
THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SESSION 1960

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 8th March, 1960

Pursuant to the adjournment, the House of Assembly met at 12 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. I. E. SMITH, J.P., (*Deputy Speaker*); Hon. R. G. MAPP, (*Minister of Communications Works and Housing*); Hon. F. E. MILLER, (*Minister of Social Services*); Mr. E. St.A. HOLDER; Mr. C. B. SEARLES; Hon. L. St.A. THORNE, (*Minister of Education*); 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 24th February have been printed and circulated amongst hon. members, and unless there be any objection, these Minutes will be taken as read and confirmed.

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

PAPERS LAID

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

Statement showing the amounts advanced by the Government of Barbados, and the amounts received from Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom under the provisions of the Colonial Development and Welfare Acts, for the period ended on the 31st December, 1959 in respect of Schemes sanctioned by the Legislature.

Statement showing Gross Customs and Excise Receipts for nine months ended 31st December, 1959.

Barbados Statistical Service - Selected Monthly Indicators - January 1960.

Hon. F. E. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, I am commanded to lay the following:-

Annual Report of the Director of Medical Services for the year 1955-56.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Resolution for the sum of \$1,500 to be granted from the Public Treasury and placed at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to supplement the Estimates 1959-60 Part 1 - Current as shown in the Supplementary Estimate 1959-60 No. 45 which forms the Schedule to this Resolution.

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

PRIVATE MEMBERS' NOTICES

Mr. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following Resolutions:-

WHEREAS there is an increasing demand amongst all sections of the population for secondary school education;

AND WHEREAS the inadequacy of government secondary school accommodation has led to the "mushrooming" of a number of so-called secondary schools - some of them of shockingly low standards - to the detriment of the national educational life;

BE IT RESOLVED that in order to prohibit the existence of such sub-standard schools, to protect the children of the country and to prevent them from leaving school ill-equipped to play a proper part in the development of the West Indian nation, the government should

- (1) make every effort to provide more appropriate secondary accommodation throughout the country;
- (2) initiate legislation to provide for
 - (a) the licensing of all privately-owned secondary schools;
 - (b) the introduction of minimum standards both in regard to the qualification of their staffs and their physical surroundings below which no secondary school should be allowed to operate.

Also,

WHEREAS the future of the sugar industry is uncertain and there is therefore urgent need to place every phase of its operation on the most rational basis:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Government take steps to invite the Sugar Enquiry Commission under the chairmanship of Mr. H. Carl Goldenberg, Canadian economist-

lawyer, which recently enquired into the sugar industry of Jamaica, with such excellent results for the workers and cane farmers, to undertake a most exhaustive investigation into all phases of the sugar industry in Barbados.

QUESTIONS

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Speaker, to enquire of the Hon. Minister of Health:-

1. Will the Minister state whether any measures have been adopted to protect children in the General Hospital from attack by rats?
 2. If measures are being adopted, will he state what they are, and what they cost?
- Also,

To enquire of the Hon. Minister of Health:-

1. Will the Minister state whether there are any surgery technicians employed in the General Hospital?
2. Will he further state their number, the nature of their duties, and describe the training which they have received?
3. Will he also disclose what rate of salary they receive, and whether this represents a special emolument for such responsible work?

MOTION WITHDRAWN

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the Resolution which was given notice of for \$1,500 was circulated and it was the intention of the Government to deal with it today, I ask leave to withdraw the notice of my intention to move the House into Committee at its next meeting to deal with that Resolution.

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

COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGE

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to remind the House that sometime ago, - it was new in this Session - the House had agreed to the establishment of a Committee of Privilege. So far, the personnel of that Committee has not yet been named and approved by this House.

I understand that the Hon. Leader of the House has since contacted all Parties in the House and Independents and is almost ready to name the personnel of that Committee.

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, the names of that Committee are as follows:-

The hon. junior member for St. Lucy, who is the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Brancker); the hon. senior member for St. Philip, (Mr. Crawford); the hon. junior member for Christ Church, (Mr. Goddard); the hon. senior member for St. George (Mr. Dowling); the Hon. Minister of Communications, Works and Housing (Mr. Mapp); the hon. senior member for St. Peter, (Mr. Walcott); and the Minister of Trade, Industry and Labour (Mr. Cox).

I beg to move that this Committee be appointed as a Committee of Privilege to recommend what privileges should be granted to this House.

Mr. BRANCKER: I beg to second that.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker I rise on a point of order. I have not heard Your Honour's name mentioned and perhaps Mr. Clerk, as Secretary of that Committee.

Mr. SPEAKER: That goes without saying.

The question that the Committee be appointed as a Committee of Privileges was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Mr. HOLDER TO ACT AS CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES

Hon. M. E. COX: I beg to move that the hon. senior member for St. James be appointed to act as Chairman of Committees.

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

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

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Hon. M. E. COX: I beg to move that Your Honour do now leave the Chair and the House go into Committee of Supply, and that it be an instruction to this House while in Committee to consider the Money Resolution for \$1,500 of which notice has not long ago been given.

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. HOLDER in the Chair. 12.35 p.m.

RESOLUTION POSTPONED

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I am asking leave that the consideration of the first Resolution be postponed. It is a Resolution for the sum of \$6,979,191 to meet expenditure in relation to the capital works included in the Estimates for 1960-61.

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

RESOLUTION re ISSUE OF TREASURY BILLS

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, the next Resolution is a Resolution to place the sum of \$1 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to supplement the Estimates 1959-60 Part 1 - Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimate, 1959-60 No 43, which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

Mr. Chairman, this is a token vote and procedure of this sort is nothing new to this House. In connection with the issuing of Treasury Bills under the Local Act, 1922 (1922-6), it is essential that these Bills be printed under the same security conditions as apply to currency notes. It is estimated that the cost of printing these Treasury Bills is about \$1,000 and provision will be made for this in the 1960-61 Estimates. This Resolution, so to speak, marks the approval of this House to give authorisation for borrowing sums of money not exceeding \$1 million by the issue of these Treasury Bills. I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE 1959-60 No. 45 WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' PENSIONS

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, this Resolution is one for the sum of \$1,500. It is to supplement the provision made for pensions to Widows and Orphans. The Addendum to the Resolution sets out that during the current financial year, seven additional Pensioners have been awarded pensions under the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Act, 1928, and supplementary provision of this amount of \$1,500 is required to meet the pensions commitment or to carry on the scheme until the end of the financial year. I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

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

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that you do now report the passing of two Resolutions in Committee of Supply and the postponement of one and ask leave for the Committee to sit again.

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

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

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

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

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE "THE CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT" (GENERAL) (AMENDMENT) (No. 2) ORDER, 1960

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. 2) Order, 1960".

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker, this Resolution is a Resolution which seeks to approve a Civil Establishment Order. This Resolution is mainly a change of title with regard to the Teachers of the Government Industrial Schools, both male and female. As you will see, Sir, the name of the Superintendent is now changed to "Principal" but there is no change in salary. The name of the Head Teacher is now changed to that of "Vice Principal" and again there is no change in salary. There are seven teachers and there is no change in salary there. There is one Chief Matron and School Mistress and that post will now be changed to that of "Housemistress". In this case, there is an increase of salary. There is one Assistant Chief Matron and Schoolmistress and that post is now changed to that of "Teacher"; there is not change of salary there. There were two nurses formerly and there is now to be a Matron and an Assistant Matron. There are five Overseers; there is no change in salary there, but there is a change in title to that of "Instructors". There are four female Overseers and their title will be changed to that of "Instructresses"; and there is one Long Grade Clerk. As I have pointed out, there is only a change of salary in one case, and in the other cases there are merely changes of title.

As is set out in the Addendum to the Resolution, one post is to be created and one abolished. The object in the changes to which I have referred is that the titles of the posts will fall into line with those which are used in similar institutions elsewhere. I am sorry that the Minister concerned is not here, but he went abroad last year and visited several institutions of this type in England and America, and, as a result of his journeying abroad, these changes are proposed in order to bring the titles up to date.

The posts of "Teacher" referred to in the Estimates as "Chief Matron and School Mistress" and "Assistant Chief Matron and School Mistress", are held by qualified teachers on the same salary scale. The responsibilities of the Chief Matron and School Mistress are heavier than her assistant, and on replacing the former post with a post of Housemistress, it is proposed to upgrade the salary, because, as I have said, her responsibilities are great.

As to the medical side, at present the Institution is served by one part-time Medical Officer and two Nurses. It is proposed to replace the two Nurses by one Matron and one Assistant Matron. The Matron will have the responsibility of looking after the domestic and catering arrangements of the Boys' School in addition to her nursing duties.

If any further explanation is needed, it will be given by the Minister concerned. I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I gather from the Introducer of the Resolution that this change in the title of these posts at the Reformatory Schools is consequent upon some visit abroad by the Minister for Social Services, and it does appear to me that if all that has been produced from this visit is the recommendation in the change of nomenclature, then it has been a very barren visit; of course, not uncharacteristic. The journeys by Ministers on the opposite side have never been productive of anything worth while for the advancement of the country, and therefore it is not surprising to see that in this particular instance all that has emerged from this costly trip is the change of title of some schoolmasters and schoolmistresses of the Reform Schools.

The Minister of Trade has made a number of trips - even more barren, and the other Ministers themselves have fallen more or less into the same categories; but one would expect at some time or other by the merest accident that some fundamental improvement or some important change might spring from one of these visits. If the Minister of Social Services has been to Reformatories in big countries, I hope I am not crediting him with too much aptitude to suggest that he might have been able to benefit from the things he had seen. Up to now in the year 1960 these institutions are still run on the most ancient and elementary pattern; and although this is not the appropriate time to dilate on the fundamental improvements which should be made in the institution, I hope it is not too much to hope that in the not too distant future we may hear of something more concrete and more beneficial springing from these jaunts of the Ministers.

Now in so far as the redesignation of the posts is concerned, are we to understand that in the new characterisation of the posts it is merely a question of a rose by another name? Hitherto the Chief Matron was also the school-mistress; the Chief Matron is now to be called Vice Principle and the schoolmistress is to be called House-mistress; but we assume, Mr. Speaker, that the change in characterisation does not necessarily involve any change in the respective duties, and since this is the case, there can be no objection for any attempt to bring this nomenclature more in line with what is to be found outside the country. We do hope, Mr. Speaker, that this attempt at instituting changes will not end there. I seem to have some recollection that some Minister recently went to some of these approved Boys' Schools in England like Borstal and Bernard's Homes and what not, and from the wealth of information which could have been acquired on these visits, let us hope to see in the very near future something worth while resulting and something of advantage not only to inmates of these institutions, but of value to the national life as a whole. Let us see the Ministerial benches coming up with proposals for transforming these Reform Schools from the existing patterns initiated since the days of slavery into something more in conformity with Reform Schools in the advanced countries which they have been fortunate enough to visit at public expense; so at least let us justify this expenditure. The Ministers have to realise that these jaunts are not vacation trips; we do not send them on sight seeing tours abroad; we send them in the hope, futile as it may be, of deriving some advantage - I mean from a national point of view.

Speaking for myself, Mr. Speaker, I should be ashamed to be associated with any Government that could only dream of first introducing changes purely in the names of the posts. These proposals should fall as part and parcel of more far-reaching changes; in truth and in fact, they can come after the introduction of the changes to which I have already made reference, or at least at the same time, but not before. Let us at least for the future see some change in the approach to Government Institutions like these, and when you have the opportunity to travel abroad to visit institutions run on modern lines and conducted according to advanced ideas, at least endeavour to acquaint yourself with some of these innovations, and on your return home make a similar effort

to translate them into reality within, of course, the confines prescribed by our limited circumstances.
12.55 p.m.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, the least unwelcome feature of this Civil Establishment Order is the proposal which is included in it to increase the number of teachers in Elementary and Secondary Modern Schools from 800 to 835.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. That Resolution is not now under consideration.

Mr. TUDOR: For once, I am eager to congratulate the Government that I am speaking out of turn. As usual, I am always in front of the Government.

The question that the Resolution to approve the Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) (No. 2) Order, 1960, do now pass, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

LEAVE TO POSTPONE ORDER No. 3

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker, I am asking leave to postpone Order No. 3, and to take Order No. 4, as the next Order of the Day.

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

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT (TEACHERS) (AMENDMENT) ORDER, 1960

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 (Teachers) (Amendment) Order, 1960."

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker, this Civil Establishment (Teachers) (Amendment) Order deals with the establishment of additional teachers for which the money is provided in the Estimates; but I think we should establish the additional posts before we deal with the Estimates.

This Resolution seeks to do two things. As I have said just now in the former Resolution, this Order provides for (1) the redesignation of the post of Head Teacher at the Reformatory and Industrial School and one post of Teacher referred to in the Estimates as Chief Matron and School Mistress as "Vice-Principal" and "House-mistress, respectively; and (2) an increase in the number of Teachers in Elementary and Secondary Modern Schools from 800 to 835.

I am glad to know that this latter part meets with such hearty response and approval of the hon. senior member for St. Lucy: but, if you will permit me to say, the hon. member can reserve any further comments until we come to the Estimates. Sir, you will see that consequent on the increase in the roll of pupils, we are trying to adhere to the principle of one teacher to forty pupils.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, strong as the temptation is to leave the full discussion until we deal with the Estimates, I fear I must resist it if only for the fact that what I have to say on the Estimates is rather critical of the Government's policy, and what I have to say now on this Resolution is not critical, but nevertheless still important.

I said a moment ago the least unwelcome feature of this Civil Establishment Order was the proposal to increase the number of teachers in the Elementary and Secondary Modern Schools from 800 to 835. This certainly is one of the most opportune things which Government could have done.

Only yesterday, I had the valuable opportunity of having a conversation with the Hon. Minister of Education on this and other matters, and I shall now repeat one of the points which I raised with him on this matter. I said I was very much disturbed, as no doubt other people were, with the lack of the proportion between untrained and trained teachers of this island. I pointed out to the Minister that every year the Government of Barbados employs more teachers than are turned out from Erdiston. That means in consequence that more untrained teachers enter every year into the Teaching Service of this island than trained teachers from the College. One consequence of that is clear, and it is that you can never hope at this rate to redress that balance, and as years go on, there will be more untrained teachers than trained teachers; perhaps, by 1980 the position, instead of being better, will be one thousand times worse. Therefore, the point I am making now is that it is not enough to increase the Teaching Establishment by 35 teachers in order to reduce the pupil-teacher ratio, but in addition to that, the training facilities at Erdiston College will have to be increased. You are not doing any good until the number of teachers employed every year is at least equal to the number turned out at Erdiston.

It is for the Hon. Minister of Education, of course, when he faces up to this matter, with his advisers to lay concrete plans before the House as to how he proposes to expand the training facilities. But I just issue this warning. It is not good to increase the Teaching Establishment and employ more teachers if the number exceeds the number which is turned out at the training school.

I will just add one rider to that. I realise that this whole problem of education, teacher training and all of that is probably a source of much worry to Government. The money to do all these necessary things must worry them as it would any other Government. I just want to say this. If you can turn out thirty trained teachers every year, they will be people in their late twenties or early thirties with at least twenty-five years of teaching work in them. In other words, the investment you make in training them now will reach to the next generation of school population. It is, therefore, only fair, if you think that investment in the teacher training is necessary and desirable now, you do not have to worry over all of that revenue to finance it now. You can finance it out of loans and let the parents of the next generation who are going to benefit from this teacher training pay for that. Therefore, do not strain every year and worry as to how you must pay for this because you cannot finance all your educational commitments out of the current revenue. Money for that will have to be found from other sources.

I say this in all seriousness. You will be storing up a lot of trouble for future generations if you do not keep some relationship between new teachers entering your Teaching Establishment every year and the number you are training.
1.05 p.m.

I have no reason to believe that what I am saying is new to the Minister. It is probably the sort of problem with which he is faced every day, and it is just as well that he should know that these points are agitating other people's minds as well; and that any schemes or plans which are bold, imaginative and really intended to answer the problem, he has to enunciate them and let us on this side examine them with careful scrutiny.

Hon. L. ST.A. THORNE: Mr. Speaker, I would crave your permission to make a brief reply to what the hon. member has said. It is indeed very refreshing to me to discover that there are other people, especially members of this House, who are thinking along lines similar to these which I am pursuing. With respect to the matter of Teacher-training, I could not agree with the hon. member more that it is a matter which should be a first priority; but I do not think that the principle which he has stipulated in so far as turning out a trained teacher is concerned, would meet the need. Of course, I am quite willing to admit that perhaps the hon. member has not had

the time at his disposal and the amount of knowledge of conditions which would enable him to discover that thirty odd teachers turned out annually is just what is the output at present. I want to assure the hon. member.....

Mr. TUDOR: On a point of order. Did I hear the Hon. Minister correctly? Is it thirty teachers turned out annually, or is it thirty at the end of each training period?

Hon. L. ST. A. THORNE: It is thirty turned out annually. The Training College really caters to ninety-six teachers.

Mr. TUDOR: On a point of Order. Erdiston caters not only to Barbadian students but also to students from other territories. I should like to know whether the thirty include Barbadians or whether the Hon. Minister is referring only to Barbadians. And I should also like to know whether the course is for a two-year period.

Hon. L. ST. A. THORNE: The course is a two-year course, and it caters to ninety-six teachers. That means that if forty-eight are turned out annually, sixteen are for the Windward and Leeward Islands and thirty-two for local use, so that Barbados gets thirty-two trained teachers from Erdiston at the moment. As I was saying, Sir, that does not touch but the fringe of our requirements, and we have got to be prepared to make the necessary arrangements so as to provide the suitable accommodation, staffing and so on, which would admit of our being in a position to turn out a very much greater number than thirty-two teachers. The hon. member is quite correct when he made the point that the natural increase in the school population really necessitates the recruitment of thirty-odd more teachers. What he has been saying about the possibility of the situation growing worse if we continue along the present lines is quite true; but I want to allay his fears by saying that I have thoroughly considered this matter of teacher training, and I have all my plans already made, only awaiting the time when it will be possible for me to implement them. What is more, I have decided not to wait until I can implement the whole, but I am prepared to implement any part or parts of it which are humanly possible at any period. I have truly started this implementation on the 5th August last when I introduced an induction course for recruits. That would minimise the amount of raw material which is coming into the teaching service and is being put to the most responsible task of taking charge of the teaching of children.

That is just one phase of the training which is proposed to be launched; there are two other phases, one of which will soon be launched. In short, I hope to be able to come down to this House in a few weeks from now, with the entire system or plan which I intend to implement if the House sees fit to pass it.

Mr. DOWDING: Mr. Speaker, I have been given the impression that the object of this scheme is to turn out teachers. I do not think that that is purely the object of it. I want to stress the fact that it is of no use to any generation of this island just to turn out teachers, as you would turn out motor cars, *ad. lib.* I do hope that consideration will be given to the calibre of the teachers and to the calibre of the course. I would not like to feel that our only thought is that of turning out teachers and not have them taught how to teach very carefully.

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

APPROPRIATION BILL

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Premier: To move the second reading of a Bill to grant a sum of money out of the Public Treasury and to appropriate the same for the service of the year ending on thirty-first day of March, one thousand nine hundred and sixty-one.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker, this Bill is the Appropriation Bill. For the past year or two, we

have been accustomed to deal with this Bill and to consider the Estimates while in Committee of Supply on the Bill I propose accordingly to make my Budget Speech and then adjourn for a few days in order to afford hon. members an opportunity to consider any points which they want to consider arising out of the Speech.

In moving the second reading of this Bill, Sir, as is customary we deal with the general situation from the economic point of view before proceeding in detail to consider the various Heads of the Estimates.
1.15 p.m.

Now, Sir, it will be noted that the Government this time is budgeting for a deficit of over \$1 million. That has not happened for some time. We have been fortunate since 1947 to have good crops, good rainfall, good returns and fairly good prices; unfortunately last year we have not had the advantage of a good rainfall, and consequently the return is expected to be very low. In addition to that, there is a fall in prices; and while we do not want to take a very gloomy view of the whole situation, yet we have to go about things and spend our money generally with a certain amount of restraint. It is believed, in addition to these other factors, with regard to our sugar yield that the situation in Cuba may have some adverse effect which may cause us to be even a little more cautious.

We have been told, Sir, by a gentleman of this community - and if I may call his name, it is Sir John Saint who has been associated with the sugar production and the growing of crops for many years in this country - and by others who have been living long enough, that the rainfall goes in cycles; I think we have been having a fairly good cycle from 1947, but it seems that the turn has come adversely from last year. We do not know how long this turn will last - maybe two or three years, or maybe ten years; it is anybody's guess; so we have got to watch our expenditure.

Within the last few years, Sir, I think members of this House will realise that our services have been expanding; we have been having new Departments added, and every now and again, almost every week or two this House has been budgeting for additional staff, and so our recurrent expenditure is advancing rapidly. Unfortunately our revenue still comes from one main source, that of sugar; it is still the industry on which we have to depend most. The Commonwealth Sugar Agreement has been extended to 1967; but as I said a little earlier, there has been a reduction in the negotiated price per ton from \$216.48 per ton to \$213.32 per ton, and the free market price is in the vicinity of \$129.60. As we know, last year lower prices were obtained for our fancy molasses and it is not quite certain yet what the position for fancy molasses is this year - although I did read, and I suppose hon. members did read, a few days ago that some Canadian visitor came out with the statement that he thinks that the future for fancy molasses is improving. That is what he said; but the Government is not in a position to state what the position is with fancy molasses.

With regard to sugar, Sir, last year the crop produced 170,041 tons of sugar and 4,092,406 wine gallons of fancy molasses which together were equivalent to 184,153 tons of sugar as compared with 152,847 tons in 1958. The 1960 crop is estimated by the Ministry of Agriculture at 125,000 tons.
1.25 p.m.

Well, again, we hear rumours that we cannot get that. Some say we can only get 120,000 tons and you get all sorts of speculations on it; but I think we have to be guided by our authority, and that authority is the Ministry of Agriculture which has placed it at \$125,000 tons.

There was an increase of 4 1/2% in the quantity of rum produced in 1959 as compared with that of the previous year, the figures in proof wine gallons being for 1958, 1,760,457; in 1959, 1,838,417 gallons. Rum on which duty was paid for consumption locally rose from 388,628 gallons in 1958 to 404,971 gallons in 1959.

You will remember last year when we were considering the Estimates that we raised the duty on beer because the local consumption of rum had gone down and the consumption of beer had increased. I do not know if because of that the reverse has happened but, in any case, we are glad to see the increase and we hope that the increase will continue from year to year.

I will give some figures on the quantities and values of exports of sugar and sugar products for the years 1958 and 1959. In 1958, we exported 123,597 tons of sugar and the value of that was \$26,503,980. In 1959, we exported 156,826 tons the value of which was \$31,042,845. As regards fancy molasses, the quantity exported in 1958 was 3,780,561 gallons the value of which was \$3,085,144. In 1959, we exported 3,597,521 gallons the value of which was \$2,835,939. As regards Vacuum Pan Molasses, the quantity exported in 1958 was 8,856,866 gallons the value of which was \$1,770,182, and in 1959 there was a drop to 6,249,591 gallons the value of which was \$1,312,217.

Now, we come to rum exported. In 1958, proof rum exported was 835,644 gallons the value of which was \$2,249,048, and in 1959, there was also a drop in the quantity exported to 757,404 gallons the value of which was \$2,149,676.

We also exported a little confectionery. In 1958, it was 990,314 pounds, the value of which was \$238,049, and in 1959, there was a considerable drop. It dropped to 208,914 pounds and as a result, the value was only \$76,482, as against \$238,049 for the year before.

The value of the exports of soap, margarine and lard rose from \$756,084 in 1958 to \$973,024 in 1959.

The total value of domestic exports in 1959 was \$39.7 million as compared with \$35.4 million in 1958. That is an increase in 1959 over that of 1958. The total value of our imports exceeded that of our exports by \$27.74 million as compared with \$33.25 million in 1958.

Now, Sir, let me go on and give you some figures in connection with tourism. In 1959, 30,249 tourists arrived in the Island as against 24,945 in 1958 - an increase of 5,304 as compared with one of 7,172 last year. Approximately half the number were from North America and Venezuela. The total expenditure by tourists was estimated to be over \$12 million (WI) in 1959 as compared with \$10 million the previous year. Therefore, as I have said earlier, there is an increase in the tourist trade, much to our satisfaction.

I will give you some further information, this time relative to the Post Office. Remittances from abroad through the Post Office and other channels totalled \$5.6 million (WI) in 1959 as against \$5.4 million in 1958.

Emigration to the United Kingdom again fell from 1,242 in 1958 to 1,154 in 1959, but migration to U.S.A. under the Farm Labour Programme rose from 755 in 1958 to 1,128 in 1959.

These are the latest figures in emigration and migration.

In 1959, deposits in the Government Savings Bank rose by about eight hundred thousand dollars as compared with seven hundred thousand dollars in the previous year. Savings in the commercial banks rose by over nine hundred thousand dollars.

Sir, you know our people will try to save money whenever they can, and it is very heartening and encouraging to see that they are still making an effort to put by some money for the proverbial rainy day.
1.35 p.m.

During the financial year 1959-60, 1.7 million dollars have been raised by local loans and applications covering a further amount of 1.3 million dollars have been received. That shows that the reputation of the Government still re-

mains high amongst our local people and it also shows confidence in the financial stability of the Government.

As the Estimates are prepared and presented well before the end of the financial year, it is not possible to give precise figures for the current year, but the Approved and Revised Estimates for 1960 under the principal heads of Revenue are as follows:-

Customs & Excise: Approved Estimate \$10,085,100; Revised Estimate 10,483,200. Taxation: Approved Estimate \$8,568,000; Revised Estimate \$8,867,000. Licences: Approved Estimate, \$253,805, Revised Estimate \$254,070. Fines: Approved Estimate, \$15,660, Revised Estimate \$21,050. Rents & Royalties: Approved Estimate \$68,350; Revised Estimate, \$81,133. Interest and Redemption: Approved Estimate \$84,607; Revised Estimate, \$181,542. Net Revenue from Government Commercial Undertakings: Approved Estimate \$120,108; Revised Estimate \$124,851. Revenue from Government Departments and Services: Approved Estimate, \$2,302,437; Revised Estimate \$2,543,267. Special Receipts: Approved Estimate, \$210,300; Revised Estimate \$75,320. That makes a total amount under Approved Estimates of \$21,708,367 and a Revised Estimate of \$22,631,433.

A summary of the Approved Estimates and the Revised Estimates of Current Expenditure for 1959-60 is as follows:

Governor, Secretariat, Legal, Registration, Legislature, Judiciary, Barbados Regiment and Federation: Approved Estimate \$994,426; Revised Estimate \$1,016,308. Contributions and Grants, Miscellaneous: Approved Estimate \$1,221,914; Revised Estimate, \$2,201,912. Federation: Approved Estimate, \$780,326; Revised Estimate \$815,532. Accountant General, Auditor General, Customs, Fire Brigade, Police, Ecclesiastical, Pensions, Charges of Debt, Inland Revenue, Contribution from Revenue and Statistical Service: Approved Estimate, \$5,271,521; Revised Estimate, \$5,310,843. Labour, Controls and Subsidies: Approved Estimate, \$851,599; Revised Estimate \$938,409. Markets, Science and Agriculture and Peasants' Loan Bank: Approved Estimate \$1,113,108; Revised Estimate, \$1,045,839. Prisons, Industrial Schools, Medical, Old Age Pensions and Social Welfare: Approved Estimate, \$3,669,102; Revised Estimate \$3,702,707. Harbour and Shipping, Printing Office, Lighthouses, Public Works, Highways & Transport, Civil Aviation, Electrical Inspection, Housing, Transport Services, Waterworks: Approved Estimate \$3,644,595; Revised Estimate \$3,997,681. Education, Public Library: Approved Estimate \$3,616,293; Revised Estimate \$3,641,878. That makes a total amount under Approved Estimates, \$21,162,884 and a Revised Estimate of \$22,671,109.

As you will see, the total reveals that the sum of \$1 1/2 million more was spent than was estimated. As I said earlier, our services are increasing and additional staff is requested as new Heads have been established. This reveals, as I have already said, that the sum of \$1 1/2 million more has been spent than was estimated.

I referred a little earlier to the poor crop which we expected as a result of the drought last year, and also the reduced prices; and we do know that on account of the poor crop, there will be a reduction in employment and in the amount of money in circulation, and savings will be affected; but the Government will take great care to see that we find work, as far as we possibly can, to offset the adverse effect of the poor crop on the working population.

1.45 p.m.

In short, we will have to look for more money to produce more opportunities of work to absorb the unemployment which we foresee as a result of this short crop.

At this stage, Sir, I want to refer to the Estimates for 1960-61. The estimated revenue for 1960-61 is \$21,731,078 as compared with \$21,708,367 which was the approved Estimates of 1959-60. It would be interesting at this stage to make a review over the period of years to show, as I mentioned before, how our expenditure is increasing as

well as our revenue. In 1950-51 the revenue was \$10 million, in 1951-52 it was \$13 million, in 1952-53 it was \$13 million - it was more or less steady for those two years; in 1953-54 it was \$14 million, in 1954-55 it was \$16 million, in 1955-56 it was \$17 million, in 1956-57 it was \$19 million, in 1957-58 it was \$20 million, in 1958-1959 it was \$23 million, in 1959-60 the revised Estimate was \$22,631,433, and the Estimate for 1960-61 is \$21,731,078. You will see therefore from that that ever since 1951 there has been an annual increase in the revenue with a fairly small difference between the years 1956-57 and 1957-58, and there was another increase in 1958-59; but in 1959-60 and again this year the amount of revenue has been decreasing. As I said before, we have only one main source of revenue, and naturally the effect on that must necessarily affect all the economic and social conditions existing in Barbados.

Now the Estimate for the coming year is derived from estimates of \$10,000,200 by the Customs and Excise Department, \$8,000,000 from Income Tax, and other revenue of \$3,730,878. The estimate for Customs and Excise is \$84,900 less than the Approved Estimates for 1959-60, and \$483,000 less than the revised estimates for this year. The estimate for Income Tax is \$100,000 more than the revised estimate for 1959-60, and the decrease in the Customs estimate is due to expectation of a smaller crop this year than last year; while last year's better crop should result in somewhat higher tax collections in 1960-61.

If I may refer, Sir, with your permission to a comment made in a local paper a few days ago - I think it was Sunday last - it was said that with the higher valuation of property in the island there has been an increase in income tax. I personally cannot agree with that because it is known - in fact, it is law - that the valuation of your property must be stated in the income tax returns, and if the valuation of the property is higher and your income remains the same, it must result in my opinion in less income tax collected by the Government than formerly. If the valuation of my property has increased, and I make a return on it, and if my income remains the same, then elementary arithmetic would show that the revenue as far as income tax is concerned would be less than it otherwise would be.

1.55 p.m.

Mr. TUDOR: Will the Hon. Premier just repeat that particular point which he is on now?

Mr. SPEAKER: What is the point?

Mr. TUDOR: The point is about the income tax paid on valuation of property, if that is what I gather. I could not quite hear or understand him.

Mr. SPEAKER: I hope the hon. member will have a chance of reading the Premier's Budget Speech before he speaks.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I said that if the valuation of one's property was higher than what it was formerly and if his income remains the same, then, by the simple rule of arithmetic by subtraction, the amount returnable will be less. Probably it would also place one in a lower bracket and it would certainly result, other things being equal, in a lower assessment. That was merely expressing my opinion and I made it in reply to a comment made in our local newspaper.

The other implication of the effect of increased valuation was the problem for the Commissioner of Inland Revenue. I am looking at it through the eyes of simple arithmetic. I am not an economist nor am I the Inland Revenue Commissioner but, as I have said, I look at it through the eyes of simple arithmetic of addition and subtraction.

Now, Sir, we turn to the expenditure for 1960 to 1961. The estimate of current expenditure is \$22,732,869 which is \$1,569,985 more than the approved estimate for the year 1959-60.

For the benefit of this House, I will read the annual summary of current expenditure to substantiate how rapidly the expenditure is rising.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Mr. SPEAKER: It now being 2.00 p.m. o'clock, this sitting now stands suspended until 2.30 p.m. o'clock.

The sitting now stands suspended.
2.00 p.m.

On re-assembling,

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Mr. Speaker, there being no quorum, I ask that you instruct the Clerk to ring the Bell.

The Bell was rung and a quorum obtained.

Mr. SPEAKER called Question Time.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Mr. SPEAKER: The first Order under Private Members' Business stands in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Joseph: To move the passing of the following Address: Address in Reply to His Excellency the Governor's Speech delivered on the occasion of the Opening of the Legislature.

Mr. STRAUGHN: Mr. Speaker, as the hon. junior member for Christ Church would like to deal with his Order first, I will deal with mine next.

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Speaker, I ask leave of this House that Order No. 2, of Private Members' Business may be dealt with as the first Order of the Day.

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

THE SALE OF CHRIST CHURCH GLEBE LAND BILL, 1960

Mr. SPEAKER: The first Order under Private Members' Business now stands in the name of the hon. junior member for Christ Church: Second reading of a Bill to authorise the sale of Glebe Lands in the parish of Christ Church.

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Speaker, in moving the second reading of this Bill to authorise the sale of Glebe Lands in the parish of Christ Church to the Governor-in-Executive Committee, I wish to say that this land is well-known to hon. members. This land forms part of the Boys' Foundation School and I think it is also well-known to hon. members of the House and to the Government that this is purely a formality so as to wind up transactions so that the Foundation School can acquire the land legally.
2.35 p.m.

The School has been built and much of this land has been acquired for use by the school. There are other spots of land to come in and I am anxious that the entire lot should come in as soon as possible, so that the fencing can be erected. Unfortunately, under the new Rules of the House, Private Bills have to be sent to Select Committees, and at the appropriate stage I will make a motion to that effect. I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. DOWDING: I beg to second that.

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

Mr. GODDARD: I now beg to move, Mr. Speaker, that this Bill be now referred to a Select Committee. I do hope that the Committee will meet possibly tomorrow so that this Bill can be dealt with on the next occasion on which this House meets, because it is important that this Bill be cleared from the Order Paper before the end of the month. It is a matter of funds being made available, otherwise they will have to be revoted; therefore, I am asking the Committee to meet as soon as possible.

Mr. DOWDING: I beg to second the hon. member's motion. (ASIDÈS)

Hon. M. E. COX: Before you put the question, Mr. Speaker, I should like to say, for the sake of clarification that, in so far as the purchase of land for housing schools and things of that sort are concerned, they fall within the portfolio of the Minister of Communications, Works and Housing. After things have been developed, then they are passed over to the Minister concerned. In that case, I think that if there is anybody who should be put on this Select Committee as a Minister, he would be the Minister of Communications, Works and Housing. If it were a question of land to be used for agricultural purposes, then it would be the Minister of Agriculture to be put on the Committee. It is immaterial to me who is put on the Committee, but I just wanted to regularise things. I would suggest that the Minister of Communications, Works and Housing be put on this Select Committee, instead of the Minister of Education.

The question that this Bill be now referred to a Select Committee was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to appoint the following hon. members to serve on the Select Committee:- The hon. junior member for Christ Church (Mr. Goddard), the hon. senior member for St. John (Hon. L. St. A. Thorne), the hon. senior member for St. Thomas (Hon. R. G. Mapp), the hon. senior member for St. Lucy (Mr. Tudor) and the hon. junior member for St. Joseph (Mr. Straughn).

ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH

Mr. STRAUGHN: Mr. Speaker, I am asking leave to take Order No. 1 under Private Members' Business as the next Order of the Day.

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

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Joseph: To move the passing of the following Address:- Address in reply to His Excellency the Governor's Speech delivered on the occasion of the opening of the Legislature.

Mr. STRAUGHN: Mr. Speaker, I think I should start with the general apology that this Address has been delayed as long as it has been delayed, but I am certain that all hon. members will realise that there was that urgency of Government Business during the time that this Address should have been dealt with, and that is why the passing of this Address has not been moved before. As far as I know, that was acceptable to all hon. members of this House. This Address reads as follows:-

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."

At this stage Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER took the Chair.

Mr. STRAUGHN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, to continue the wording of this Address, the last paragraph reads as follows:-

"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."

As it will be seen, the first and last paragraphs of this Address fulfil the normal formality and phraseology of such an Address and it is really the second paragraph which calls for any comment at all. I am certain that, speaking generally, even although, as the Hon. Premier has just had occasion to outline, we do not face this particular shortfall of this year's crop with much trepidation and alarm, nevertheless it certainly is a cause for sober thinking and we certainly feel that some mention should be made of it in an Address of this sort.
2.45 p.m.

I am quite certain that all members of the House in fulfilling their responsibilities would look at this anticipated short fall in this year's crop as something which must be viewed with some concern. As I said, I am certain that the Government is not fearful as such about the situation, but it is a matter that should not go unnoticed.

I should be very short, Sir, with regard to the number of progressive measures that have been set down and the major items which have been mentioned in His Excellency's Address, because they get mentioned almost every day in one form or another; but among the progressive measures I am certain members would like to record that they view with satisfaction the constitutional development among the very many measures that have emanated from the last year's functioning of the Government. I again do not think that one needs to prolong discussion on the Constitution as such, unless members feel like reopening debate on a matter like that; but certainly it is just as good to record that we do consider it one of the progressive measures.

I think we should also view with some satisfaction the fact that people are subscribing to public loans which are being floated by the Government, and here I think one must give some credit to the Ministry of Finance and the Financial Secretary, who must in great measure be responsible for the floating of any such loans, for the adept way they are carrying this out. I think it is a good thing to note that people have been subscribing to public loans which are being floated by the Government, and certainly we would hope that this favourable state of affairs should continue. After all, the general subscription to loans like these is an indication of the interest and confidence people have in the Government of the country.

The Development Plan is also mentioned in His Excellency's Address, and again in as much as it covers the next five year period and will be discussed in more detail when the new Five Year Plan is presented to this House, I do not think I should go into any detailed or prolonged discussion on that either. As a matter of fact, I do not think it would be possible in as much as the plan has not been presented to the House, but I am certain that the whole House commends with approval and appreciation the fact that Mr. George Cadbury is in the island at the moment assisting Government in whatever way he can with the drafting and working on details for the future Five Year Plan.

Sir, the major projects mentioned in His Excellency's Address well known to everybody are chiefly the Deep Water Harbour and the building of the new Hospital; then there would be any other development that would take place in the line of agriculture and industry. I think, Sir, as has been mentioned, that the chief projects are the Deep Water Harbour and the new Hospital, and I am certain that the Government and everybody else is at the moment fully concerned not only with the completion of the new Harbour, but already they have been giving serious thought to the way in which such a Harbour should be administered. I was a little amused to find that in today's *Advocate* or certainly yesterday's that a member of this House who is also concerned with the Trade Union said that all parties concerned should be getting together in very serious meetings on how they will go about the administration of this new Harbour; and my mind personally went back to a remark that I must have made earlier in the Session when

I said that the working of the Deep Water Harbour is not only the business of the Government as such, but the dislocation of workers that would take place is the Government's business, the Union's business and the employers' business. When I made those remarks some member thought that they were - I do not think the word used was "futile" but - superficial, but however I noticed that within less than a year the remarks have been again used by an hon. member of the House with the idea that they are not superficial, but certainly a very fundamental basis on which one would have to work.

I am only saying that this House share the concern and interest that the Government is in seeing about the proper administration of the Deep Water Harbour; let it not be thought that you can take a matter like this lightly because certainly a project which in the end is going to cost people a total of \$2,500,000 and is going to make such a revolutionary change in handling cargo in our island cannot be taken lightly.

I think we need to note with satisfaction, Sir, evidence of the close co-operation between the various Ministries in certain projects that have been carried out during the past year, and I will just mention in passing just as a highlight what I consider a very good sign now in the working of the Ministries. I think it would be noted, Sir, that recently when the Hon. Minister of Trade returned from a Trade delegation to the United Kingdom, he made a Statement with respect to the recruitment of workers for the London Transport Executive. In that Statement he said that in order that the standard of the recruit should not fall below the level which had been reached by previous recruits, it was necessary and imperative for Government to institute some form of training scheme to which these prospective candidates could go, so that they would at least have a basic working knowledge of what the situation would be with the London Transport Executive, and therefore that the standard of such recruits would be of acceptable level.

I think it certainly calls for commendation to see the dispatch and efficiency with which the Ministry of Trade and the Ministry of Education have got together and implemented such a scheme, and I am certain that we will all be glad to hear, as I have been able to observe from my personal checking, that the scheme has been going well and that people have been showing their interest in the scheme; and I believe Government would be able to fulfil the quota which is required of them by getting the expected number of recruits of a particular standard.

I think, Sir, while mentioning that kind of cooperation between the Ministries and in particular on the point of the London Transport Executive, it is necessary for us to put on record again what has been told to us by Mr. Gomm of the London Transport Executive when he was last here in Barbados, in which he said that the Barbados Government is the only Government in the world that has a regular and steady contract with the London Transport Executive for the recruitment of workers.

2.55 p.m.

Even though there are workers in the London Transport that come from all parts of the world, yet there is one Government, which is the Barbados Government, to whom the London Transport Executive at the moment looks for a steady flow of recruits.

Sir, even though one does not want to be complacent and happy about making a statement like this, yet it is a matter which should not be allowed to pass without some commendation and I am sure that the House will join with me in commending the Government on such an action, especially when it is borne in mind that these words have not come from the Government, but from Mr. Gomm of the London Transport Executive. Then, when it comes to a matter of co-operation, we have seen that the Ministries of Housing and of Agriculture have got together in projects which are about to be set up in St. Lucy along the lines of playing fields and housing schemes, and that is a matter, as I have said, which has got favourable

notice from hon. members of the House from the point of view of co-operation among the Ministries.

If I may touch on the subject of Education, at the outset I would like to follow in the trend of the remarks which have been made today on another item of business in this House. The remarks made by the hon. senior member for St. Lucy and the Minister of Education go to exemplify the concern which we have for education in this country.

I am certain that the House will join with me in saying that the Hon. Minister of Education for the short time he has been in office has shown that he has tackled the mammoth job with brave resolution. He has told us that he has some concrete plans which will be presented to the House in a rather short time. I do not think it would be necessary for me to anticipate or even expatiate on what I think some of those plans would be, except to say that it is not today alone that we have heard him express his concern for school accommodation. He said so a year ago. As regards teacher training which the hon. senior member for St. Lucy made mention of today, the Minister of Education also expressed his concern about that many times before, and certainly I had the privilege of hearing him address the Elementary Teachers Association at the last Annual General Meeting. There he reiterated in some detail his plan for the implementation of a more intensified and faster training course for teachers at Erdiston College.

The Induction Course which has also been implemented by him is a sign that the Government is not only concerned with teachers at the Government-aided schools - which of course, must be their initial and primary concern - but it shows that Government is concerned with all persons who claim that they are teachers and who show that they have the aspiration to become teachers. I say that because the Induction Course was not restricted to Government teachers only, but any person who said that he or she was in any way interested in teaching. I think that this is a step in the right direction, and I think when the Hon. Minister of Education brings down his plan for teacher training, some regard will be given to teachers other than those in the teaching service of Government. Earlier today, the hon. senior member for St. Philip gave notice of a Resolution with respect to teaching in private secondary schools and that is an indication that you have a duty to perform with respect to the teachers of this country; therefore, teachers in every section of the community must be expected to have reached a certain standard which we consider an adequate standard for the training of our children.

I said just now that I think the Hon. Minister of Education for the short time he has been in office should be highly commended for the very bold manner in which he has tackled this problem of education, and I think the House would want to go on record in telling him that whenever he considers it necessary to make even bolder efforts in tackling this problem, he certainly will get the wholehearted support of the House. However, Sir, we will see the reaction of hon. members on this question when we start to discuss the budget in greater detail; so this may be left over until we are dealing with that. But a word in repetition on this item would not be out of place on this occasion. As I have said on many other occasions, we have to regard our Ministry of Education as tantamount to a Ministry of Development. So much for that now; certainly there will be a lot more to be said on this matter as the Session goes on.

I would also like to add that the Visual Aids Section which has been expanded is to be commended for the work which it has been doing. I think, Sir, that many people do not quite realise the amount of work which is put in by this section of education. They make at least one film every year which is made available for public showing, and I know for certain that they are now working on a film on our deep water project. I think that we should commend the officers of this section of the Education Department for the very good work which they have been doing and I have already said in another quarter

after I saw the premiere of the film "Bright Land" that for what I have seen done by our local film units, certainly, they make as good a film which would be of equal commendable value and which may even be better able to capture the imagination of our people than that one which the Canadian Film Unit had done. Certainly if remarks like this are made in the right quarter, the officers who are involved in this kind of work would get the financial encouragement to do even better.

Sir, what I have said up to now dealt with commendation, and I think there are a number of things in His Excellency's Address which are also matters of concern and certainly it would not be out of place to mention a word or two on some of them now. Of particular concern is the fact that when His Excellency mentioned the question of employment figures we find that our employment Exchange is not up to date on the employment figures of the island. We might say that this shows that there is a need for a revamping of this Department or extending it; but I think one must also go back to the point of thought that a lot also depends on the willingness of unemployed persons to have their names registered at the Employment Exchange. I say that because a Department like that, no matter how big you make it or how you amplify it or whatever policy you adopt for it, is not a Department which can go out and get all the information it wants. It must depend on the co-operation of the general public so as to get these figures up to date. Therefore, whether we view it with a matter of concern and we see the possibility of an improvement of that Department itself, yet, nevertheless, we must also understand that a measure of co-operation from the general public is greatly needed if that Department is to give us the information which we want on unemployment. I think we would expect that the coming census which is being sponsored by the Federal Government would be of some help in getting more accurate figures not only on employment but on all other vital matters affecting the Government as a whole. 3.05 p.m.

Possibly, if we had got support from there, we might have been able to develop some plan by which we could get that information up to date. At present, we all know that improvement needs to be made.

I would like to group the idea of tourist development which has been mentioned in His Excellency's Address with the idea of protection and inspection of our beaches. They might be a little far apart, but I would make an attempt to bring them closer together. There is a grave and pointing spectre, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that we all need to face when we remember that in the promotion of the tourist industry we are, as you might say, selling the beaches of our island - the sunshine and the beaches. But we cannot lose sight of the fact that whereas tourists might come here for a short time, and they come and go having enjoyed the sunshine of this 'island in the sun, we must consider the population of this island and those who live here indefinitely. Let it not be misunderstood and felt that in trying to develop tourism we will do it to the extent of pushing our own people away from the beaches. That is a situation which must be regarded very seriously, and the Government must take rather rapid action on it.

Something has been mentioned in His Excellency's Address about beach protection, and although we have passed an Act already, that does not go far enough. People may say that the tourist industry brings in the quick dollar but I wonder if it is not good for us to contemplate that rewards which are got very quickly and very easily might also be lost very quickly and very easily. If we are getting the tourist dollar very quickly, we might find that if we do so indiscriminately we might also be losing the sunshine and seabathing which our own island has to provide for its people; therefore, it is absolutely necessary that we do get these things implemented to the extent that we will have proper access to our beaches and that people should not at any time feel that our beaches are more for the visitor and not for ourselves. The Government must take very resolute action in that respect.

At our last Annual Conference, my Party made sure that we passed Resolutions to that effect, so mindful and deeply concerned were we of it. The Government should make sure that they come down with a Resolution in those terms as soon as possible. A corollary of the tourist industry is that quite a number of rich foreigners are finding it possible to buy up much land and property in Barbados. You might think that the owners of property here who find that people will pay them more than the ordinary Barbadian would pay for their property, are at liberty to sell it to such people; but the situation is that the parts of the island which offer the best amenities would be the ones which would be owned completely and exclusively by people who do not intend to be domiciled in Barbados. That is something to which we must pay due regard and something on which we cannot slumber. As to the idea of tourist development and beach protection and beach inspection, we do try to encourage the tourist industry as best we can, but the Government would be very amiss if they did not see the other implications involved and take steps to see that no injury would be effected to the people of Barbados.

The Town and Country Planning Legislation came into force during the last Session and I think it is right to comment that, even although this Bill had a stormy passage in the House, nevertheless it was accepted as something which is very necessary and imperative. That itself has been drafted in a very tight fashion and I believe, on reflection, that it is a good thing that it should be so drafted, although the implementation of it was done with a proper understanding of our local conditions. I sometimes feel that this bit of legislation does not get the proper and encouraging publicity which it deserves, because people are more wont to tell you about the hardships which will be created on the people because of the enactment of this bit of legislation. However, I am certain that in the way in which this legislation is administered, and from the conversation which I have had from the Town and Country Planning Officer, I would say that he is a man who would be reasonable and who would listen to advice. It is not a question of the initial hardships which people have had to suffer because of this legislation, but it is a question of the benefits which have accrued to the people by adhering to the regulations which have been made by the Town and Country Planning Officer. Quite a number of people have been able to appeal against the initial rulings of the Town and Country Planning Officer to the Governor-in-Executive Committee and those appeals have been heard and have been given very careful consideration. I was amazed when the Town and Country Planning Officer actually disclosed this information to me because, previous to that, it was the opinion that this bit of legislation was inconveniencing people, and that people were being hurt because they could not do as they like with their own property. A number of appeals have been made to the Governor-in-Executive Committee, very favourable consideration has been given to them and, by and large, this bit of legislation is fulfilling its purpose. I think it was a very sensible thing to do to pass interim legislation of this sort so that when we do make it a comprehensive Act, people will be able to benefit from the experience which they have had with regard to the interim legislation. 3.15 p.m.

One problem that I find with the implementation of this legislation - and I find this as a member of a Committee of the Northern District Council which is a Consultative Committee - for this type of work - I hope the Solicitors in the audience or anywhere else do not get alarmed at this statement - is that there are quite a lot of defective land titles which are now held by people of the poorer class, and as one of those persons told me when we went to inspect on application for the erection of a building near to the main road in St. James on behalf of the Council, and it was then explained to the lady why we were doing it and what was meant by the Town and Country Planning legislation, "Oh my dear, the Law only comes hard against the poor people". However, eventually that lady's request was granted; but that was the problem we had seen and I am sure that members of the other districts will find it too as we have already found it in the

Northern District. There are a lot of those persons who have bought land from people and the Solicitors must have been asleep when they made out the draft of the title deed for them, or the Solicitor who sold them must have been quite an unscrupulous person, because these people actually have land and there is no access at all to any main road or tenantry road. We have found people possessing land, but in order for them to get to and from their house they have to trespass on land belonging to somebody in Trinidad, and if the person in Trinidad says you cannot put in water because you have to pass over his land, somebody in Barbados could not get water because the person in Trinidad did not want the water to pass over his land. I have found that in St. James and I am certain there are some all around. This is something to which Government must pay careful attention, because here you have an age in which, because people are attempting to improve their standard of living, everybody is trying to say: "Let me see if I can possess a piece of land," and we are faced with a situation of a lot of people owning land but having no direct access to a main road or a tenantry road. I imagine they have to get to their properties by helicopter, because every time they leave their houses they are trespassing on somebody else's land. It is a dangerous situation and something which the Government cannot allow to hang fire indefinitely, and I am certain that the Town and Country Planning Officer would be keeping a record on matters like these so that when he comes to draft the comprehensive legislation for Town and Country Planning, things like these will be taken into account.

His Excellency in the Address to the House also made mention of the development of housing. We have had a lot of talk in this House and outside on housing development, and we have also seen in the Press that the Housing Authority has been commended by and large for the work it has been able to do and the Reports it publishes, and because of that I would just say that that part of it in which the Housing Authority had to be commended for the good work it is doing could pass without much more debate; but I am certain, Sir, that there are a few points which members would be willing to discuss and which I am certain Government has been giving consideration to. First of all before I go into any details of figures I have here before me from His Excellency's Address, I would say that it is a good thing to note that encouragement is supposed to have been given to Building Societies. I think it is also equally important to note that in the last Budget Speech the Premier as Minister of Finance did mention that this kind of encouragement had been given to the people for the setting up of Building Societies, but I would say that whatever the Committee has been doing after the setting up of these Building Societies, it has certainly worked more slowly than one would have expected in the tenth century, because I do not think you can say they have established Building Societies yet. I think it is time that members of the House start to express some concern about it so that we would want to hear what is the work and the progress of the Building Societies established for the people of the middle and lower brackets. It is just as well to see how far their legislation is being implemented and how well it is being administered.

Now, Sir, when we refer to Housing loans, I think a few statistics here might be of interest. I think if we use the statistics given in His Excellency's Address we might find them startling. During the last year \$328,302 have been loaned to 650 Sugar Workers; as far as General Workers are concerned you have \$208,876 having been loaned to them, and you find \$1,420,415 being loaned to 501 Public Officers. Now if one takes those figures just at the surface and does nothing else, perhaps you will accept them as they are; but if one would see what has been the average loan per person in each of these categories one comes up with some pretty startling statistics; 620 Sugar Workers have been loaned an average of \$650 each, 456 General Workers have been loaned an average of \$520 each, and 501 Public Officers have been loaned an average of \$2,840 each. Now, Mr. Speaker, I do not want members of the Civil Service to feel that I am hitting at them adversely; that is not my intention; but it is certainly a case for concern when we remember that the Housing Authority

as such is run chiefly by funds from the Labour Welfare Fund and the Sugar Industry Fund. After looking at the figures which I have quoted, it must be borne in mind that the basic income, as has been said so often, of this country depends on the sugar industry and the people who work in it, and therefore let us not be in any way failing in our duty to remember that certainly adequate consideration must be given to these people. Do not let us feel that we are lending a few of the Sugar Workers very little and a higher percentage of Public Servants a very much higher amount; let us try to be sure that we get a balanced ratio in our thinking and in our administration there.
3.25 p.m.

Sir, I would remark one thing, however. The Public Officers section of the Housing Loans are up to date with their repayments, whereas, the general body of sugar workers are certainly not in any way up to date. And because of that the Revolving Fund is not revolving as it should be. This is a matter which calls for the development of the correct attitude and frame of mind among the people themselves who make the loans. It also calls for that same attitude among people in a position to tell those people that when they make a loan they should make an effort to repay it. I do not think our people should be misled by irresponsible people who go around telling them that they should borrow this money and do not repay it. I think that is a dangerous way of preaching to the people and I do not think it would make good for the country in years to come.

However, speaking in general, I would like the Public Officers to understand, having seen in the last Report of the Civil Service Association the opinion expressed that Public Officers loans were so long in coming and that they also found themselves handicapped by the size loans they got, that there are quite a number of people in other branches who do not get as much advances as they get and who also say that theirs are not enough.

There is another thing which I think I should mention as regards Housing Loans and I think this is a dangerous situation for the Government as well. It is that the interest on these loans by the sugar workers and general workers is certainly causing a lot of embarrassment to those people. Many a time when a man goes and borrows \$60 and thinks he is paying back something to the original loan, he finds that his amount has not gone down because he has only paid the interest on it. I know that consideration is being given to that now; but what I would like to point out is that you are actually subsidising Public Officers Housing Loans now by 1 1/2 percent. I say that because the Government has got permission to borrow money for the purpose at 6% and they require the Public Officers to repay it at either 3 1/2% or 4%; therefore, an indirect subsidisation is taking place in the case of the Civil Servants' loans; and if that is so, let that be taken into consideration when they think of housing loans in general.

I will pass over as quickly as I can the reference made to Local Government by saying that I think it is incumbent on the Central Government, whenever it is thinking terms of Local Government from now on, to think in terms of its own position to the West Indies Federation and to see in whatever way they can direct their attention to strengthening the Federation and to find out if a means of doing so cannot be by carrying on a lot of the work which is now carried on by the Local Government and whether it can be better administered by the Central Government itself. Instead of extending Local Government, the Central Government should think in terms of Local Government giving up a lot of its powers to the Central Government and the Central Government taking over a number of the schemes now run by the Local Government. There is a school of thought that any matter of Local Government can be done by the Central Government, and our Local Government, even although it is in the position as it is, now struggling to get on its feet, is to some extent giving a greater number of people the opportunity to contribute to a democratic form of Government and in the administration of their own district even although it takes a long

time for people in that position to benefit from that administrative experience; nevertheless, it behoves the Government to think in terms that anything we do as regards Local Government, we should have in mind our relationship to the West Indies Federation. We should try our best to strengthen the Federation and therefore, we should not burden ourselves with the administrative expense as regards Local Government.

I am sorry that the hon. senior member for St. Lucy is not in his seat at the moment. Sometime ago, in this House when talking about taxation, he mentioned that people in his constituency were not able to get tax relief forms from the Council's Office. I made a check on that because I knew that the Northern District Council had tax relief forms and they were available free of charge. However, on that day in question it was a fact that the sub-Treasurer had run out of those forms. However, they have an adequate supply of those forms at the present and I would like the hon. member to know that. It is a fact that members of his constituency are the ones who are making a heavy use of those forms.

His Excellency closed his remarks with reference to Civil Servants. I have already remarked on Civil Servants but I think we all should also register the happy thought that we were very intrigued to learn that a member of our Civil Service, Mr. Donald Wiles, has actually got promotion to be Administrator of Montserrat. I think it is just following the trend of development in the West Indies in which West Indian Civil Servants are actually now capable of filling the highest posts to be filled in our Federal units.

3.35 p.m.

However, I do agree with His Excellency's remarks when he says that in the case of Cabinet and more responsible government, the Civil Service has had to bear quite a lot of strain and stress, it has had to carry out a lot of arduous duties and it has been doing that very well. I want to register my support of remarks like these and we give credit to our Civil Servants for the good job which they have been doing and are trying to do. However, it cannot be overlooked that administration is a big problem. Administration has grown in business so much so that people find it necessary to make a special study of it. Administration of Government Business has also grown quite a lot, and, therefore, it is essential that Civil Servants know that they will have to carry out a very effective administration. In the same manner as they talk about privileges, at the same time they should be giving thought as to how they can improve the service which they do render to the public. I would like to say that one of the very best means in which the Civil Servants can play their part in the development of more responsible Government and better administration in the Federation, is for the Civil Service Association to become a strong, virile, respectable and self-respecting body. It is not enough for the Civil Servants to say that they are interested in the Civil Service Association or that they are only interested in it as much as to see how much they can be assured that they will get their increments regularly. It is just as important for you to expect that the Civil Service Association will be giving thought as to what training courses they should recommend to the Director of Training or to whoever is responsible or to the Secretariat, for their members, in whatever Departments are necessary, so that they can improve their services to the general public. By improving their services to the general public, they are assisting not only the Government but themselves; in giving thought to what services they would carry out, they would be making a positive contribution to the good of the community.

I would end on the note of imploring our Civil Servants to see that their duty is not so much to see how much they can get out of something, but to see what constructive effort they can put into their Association, and there is a great job to be done. I commend that to them and I hope that they will go ahead and get on properly.

With those few remarks, I come to the end of what I would call my dissertation and I now formally beg to move

that this Address, which I read at the opening part of my speech, do now pass.

Mr. SEARLES: Mr. Deputy Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to second the motion for the passing of this Address. There are so many things which the hon. member has touched upon and on which he has been so elaborate, that I do not think it is necessary for me to continue in that strain. The things which the hon. member has said are true with regard to these unfortunate people who happen to own land on the sea-coast of St. James.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I will leave any further remarks on the conditions which exist to the time when we are dealing with the Estimates in Committee.

With those few remarks, it is my pleasure and I do second the motion for the passing of this Address.

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Deputy Speaker, we heard His Excellency the Governor's Address on the occasion of the re-opening of the Legislature, and we were interested to note that in his reference to the disestablishment and disendowment of the Anglican Church, His Excellency said that negotiations would be finalised during this Session. That recalls to our minds how in April of last year in the amendment which we moved to His Excellency's Speech, we pointed out that we profoundly deplored the complete absence of any mention in the Speech of the disendowment of the Anglican Church. Therefore, without acknowledging any indebtedness to the Opposition in respect of that reminder since April last year in our amendment, they refer to the subject-matter of what we reminded them on that occasion. We are looking forward to see the result of these negotiations which are to be finalised during this Session.

Then, Mr. Deputy Speaker, we notice in that part of the Address dealing with the Constitution the statement "the revised Constitutional arrangements which he (the Secretary of State for the Colonies) will be prepared to recommend to Her Majesty for Her consent." We wonder what difference, if any, is to be attached to the use of the word "will" in that particular context, the arrangements which he will be prepared to recommend, as distinct from the arrangements which he is prepared or has decided or is willing to recommend to Her Majesty. Why does the Governor, in his Address, use the word "will"? Is it just a slip without any significance, due to inadvertence, or is there some sinister purpose in the use of that word in this particular context? As we do fully appreciate, that could only be taken to refer to a future occasion, and a future may be a near or distant one. It was somewhat disturbing to notice the insertion of the word "will" in that particular paragraph of His Excellency's Speech.

As we noted last year in the proposed amendment to the Speech, we have to make reference under the Head "Labour and Employment". Once more it is stated: "No reliable statistics of employment are available" It does not seem good enough to us with our Labour Department, with our Employment Bureau and all the rest of it, with the considerable sum of money which is spent annually on keeping that Department going, that they have not been able so far to display an aptitude to attract unemployed people to register with the Bureau so as to enable them to obtain reliable statistics of employment which one would expect such a Department to have and to be able to supply at a moment's notice. There is something fundamentally wrong with the running of such a Department, that they are unable to encourage people who go there for work, to register themselves and record the fact that they are unemployed. That would strengthen the view that people have so little confidence in the Employment Bureau, that they do not think it worth while, and they regard it as a waste of time, to register for work with that Department, because of the expense of bus fare to those who live in the country and the waste of time it means for some of them who live even nearer; apparently they regard it that there is not warranty for going to the trouble of recording the fact of their being unemployed and the necessity to have work found for them by that

Department. It is clear that there is something wrong somewhere; it is either the lack of money in the Labour Department or the feeling by persons who are employed that it is a mere waste of time to go and record with the Labour Department the fact that they are unemployed and the nature of the job which they are seeking.

We notice again in the paragraph dealing with Agriculture, that the fishing fleet now contains 451 mechanically-powered boats of which 56 were launched in 1959. Three hundred and eight of these have been assisted by Government loans. That reminds us of how last year we proposed to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, entirely in vain, to put forward a scheme whereby major repairs would be carried out by Government workers to the engines of launches which are owned by these poor fishermen.

3.45 p.m.

Government's reply was that it was not prepared to do anything of that sort, but would continue with the routine check-ups and the minor repairs which they had been doing since the initiation of the scheme. We are thoroughly dissatisfied with that attitude of the Government, Mr. Deputy Speaker, as we are with its refusal to import engines for such fishing launches - whether through the Crown Agents or otherwise is immaterial to us - so that that poor and hardy race of people who are purchasing them would not have to include in the purchase price of these engines the commission or the profit which must of necessity be made by the importer, whether it is the Central Foundry Limited or whatever is the firm which imports these engines. Naturally they are not conducting their business without a profit, and as a result the poor man who has a very great strain on his economy has to purchase such an engine by borrowing the money and finds that he is unable to pay his instalments, to pay for the repairs and also to have something to use as a result of his labours as a fisherman and as a result of the work of his boat so that he may be able to support himself and the members of his household.

We observe again in the paragraph dealing with Education the complete absence of any mention of free secondary education for such children whose parents are unable to provide it, or of a free hot meal for elementary school children whose parents cannot afford to furnish such for their children. Under the Head of Education which quite fittingly includes the Library, I observe with interest that a site has been acquired for the extension of the headquarters building of the Public Library. It is expected that construction work will soon commence, but there is no reference yet, although the matter has been under consideration according to Government for the past several years, to the opening of the Public Library at night. It is one of those subjects I have been accustomed to raising, and as we have succeeded in abolishing the Grand Jury and in establishing a Government Printery, if we continue long enough we may see that project put into effect. It simply means additional staff and paying a little more for lighting, and there is plenty of material available to staff the Library after the present closing hours. There are plenty of girls and boys leaving school sufficiently well equipped educationally and otherwise to become members of the staff of the Public Library.

As we continue, Mr. Deputy Speaker, we observe the statements in connection with Medical, and the sentence in that paragraph which says that "there are however, no less than twenty-two vacancies for qualified staff nurses" at the General Hospital. Now it obviously is not good enough in a comparatively small Hospital such as this to find that there are no less than twenty-two vacancies for qualified nurses. What is the reason and explanation? Is it that the remuneration offered is inadequate? Is it that the conditions of employment are too harsh? Is it that the persons under whom these staff nurses would be required to work are not such as would encourage efficient and qualified people to work under them? There must be some reason and some explanation, and one hopes that sooner or later we will have Government through the Ministry of Health letting us know that the situation has been remedied, and the conditions have become such that

applications have been received which are more than adequate to fill the twenty-two vacancies for qualified nurses, bearing in mind, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that the General Hospital is pre-eminently for the poor people of this Island. Whenever the well-to-do people become ill, one hears of them taking a plane to the United States or to Canada or even occasionally to the United Kingdom. They can look after themselves; at least I am sure they are well looked after by well equipped hospitals in big countries; but the vast majority of the people of this colony are unable to afford the luxury of a plane trip to a first-class hospital in any big country, and the result is that they have to put up with the very best that the General Hospital can offer, and that today is pretty bad, as everybody knows. Things have never been so bad there as they are now, and that I say without fear of contradiction. We all who live in this island know the state of the General Hospital and the heat in some of the Wards; there is no thought apparently of electric fans or air conditioning in some of the Wards in that building which is designed principally to help the sick poor of this country; and when to make it worse we find there are over twenty vacancies for qualified nurses, that gives an indication of the type of service which unfortunately is the order of the day at the Barbados General Hospital.

I know we will be told, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that the new building is in the process of erection. I gathered that that building cannot be expected to be opened this year or next year, and meanwhile, during the long time that that building is being erected, something should be done to improve the present conditions at the General Hospital. For the remaining year or two or three years before the new Hospital is completed and opened, it is essential that steps be taken so far as possible to run the present Hospital, adequately staffed, cool and as a modern hospital should be run in any civilised community.

Now, Mr. Deputy Speaker, I have referred to one or two of the outstanding matters in the Address of His Excellency at the opening of the Session, but what struck me more about the Address than anything else was not so much what it contained, but its numerous vital omissions; not so much what was in the Address but what was left out of the Address; and that is what we will concern ourselves with in the amendment which I will be moving to the reply to this Address. With the first paragraph we have no quarrel, which is, "that 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." In respect of the other two paragraphs, Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am formally proposing the deletion of each of these in order to substitute certain paragraphs which I am offering.

If I may just make some brief reference to the two paragraphs in the reply to the Speech which we propose should be deleted, the latter of these says "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."

3.55 p.m.

Well, Mr. Deputy Speaker, unless we knew - and I do not know if the back-benchers of Government know - of what is all the legislation which it is proposed to be submitted to the House this Session, and what are all the supplies which the Legislature will be asked to grant during this Session, we certainly could not by any stretch of the imagination be expected to subscribe to such a monstrously worded paragraph. You are just saying: present us with a blank cheque and we will sign it. We can understand if it were written "we will give support". But what you have there means that we will speak in approval of and pass all legislation submitted to us and will grant all supplies by you for the implementation of your programme during this Session.

Sir, with respect to the two paragraphs of which I move for the deletion, I propose that they be replaced by

the following paragraphs which at dictation speed I propose to read out. Immediately after the first paragraph I propose Paragraph 2 to read as follows:-

"2. The House note the reference in the Address to proposed "revised constitutional arrangements" and it strongly deprecate the failure to provide for official representation in the Upper Chamber such as the new Jamaica Constitution paragraph 15 provides for the Opposition as is also recommended for British Honduras."

"3. The House observe that negotiations for "dis-establishment and disendowment of the Anglican Church in this Island will be finalised during this Session" and it recalls that in the amendments offered by the Opposition to the previous Address, the Opposition then expressly deplored the complete absence of mention in that Address of disendowment of the Church of England.

"4. For the second successive Session the Address states that "no reliable statistics of employment are available" and that despite the existence of a Labour Department which in the current year is costing the Treasury \$84,758 recurrent and \$456,049 non-recurrent. Government's repeated failure to appreciate the urgent necessity for obtaining and publishing unemployment statistics is as inexplicable as its utter failure to initiate proposals with a view to substantial relief of unemployment. The number of 1,759 unemployed persons on the register at the end of 1959 as compared with 1,162 unemployed persons at the end of 1958 should convince the Government of the magnitude of the increase in the number of persons unemployed in this Island.

4.05 p.m.

"5. With the island's fishing fleet now comprising 451 mechanically - powered boats of which 308 are stated to have been assisted by Government loans, the Minister's inescapable duty is to establish an adequately-equipped workshop to undertake repairs of engines to fishermen's launches; to protect fishermen from the heavy expenditure which they now of necessity incur for repairs effected by private enterprise.

"6. The House once again places on record its profound dissatisfaction at the omission from this Address of any reference whatever to (a) Free Secondary Education (b) Free hot midday meals at public Elementary Schools (c) Institution of Christmas Bonus for the lowest-paid public employees (d) Proposals for increases in the coming financial year of wages and salaries of the lower-paid public employees (e) Amendments to the Old Age Pension Act to provide for reduction of qualifying age as well as for adequate increase in the amount of pension (f) Single-member Parliamentary constituencies (g) Reduction of minimum qualifying age for a voter at Parliamentary and Local Government Elections to 18 years (h) Equal pay for equal work for women and men (i) Amendment to the Jurors Act to make women eligible to sit as Jurors in this island.

"7. The House expresses the hope that the Public Library will be open until 10 o'clock p.m. during the week for the benefit particularly of such persons as are unable to patronise this Institution during the day, and it keenly looks forward to the envisaged extension of the Headquarters building of this Library.

"8. The House is greatly concerned to note that this Address confirms that there are no less than 22 vacancies for qualified Staff Nurses at the Hospital and it urges the appropriate Ministry to leave no stone unturned to ensure that these are filled without delay.

"9. Generally, apropos to His Excellency's Address this Chamber expresses its grave perturbation especially in regard to omissions of mention of outstanding vital matter many of which are referred to in this amending Reply and of which Her Majesty's present Ministers appear to manifest no interest or take no cognizance whatever.

4.15 p.m.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I formally move the insertion of those paragraphs which I have just read and which are

Nos. 2 to 9 in place of the ultimate and penultimate paragraphs of the proposed Reply to His Excellency the Governor's Speech.

I may just refer, Sir, to one paragraph in our Reply, and that is in connection with a reduction of the minimum qualifying age for a vote in Parliamentary and Local Government elections to eighteen years. That, Mr. Deputy Speaker, has been the case for many years in the Commonwealth of Australia; and certainly so far as this island is concerned, there is no reason to regard the average Barbadian girl or boy of the age of eighteen as being less qualified, less entitled to and less deserving of a vote at any kind of election whatsoever than her or his Australian fellow citizen in the Commonwealth. There seems to be no reason whatever to continue to keep the age limit at twenty-one. There is no one in this island who in my opinion, Mr. Deputy Speaker, is fit and capable of voting at the age of 21 who is not similarly fit and capable of voting at the age of 18.

In the old days, Sir, when the vote depended on a property qualification and it was a question of what property one could own at the age of 21 when one became an adult, then of course one could see how material it was to restrict it at the age of 21; but now that there is universal suffrage, there is no reason at all why we should not follow that other young Commonwealth country, the Dominion of Australia, and reduce our age to 18, because it is entirely irrespective of any property qualification whatsoever, and entirely independent of any ownership; it is simply a question of whether at the particular age in this country with the educational facilities which it has had for so long, a person at the age of 18 may be deemed to be worthy to exercise a vote at Local Government or Parliamentary elections.

I beg therefore, Mr. Deputy Speaker, with those brief observations, formally to move the amendment of the Official Opposition to the Reply to the Speech from the Throne.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am going to be very brief on this matter. I did not think I would live to see such an uninspiring exhibition of a positive waste of man power and time as I have witnessed in this Chamber today. On everybody's lips in Barbados is the view that you want a man to give a fair day's work for a fair day's pay, and I am wondering if the Government believe that they are offering any leadership whatsoever to this community when they can sit down on the Governor's Speech for seven weeks, and the junior member for St. Joseph who is a member of the Government Party standing here today in a long speech utilising time that could be very well spent in something else. Unfortunately, the Leader of the Opposition was caught in the same trap and followed suit on a day in which the Budget was started. The Premier, I believe, gave another uninspiring exhibition of reading a Speech - I was not here for his Address - and now we are wasting precious time, as the Government has allowed the Budget Speech to clash with this Reply to the Governor's Address which was made on the 19th January.

The Governor's Speech was made on the 19th January, but the Government did not think it fit the following week or a week after that to begin to debate on it. Now we are going to debate the Governor's Speech and have this wishy-washy foolishness and waste of precious time. What kind of leadership are we offering to the community at this stage? (Hon. M. E. COX: Don't waste any more.) I say you should not be in your places; you should be positively ashamed on a day like this to ask your member to introduce a Reply to the Governor's Speech when seven weeks before you allowed the House to meet week after week, came in here with nonsense wasting time, and spending money every time the Legislature meets. I would say that if you want leadership for people not to do work and not to produce, you can get it from the Government. What right have you with a Speech like this today? That is why I say I would not waste my time to debate this.

If you are assuming leadership in this community, you have to know what you are doing, and that is what we

are paying for. We do not get the kind of leadership we require and we spend money in things on which it should not be spent; so if there is the cry about people not doing enough work in Government Departments, can we expect anybody to come down and say he is going to give more work when you are wasting money on food for members of the Legislature? That is money which the members should be called on to pay. If the members of the Government had the sense you would expect from a man running an ordinary business, could they have any excuse for this? We want to follow the United Kingdom, but do you think that this wasteful exhibition would take place in the United Kingdom, that Her Majesty's Speech is delivered and it takes seven weeks to make a reply which coincides with the Budget day?

If we want to keep a mock House or if this is an academic society somewhere where you have a mock debate in the House, the Ministers are sleeping and not interested in what is going on, the hon. junior member for St. Joseph making a long speech and the junior member for St. James in a pentecostal fashion getting up and seconding it, then you get the Leader of the Opposition making an equally uninspiring amendment that will have to be debated, that is not good enough. If the members of the Government do not realise that running a Government is an art requiring a study and thought, it is time that somebody told them so; but this uninspiring exhibition week after week is not good enough for a country where we are trying to bring people up.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: On a point of order, may I point out that the art, the study, the time and the leadership are all contained in the initiating of policy demonstrated in the Governor's Speech?

Mr. WALCOTT: That is not a point of order. That is a point of nonsense and stupidity, because we are not telling you that the Governor has no right to deliver a Speech. 4.25 p.m.

I do not like this crass ignorance. No one is saying that the Governor has no right to deliver a Speech, but what I am saying is that the Government is responsible for the business conducted in this Chamber. The Government had the time to deal with this matter over the last seven weeks.

I am not going to speak on the policy nor am I going to waste my time to deal with the Governor's Speech; but since the 19th January, the Governor delivered himself of a Speech and why should I be called upon today, the same day that you are discussing the Budget, to discuss an Address in reply to that Speech? Why did you not meet last week and do it? That twenty-five-page Speech, you want to clash the same time that you are introducing the Estimates. You did not meet last week and you want to do that now.

The hon. members over there think that running a Government is running a peddling rum-shop. That is the background of their thinking; because if they had a conception of what running a Government means, we would not have this exhibition today. You allow seven weeks to pass by and then you have the effrontery to allow one of your own Government back-benchers to introduce this today. (A VOICE: It is done the same way in England.) Where would you find this done in England in this manner? Where can you see any Hansard with this kind of shameful exhibition that seven weeks that after Parliament is opened you are discussing the Queen's Speech? It is debated the same week. (A VOICE: By a back-bencher?) You get this ignorance from the Minister. By whom it starts off is immaterial. Mr. Deputy Speaker, this mockery of Parliament is what irritates any person who has time to spend usefully. I am not one of those lazy members who regard this as something of a perserve when I come in here. I feel I have a contribution to make by coming in here; but if my time is to be wasted, then this is no place for me to come. I do not live on this. If hon. members on the other side were not interested in wasting people's time we would not have this sort of exhibition. (A VOICE: What sort of exhibition we are having?) The hon. member who is making

those *sotto voce* remarks thinks that this is a mock House. If he is elevated to a Minister, he must realise that we are debating an interesting matter. Every week they come in with this nonsense. Why should I allow it? I am not going to allow it. They must be told that.

HOUSE REVERTS TO GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is now 4.30 p.m. o'clock. This House will now revert to Government Business.

HOUSE RESUMES BUDGET SPEECH

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, when the House adjourned, I was then speaking on the expenditure for 1960-61. But before continuing, I want to say that, with regard to the point I was making before as to the effect of Local Government valuation upon income tax, a point of view was brought to my attention which did not occur to me when I read the article to which I referred.

To go on with the question of expenditure, I was about to point out how the expenditure - the current expenditure especially - has been increasing over the years starting from 1950-51. In the year 1950-51 there was a recurrent expenditure of \$8,220,256 and a non-recurrent expenditure of \$1,422,528, making a total of \$9,642,684. In 1951-52, the total expenditure then was \$11,010,420. In 1952-53, it was about the same, it being \$11,423,911 and in 1953-54, it rose to \$12,848,130. As you will notice from the figures I have quoted there was a general increase, first by \$2 million and then by \$1 million. In 1954-55, the figure was actually the same, but then in 1955-56 there was a jump of nearly \$2 million and in the following year, there was another jump of over \$2 million. In 1957-58, the jump was over \$3 million, the figure rising to \$19,270,986. The following year it increased by \$1 million more and over, and last year and this year it is in the vicinity of a rise of \$2 million more.

Well, Sir, as I have said, and as you can see from my quotation of these figures, there has been a steady increase in the expenditure. I mentioned earlier the increase in revenue. You will have noticed that we have been trying to keep them in pace with each other and the revenue in most cases exceeded expenditure slightly. As a result, we were not faced with any excess of expenditure over revenue as we are faced with this year to the tune of \$1 million plus.

The services are rising rapidly every year with the consequent increases in staff and I am sure it does not stop there. 4.35 p.m.

During this year we will be faced with the establishment of other services which will also call for increased expenditure. I have in mind now that we are advised - it is not the first time that we have heard of it, but it has reached the stage where we cannot defer it any longer - as to the setting up of a Planning Unit. That is one of the services which comes to my mind immediately, and there may be others.

During the last year we had an Information Office set up with the consequent staff. We also had a Town & Country Planning Officer who came in during the present financial year. They are now being established; in fact the latter one is being established in this year's budget. There are other services which we will be called upon to establish during this year. You will notice, therefore, from my remarks that there is a need, and a great need, to search for this new revenue. I go on to say that despite the omission of the usual contribution from Revenue to Capital Expenditure, the estimate of recurrent expenditure for 1960-61 is \$1,759,290 greater than the approved Estimate for 1959-60. The increase is due chiefly to the Cost of Living Allowance granted last year to all Government employees and pensioners involving additional expenditure in the region of one million dollars annually. All of this is on services alone.

At this stage Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: As I was saying, Sir, the payment of a Cost of Living Allowance to Government employees and pensioners involves an additional expenditure of over a million dollars, and there are other factors which continue to increase this expenditure. To name one there is the grant to the U.C.W.I. Then there are more teachers, certain increases in salaries, the cost of provision for the hospitals, increments of salary, the subsidy to the transport service, additional pumping expenses for the water supply, interest on local loans for capital works, the cost of port staff until the Deep Water Harbour is in full operation, four new Government Departments and additional provision for refunds of inland revenue and customs duties taken into account in the revenue.

You will see, therefore, that these services have been increased and with the increased services there must come increased expenditure. It would be interesting to note the increases under the following Heads. Education has increased by \$411,148; Medical Services \$252,358; Charges of Debt \$177,196; Police \$153,257; Transport Services \$130,000; Waterworks \$112,680; Inland Revenue \$110,700; Harbour & Shipping \$104,734; Customs \$102,358; Subsidies & Grants \$99,689; Science & Agriculture \$81,851; Town & Country Planning \$47,774; Local Government \$45,517; Public Works \$38,562; and Old Age Pensions \$28,264.

Hon. members will see that under all of these Heads there have been substantial increases and they must even-tuate in general increased expenditure.

At this point I want to consider the Capital Expenditure for 1960-61. The estimated Capital Expenditure for 1960-61 is \$11,219,339, and that is \$1,412,461 less than the approved Estimates for 1959-60 and \$1,295,749 more than the Revised Estimates. To give a summary of the Capital Estimates, there is the Deep Water Harbour for which the allocation in the Development Plan 1955-60 is \$21,450,000, and the estimated expenditure from the 1st April 1955 to 31st March 1960 will be \$14,799,347. Provision in this year's Estimates, or rather in next year's Estimates is \$4,954,101. As regards Housing the allocation in the Development Plan 1955-60 is \$2,522,000 and up to the 31st March 1960 it is estimated that the sum of \$2,499,314 will be spent. The provision in this year's Estimates is \$350,000.

As to the Development Board the allocation in the Five Year Development Plan is \$1,000,000 and the estimated expenditure up to the 31st March 1960 is \$1,405,000. That exceeds the amount allocated in the Five Year Development Plan, and it is planned to spend \$750,000 in this year's Estimates - approximately three quarter million dollars.

As to Water Supplies the allocation in the Development Plan is \$1,731,400.

4.45 p.m.
The amount to be spent up to 31st March, 1960, is \$1,799,093, and provision is made in next year's Estimates for \$501,000.

Under Medical Services we planned to spend in the Five Year Development Plan \$1,938,525 and to the end of March 1960, \$1,181,212 will be spent. It is proposed to spend in the next year \$2,010,200.

The amount allocated to Education under the Five Year Plan was \$2,971,726; the amount to be spent up to 31st March, 1960, is \$2,353,700, and it is proposed to spend during the next year \$263,778.

Under Agriculture we planned to spend \$2,872,834; the amount to be spent up to 31st March, 1960 is \$1,857,803, and it is now proposed to spend in the coming year \$1,118,092.

With regard to Communications, the allocation was \$3,349,500 in the Five Year Plan and the amount to be

spent up to the 31st March, 1960, is \$3,615,557, while the provision in next year's Estimates is \$667,575.

The amount allocated to Miscellaneous under the Five Year Plan was \$1,960,625, and \$1,982,630 will be spent up to 31st March, 1960, while the amount allocated for 1960-61 is \$195,593.

In connection with Road Transport the amount allocated under the Five Year Plan was \$1,259,190; the amount to be spent up to 31st March, 1960, is \$799,956 while the amount of \$409,000 appears in the Estimates of 1960-61.

So, Sir, you will see how the Capital Expenditure is allocated for the coming year, as well as how it is spent during the years of the Five Year Development Plan, 1955-60.

The construction of the Deep Water Harbour is now far advanced, and the scheme should be completed by August, 1961. The reclamation of land has been completed, and the work on the breakwater, sugar store, transit sheds and roads is underway. It is expected that the bulk sugar installation will be ready for trial by December, 1960. In the Estimates, \$4,120,000 have been included for construction and ancillary works in connection with the new Harbour. These ancillary works and work on the bulk sugar installation and transit sheds are being provided for in these Estimates.

Further capital of \$750,000 is provided for the Development Board, whose operations are expanding.

Half a million dollars is provided for the development of water resources, principally in respect of the Hampton Scheme. By a recent survey in that area we have been advised that something should be done immediately to provide water in that area because although the drought last year did not reach serious proportions, there was a threat of a shortage of water in that area; so that the Government is now making plans to provide for the development of water resources in that area.

The building of the new General Hospital is progressing well, and approximately \$2 million will be spent on this project in the coming financial year. The Government has decided that the whole Colonial Development and Welfare allocation should be devoted to the new General Hospital. I think those who have visited the work going on at the new Hospital will be satisfied that rapid progress is being made there, and we expect that it will be completed on schedule, and that with the coming of the new hospital we will be able to get rid of the rats. *(Laughter)*

Over a quarter of a million dollars is provided for educational projects.

The capital provision under the Head "Agriculture" includes the abattoir, meat and fish cold store which was estimated at over \$1 million; and there will be included expenditure for soil conservation, markets etc. These form substantial sums in this vote.

Provision is still being made for tenantry roads which have not yet been rebuilt and re-established, and so a considerable sum is included for expenditure for tenantry roads and highway improvements, drainage, and things of that sort in connection with these roads.

I think the hon. junior member for St Lucy earlier mentioned the extension of the Public Library; so I am sure he will be happy to hear that extension of the Public Library is the main item of expenditure planned under the Head "Miscellaneous". He talked about having lights at night, but of course probably with other extensions these things might come. Also under the Head "Miscellaneous" there is to be expenditure on Government Offices, staff requirements for Capital Works and Minor Handicrafts. I am sure that the Minister for Social Services will in due course tell this House the plans for Minor Handicrafts. They are fairly extensive and somebody has come

down from ICA to advise and instruct us on the development of handicrafts.

4.55 p.m.

I do not remember the gentleman's name but I think he is operating in the whole area as well and Barbados is having the privilege of his coming to us first.

The amount for road transport in respect of the purchase of buses is shown as a revote.

Now, this is a note on capital expenditure. I want to touch on certain items in connection with the various Ministries and I will deal with education first. As I have said before, the proposals for Education have been considerable and that can be seen by the arrangements shown under the summary of education in respect of the recurrent and non-recurrent expenditure on Headquarters, Erdiston College, Technical Institute, House Craft Centres, Primary and Secondary Modern Schools. Hon. members when they look under the Head, Education will more easily follow the developments and figures and notes on the different items for the different sections. They are not presented as they were before; they are presented with a little variation.

As members have already heard, we have just passed a Civil Establishment Order to include more Assistant Teachers and this will cost us \$63,929 to provide for these 35 additional Assistant Teachers. The Government has promised to review the staffing of these schools every year in the month of July which is just preparatory to the preparation of the Estimates. The Government is also trying and making every effort to provide additional class rooms at the primary schools in order to increase the number of school places. The Government is also supplying textbooks at the primary and secondary modern schools and \$30,000 is included in the Estimates for that.

As regards Grants-in-aid to Secondary Schools, there are ten Grants-in-aid schools and the total amounts to \$877,773. Additional staff has been provided for the Alleyne School, the Alexandria School, the Girls' Foundation School and Combermere School. A proposal for capital expenditure is included to meet the cost of repairs for the erecting of a section of boundary wall at the Combermere School and for the levelling and fencing of the grounds of the Christ Church Foundation School. Of course, as far as the wall at Combermere and that at the Foundation School is concerned, we cannot hope to provide for all that this year. As a matter of fact, the Government has decided that it will be taking a portion of each of these every year until they are concluded. I say that in order to reassure hon. members when they see the amount granted that they will not consider that as the total thing. This is the first instalment and it will be done in instalments every year until it is concluded.

Still under Education, under the Headquarters section Item 35 provides for special studies and it will be a means whereby a student who was the first Barbadian to obtain First Class Honours at the U.C.W.I. may be enabled to complete his studies for a Doctorate in philosophy. It is not generally known that the first Barbadian to achieve this honour at the U.C.W.I. has been recommended by the University authorities for a course of post-graduate studies, and this amount is provided so that he may be able to go abroad and study and obtain a Doctorate in philosophy.

The Hon. Minister of Education not so long ago in a reply to an hon. member of the other side mentioned the training of teachers. He mentioned the introduction of induction courses for non-teachers and prospective teachers and said that the experiment was considered successful. Provision has been included for the establishment of special courses for experienced teachers to enable them to become more efficient. In short, special provision will be made for those teachers who because of their age and other circumstances may be unable to become a member of the normal course of training at the Erdiston Training College.

Increased provision has been included for the Barbados Evening Institute in order to provide for the operation of new centres at St. Paul's, St. Peter and St. Silas and for Domestic Science Centres in St. George and Christ Church. These centres are becoming very popular and the numbers have been increasing; and it was felt that instead of expanding the Domestic Centre in Bay Street, it will be better and more convenient to provide facilities for those pupils who live in the country and who want to take those courses and to benefit from them either for their own personal use or for emigration abroad. I think it is known by hon. members that for the past few years girls trained at these centres have been given the opportunity to go to Canada. The annual requirement is 42 girls and we are knocking at the doors of the emigration authorities in Canada to increase that number. I will not say anything more on that; I will only add that we strongly hope that we will be successful.

5.05 p.m.

We will next deal with items from the Ministry of Labour. The first item is Emigration. The Government for some time now has recognised the need for finding avenues of employment not only in Barbados but abroad for our people. As you know, Sir, we have been giving financial assistance to our people when they go abroad. In very many cases they prove to be satisfactory and requests have been made or are being made for these numbers to be increased. As you may have heard, we have recently had the scheme to train people for employment in the London Transport Executive. Those employers are anxious to have as many people as we can train. That is proceeding and we are continuing to train them so that when the opportunity arises these people will be already trained and prepared to go abroad wherever they are needed. It is encouraging to hear the Hon. Minister on my left say that only a day or two ago we have had, if not the actual request, the possibility of sending more workers to Germany to work in factories. We cannot say anything more about that at present because things are still in the exploratory stage. That avenue of employment is now being looked into. I am not saying that requests have been made to emigrate girls there, but I would say that the requests have been for exploration. We hope that on the next occasion like this or even before then, we will be able to give some definite information along that line. I do think that it is a tribute to our people to see that these avenues of employment should be provided for them abroad, and it does show that the reputation of the Barbadian as a worker is fairly high, and that there are people abroad who are willing to have our workers.

I have also been informed by the Hon. Minister on my left that there is also the question of the possibility of our people settling in British Honduras and in Dominica. These fields are now to be explored. I think the Minister is prepared to go to Dominica shortly so as to explore further the possibilities and the conditions there for Barbadian settlement.

It would be interesting to note that since the inception of the loan scheme, up to the first January 1960 the sum of \$1,536,306 has been loaned and the sum of \$935,863 had been repaid. The people appreciate what the Government is doing for them and they are doing all they can to repay these loans as and when they can do so.

As to the Provident Fund for the sugar industry, discussions are in progress between the representatives of employers, of workers and the Government in connection with the establishment of a Provident Fund for the sugar industry. It is not inconceivable that these discussions will result in the allocation of money in one of the three Funds. It is hoped that this Fund will provide benefits for workers in the sugar industry. The Government is ever watchful and mindful of the conditions of employment of people in the industry, and to that end these discussions have been started having for their objects the provision of a Provident Fund for the workers. There is also under discussion what provision should be made for workers who are displaced as a result of the construction of the Deep Water Harbour. It is expected that at least until the

Deep Water Harbour gets going in full, there will be some displacement of labour and that is the natural consequence of the construction of this harbour. The Government is taking steps to make provision that these people who are so displaced and so affected should not just walk around and twiddle their fingers without having anything to eat, anything to wear and nowhere to sleep.

I was told some time last year that with regard to Trinidad, when their Deep Water Harbour was first opened and was first functioning, there was some dislocation of labour, but in a very short while that dislocation was absorbed and more workers were required. We are hoping that we will have the same experience here when some of our workers are displaced as the result of the setting up of the Deep Water Harbour. It is inevitable that with the setting up of the Deep Water Harbour some people will be displaced, but we do hope that these people will be re-absorbed and probably, as in the case of Trinidad, more people will be required.

5.15 p.m.

Now we go on to the Tourist Board. As we all know, it was appointed in 1958 and the Government granted \$200,000 for the first year. Commendable strides have been made in advertising and publicity and the development of the tourist industry. Estimated earnings from the tourist industry were approximately \$12 million in 1959 as against \$10 million in 1958. A further extension of the tourist trade is expected with the expansion of hotel accommodation now taking place. The industry is no doubt given incentive by the Hotel Aids Act which granted relief of Income Tax and Customs Duty to new hotel development and existing accommodation, and the Barbados Development Act which has permitted the Development Board to make loans for the construction and extension of hotels. There is nothing further I can add except that there are quite a few hotels at present under construction - as far as I know there are about three but there may be more; so I think the tourist trade is progressing satisfactorily, and the Government, like the hon. junior member for Christ Church on the other side, would like to see next year an increase of \$5 million at least instead of \$2 million.

The Development Board has continued to expand its activities during the past year. The Grazettes Industrial Trading Estate has now been opened, and two factories have been erected. The first of these is now in full operation. The Government is endeavouring to promote industrial expansion under its Pioneer Industries Act and customs concessions. The applications being made for pioneer status and the number of applications being made to the Development Board for financial assistance and for factory sites at the Industrial Estate is a sign of the response our economy is making to the measures introduced by Government. A steady increase in industrial expansion is anticipated; so on the industrial front, as I said, we are making rapid progress.

With regard to Medical Services, there is nothing startling. When I say that I mean there is nothing extraordinary from the point of view of future plans. Of course we are building a new Hospital, but what I was thinking about when I said that was the question of staff. You will know that we have been having difficulty with staffing arrangements; it has improved but we have not got the full complement yet, though we are still trying. The staffing difficulties revolve around money. In very many cases when we think we have clinched a possible appointment, at the last moment there is a reversed decision to go somewhere else and get a little more money. Recently, Sir, in the area there have been increases in salaries, and naturally applicants are more inclined to go to these places where salary is the chief factor.

We have been without a Pathologist for some time; Dr. Walcott who resigned a few years ago is still acting, but I think later this year we will be getting some person permanently appointed. In this case, I believe that the climate of Barbados is the predominant factor.

The Farm at the Mental Hospital which was formerly administered by the Superintendent of the Mental Hospital has now been transferred to the supervision and working of the Department of Agriculture.

It is expected that the first District Hospital and Out-Patients' Clinic at Christ Church will be opened early in the new financial year. Government's proposals for the establishment of these services in the rural areas were laid before the Legislature in July, 1959.

Now, Sir, I have given a survey of the financial position with regard to revenue and expenditure as we know it up to today, but as I mentioned earlier, with the expenditure in connection with the new schemes, new Departments which have been mentioned and the establishment of new Departments which we have in mind in face of the increasing expenditure, as well as the deficit which I have mentioned to the House and which members have themselves read, there is the question of providing money to meet these demands. The Government has to find money to carry on the present services and in addition the services which we envisage will be set up possibly during this year.

5.25 p.m.

I repeat, as I have said earlier, while we do not want to spread any undue alarm or to be any way despondent, yet, Sir, we have to face the realities of the situation. Each and everyone of this Committee knows that the outlook for the sugar crop is not very rosy; it is not one of which we can be enthusiastic. I do not want to refer to any extent to the position for this year as regards the reduction in the yield, plus the reduction in the price, but all that is not so healthy for the economy of Barbados. Of course, we still have to live and to carry our services. We still have to make provision for our people and, therefore, we must in some way or other look around for money to carry on, at least if not to a larger extent, in the same way as we are carrying on today. I mentioned earlier that we still have to find work, probably very soon after this crop ceases, for the people; and in order to find work, we must find the money to pay them. It is not an easy task in a place of this size and with the economy of this island and the conditions as we know them and so few avenues of raising money. It is not an easy task with which we are faced, but the Government has tried and has faced up to the situation.

The Budget proposals which I want to make, Sir, are these. First of all, we kept before us in arriving at these conclusions the undesirability of doing anything which would affect the cost of living. We do not want to in any way do anything which might have its reflection directly in increasing the cost of living.

The first proposal is an increase in stamp duties. Now, Sir, this was a recommendation made ever since 1952 by Professor Beasley. He said that our stamp duties were low and I think hon. members will remember that he made an exhaustive study on the economy of Barbados and made certain proposals and this proposal happens to be one of them. The economy of the island was then, and has been up to now, in such a state that we thought it unnecessary to implement this proposal.

Now, our stamp duty as we ordinarily know it on receipts, bills and things of that sort has been, and still is up to now, one penny on a receipt from \$9.60 up. Ours is the lowest in the area. In Trinidad, it is five cents on five dollars. On a receipt of five dollars in Trinidad, you put a five cents stamp on it. In Trinidad also, cash bills of purchases made in stores carry a stamp. I have here in my pocket two cash bills from stores in Trinidad and they carried a five cents stamp. As I have said, that is, from five dollars up. If any hon. member wants to see them, I can show them.

The Government proposes that we increase our stamp duty not to five cents but to four cents, that is, an increase of one penny, and to still let the sum of \$9.60 remain as the minimum. We are not exactly following Trinidad be-

cause theirs is a minimum of five dollars and the stamp duty is five cents. We propose that ours be four cents and the minimum remains at \$9.60 and that this will include cash bills in stores. I am advised that the wording of our Act reads the same as that of Trinidad and that it is within the Law to ask merchants and those people who trade to put a four cents stamp on any Bill amounting to \$9.60 or over.

This rate of one penny was fixed since 1916 and it was never altered until now which is a period of 44 years. 5.35 p.m.

When we have done that we will still be one of the lowest in the West Indies. All documents which are now stamped, bills of lading, insurance and postal packets and so on, will not be changed, but affidavits affecting title in respect of real or personal property will be subject to stamp duty of fifty cents instead of twenty-five cents. The stamp duty on contracts, deeds, bills of exchange and insurance policies will be increased similarly and there will be a small increase in respect of mortgages, bonds and loans. Certain rates of duty such as those placed on bills of lading and insurance or postal packets will not be changed, but affidavits in respect of title of any real or personal property will be subjected to a stamp duty of fifty cents. While we have made certain increases, and this is one - and I will mention others in due course - while we have proposed to do these things yet they do not meet the full bill. That is to say, we will not realise the one million dollar shortage. These increases will bring us a part of the way. I say all of that in order to say this: on this particular item we expect to raise the sum of \$22,000, and that might be felt to be a small amount. There are other things which will be proposed, and which in the aggregate will amount to something in the vicinity of \$500,000 which is less than one half of our deficit.

You will remember that I said earlier that we are very mindful of the steps which we are taking in order to get a little revenue and that these steps should not affect the cost of living of those people who are least able to bear it. In similar circumstances I think you will agree with me that we generally increase the duties on rum and tobacco. But bearing in mind the policy which I have been enunciating, we have not made any increases on rum and tobacco, at least, not on locally manufactured cigarettes. They will be unaffected but we propose to increase the duty on imported cigarettes. They will be increased from \$4.76 preferential and \$5.24 general, to \$6.76 preferential and \$7.24 general; so that those who smoke imported cigarettes will be asked to pay five cents more or a little over that for a package of ten cigarettes. We have tried to get information as to duties prevailing in other countries in respect of tobacco. We learn that in Jamaica the preferential duty is \$8.18 per pound. By taxing these imported cigarettes we hope to raise \$116,000. We also propose higher duties on imported spirits like brandy, whiskey, gin, bitters, liqueurs and other imported beverages containing spirits. They will be increased by four dollars a gallon; therefore the preferential rate on whiskey will go from \$11.76 to \$15.76 a gallon, and that of gin to \$13.96 per gallon. We anticipate raising the sum of \$84,000 this way. You will remember that last year there were certain concessions given to income tax payers; they were reductions in respect of children's education at higher schools. According to age certain deductions were given. Even although we want money very badly, at this stage we do not intend to revert to what the figures were before. We realise that the concessions have been given rather shortly and people have not taken advantage of these concessions, and they will be somewhat unwilling - I should not say "unwilling" because all income tax payers are unwilling to pay taxes. These concessions having been instituted a short while ago, we do not think that we should interfere with them. 5.45 p.m.

We were also looking around, Sir, for some other means of increasing our revenue, and we propose that there should be a consumption tax on motor cars, trucks, lorries and vans entered for home consumption of 10% of the value as assessed by the Customs Department, that is the C.I.F. value. This will not apply to buses and lorries of two tons gross maximum and over. We want to make this announcement to the dealers in motor cars that in calculating their mark-up this should not be included. We will watch the position very carefully, and we hope they will co-operate; but if they do not, other means might have to be taken to make them co-operate. The Minister of Trade, Industry and Labour will be watching this very closely.

Legislation will be introduced to make the tax payable on these vehicles as from today; that is, when the legislation comes down it will be retroactive as from today's date and all the other things as I have mentioned will come into effect as from today, namely the duties in regard to spirits and cigarettes and stamps. When the Bill comes down it will be retroactive; by that I do not mean that cars in the island now be subject to this tax, but those that come into the island after today. Those in the island now and unsold will not be subject to this; similarly, cars brought in by a *bona fide* visitor or in the case of a car being exported as happens sometimes, these will not be subject to this taxation. It is estimated that this form of taxation will bring in approximately \$250,000.

As I said earlier, these measures will bring in an aggregate of slightly over \$ 1/2 million and not the full deficit, and it is the intention of the Government during this year to watch very carefully its expenditure. I have already told Ministers to tell their Heads of Departments that such items as Supplementary Estimates will be strictly controlled. This is our effort, Sir, to make an increase in revenue, bearing in mind the present conditions as well as what we have to face for the future, especially this year by way of increased Departments and things of that sort.

Mr. Speaker, I think I did say that during the luncheon interval it was brought to my attention that the statement in the newspaper to which I referred earlier was capable of another point of view which had not occurred to me. I thought I had made that clear, but if I didn't I beg to do so now.

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

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

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that further consideration of this Bill be now postponed.

Mr. DOWDING: I beg to second that.

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

ADJOURNMENT

The Order Paper having been fixed.
5.55 p.m.

Hon. M. E. COX: I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Friday, next, 11th March, 1960 at 3.00 p.m. o'clock.

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

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

6.00 p.m.