
THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SESSION 1960

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 26th January, 1960.

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

PRESENT

His Honour Mr. K. N. R. HUSBANDS (*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*); His Honour Mr. L. E. SMITH, J.P., (*Deputy Speaker*); Hon. R. G. MAPP, (*Minister of Communications, Works and Housing*); 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*); Mr. J. W. CORBIN, and Mr. G. E. S. STRAUGHN.

Prayers were read.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that the Minutes of the meeting held on the 19th January, 1960, have been printed and circulated amongst hon. members and unless there be any objection, these Minutes will now be taken as read and confirmed.

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

Mr. BRYAN entered the House and took his seat.

DOCUMENTS

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that I have received the following:-

Registrar's Office,
Law Courts,
Bridgetown,
Barbados.
23rd January, 1960.

Sir,

I enclose a copy of the Solicitors Examination (Amendment) Regulations, 1960. I am not aware that there is an enactment directing that they should be laid

on the Table of your Chamber but I consider it proper that you should receive a copy of the Regulations.

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
V. I. DeL. CARRINGTON
Registrar.

PAPERS LAID

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

Statement of sums of money paid over to the Accountant General by the Commissioner of Police during the quarter ended 30th September, 1959.

Also, An Account of the Transactions in Rum in the several Districts of the Island for the quarter October - December, 1959.

Also, Barbados Statistical Service - Quarterly Digest of Statistics No. 12 - December, 1959.

Also, The Public Officers Loan and Travelling Allowances (Scheduled Officers) Regulations, 1960.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Mr. Speaker, I am commanded to lay The Customs Duties (Airline Ground Equipment) Order, 1960.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Government Notices were given as follows:-

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Resolution to place the sum of \$25,160 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to supplement the Estimates 1959-60, Part I - Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1959-60, No.36 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Resolution to place the sum of \$17,594 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to supplement the Estimates 1959-60, Part II-Capital, as shown in the Supplementary Estimate 1959-60, No. 37 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Bill to amend the Transport Board Act, 1955.

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

PRIVATE MEMBERS' NOTICES

Mr. STRAUGHN: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following Address:-

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
TO
HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR

The House of Assembly desire to thank Your Excellency for the Speech delivered on the occasion of the re-opening of the Legislature for the Legislative Session 1960.

The House share the concern of Your Excellency's Government at the anticipated shortfall in this year's crop. The House also note with satisfaction the progressive measures that have been outlined in Your Excellency's Address and look forward with eagerness to the introduction of the next Five Year Plan.

The House assure Your Excellency that they will give favourable consideration and support to all legislation submitted to them and will grant all supplies that may be required of them for the implementation of Your Government's Programme during this Session.

BILL READ A FIRST TIME

On motion of Hon. R. G. MAPP, seconded by Hon. L. ST.A. THORNE, the Bill to amend the Transport Act, 1955, was read a first time.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

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

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

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

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

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

12.25 p.m.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1959-60 No. 35

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, this Resolution is a Resolution for the sum of \$119,684 to supplement the Estimates 1959-60 Part I - Current under various Heads of the Schedule and as usual these Heads will be taken separately.

HEAD II - SECRETARIAT

Head II - Secretariat - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: The need for this amount of money under this Head is answered by the fact that there has been an increase of staff, a general rise in the volume of work, and the increased use of stencils and duplicating paper which are used in the preparation of the Draft Estimates. The amount of \$1,500 is required in relation to the Item "Stationery".

Formerly the Draft Estimates were printed; and, after having passed the Estimates Committee and corrections made, they were then revised and printed. Now this work is done on stencil paper. That is one reason for the need for this supplementary provision. This money is to cover that increase. There is an amount of \$1,000 in respect of the Crown Agents in addition to \$500 for stationery. I beg to move that Head II stand part of the Schedule.

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

The question that Head II stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD VI - CUSTOMS

Head VI - Customs - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: The first Item under this Head is "Overtime". The amount required is due to an increase in the overtime rates of fees payable to the Customs Officers and the Customs Guards both at Seawell and at the Baggage Warehouse. The next Item is "Traveling". As hon. members will remember, Seawell Airport is now open 24 hours a day; there has been an increase in staff and naturally there will be an increase in traveling because of the officers having to travel from Bridgetown to the Airport. I have been informed that the revenue required is because of putting the Airport on a 24-hour basis. The revenue is expected to go up and probably equalise the expenditure.

The next Item is "Drawbacks, general". This amount is due to the in-bond sale of goods to tourists, goods on which the merchants get drawbacks after the items are certified as being sold. There is also an increase on fuel. Provision is also made for British goods arriving without the proper papers. In such a case, the general tariff is paid, but there is a refund when the appropriate certificates have been produced.

As to the next Item "Drawbacks, special" the amount of money required is to meet the importation of fuel; in fact, duty is paid on fuel used on the Deep Water Harbour and the United States Oceanographic Station. I beg to move that Head VI stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, in connection with these overtime rates paid to the Customs Officers and Customs Guards, I am wondering if the Premier would let us know what are now regarded as the maximum number of normal working hours for the Customs Guards. As you will recall, Sir, on more than one occasion in this Chamber this question has been raised both by the hon. senior member for St. Peter and myself. I would like to know how many hours they are still required to work before they become eligible for overtime rates.

Hon. M. E. COX: They work on a 44-hour-a-week basis.

Mr. BRANCKER: Well, Sir, I have the assurance from the hon. senior member for St. Michael that 44 hours are the normal working hours per week for Customs Guards; even if one is there and not actually working. I assume that everything over 44 hours a week is overtime. (Laughter)

The question that Head VI stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XIV - JUDICIARY

Head XIV - Judiciary - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, the first Item under this Head is "Witnesses' expenses". I think it is wellknown that we have quite a number of cases for the Assizes which are held three or four times a year. The Court sits for a long time and this money is required to pay the witnesses.

In addition to that, we have had an extraordinary sitting of the Assize Court this month. This Item also seeks to make provision for witnesses who have been required to attend the Court this month.

As to the Item "Interpreter," I think it will be remembered that sometime during last year there was

a case which engaged the attention of the Court, in respect of which certain witnesses were brought from Curacao. The services of the Interpreter were required, one Mr. N. N. E. Hellmund; and there were also witnesses from the S/S "Hermes" Messrs. Gomez-Parra and Koershuys for the Astwood murder trial.

I beg to move that Head XIV stand part of the Schedule.

Hon. M. E. COX: I beg to second that.
12.35 p.m.

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, I would like a little further enlightenment from the Hon. Premier in connection with this Item - a breakdown, in other words. For instance, what did it cost per head for these two witnesses who travelled by the "Hermes"? What class did each of them travel by, and what per day hotel accommodation was provided for them to bring this bill up to \$1,306? How long before the date of the trial did they arrive and how long after they gave evidence did they remain? It does seem rather a considerable amount and I would appreciate a breakdown.

Likewise, in respect of the interpreter from Curacao for whom, I think, the sum of \$1,306 is sought. Could we have the breakdown? How it is divided up in respect of actual travel, hotel accommodation, number of days in this Island, etc?

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: In connection with Mr. Hellmund who was interpreter, his passages are given here in Dutch currency; but, I think, the B.W.I. currency equivalent for those flights amounted to \$1,306.14. Air passages, hotel accommodation, etc. amounted to \$1,439.55. The balance is made up of the fee charged by Mr. Hellmund for his services in the amount of CFL. 1100.00. Some of the expenses claimed by Mr. Hellmund appeared to be quite absurd and we have informed the Royal Netherlands Steamship Company at Curacao of this.

In short, the Government is not satisfied with these charges; and through the Royal Netherlands Steamship Company, we have made representations to the people. Apparently S. P. Mussons & Sons Ltd., themselves, through whom this was done, considered the amount ridiculous, but Mr. Hellmund apparently was adamant and demanded it.

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, due to the acoustics or the microphones, I could not quite catch what the Premier said was the fee for Mr. Hellmund's services as interpreter. Perhaps he was speaking Dutch at that moment! That is why I could not quite follow what the Hon. Premier was saying.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Are you concerned over the fee?

Mr. BRANCKER: Yes.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: There is no breakdown here. I do not know if there is any fee. As set out, no arrangement for a fee was made as Mr. Hellmund was a Government Officer in Curacao. While probably no fee was made on paper, yet that is the position. He was a Government Officer in Curacao and therefore no arrangement for a fee was made.

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, I thank the hon. member for attempting to assist. It is not his fault if he does not translate Dutch as fluently as he does English or even "Bajan," but perhaps his fee might come under some Head like "Out of Pocket Expenses" or anything like that which would give us an idea.

Every now and again this question of having an interpreter in a case arises; and it is useful to find out on what sort of scale the taxpayers might be required to contribute in future. Just for verification, is this the

murder case which is popularly referred to as the Pirate Murder Trial?

Hon. M. E. COX: Yes, that would be the case.

Mr. BRANCKER: I wonder if the interpreter and those witnesses stayed at the expensive hotels in this Island, instead of at reasonably priced, comfortable, non-exorbitant guest-houses of which there are quite a few in this Island. Could the Hon. Premier tell us where these gentlemen stayed that the expenses should be so high? I do not know if any other member of this House knows who can assist the Government with that information.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I cannot find any reference here as to what hotel or guest-house at which they stayed. But if the hon. member is so seriously interested, I promise I will get the information and let him have it next time.

Mr. BRANCKER: I am grateful to the hon. member, but it is not so much the idea of knowing the hotel or guest-house at which they stayed, but on what principle the selection is made of places for people like these to stay at when the money for paying same comes out of the taxpayers. In other words, I would like to know whether he can stay at the Marine, Windsor, Miramar and then submit the bill to Government; or whether he is told: "This is a list of places with prices which we feel are reasonable and accommodation of which we are satisfied is adequate." It is just a question of principle, and whether the individuals in a case like this are allowed to choose their own place with the consequent expenditure sometimes quite unpredictable which we would be called upon to deal with in a Resolution, or whether any restrictions or limitations are placed on their choice of boarding and accommodation.

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

12.45 p.m.

HEAD XVI - PRISONS

Head XVI - Prisons - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Under this Head, there is a new item of expenditure. The old dental chair at the prison has been condemned.

I beg to move that Head XVI stand part.

Hon. F. E. MILLER: I beg to second that. We are more or less replacing a dental chair used by the Dental Surgeon owing to the fact that, in the order of things, it has outlived its usefulness. I have no doubt that hon. members of this Chamber would permit this expenditure in order to replace this bit of necessary furniture.

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

HEAD XXIII (1) DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL SERVICES

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

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, the amount of \$3,500 to be voted under this Head seeks to increase the amount already voted for visual and dental treatment. As can be seen from the note, the amount of \$12,700 was provided in the current financial year for visual and dental treatment of school children, and for ante-natal clinic patients at the Maternity Hospital and three Health Centres. This is partly due to the fact that the number of school children requiring visual and dental treatment has increased. We have recently expanded the duties of the Ophthalmologist.

I beg to move that Head XXIII (1) stand part.

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

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

HEAD XXIII (2) - GENERAL HOSPITAL

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

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, the amount of \$680 to be voted under this Head is required to supplement the item "Research". An amount of \$1,000 was included in the 1959-60 Estimates to meet the cost of temporary clerical assistance for the purpose of Clinical research. As can be seen from the note, expenditure from this Vote has not been restricted to research at the General Hospital, because during the year, clerical assistance has also been provided for research projects at the Health Centres and at the Maternity Hospital.

I beg to move that Head XXIII (2) stand part.

Hon. F. E. MILLER: In seconding this motion I will say a word or two on this matter. The sum of \$1,000 was put in the current Estimates for clinical research, and it was not restricted to work done at the General Hospital. The Mental Hospital Authorities of eleven Caribbean Islands and British Guiana met in 1959 and jointly agreed to take a census of mental patients as their contribution to the research programme being undertaken during 1960, the World Mental Health Year.

We had this request from the World Health Organisation to carry out this census so as to provide them with the necessary statistics. No doubt, the statistics will provide us with valuable information, as well as those Hospitals and interested professionals throughout the world regarding the nature, frequency and causes of mental illness. We are using a nurse to take care of these statistics. It is for that reason we require this additional amount.

The question that Head XXIII (2) stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XXIX - MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES

Head XXIX - Miscellaneous Services - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, under this Head there is the additional amount of \$1,440 to be voted to increase the amount under the Item, Public Service Commission. There is also the amount of \$9,000 required to meet the cost in connection with the visit of the Princess Royal.

In respect of the first item, the fees paid to members of the Public Service Commission have been increased recently. The Chairman now gets \$30 for a meeting and the other members get \$15. The maximum meetings for which they will be paid a month remain the same, that is four meetings per month. If they sit more than that a month, they do not get pay for more than for four sittings.

In connection with the other vote for the visit of the Princess Royal, I think this House was informed in a Message from His Excellency the Governor that we are having a visit from the Princess Royal for four days as from the 15th of next month. This amount is to meet expenses in connection with her visit, and also entertainment expenses.

I beg to move that Head XXIX stand part.

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

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, I do not think any of us is opposing this amount to be voted in connection with the visit of the Princess Royal, but I would have preferred to have heard from the Hon. Premier a breakdown of the amount. At the same time, I would counsel those who are looking after these arrangements not to repeat the mistake which I understand was made when Her Royal Highness Princess Alice passed through here last week.

This lady is on a visit to the West Indies mainly in connection with the U.C.W.I. and a function was held here to which, I understand, speaking subject to correction, the Hon. Minister of Education was not invited. I hope I was misinformed, and that he was present at the function given at Government House in connection with the visit of that Lady.

Hon. L. St.A. THORNE: Mr. Chairman, in reply I should like to inform the hon. junior member for St. Lucy that the Minister was too busily engaged in other matters, and could not see it possible to accept the invitation.

Mr. BRANCKER: I am very happy to learn that that blunder was not perpetuated. Members of the public feared that happened because they read that the list of persons invited were so-and-so, instead of it being that the list of persons who attended were so-and-so.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, I believe it is appropriate at the first meeting of the Session, so to speak, now that we are dealing with the Public Service Commission, that I should repeat some of the things which I have said in the last Session. You will remember that I also gave notice of a Resolution in connection with this matter. A few minutes ago, the Hon. Minister of Social Services said that they are carrying out a research, part of which was to go into the question of mental health. 12.55 p.m.

I hope that somebody do some research as to the mental health of the Ministers of the Government! (*Laughter.*) Mr. Chairman, if there is a need for research in human mentality, it is that need from the Leader of the Government, the Premier, back down, when it comes to matters in connection with the Public Service Commission.

The Premier has not told us today why it is that they had to increase this amount for these people, because for the Commission which you elected you passed \$2000 and \$1000 respectively. These people do not work for salaries; and you do not increase the fees for a Public Service Commission because you gave a general increase in the Government Service; you increase the fees for the Public Service Commission if the fees which you are paying these people are out of line with what might reasonably be regarded as being in relation to the time and responsibility involved in the duties which they have to perform.

Here, we do not get that idea; you say that you wish to increase the fees from \$20.00 to \$30.00 per meeting for the Chairman and from \$10.00 to \$15.00 per meeting for the other members. I would like to know why have you had to increase the fees.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: On a point of order. Mr. Chairman, I think that these amounts were passed already in this House last year. This sum is only required to implement these increases; that is all. In short, what I want to say is that the hon. member is reflecting on a vote of the House.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, that is why I say that the hon. member really wants a little research into his mental health! Does he really understand what is the meaning of a reflection on a vote of the House? A reflection on a vote of the House is when you are asking the House to reject something which has already taken place, but I am now asking for information. Is it a reflection on a vote of the House to ask why is it that this is being done?

The hon. member says that he thinks that this has been done. Well, Sir, I do not pretend that I am present in this House every time it meets, so that there is the possibility that this matter could have been passed in this House already and, therefore, this is now the rate which is being paid; but we are now voting money for this purpose and the reason for voting money for this purpose is stated in the note. If the Premier is not responsible for the note written to the Resolution, I am not responsible for it either; but the note says this:

"An amount of \$1,440 is required to meet expenses to the end of the current financial year as a result of the increase in membership of the Commission by one member, and the increase in rates payable to the Chairman and members."

I do not know if the Premier knows this; I believe that he runs the Government but he does not realise how the Government functions. It is not for this House to approve the rate which is paid to the Public Service Commission; that is settled by the Governor-in-Executive Committee. They decide that they will pay \$20.00 or \$30.00 or \$40.00 per meeting. It is just like what the Hon. Leader of the Opposition has asked. You do not decide at which hotel you will send an M.P. from the United Kingdom as against one from Tortola whether one should go to a guest house and the other to the Marine or to the St. Lawrence Hotel.

We do not know what the Premier receives when he attends a Conference; as to the amount which is put down for Conferences, we vote that; but we do not know what is spent. Therefore, there is no reflection on the vote of the House when you say that the reason why you want more money is because you have decided to give the Ministers more for travelling; but you are saying that that is a reflection because we have already voted the money.

When you have this type of indignity which the Premier has inflicted on us, it is no wonder that we have become the laughing-stock even of a little Federation. That is so because the Premier does not know the common simple elementary things relating to Parliament; he calls a privilege a reflection on a vote of the House and before he gives the information which is required, he says that it is a reflection on the vote of the House.

I say that it is a reflection on the Public Service Commission which is working on a system where a Permanent Secretary is available to a post which has been vacant for over one year, and also on incapable leadership where the Premier had to answer a simple question. The duty of the Public Service Commission is not the duty of the Cabinet.

We have passed a Civil Establishment Order creating a post of Permanent Secretary, and we have had the serious reflection where the Premier can sit down on that matter for over a year, and in a colony where you boast of education. In this island of Barbados this is the solitary place where you cannot find one man who can act in the capacity of Permanent Secretary until you make a substantive appointment! Mr. Chairman, do you want a greater reflection on the Premier than that? What is the use of passing these Civil Establishment Orders? When you pay more fees, when a Public Service Commission has worked very hard and requires more money, let us ask ourselves this question: the Premier has just asked for more power and he has got it, but to do what? To talk about a reflection on a vote of the House and not to know how to utilise power? Power in the hands of a fool is misspent. Do you put power in the hands of a child who is an imbecile? When I ask him the question about this matter he says "We are not responsible". (ASIDES) You can go into the Chair. I was saying, Sir, that we have the imbecilic situation ----

Hon. R. G. MAPP: On a point of order. Mr. Chairman, I rise to draw to your attention that the hon. member is applying such terms as "fool", "child" and "imbecile" to another member of the House. The hon. member

speaks about power in the hands of a fool, a child and an imbecile.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: If that is the construction which the hon. member has placed on it I would like to inform him that I regard that as a quotation rather than having any connection with any member of this House. (Cheers) 1.05 p.m.

Mr. WALCOTT: The hon. member who has just risen on a point of order has a reputation for being one of the most offensive people in this Assembly; so I do not mind him taking offence.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: May I suggest to the hon. senior member for St Peter that, having had a ruling from the Chair with respect to the words used, it is not necessary for you to make any reply to him! I have ruled on it and you may proceed.

Mr. WALCOTT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am really dealing with an important matter of public interest, and I do not have time to waste. The way I feel about it is this: I cannot sit in Parliament and allow a situation that is a wasting one, and one in which you are wasting time. We have people in this Island who are capable of filling ten Permanent Secretary posts. We have people in this Island who, without having the Public Service Commission to say to you that they can act, can fill these posts; and we have the spectacle of seven Ministers of Government today in Barbados, where you give five Barbados Scholarships and where we have voted the money for a Minister of Education, having one man in the person of Mr. Burton as Permanent Secretary to the Premier as his substantive post, and acting also as Permanent Secretary to the Minister of Education. Who else other than an idiot and a fool could subscribe to anything like that! And who else but an idiot or a fool could get up in defence of the indefensible and try to raise something on that? Do you think a member like the Minister of Communications and Works should get up and defend something like that? Far from being a Minister, he has no right to enjoy the things that we provide, because it is an insult to our Civil Service to have six men in Parliament and not one of them raising a finger of protest against this situation which is happening under their noses.

I have said before that the Civil Service is a weak-bellied and jelly-fish organisation; they have reached the stage of looking for plums to drop, so that they cannot take their true position as an Association and stand up for their rights. This Government sent a Resolution congratulating Mr. Hochoy who rose from the ranks of the Civil Service to be the first West Indian Governor; and Barbados, which boasts about its education, is the only territory in which you find the post of Permanent Secretary has been vacant for so long. We would not find this happening in places we laugh at - St. Kitts, Montserrat, Tortola, Nevis or Anguilla. It is the duty of the Government to say a post must be filled, and you have to find someone. Is it not a challenge to our pride and dignity that the Public Service Commission can sit on something for a year and refuse to appoint a Civil Servant?

Let me show you, Mr. Chairman, the narrowness of it, and where it is robbery. I do not agree with one man doing two jobs because he cannot do them efficiently. A Permanent Secretary's post is a top one which requires a man with a wealth of ideas, who can feed his Ministers with the sort of stuff they require. Mr. Burton cannot act in two jobs of this nature. If God had wanted one man to be two people, do you think He would have continued to make people single?

In Trade Union circles this could not happen. Far from that happening, Government must be a model employer. We criticised the idea of Mr. Secchi doing two jobs and getting two sets of money; and it was claimed that, under the Act, he had the right to it, and it was proved that he was getting more than a Minister. Through the stupidity of the Public Service Commission, one man

was getting more money as a Permanent Secretary than a Minister; so he was Mutt and Jeff. Have you ever read about Mutt and Jeff? Or the tortoise playing tennis? He was able to serve the ball from one side and run over to the other side to receive the service!

You had that situation with a Permanent Secretary getting more than the Premier, and I believe they realised this was an embarrassing situation to have a man as Permanent Secretary underneath a Minister and drawing more money than a Minister. The hon. senior member for the City does not understand his politics.

Mr. MOTTLEY: On a point of order,.....

Mr. WALCOTT: I am not giving way.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The hon. senior member for the City has risen on a point of order.

Mr. MOTTLEY: What does the hon. member mean by saying I do not understand my politics?

Mr. WALCOTT: The person doing two jobs now cannot get two salaries because you can see the situation that would arise if you gave a Permanent Secretary his full salary and half of another salary; he would still get more than a Minister. But what is ridiculous about this is that you have an army of Assistant Secretaries in the Public Service, people with that qualification and ability to do the job.

A Minister of Education was appointed on 1st September, 1958 and this is January, 1960. When the Minister of Education was appointed, a Civil Establishment Order was brought to this House creating the post of Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Education because the Ministry of Education was split from the Premier's office. How can you now tell us that today you do not require it? If that is so, are you ready to abolish the post of Permanent Secretary to the Premier? Have you abolished the post and taken it off the Civil Establishment list? You should not have a situation in which a Permanent Secretary cannot give all his time to the Minister of Education because part of his time is devoted to something else.

I do not like to embarrass people, my sense of decency would run so far that sometimes people would get blamed for something I said which has absolutely nothing to do with this situation; but I am not going to allow that to prevent me from expressing my mind. The post of Information Officer was vacant in this Island. Do you know who performed the duties of Information Officer during the interim? Mr. Burton. Mr. Burton is Jack of all trades; he was Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Education, Permanent Secretary to the Premier, and Information Officer.
1.15 p.m.

It is ridiculous that you can get this happening in a small place like this island. We appointed a Public Service Commission to stop favouritism, nepotism and corruption; but corruption can take place without your paying a man and without your passing back your hand. Corruption can be obtained by a corrupt system of Government, in that you condone something which creates inefficiency and which can only lead to discontent in the Public Service.

Can you want a more glaring example of it in that you had a situation in which the Press was afraid to carry the report of a debate in this House in the Press? The situation was that a member of the Public Service Commission was also the Leader-Writer of the Barbados Advocate. How can you run this colony on any hotch-potch basis? On top of that, you have certain people pussy-footing; and when you stand up and speak of them, people want to ostracize you. If this was for some boy in the service with what you would call the right complexion, the right social background, then you would find that he would not be kept sitting in the background.

Sir, apart from the fact that it is an insult to members of the Service by not appointing someone to act, you

are, instead of taking some civil servants and giving them \$15 or \$16 a month more, giving the Head of the Department the opportunity to show if he possesses something in him. I am opposed to this method; and if the Public Service Commission which was appointed and approved by all of us cannot speak in the right direction and allows Government to perpetuate something like this, it is to be blamed.

The Government is responsible for the creation of posts; it is the Government's responsibility to see when those posts are created that they are filled, and the Public Service Commission should be seeing to it that Government is filling them. If that were not the situation in Trinidad, do you think Mr. Solomon Hochoy who was a mere Civil Servant could have found his way at the top? I do not think that Barbados is so poorly off that it cannot find a Civil Servant to act as Permanent Secretary.

I hope, Mr. Chairman, that we will not hear, in the future, Ministers trying to defend the indefensible. If hon. members would take a look at Trinidad again, they will remember the occasion when a South African was appointed by the Public Service Commission of that colony and members of the Government said that they did not want him. The talks that are taking place at Lancaster House now should be enough indication to show them that, if you are standing on good grounds, even the more powerful must concede something to you and open the doors and allow justice to prevail.

The question that Head XXIX stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative, the Committee dividing as follows:-

AYES: Hon'bles Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS, M. E. COX, D. D. GARNER, R. G. MAPP, L. St.A. THORNE, Mrs. BOURNE, Messrs. STRAUGHN, SMITH, CORBIN, GODDARD, MOTTLEY, TUDOR and BRANCKER. - 13.

NOES: Mr. WALCOTT - 1

HEAD XXX - INLAND REVENUE

Head XXX - Inland Revenue - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, in respect of the item, Incidentals, under this Head, the amount of \$360 is required to meet the cost of repairs to a Munroe Calculating Machine which was used in this Department when they were engaged in making out the assessments for Local Government. It is also in respect of increased electricity charges as a result of air-conditioning and improved lighting facilities.

As regards the next item, Travelling Expenses, for which the sum of \$1,200 is required, it is well known that officers of that Department now have to travel all over the island in connection with Trade tax which is levied on traders.

I beg to move that Head XXX stand part.

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

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

HEAD XXXIII - CIVIL AVIATION

Head XXXIII - Civil Aviation - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: The first item under this Head - Item 16 - is for toilet requisites. The amount of \$600 is to supplement the amount which was voted under this Head. I think the House knows that we have increased the number of toilets at the Airport since the rebuilding of that Airport.

The next item is Upkeep of Vehicles for which the sum of \$200 is required to supplement the amount voted under this item. According to the Note, the maintenance

of the units of the department was heavier than was anticipated. In addition, the running costs and insurance on one tractor with runway sweeper and fork lift attachment, which was acquired recently, has to be met from this item. Supplementary provision of \$200 is therefore needed.

I think it is common knowledge that the Airport has more lights than formerly, and more lights means more electricity. There are also more telephones than formerly, some of which are for the use of concessionaires from whom revenue is collected. Supplementary provision is therefore needed to meet the increase in the monthly service charges of these items.

I beg to move that Head XXXIII stand part.

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

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

Hon. M. E. COX: I beg to move that the Resolution for the sum of \$119,684 do now pass.

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

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

1.25 p.m.

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

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On motions of Hon. M. E. COX, seconded by Hon. L. St.A. THORNE in each case, the Resolution passed in Committee of Supply was read a first and second time and agreed to.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE "THE CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT (GENERAL) (AMENDMENT) (No. 30)
ORDER, 1959."

Mr. 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. 30) Order, 1959.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker, this Resolution seeks to approve a Civil Establishment Order. The Order provides for certain staff at the Government Printery, for the replacement of one post of Stenographer by a post of Assistant Accounts Clerk and the addition of four posts as follows:- Two Varitypists, - and the salaries are set out namely, \$1,020 - 2,016; one Senior Assistant Cameraman at a salary of \$1,632 - 2,016, and one Printing Machine Operator at a salary of \$1,008 - \$1,560.

The Order also sets out that the title of the post of Stenographer was, from the very beginning, a misnomer, typing being but a small part of the duties of the Officer. The duties of the Assistant Accounts Clerk which is now required are all set out.

I think that hon. members will remember that during last year certain machines were ordered so as to take care of this overload and back-log which existed at the Government Printery. This is the staff which is now required to operate these machines. I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Speaker, there is only one thing I would like to take the opportunity of mentioning.

The Addendum, as you will observe, refers to the staff as being inadequate. I want to make this comment especially where the debates of the Legislature are concerned. What I feel is necessary in respect of the debates of the Legislature, and the Government Printer should give consideration to it and the Printing Committee would give our attention to it, is the printing of Hansard within a few days of the meeting of the House, and the sale of it at an economic price on the streets or in the stationery shops of the island. Mr. Speaker, one can never tell when history will repeat itself; and there may be no other means of reading what has taken place in the Legislature other than by the Official Hansard on sale at the shops in Bridgetown, Hometown, Speightstown, Oistins and other parts of the island.

In supporting this Resolution for this increased equipment, I would like to draw to the attention of the Hon. Minister and through him to the Government Printer, that that is the sort of thing which we would like to receive their consideration at this stage, so that, perhaps, before the end of the current Session, we should be able to obtain our Hansard readily on the streets for an economic price, say, of a nickle or a dime as the case may be, after a meeting of the House, and certainly before the next meeting of the House.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, earlier in the day I spoke on one of these Civil Establishment procedures in so far as the money vote is concerned for the Public Service Commission. This is one of those items which the Public Service Commission has to implement; that is to say, the appointment of these persons to the posts of Varitypists, Senior Assistant Cameraman and Printing Machine Operator.

I want to ask myself this question: Is the Government really in need of these people for the appointment of whom they are asking us to approve? And if they are really in need of them, what will the Government do to see that these people are appointed to these posts? That is why I say that the question of the Public Service Commission is not a matter of "Do as you please", but it is a question of "Do as you are told".

You want these people appointed and we want you to have them appointed; we are aware that these people are available. You would not have come for these people if you had not felt that you could have got them; otherwise you would have come for them by a different method. It all shows that it is the Government's responsibility, when they create posts, to see that people are appointed to them and not just put these posts in a Civil Establishment Order and leave them blank.

I hope that the Hon. Minister of Labour is aware now that, when he first introduced a Resolution in respect of the Printing Office, a Resolution of which I was in favour, I pointed out to him that the argument which he used for the Printing Office I did not agree with - that it was a saving from the point of view of the amount of money which we were spending on printing, as against what they could foresee would have been the outcome of the Printing Office.

1.35 p.m.

I told him that that would not be a sound argument because your Printing Office, as it was then, could not do the work that you were then paying that amount of money to do; so you could not balance that alongside of what you were then geared to do, when you did not know fully what you would be called upon to do and how much equipment and staff you would require. I think he can see now that even this Resolution without machinery adds approximately \$8,000 per annum more to the cost of operating the Printing Office.

I am not using that as a criticism. You have the Printery already, and I believe you should have it; but I am drawing to the Minister's attention that it may be all right to deal with something we are not aware of, but if you want something done, do not make it out too cheaply

or say that it is going to be cheap to run; because, when you realise it is there and you cannot do anything about it, you will see the true cost being revealed. I hope you will see the points that I was then raising are now very true to events.

I am not a printer, Mr. Speaker, but I believe I have enough dealings with printing matters in many phases of my work, so that I can tell them something about printing on the appropriate paper or printing something on wrong paper. I do not know if there is a shortage of newsprint, or if the manufacturers of news-print are sending out different things; but I have been receiving some papers, Mr. Speaker, for the House of Assembly, and the type of paper is so thick that I am wondering if they are really printing on soft card or paper. I do not know the cost, or if this is the cheapest type of thing that can be used - not that I think you should look for shoddy and cheap stuff - but sometimes there seems to me to be some sort of paper in between this and the one we get.

I do not like to see a waste of money, and I am wondering how expensive it is when you use this sort of thing. I want to know if you cannot use something that is good, and not this stuff because nobody is buying it. I have one Order Paper in my hand which came out when the House was opening and it was quite all right, but you have something here now that if you had too many of these in your home for a five year Session, you would have to look to rent a storeroom if you kept all these papers from the pile! I would like to know if the Government Printer is using all the economies that can be used as far as printing is concerned. I am not even dealing with something that seems more handy. I do not want to carry around a bundle of papers that are heavy, and it seems to me that in some of the printing a lighter type of paper could be used.

Mr. Speaker, I also asked in the last Session a question in connection with printing. I asked "Will the Minister state whether it is the intention of the Government to have the printing of the proposed revision of the Laws of Barbados done locally?" That was on the 11th June, 1959, and it seems to be a very difficult question to ask the Government. It is just like some of those questions you hear on the Radio when people who are not aware of what you are talking about are looking to guess the answer. When you ask a person what sort of species you would find in the North, and he takes five minutes to answer, it means that he does not know and is looking for a guess. You do not guess certain things. I do not know if Government is looking for a guess on this question, but it is a simple question.

You have a printing office which you said you were establishing for Government printing, and there could be no better example of what the Government printing office could do than by letting it do the Laws of Barbados. If Government has a Legislature and a Government printing Department, you would not have a printing office to compete with the Government office.

Mr. SPEAKER: I think the answer to that is beyond the ambit of this Resolution.

Mr. WALCOTT: That question was asked in the last Session and not repeated in this; that is why I say in so far as that question relating to printing is concerned, that the reason why it was asked is to know if you are going to make use of Government Printing in so far as what your Printing Department can do. I raised that to show that, if you are going to have these things for printing and at the same time you are endeavouring not to utilise it to the maximum, then you have a Printing Office which does not carry out the things which it should.

I raised that because I wanted to draw to the House that, when we were establishing the Printing Office, I did not subscribe to the idea that you were having a cheap Printing Office, that it was necessarily going to be cheaper than what we were voting. I thought you should have it

in order to have the convenience of having your printing done.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I am wondering whether the time is not fast approaching when Government should make, or cause to be made, a thorough survey of the needs of the Printery both as to staffing and as to equipment, and tell the House once and for all frankly and fully what it will cost the Public Treasury to set the Printery on its feet. The way in which things are being done is not entirely satisfactory, Sir, if only for the reason that this House, from time to time, is always being asked to supply things which one had taken for granted the Printery had already had. I believe it is true to say that the House, generally speaking, has been very indulgent with the Printery and has not refused it anything it has asked for whether it is staff or equipment.

I sincerely hope, Sir, that the time is fast approaching when we will know once and for all what is needed so that all the printing of Government and for the Government may be done with the utmost efficiency and speed, and that after that we shall see the Printery working as it should work without any trouble at all.

Now, Sir, there is one aspect however of the work of the Printery which puzzles me, and it is this: I join with the hon. senior member for St. Peter, who has just sat down, in questioning what appears to me to be a lack of economy in some of the work which is done particularly for this House. There must be, of course, one assumes, some good reason why a short Resolution for instance, like the one I have in my hand standing in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Lucy, my colleague, should be printed on a piece of paper with the rest of the paper almost entirely blank. I am wondering, Sir, whether this matter might not be gone into in the future, and whether in addition, things could not be so done that the utmost use is made of paper. It must cost a lot to print two lines on a single sheet of paper. There are, frequently, Resolutions standing under the name of the same hon. member given notice of on the same day; why can't they be all put down on a single sheet of paper so far as the sheets of paper and the nature of the type will allow? 1.45 p.m.

Mr. Speaker, there is another matter which does not now concern so much the members of this House or the Government itself, as the people outside of this House, and it is this: Tax Relief forms are not printed by the Government Printery but can be had from a commercial firm with some difficulty at the price of four cents. In recent days, people from my constituency, and from the Northern areas, have had cause to acquire them in order that they could send in for tax relief. They are disappointed to find that they have to pay for obtaining these forms, and more so, to find that they are not available. I can tell you, Mr. Speaker, that two persons from my constituency went to the Advocate and between them and their friends and relatives, they wanted at least fifteen of these forms; and they were told that they could only get twelve on that day. That is a serious thing; it has a lot of complications.

The Government Printery is the proper authority to provide these forms. It is unfair to ask a ratepayer to provide himself with a printed form which he would not need if his rateability and assessability were deemed by him to be reasonable. The hon. members over on the other side have had quite a lot to say about this matter; they have advised people not to pay taxes.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member is dealing with a matter affecting the Government Printery, and the hon. member must keep well within that subject matter. I see nothing like tax relief and assessment in the subject matter of this Resolution and, of course the hon. member will have ample opportunity at another time to deal with that.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I may well have strayed a little beyond the point, but the main point is that tax

relief forms should be made available from the Government Printery. After all, they are public documents just as the debates of this House.

I urge upon the Government to reconsider that matter, to make tax relief forms available to the people, to have them done at the public expense at the Government Printery so that the people may be able to acquire them free whenever they are required. I throw out the hint that they may be soon required again this year.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Mr. Speaker, there are one or two points made by some hon. member which I would like to comment on. I do not know what the answer is to the question posed by the hon. senior member for St. Peter as regards the quality of the paper. It seems thicker than usual. I can only find out what is the reason for it. I do know that the Government Printer is very careful as regards cost. There must be some very valid reason why he had to fall back on thick paper for this work.

In reply to the last hon. member who spoke, I do not know whether he is the shadow, shallow or shady Minister.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I think the hon. member knows better than that. It would need very little prompting on my part to answer him as he deserves. I do take strong objection to his reference of me as the shady Minister.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Surely the hon. member has a sense of humour! He is wearing dark shades!

Mr. SPEAKER: I, myself, regard the remarks made by the Hon. Minister of Communications, Works and Housing in reference to the hon. senior member for St. Lucy as being unpalatable. There are occasions when a little humour injected into the debate may do the House a world of good in regaining its even temper, but I cannot appreciate any remark which is intended to be facetious and may engender bad feelings in this House. I hope that hon. members may always so contain themselves that no offence will be taken by an hon. member.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Mr. Speaker, I assure the hon. member that I did not intend to be facetious. The hon. member said just now that we should get the co-operation of the Government Printer in matters as regards saving and so on, but I can tell the hon. member that the Government Printer was present at a meeting of the Printing Committee which went thoroughly into all these matters. In fact, it was on the recommendation of the Printing Committee that we came down to the House sometime ago for some money to be voted to bring in some machinery; it was the result of that that we have to get this additional staff.

The Printing Committee did a very good job. The meeting lasted for a very long time; the members of that Committee went into all the details and, actually, on the figures produced to us and the figures quoted for getting the backlog of our debates printed outside, it was shown that it was cheaper to get this additional machinery and additional staff and do that work at the Government Printery than to get that back-log printed outside. What it would cost to get those debated printed outside would be more than the capital cost of the machinery and the recurrent expenditure of staff for a few years.

The last hon. member who spoke raised another point. I will be only too pleased to look into that matter.

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

1.55 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday next

A MEMBER: We have Private Members' Business to deal with.

Hon. M. E. COX: I have discussed this question with the Leader of the Opposition (A MEMBER: He does not represent me.) Well Sir, they claim to have a Leader of the Opposition but sometimes there is no Leader of the Opposition (ASIDES). Alright Sir, if they want to carry on they can do so.

Mr. WALCOTT rose to speak.

Mr. SPEAKER: There is no motion before the House. I have to call the next Order of the Day. Is the Hon. Leader of the House prepared to go on with the next Order?

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, -

Mr. SPEAKER: There is no motion before the House.

Hon. M. E. COX: I gather that the majority of hon. members are willing to have an adjournment until next Tuesday. I therefore beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday next at 12 o'clock noon.

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

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I am not contesting the motion for the adjournment. It so happened that I was not in my place when it was appropriate for me to give notice of some Questions, and I am therefore asking leave of the House to give notice of those Questions.

QUESTIONS

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member is asking leave to give notice of Questions which he did not have the opportunity of doing earlier in the day. (ASIDES) If the hon. senior member for St. Peter is objecting to that, then let me put the question. Is the hon. member objecting?

Mr. WALCOTT: No. Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: There being no objection, leave is granted the hon. senior member for St. Lucy to give notice of the Questions.

Mr. TUDOR: The questions are as follows:-

To enquire of the Hon. Minister of Education:-

1. Will the Minister state the total number of applications made for Entrance into all the Grant-aided Schools in the current academic year?

2. Will he further state what percentage of these were unsuccessful?

To enquire of the Minister of Education:

1. Is the Minister aware of the lack of adequate accommodation for pupils and staff which exists in several of the Primary Schools of this Island?

2. Will the Minister state what provision he is making, if any, for the constant supply to these schools of benches, desks, tables and chairs?

3. Will the Minister state which schools are the worst off in these respects?

To enquire of the Minister for Education:

1. Will the Minister state whether *Economics* and *Political Science* are included in the Schemes of Study in the Grant-aided Secondary Schools in this Island?

2. If the answer is in the negative, will the Minister undertake to arrange for their inclusion as from the beginning of the next school year?

ADJOURNMENT

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

2.03 p.m.