Marshal, and to provide for the future authority for the Governor to amend the said Schedule by Order.

I think it will be remembered that in creating the office of Crown Solicitor opportunity was taken to include certain other duties, as that of Public Trustee, among the duties to be performed by the Crown Solicitor.

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

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

Mr. BARROW: Mr. Deputy Speaker, for a long time now the Office of Provost Marshal has not had a substantive holder, and during the period of time since the last Provost Marshal retired, one of the senior Clerks of the Provost Marshal's Department has been doing his best to carry out the very onerous duties attached to that office to the great inconvenience of the public and to the detriment of litigants. In the first place the acting Provost Marshal is not a qualified legal person; and in the second place there is a certain amount of uncertainty existing up to today's date as to the functions which the Provost Marshal is expected to perform.

It has been a tradition in Barbados that the Provost Marshal should always be a qualified Solicitor or a qualified Barrister. As regards the office of Crown Solicitor I would like the hon. Premier to disclose to the Members of the House the precise - or I should say - the approximate remuneration of the former Crown Solicitor, including fees and including the sums which have been disbursed by members of the public who have to sign bonds when money has been borrowed from the Treasury of this island; and compare, for his own edification, if for no other useful purpose, the sum now being offered to a professional man for performing exactly the same services.

It is very important that the public should know these matters because there was grave dissatisfaction amongst the legal profession - I will not bring in members of the legal profession who hold appointments under the Crown in its right of the Government of this island - but I can certainly speak with a certain amount of authority for those members of the two branches of the profession who are still independent of either the patronage or good will of the Government of Barbados. Although the former member for St. Andrew, the former Crown Solicitor, Mr. Gill, is certainly extremely popular not only in St. Andrew, I understand, but with the members of the legal profession, I do not think that there was a single legal practitioner who was at all satisfied when the former Crown Solicitor was appointed, or satisfied that it was anything other than a political appointment. I am only voicing the opinion that has been expressed by all the members of the profession with whom I have had the advantage of speaking on this matter.

Mr. Gill was by no means the senior member of the Solicitors' branch of the profession available for appointment to that office. No regard was paid to the principle which had prevailed that the senior solicitor or senior barrister should be appointed to the office. In this particular case the senior solicitor could have been approached and

asked to accept this office. The members of the Legal profession were under the impression that this was intended not only as a matter of political expediency, but as a violation of the high principle which had up to that time been observed.

3.15 p.m.

The Deputy Registrar was also appointed at a time when it was felt that he may have had a claim to the Clerkship of this House; and although the office of Deputy Registrar had not been vacant for a very long time, and the office of Registrar had been vacant for a long time, and there were several magisterial appointments which had been vacant for a number of years, yet we had the spectacle of the Deputy Registrar being appointed just about the time when his application may have come up for consideration before this House for the vacancy which then existed as Clerk of this House.

I mention these things because I do not want the Government to feel that there are not people in Barbados who watch what is going on. It is all very well and good to pay lip service to principles of British democracy; it is all very well and good to extol the praises of the impartiality of the Civil Service; it is all very well to talk about the Separation of Powers and the Rule of Law; but if you do not set an example to the private employers in Barbados by repudiating the whole idea of political patronage for political expediency, and you abuse the trust which the taxpayers have reposed in you, the elected representatives of the people, by in the first place taking a man who is a member of the opposite political Party and making him a Crown Solicitor, and then taking another person who may cause a certain amount of disunity by his mere application for the job of Clerk of the House and removing him by giving him an appointment, you are making the whole Civil Service a political football; that is the way we look at it. You are making appointments to the Civil Service although you say you have a Judicial Committee and you have a Public Service Commission. Far too often we have seen these peculiar appointments - not that the persons themselves are unworthy of carrying out the duties in a capable manner - but when there are other considerations which might impel an impartial body to arrive at a different conclusion or assessment of the relative capabilities of the candidate, I am respectfully suggesting, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that you tend to lose the respect and confidence of the public. Here you have two judicial appointments which were certainly not consistent with the recognised principles or consistent with good reason, the exigencies of the Civil Service, or the Judiciary as such. I am sure that the gentlemen to whom I refer would not in any way accuse me of being personal because they all must smart under the embarrassment of being placed in a position which opens their appointment to criticism; and I would be failing in my duty to the members of the public if I did not take this opportunity of expressing my disapproval for the manner in which the head of the firm of Yearwood and Boyce and the President of the Law Society, being one and the same person, was overlooked, a man who is certainly revered and respected by all members of the legal profession regardless of colour or any extraneous considerations; and Mr. Rex Gill was admired by the younger members of the legal profession, if not extolled for his experience by the ones more experienced than himself, as an effable and capable solicitor. I am suggesting that the appointment was not consistent with those high principles which we accept in a Parliamentary democracy.

Now when we come to the appointment of a permanent Crown Solicitor, let me issue a word of warning; the day may come here in Barbados when we may have the Attorney General as a political appointment, and therefore we have to get our premises abundantly clear before we embark on any such excursion into the unknown. The past holder of the office of Crown Solicitor was allowed to charge a fee of \$5 for the preparation of a bond issued to any person who was borrowing money, say, for the purpose of going to England, housing loans, or matters of that kind. Now I feel that this was an unnecessary imposition on the poor people of this island for the reason that bonds answering to that description are common form. In other words, the only matter which has to be changed in a bond is the

name of the person, the consideration, and maybe one or two minor details of the time within which it should be paid, the rate of interest, and the signature at the end. In other words, if it is a two-page bond, there are probably two or three lines which would be different between one bond and another. I see no reason at all why a member of the public should not have been allowed to go to the Chief Secretary's Office - I have been advocating for a very long time that there should be a Stationery Office like Her Majesty's Stationery Office in Kingsway and other parts of the United Kingdom, Manchester, Bristol and elsewhere - and purchase a bond for the price of 12 cents, duly execute the bond and file it with the Housing Authority, with the Queen's Solicitor or with whatever Statutory Board demanding a bond of that kind.

This may sound like a ridiculous suggestion, but I am speaking now of something which has actually happened, because during the inter-regnum which is still prevailing between the retirement of the Crown Solicitor, Mr. Gill, and the appointment of the new Crown Solicitor which to the best of our knowledge, information and belief has not yet taken place, the Government of Barbados had the effrontery to offer another practising solicitor, well respected, sincere and hard-working in this island, the job of Crown Solicitor *pro tem* so that they could keep the job open until somebody else was available to come to fill this job. I do not want to call any names, but several members on the opposite side of the House are aware of whom I am speaking and to whom I refer; but whereas in one month Mr. Gill could draw \$5 from individual members of the public for each bond that was executed.... Let me put it this way; I challenge the Hon. Premier to tell me it is not true that it would not be impossible for Mr. Gill in any one month, independent of the fees he would get for conveying property over to the Deep Water Development Scheme - that is, to the Executive Committee for that purpose - or for the access roads or matters of that kind, to make \$3,000 or \$4,000 out of the Housing Board bonds alone without the Government being called upon to contribute one penny. Let the Government produce the figures.

In addition to that, Mr. Gill was allowed to continue as a partner of Messrs. Cottle Catford, a highly respected firm; then Mr. Gill would be able to draw his fees and it would not be impossible for Mr. Gill in any one month to make \$10,000 altogether out of his fees as Crown Solicitor. Now all of a sudden, for the first time in the history of Barbados that I can remember - and when I say history, history starts with the day of my birth; in matters of this kind I do not want to speak with authority for anything that may have happened before - we may get a person of colour to be Crown Solicitor in Barbados and his salary is going to be less than \$700 a month.

3.25 p.m.

Furthermore, I believe it is going to be the intention of the Government to collect this \$3,000 or \$4,000 out of fees per month and put that money into the Treasury to be spent in whatever way they think fit. I consider it to be two things: (1) a form of discrimination, and (2) a form of exploitation. It is exploitation not only of the legal profession but of members of the general public.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, the present *locum tenens* the person who is holding the office of Crown Solicitor until the appointment is made and who will not get the appointment, is being paid the princely salary of \$400 a month without any fees; and with the members of the public who are going to the present acting Crown Solicitor, you will find that he may have in one week 300 bonds to prepare. For this service, the former Crown Solicitor would have been paid \$1,500. It has actually happened within the past two months that there were 300 bonds to be prepared in one week. In one single week he has already earned his salary for three months. He had to provide the clerical assistance for the office until two or three weeks ago when they sent one typist over. He also has to provide stationery and matters of that kind. That is what I mean by exploitation. It is exploitation of people of colour because it is a perpetuation of the idea that you can pay any kind of remuneration and you can change over the whole system be-

cause you have somebody different occupying the office. Just fancy that they are only paying him - \$400 a month! I challenge the members of the Government to show me one single month in which Mr. Gill's fees were less than \$3,000.

Now, let us see what exploitation may exist in the future to the holder of this office. The salary, as I say, is less than \$700 a month for the Crown Solicitor. For that, all the work of the Deep Water Harbour would have to be done; all the conveyances for the access roads would have to be done; all the Housing Authority work will have to be done and along with that the execution of 200 or 300 bonds a week. The Housing Board has their own firm of solicitors and they need not use the services of the Crown Solicitor. I want to know how any one solicitor working for that kind of money would be able to discharge his duties with any kind of efficiency and with any confidence that he is properly remunerated for the work which he is doing.

It is true that in a place like Barbados where you have a salary or wage earner always living on the margin of a subsistence level, you may get somebody to accept the job under these conditions until he finds out what the work is. I make bold to say that no self-respecting legal practitioner who undertakes work of that kind and finds out the tremendous amount of responsibility, legal toil and research which it would take, especially at this particular phase of our development to adequately discharge the functions of the office, will hold it for any length of time and as a result the Government will be coming back to this House telling the House what it told us today, that is, they cannot get suitably qualified people to remain in the job for that kind of salary.

You are now offering to a qualified Solicitor with some kind of experience - because he cannot be one who has just qualified - a salary which is only a minute percentage of that formerly paid by way of fees and other remunerations to the former holder of the post of Crown Solicitor. I say that it is exploitation of the worst possible kind.

I say, furthermore, that having one Crown Solicitor the Government will find that in a short space of time that they need a whole establishment. They are going to find that they need not only a Crown Solicitor but also a Deputy Crown Solicitor and a host of legal staff, and people who understand about the drafting of conveyances to assist the Crown Solicitor in his work.

It is only to be regretted that it is a matter of public and general knowledge in Barbados that there are still political considerations behind appointments which are of a judicial nature. That is a very serious state of affairs. I have done it before and I will do it again. I have done it with Mr. Jordan at the Fishery Office. Whenever I have been informed by members of the Government that Government intends to set up a particular office I have written the name of the person whom the Government has in mind to fill the office and handed it to my colleagues on this side of the House. I can do it today and although no official appointment has yet been made, everybody in Barbados knows the wishes of the Hon. Premier on the matter. Everybody knows that the Clerk of this House has no chance of getting the job. Everybody knows that the Deputy Clerk has no chance of getting the job, no matter how efficient they are. The hon. junior member for St. Joseph can probably do the same thing as I have done, that is to say, to write out the name of the person to whom it is arranged that the job should be given, so that when they are going through this pantomime of having a Judicial Appointments Committee of the Public Service Commission to go through the antics of selection - that is all it is, because if it were not antics, the appointment would have been made a month ago and they would not call upon a private Solicitor to hold on for such a period as would put the appointee in a position that he would be ready and willing to take up the job. Sir, that is the position which we have reached in Barbados. I am talking about the principle.

I think no doubt that if in certain circumstances everyone applied on the same footing, the person who may be

appointed may possibly be found to be the most suitable qualified person for the job. I do not intend any remarks which I make to serve as a personal reflection on Mr. Gill who held the post up to a couple of months ago or to be any reflection on the particular Solicitor whom we know on this side is going to get the job and whom the hon. junior member for St. Michael over on the other side knows is going to be appointed.
3.35 p.m.

Mr. BRYAN: I heard some reference made about my knowledge of who will be appointed to the post. I want to let the Committee know that I know nothing about it.

Mr. BARROW: As in so many other things, the hon. member professes ignorance. I withdraw any reflection which I may have cast on the hon. member imputing knowledge of this particular matter to him.

Now, Sir, I only want to say that I do not intend that any thing I should say should be a reflection on anyone who has held the post or may hold it. I only want to bring to the light of public scrutiny the fact that we have in Barbados a Public Service Commission and we have a Judicial Appointments Committee, and that in a large majority of the cases where vacancies occur, members of the public like the Leader of the Opposition, my colleague, or myself, or other members of the public who take sufficient interest in these matters can know long in advance before the post is even advertised who is the person most likely to be appointed, when perhaps there are people overseas better qualified and there are people within the island who may have as good a claim but who will not be considered at all.

I want to make it clear that that is the principle I am fighting against. Very often these persons are my personal friends. I want to go so far as to say that in some instances they may have been members of my family; but if I were in the position in which the Premier now finds himself, there is not one person in Barbados who could sit down and say that the Premier has decided that So and So is to get a job and that he will get it, as myself and my learned friend have heard done.

I want to make it absolutely clear that there is no question of personalities at all. It would be hypocrisy for any of them over there on that side to get up and voice any sentiment that what I am saying here today is not true. We know what happened when the Clerkship of this House came up. The Registrar's job has been open for a long time, and the present Registrar who was eminently qualified had been acting with distinction for an equally long time; but no appointment was made then. The opposition had to be liquidated and therefore we had to have a Deputy Registrar. That is not satisfactory. It could only lead to distrust and loss of confidence in the Public Service Commission, and you will find that that body will be made the target for criticism for the manner in which its functions have been performed.

I have in my possession now a letter from the former Chief Secretary of Barbados, Mr. Turner. When the Public Service Commission was first set up I voiced misgivings that attaching the Public Service Commission to the Chief Secretary's Office would be merely changing the name because of the influence which the Chief Secretary and the Personnel Officer exercise over appointments in the Government Service. Mr. Turner wrote me a letter to the effect that he would like to assure me that the Chief Secretary would have no intention of muzzling opinion of the Public Service Commission or in any way prejudicing their decisions; but that the reason for placing one of the Chief Secretary's Clerks as Clerk of the Public Service Commission was purely a question of administrative convenience. When I received that letter I did not worry to reply to Mr. Turner. I am not in the habit of replying to Government Officials anyhow. I spoke with him afterwards and I told him that although he might exhibit all those lofty ideals he had not sufficient experience with the Barbados Civil Service as to know what was likely to happen.

Today we have now progressed and everyone knows that the Civil Service has been dissatisfied with the decisions of the Commission and have actually made representations to the Governor to have a member removed. We know that Mr. Campbell who had been formerly a member of the Secretariat - but I do not want to go too far into that. I found that certain schemes of training for Civil Servants had not seen the light of Government House, far less the light of day; and those were schemes for which I was responsible for, talking with Directors of Training on behalf of the Secretariat down here. You will remember Sir, that during the tenure of office of Sir Alfred Savage I tabled certain questions about training schemes for Civil Servants. It took three years before they got answered, and then they were only answered by referring me to a report on training brought out a few weeks before.

Now there are a lot of things in Barbados that need saying, no matter whom it offends. They have got to be said and I am not afraid to say them. I do not care whose enmity I incur. As far as the people on the other side are concerned, they can only rant and rave. There are people seeking advantages to the detriment of other people, and members over there also know that that is true. 3.45 p.m.

What I would like from the Premier is an honest and straightforward answer when he gets up to speak whether it is true or not that members of the public had to pay \$5 to the former Crown Solicitor to get a bond. If you have to rake up \$312 to get to England and then have £10 or £15 as money to tide you over during such period as you may be looking for employment in the United Kingdom, then you have to borrow money from the Government, and then your father or grandmother may have to mortgage a chattel house or sell a cow to enable you to get warm clothing to go to England, do you think that for a form that should cost 6 cents at the most, a member of the public should be made to pay \$5? The proof of the pudding is always in the eating.

I will give a final disclosure that since the Solicitor who is now acting in the job has discovered that he gets no remuneration for preparing these bonds and that it will take him at least fifteen typists working all day to prepare the number of bonds which are required by the members of the public, all he has done is to send up to the Government Printer, Mr. Gittens, and ask him to send him down a couple of thousands of the bonds printed in a form which he sent up to Mr. Gittens; so necessity is now the mother of invention. The bonds are now printed for the past weeks by the Government Printery, but that could not be done all the time.

I am sure that Mr. Gill is the last person who would need any bribe for anything, but so important did they think it to keep Mr. Gill out of running in St. Andrew in 1956 that they made a small-man industry by allowing the public to pay \$5 for a bond which is now printed at the Government Printery. How can you answer that? How can you justify the imposition of \$5 when the bond is now printed at the Government Printery? There is no legal technicality in a bond. The preparation of an initial bond may be technical, but after that it is merely a question of copying just like a conveyance for a spot of land. This is slightly off the track, but we still have doctors working for \$10,000 in fees using hospital beds, and I challenge the Minister of Social Services to say that is not true in a community like Barbados. Isn't that a form of exploitation knowing that it is not for private practice but mere operation fees? You can have doctors working for \$10,000, and similarly the comparison is that the Crown Solicitor is now in the same position as those doctors at the hospital who can work for that kind of money.

I do not grudge any person working for money, Sir; I am sure that you do not; but why at the expense and exploitation of the masses of the country? The human stomach has a limited capacity; no matter how wealthy you are, more than four square meals a day - and most of us do not get more than one - would not really be salutary for the body, and a person who ate more than four

square meals a day would not live very long; so the basic meals of the human being are governed by a limitation of your size and a limitation on the average size of a human being and matters of that kind. You cannot eat \$10,000 of food in a month, I do not care how you try, or wear \$10,000 in clothes.

Here we have on the one side of the picture a professional man being allowed to draw unlimited fees, and another professional man, now that the job is being made whole-time, being allowed to draw a salary which is only equivalent to less than one-fifth or one-eighth of the emoluments accruing to the former holder of the office. These are matters which I consider with a sense of proportion; and if you are now asking a professional man to undertake the same duties, I hope that, no matter who the person appointed, the Government will see fit to provide him with adequate staff and to pay him a proper salary commensurate with the tremendous amount of work which is waiting there to be done, and no one can deny that at all. All these access roads have to be done. That is enough work to keep a firm of Solicitors working for a whole year without taking part in any other section of legal activities.

I now understand, Sir, that the duties of the Provost Marshal's office will now be turned over to the Crown Solicitor as well. Well, Sir, you know a little while ago the Government of the United Kingdom got a shock when Mr. Justice Devlin, a High Court judge, published a Report on Kenya which was directly contrary to all the pious declarations which had been made by the Governor of Kenya and by the Secretary of State himself, Mr. Lennox Boyd, who appointed the Commission.

I notice that the Objects and Reasons Clause of this Bill states that the object of the Bill is to provide for the inclusion in the First Schedule to the Judicial and Legal Service Commission Act, 1956, of the newly created offices of Crown Counsel and Crown Solicitor in order that recommendations for appointments to those offices may be made by the Judicial and Legal Service Commission. That is the object of the Bill which we are now debating which means that the appointments are not made already, and I feel that the only way that the Government can receive a slap in the face is for the Judicial and Legal Service Commission to make an appointment which would cause consternation among the ranks. In the same way they set up a Judicial Service Commission and expect them to rubber-stamp the appointees of the Government, I hope that the Judicial Service Commission will have the courage to act in as impartial and unbiased a way as the Devlin Commission acted in relation to the unfortunate colony of Kenya. That is all I have to say at the moment. These things have to be said, and the sooner they are said the better for this island.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I seldom ever take any notice of the diatribes that fall from the lips of the hon. member, and I certainly would not on this occasion except for the fact that he is trying to impress this House with certain things which he knows are untrue. That is the pathetic part about it. 3.55 p.m.

The hon. member knows that we over here have nothing to do with appointments, yet he is trying to make this House believe that I have something to do with appointments. He knows that is not true.

The hon. member talks about the political appointment of Mr. Gill and of elected members making certain appointments. We had nothing at all to do with appointments. As a matter of fact, we had no authority and we have no authority now. Ours is a question of policy. When Mr. Gill was appointed Queen's Solicitor, he was appointed as a part-time man and he was paid by fees; he got no salary. The person who has now taken up the job is still a part-time man.

The hon. member talks about discrimination on the basis of colour. The gentleman who is doing the work now is one who started to do the job when I was not here. Only since I came back I found him doing it. I do not know what

he gets; but whatever he gets, he agreed to do it for that. It was put to him; nobody called him and held a pistol at his neck and told him: "Do it or else...." Of his own free will he took it. That is the information given this House.

I am sorry that I cannot say all I think about the hon. member. I think Your Honour knows what I think about him and what the general public thinks about him, but these psychopaths always cause trouble.

Mr. BARROW: I do not know if the hon. member is expressing a medical opinion because I have never had the misfortune to go to him. He has never examined me and he is not in a position to say whether I am a psychopath or not. I have never visited him in a medical capacity and I do not intend to do so if I were dying and he was the last doctor. I am objecting to his calling me a psychopath.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The hon. member is objecting to the word "psychopath."

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I am not aware that the word "psychopath" is an unparliamentary word. You meet the word in medicine and even in a layman's reading. The hon. member said that I have never examined him. But you do not have to examine a man to find out what a man is.

Mr. BARROW: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I am taking objection to the word "psychopath." The hon. member is not setting an example. I do not want to get involved in any mud-slinging but if he uses terms like that, he should back it up with what little medical knowledge he has. I am asking the hon. member to withdraw that word.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: As I have said, I am not aware that it is unparliamentary; but if the hon. member seems to think it is, I withdraw it. I continue to say what I was saying at first. Now, with regard to the gentleman whom I believe has applied, let me say that the substantive job was advertised recently both in and out of the island. I understand that only one person has applied. The hon. member has given the House the impression that the Clerk and Deputy Clerk were probable applicants. That is the impression I got and he went on to say that they had no chance of getting it. As I have said, I am reliably informed that there was only one applicant and the applicant is neither one of those gentlemen.

Sir, I really rose to remove from the House any thought as a result of the ramblings of the hon. member that any member on this side had anything to do with appointments in general and as regards this appointment in particular. As a matter of fact, the hon. member is libelling and slandering members of his profession when he talks about any member of this Government being able to influence a decision dealing with men of the law. I believe the Attorney General and the Chief Justice are amongst others who take part in these appointments and who am I to go and try to influence the opinion of these gentlemen as to who is capable or not capable of performing the duties of this office? Sir, if there were not some reference to me as regards appointments, I would never have replied.

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

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

4.05 p.m.

Clauses 1 to 3 inclusive were called and passed.

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

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On the motion of Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS seconded by Hon. M. E. COX the Bill was read a third time and passed.

RESOLUTION TO REMOVE STIPULATION ON GRANT TO TOURIST BOARD

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Deputy Speaker, in moving the passing of this Resolution hon. members will remember that on the 30th July, 1958, the House agreed to a Resolution that the sum of \$114,000 be paid to the Tourist Board. In the addendum to that Resolution it was pointed out that it was the intention of the Government to subscribe annually a sum of \$150,000 to the Board and another \$50,000 on a dollar for dollar basis. In the 1959 Estimates the sum of \$200,000 was provided. Perhaps I should say at this stage that the Board was never able to raise as much as \$50,000 and as a result it was never given the \$50,000 provided. I think the Board raised approximately \$10,000 and so it was given \$10,000 from the \$50,000 which was provided.

In the Estimates of 1959, as I was saying, a similar sum was provided; but since then the Board has represented to the Government the difficulty it encountered in collecting funds. The Government, in the light of representation made by the Board and also in the light of the practice or system which obtains in other countries including Jamaica and the Bahamas, has decided to waive the stipulation which requires or provides for the \$50,000 grant on a dollar for dollar basis.

We have had a good lot of information and discussions on this matter and the House will remember that quite recently the Chairman of the Tourist Board in Jamaica, the Honourable Abe Issa, visited this island and we had various discussions. Although the dollar for dollar system used to obtain in Jamaica some years ago, it has been completely abandoned and the Jamaica Government makes out-and-out grants to their Tourist Board. The Tourist Board in Jamaica, the Bahamas and other places have no longer to put up funds on a dollar for dollar basis in order to obtain a grant from the Government on the same basis.

We in this country, Sir, have been convinced in recent years that the tourist industry is more or less an industry which should be supported. We have found from the Report of Professor Arthur Lewis and the recommendations in that Report about Jamaica that tourism is the largest industry after agriculture on which you can depend for employment. This Government, like some of the other Governments—although I must confess that we have only decided in recent years to give the support we are giving now, and for obvious reasons which I need not mention at this stage, but if necessary I will not hesitate to mention—this Government has come to the conclusion that we should support tourism in order to provide employment for our ever growing population.

So in order to allow the Board an opportunity to further expand and meet the cost of promoting tourism, the Government has agreed to waive the stipulation and to give the Board \$200,000 outright which was provided in the 1959-60 Estimates.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Hon. L. S. A. THORNE: I beg to second that.
The question was put and agreed to.

BILL TO AMEND THE LIQUOR LICENCES ACT, 1957

Hon. M. E. COX: This Order Sir, is a Bill to amend the Liquor Licences Act, 1957. It has three minor amendments. The reason for the first one will be seen from paragraph 1 of the "Objects and Reasons". It has been drawn to our attention that Section 4(2) of the Act enacts that a general whole-sale licence shall authorise the licensee to import intoxicating liquor or to sell the same in bond

or for export or under certain conditions. Inasmuch as, so far as the importation of intoxicating liquor is concerned, this merely authorises the doing of something which is not otherwise forbidden and inasmuch as no penalty is provided in the Act for the importation of intoxicating liquor without a general wholesale licence, the authority to import intoxicating liquor afforded by the licence serves no purpose. Consequently clause 2 of the Bill amends section 4(2) of the Act to limit the scope of the licence to the sale of intoxicating liquor.
4.15 p.m.

That is the provision in the Section, and the Hon. Attorney General has pointed out to us that in view of the fact that there is no penalty provided in the Act, that Section is of no value and therefore it should be deleted. This is what he says:

"Inasmuch as, so far as importation of intoxicating liquor is concerned, this merely authorises the doing of something which is not otherwise forbidden and inasmuch as no penalty is provided in the Act for the importation of intoxicating liquor without a general wholesale licence, the authority to import intoxicating liquor afforded by the licence serves no purpose."

Consequently it is suggested that that part of it should be deleted.

In Clause 2 provision is made whereby the Barbados Fire Brigade should have the same facilities as the Barbados Police Force as well as the Regiment. This is what the paragraph says:-

"Clause 9 of the Bill amends paragraph (f) of Section 94 of the Act to put the mess and the canteen of the Fire Brigade on the same footing in respect of the sale and supply of intoxicating liquor as the messes and canteens of the Barbados Regiment and the Barbados Police Force. It also amends the same Section to permit the sale and export by a distiller or brewer of the spirits and malt liquor brewed by him."

The other amendments, as you will see, are consequential.

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

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: I beg to second that.

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

On the motion of Hon. M. E. COX, seconded by Hon. L. ST.A. THORNE, Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER left the Chair and the House went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. BRYAN being in the Chair.

Clauses 1 to 10 inclusive were called and passed.

On the motion of Hon. M. E. COX, seconded by Hon. L. ST.A. THORNE, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported the passing of the Bill in Committee, and Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

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

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order No. 9 stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Agriculture to move the second reading of a Bill to amend the Sugar Industry (Rehabilitation, Labour Welfare and Irrigation) Act, 1953.

SUGAR INDUSTRY (REHABILITATION, LABOUR WELFARE AND IRRIGATION) (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1959

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am asking leave to deal with this Bill in the absence of the Minister of Agriculture.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Hon. Minister is asking leave to deal with this Bill in the absence of the Minister of Agriculture, and unless there be any objection, leave will be granted.

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

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Deputy Speaker, this is simple as members will see. It only seeks to amend the Sugar Industry (Rehabilitation, Labour Welfare and Irrigation) Act, 1953. In that Act, it is stipulated that one of the members of this Board must be a member of the Executive Committee. Since under Ministerial Government we have agreed that Ministers should not be members of a Board, this Bill seeks to make that amendment so as to give the Governor-in-Executive Committee power to appoint members. As usual there will be five members of the Board; we are not adding or subtracting, but merely amending the Act to remove that part which lays it down that one member at least must be a member of the Executive Committee. That is all to the amendment to this Bill, and with those few remarks, I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: I beg to second that.

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

On the motion of Hon. M. E. COX, seconded by Hon. L. ST.A. THORNE, Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER left the Chair and the House went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. BRYAN being in the Chair.

Clauses 1 and 2 were called and passed.

On the motion of Hon. M. E. COX, seconded by Hon. L. ST.A. THORNE, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported the passing of the Bill in Committee and Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

4.25 p.m.

On motion of Hon. M. E. COX, seconded by Hon. L. ST.A. THORNE, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

RESOLUTION TO REVISE RATES OF POSTAGE FOR AIRMAIL

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Communications, Works and Housing: To move the passing of the following Resolution:- Resolution to revise the rates of postage for air mail.

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am asking leave to deal with this Item which stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Communications, Works and Housing.

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

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Deputy Speaker, this is a simple Resolution to approve postage rates for air mail packets. The Resolution reads as follows:-

"Resolved that with effect from the first day of February, 1960, the air mail postage on letters, postcards, air letter forms and printed matter to the destination set out in Column 1 of the Schedule hereto shall be at the rate set out immediately opposite such destination in Columns 2, 3, 4, and 5 thereof."

The rates are all set out in the Resolution and with these few remarks, I beg to move that the Resolution do now pass.

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: I beg to second that.

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

RESOLUTION TO REVISE RATES OF POSTAGE FOR SURFACE MAIL

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Communications, Works and Housing:- To move the passing of the following Resolution:- Resolution to revise the rates of postage for surface mail.

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am asking leave to deal with this Resolution which stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Communications, Works and Housing.

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

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Deputy Speaker, this is a similar Resolution. As you will see from the Addendum, this deals with surface mails. The Addendum reads as follows:-

"In consequence of agreements reached at the Postal Union Convention, Ottawa, 1957, it is necessary to increase postage rates to foreign countries in order that this Government can meet its obligations as a member of the Union. This Resolution makes provision for an increase in foreign rates to the minimum permissible under the Convention.

Although the Empire rates are not controlled by the Convention, it is usual to adjust these to the foreign level. An increase of one cent on the letter rate compares favourably with the increase of four cents on the foreign letter rate."

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: I beg to second that.

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I can quite agree that in respect of the agreement of the Postal Union Convention we are bound and, therefore, to increase the postage rates to foreign countries is unavoidable under the circumstances; but as the Addendum itself points out, the Empire rates are not controlled by the Convention. Therefore, I do not see the justification of what he described as the adjustment which is another way of saying, to increase these rates. The increase of one cent is in my submission unjustified when the only ground urged is that an increase of one cent on the letter rate compares favourably with the increase of four cents on the foreign letter rate.

If we are not bound by convention or other necessity to increase the Empire rates now when we have so many Barbadians with whom we are in correspondence in Canada and the United Kingdom, why should we for no reason other than to say "it is usual to adjust these to the foreign level" place this unnecessary hardship on poor people to whom a cent means something although it may not mean anything to other people not in their position. Why should we at this time when there is such large correspondence between this island and the United Kingdom where they are so many Barbadians as well as in Canada seek to increase the Empire rates? It may be argued that there are so many abroad that this would mean an appreciable sum to the general revenue of the island. Small though the amount of one cent may appear, to the numerous poor individuals who are corresponding with their relatives and with their friends in the United Kingdom, it means something; therefore, I do not see the reason why we should make this increase simply on the ground that it is usual to adjust these to the foreign level. We mean the word "increase" by the use of the word "adjust". Let us face this squarely. We have no good reason for increasing the Empire letter rates which are not controlled by the Postal Union Convention by one cent. I do not see the necessity for it and I can never give it my sanction.

4.35 p.m.

Hon. M. E. COX: I would just like to say that I have been a member of this House for approximately fifteen years, and I have never heard the point raised by any other member that the hon. member has just raised. The answer to it is that this is a custom. Since the hon. member has raised it I promise him that I will take up the matter. There is nothing I can add at this stage but that we will have to comply with the former practice. We did not consider the practice a bad one or one that worked to the disadvantage of the people of this island. After all, I think you will appreciate the fact that the population is increasing considerably every year and there is need for more and more revenue because of the need for more and more social services for the workers and masses of this island.

The question that this Resolution do now pass was put and agreed to.

NOTICE OF RESOLUTION

Mr. BRANCKER: Sir at the last meeting I gave notice of a Resolution in connection with the Oral Reply to my question No. 35/1959. If I may now read the Resolution which I propose to move at our subsequent meeting of this House, I will proceed, and I wish to give notice of my intention to deal with it.

There being no objection, leave was granted.

Mr. BRANCKER: It reads as follows Sir:-

WHEREAS the House views with dismay the Oral Replies of the Honourable Minister of Finance to Question No. 35/1959;

AND WHEREAS this House is profoundly dissatisfied with the monthly salary of \$2.32 B.W.I. Currency for five days per week for performance of duties which include cleaning, dusting, sweeping entire top of floor or District "E" Court Room and Magistrate's Chambers and toilet, and laundering of towels;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House place on record its dissatisfaction as above, and urge that Government immediately review its attitude towards the remuneration hereinbefore mentioned, and take steps to ensure that this lady be adequately paid for the onerous and regular services which she so efficiently performs at District "E" St. Peter.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Thursday 24th September, 1959 at 12 o'clock noon.

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

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I understand that the purpose of this adjournment until Thursday is for us to deal with the matter of the Federation Conference that is likely to take place in the latter part of this month in Trinidad. We have received this afternoon copies of a document which states the aims and the policy of the Government of the Island in regard to this conference.

May I take this opportunity now, Sir, to say that it is not the intention of the Official Opposition to take any part in these discussions of this meeting on Thursday for the purpose of this Conference because, unlike the position in Jamaica or other unit territories, the Opposition in the Barbados Legislature has not been invited by the Government or any other source to take part in the deliberations which will be taking place in Trinidad. Therefore it will be pointless and would serve no useful purpose for us to take part in the discussions which are proposed in respect of the aims and policy of the Government which are to be debated in this Chamber on Thursday of this week.

The question that this House do now adjourn until Thursday next, 24th September, 1959, at 12 o'clock noon was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER adjourned the House accordingly.

4.45 p.m.