

THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SESSION 1961

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 10th January, 1961.

Pursuant to prorogation, the 1956-61 Legislative Session was re-opened by His Excellency the Governor, Sir John Montague Stow, K.C.M.G., in the Council Chamber, Public Buildings, at 10 o'clock a.m. today.

The following Members of the House were present in their Chamber:-

His Honour Mr. K. N. R. HUSBANDS, junior member for St. Peter, (*Speaker*); Mr. J. E. T. BRANCKER, junior member for St. Lucy, (*Leader of the Opposition*); Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS, C.B.E., M.D., C.M., junior member for St. Thomas, (*Premier*); Mr. W. A. CRAWFORD, senior member for St. Philip; Hon. M. E. COX, senior member for St. Michael, (*Minister of Trade, Industry and Labour*); His Honour Mr. L. E. SMITH, J.P., senior member for St. Joseph, (*Deputy Speaker*); Mr. F. L. WALCOTT, O.B.E., senior member for St. Peter; Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY, senior member for the City; Hon. R. G. MAPP, senior member for St. Thomas, (*Minister of Communications, Works and Housing*); Mr. T. O. BRYAN, junior member for St. Michael, (*Chairman of Committees*); Mr. F. C. GODDARD, junior

member for Christ Church; Hon. F. E. MILLER, junior member for St. George, (*Minister of Social Services*); Mr. C. E. TALMA, senior member for Christ Church; Mrs. E. E. BOURNE, senior member for St. Andrew; Mr. J. C. TUDOR, M.A., senior member for St. Lucy; Hon. D. D. GARNER, junior member for St. Philip, (*Minister of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries*); Mr. C. B. SEARLES, junior member for St. James; Hon. L. ST.A. THORNE, senior member for St. John, (*Minister of Education*); Mr. G. E. S. STRAUGHN, junior member for St. Joseph and Mr. J. W. CORBIN, junior member for St. Andrew.

HOUSE SUMMONED TO OTHER PLACE

Honourable members being in their places, the Sergeant-at-arms entered the Chamber and informed Mr. SPEAKER that His Excellency the Governor was in the Council Chamber and was ready to receive the House.

Mr. SPEAKER preceded by the Marshal carrying the Mace cradlewise and followed by the Honourable members in pairs according to seniority, proceeded to the Council Chamber and waited on His Excellency the Governor.

His Excellency then addressed the two Houses of the Legislature as follows:-

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS

Mr. President and Honourable Members of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker and Members of the House of Assembly:

It is my privilege this morning to welcome the Members of both Chambers of the Legislature on the opening of a new session, to give a brief review of events in the past year and to outline my Government's future plans so far as that is possible in advance of next year's Budget.

Barbados was honoured by a visit in February last by Her Royal Highness the Royal Vi-
Princess Royal. During Her Royal Highness's visit the people of Barbados, by the warmth of their welcome, demonstrated their loyalty to the Throne and the person of the Queen.

Secretary of
State's Visit.

The Right Honourable Iain Macleod visited Barbados from the 13th June to the 14th June and held discussions with all three parties in the House of Assembly and with members of the Legislative Council.

This was the first occasion on which a Secretary of State for the Colonies while in office had visited Barbados.

The Legis-
lature.

The honour of Knighthood was conferred by Her Majesty the Queen on the President of the Legislative Council, Sir Grey Massiah, C.B.E., in the Birthday Honours List in recognition of his distinguished services.

During the year Mr. J. A. Mahon and Dr. C. H. St. John retired from the Council after serving ten and fifteen years respectively.

The Honourable E. Lisle Ward was, on Her Majesty's instructions, appointed to the Legislative Council for five years with effect from the 20th September, 1960.

The Honourable G. T. Barton, C.M.G., O.B.E., Chief Secretary, retired from the Council when he left the Island on the 5th December on vacation leave prior to the abolition of the office of Chief Secretary. I shall revert to this in my remarks under "Constitutional Changes" later in this Speech.

The question whether there should be some representation of the Opposition in the Legislative Council was discussed when the Secretary of State visited Barbados in June last year. The Secretary of State decided that as feeling on this point was not unanimous, consideration of the proposal should be deferred until after the next General Election.

The Constitu-
tion.

The legislation necessary to give effect to the agreed constitutional changes which were outlined in the Secretary of State's despatch No. 379 of the 15th of September, 1959, and presented to you in my Message No. 12/1959 dated the 19th of October, 1959, has now been drafted and will be presented to this Honourable House in the next few weeks. The legislation contemplates the withdrawal of the nominated members of Executive Council from the Executive Committee. The membership of the Executive Committee will thus consist of the Governor, the Attorney General and the Ministers, as the post of Chief Secretary is to be abolished. By convention the Governor will accept the advice of the Ministers on all matters falling within the powers and functions of that Committee. Full responsibility for the well being of this Island will then rest with the Cabinet answerable through the House of Assembly to the people of Barbados. The Secretary of State will no longer have any control over the Barbados Civil Service. The freedom of action of the Judiciary from executive interference will be preserved, the Attorney General will retain freedom of action in those matters which are traditionally the functions of his office and the office of Auditor General is especially protected.

Perhaps it would be convenient for me briefly, to trace the significant events that have led up to this position.

In 1946, when he prorogued the Legislature and dissolved the House of Assembly, Sir Grattan Bushe stated:-

"...The Officer Administering the Government will send for the person who appears to him to be best able to command a majority in the House of Assembly and will ask him to submit to him names from the

House for membership of Executive Committee, and Members of the Executive Committee will be asked respectively to take charge of the general policy relating to particular departments of government for the purpose of dealing with the affairs of those departments in Executive Committee and in the House of Assembly."

In 1948, Sir Hilary Blood announced to the Legislature that he would, in Executive Committee, as a general, though not as an absolute rule, accept the advice of the Members of the House on Executive Committee if they were unanimous.

The next development was the introduction of the Ministerial system of Government in 1954, when the Members of the House of Assembly on Executive Committee were formally charged as Ministers of the Crown with the general control and direction of most of the departments of Government. This was coupled with the statement by Sir Robert Arundell in his Address to the Legislature on the 1st day of February, 1954. Sir Robert said:-

"One of the basic conventions that we have accepted is that in arriving at his decision in Executive Committee the Governor will, except where it appears to him that grave or exceptional circumstances compel him to act otherwise, accept in legislative matters the advice of Ministers."

Cabinet Government was introduced at the beginning of 1958 when the Governor-in-Executive Committee delegated certain powers and functions to a Cabinet of Ministers, and the conduct of Government business in the Legislative Council was entrusted to a Minister.

So much for the sequence of past events. I have previously mentioned the main changes which will be brought into effect but I would like to explain them a little more fully.

It is now proposed that the conventions expounded by Sir Hilary Blood and Sir Robert Arundell as to when the Governor will accept the advice of the Ministers will be replaced by a new convention by which he will be obliged to accept that advice in exercising any function vested by law in the Governor-in-Executive Committee subject to a right to refer matters back once to Ministers for reconsideration. It becomes abundantly clear to all exactly where the responsibility will now lie. By legislation it will be provided that when the Governor is by law directed to exercise any function on the recommendation of or on the advice of any person or authority he will be obliged to accept that recommendation or advice subject, in the case of a recommendation, to a right to refer the matter back once to the person or authority by whom the recommendation is tendered. Legislation will further provide that when the Governor is directed by law to exercise any function after consultation with any person or authority he will not be obliged to accept their advice nor will he be obliged to consult with or seek the advice or recommendation of any person or authority when by law he is directed to exercise any function in his discretion. The instances in which the Governor is at present empowered by law to act without consulting any other person or authority will be examined in order to determine whether any require amendment.

In exercising the prerogative in the prorogation and dissolution of the House of Assembly it will be a convention that the Governor will act in accordance with the conventions which Her Majesty observes in similar circumstances in the United Kingdom.

I have already stated that the membership of the Executive Committee is to be altered. With respect to the appointment of members of the Executive Committee it will be recalled that Sir Grattan Bushe gave an undertaking that he would appoint to Executive Committee those persons in the House of Assembly whose names were recommended to him by the Member most likely to command a majority. That undertaking must now be extended to cover the person or persons in either House whose names may be submitted by the Premier.

The proposal that the nominated Members of Executive Council should withdraw from activity in the deliberations of the Executive Committee provides me with an opportunity of paying a tribute to those Members who have freely given of their counsel and advice. Both the Honourable Sir John Saint and the Honourable F. C. Hutson have given wonderful service to Barbados and I am more than grateful to them for their services. This change was, however, inevitable since the principle of collective responsibility of Executive Committee could not be maintained once the Governor was bound to accept the advice of the Ministers in matters by law vested in that Committee.

It would not be inappropriate here to pay tribute also to the Honourable G. T. Barton, Chief Secretary, who recently left the Island prior to the abolition of his office. During his fourteen years of service here he worked hard for the constitutional advancement of Barbados and set a fine example to the public service.

After a year's experience here, I do not personally consider that the office of Chief Secretary need be replaced by one of Governor's Secretary as most of the duties formerly performed by the Chief Secretary are now being devolved upon various Ministries. As the House has accepted the terms of the Secretary of State's despatch No. 379 of the 15th of September, 1959, which included a proposal that a post Governor's Secretary be created when the post of Chief Secretary is abolished, the matter will be referred back to the House shortly.

The powers of the Cabinet and Ministers will be strengthened by the removal of the provisions of law that prevented the delegation of power to make subsidiary legislation and the power to hear appeals. The occasions, therefore, upon which the full Executive Committee will be required to meet will become increasingly less frequent. There will, no doubt, however, be occasions when it will be necessary for the full Executive Committee to meet and although the law will empower the Governor to summon such meetings it will be a convention that he will not do so without consultation with the Premier.

From the foregoing it will be appreciated that the Governor will occupy in relation to the Cabinet a position not unlike that of Her Majesty in relation to the Cabinet of the United Kingdom. Like Her Majesty, the Governor will be kept at all times closely in touch with the affairs of Government as both by local legislation and by the Letters Patent all information and documents available to the Executive Committee and to the Cabinet will be made available to the Governor.

As regards the general public service, the withdrawal of the control of the Secretary of State and his authority to make appointments will place a heavy responsibility on the Service Commissions. The members of the Commissions will be appointed by the Governor acting in his discretion and there will be special safeguards for their conditions of service and terms of appointment.

Except in the case of certain classes of appointment which have already been enumerated in the Secretary of State's published despatch No. 379 of the 15th September, 1959, the Governor will under the proposed legislation act in accordance with the recommendations of the Service Commissions in respect of all appointments in

the service and of disciplinary control subject to the right of the Governor to refer any recommendation back once to the Service Commission concerned for reconsideration. Special provisions will protect the tenure of the offices of the Chief Justice and the other Judges of the Supreme Court, the Attorney General and Auditor General. Other special provisions will provide for the removal from office of those officers and of the Commissioner of Police.

In place of the right of appeal to the Secretary of State against disciplinary decisions of the Service Commissions there will now be provision for appeal to the Privy Council (as the Executive Council will now be designated) for all civil servants on the permanent establishment with the exception of those special categories of officers already mentioned to whom special disciplinary provisions will apply.

In order to ensure that there is no political influence it will be a convention that the Premier, who is a member of the Privy Council, will absent himself from meetings of the Council when an appeal is heard. As the Attorney General will be a member of the Privy Council there will be a further convention that he will not be asked for an opinion on, and will not have any responsibility in respect of, a disciplinary charge against a civil servant. These duties will in future be the responsibility of the Solicitor General. At the same time, as executive authority is vested in the Service Commissions it is proposed that regulations will be made whereby officers appointed by or with the approval of the Secretary of State who can show that they are adversely affected by constitutional changes will be able to retire with compensation. Separate legislation will also make provision for the granting or withholding of pensions and arrangements will be made for the safeguarding of the existing pension rights of serving officers.

The result of these important changes will be that Barbados will in future have its own civil service for which it will be solely responsible.

I have described in some detail the constitutional changes to be made as they mark the last milestone on the road towards independence.

When the bills about to be introduced into the House have become law and the necessary amendments have been made to the Letters Patent and Royal Instructions, full internal self-government, which has virtually been enjoyed in Barbados for several years, will be an accomplished fact. Barbados will then look forward to achieving independence in the near future as part of the West Indies nation.

On Wednesday, 8th June, the Right Reverend Lewis Evans, previously Suffragan Bishop of Kingston, Jamaica, was enthroned with due ceremony as Lord Bishop of Barbados.

Ecclesiastical.

Negotiations for the disestablishment and disendowment of the Anglican Church have not progressed as quickly as expected, but important discussions were held towards the end of the year and are continuing between representatives of the Government and the Anglican Diocesan Synod as a result of which progress should be made.

During the year my Government has participated in the deliberations of the Working Parties set up by the Inter-Governmental Conference to deal with constitutional, political, economic and social matters, and looks forward to the resolving of all difficulties in respect of these matters at the resumption of the Inter-Governmental Conference.

The Federation of the West Indies.

The Honourable Premier attended, as an observer, discussions in London on the subject of the United States Bases in the West Indies. It is possible that, in accordance with Article XXIV of the 1956 Agreement between the United Kingdom and the United States for the establishment in Barbados of an oceanographic research station, certain revised terms and conditions agreed upon in respect of the Bases as a result of the recent discussions may be applied *mutatis mutandis* to the Agreement.

Financial position.

Final figures for the financial year 1959-60 show Revenue of \$23.2 million and Current Expenditure of \$22.3 million giving a surplus of \$.9 million on Current Account. Capital Expenditure amounted to \$10.6 million of which \$2.0 million was met from revenue and surplus, \$7.8 million from loan funds, \$.7 million from Colonial Development and Welfare Grants and \$.07 million from Labour Welfare Funds. The General Revenue Balance stood at \$5.8 million at the beginning of the current financial year, as compared with \$6.4 million a year previously.

The Budget for the current financial year showed Revenue of \$22.2 million and Current Expenditure of \$23 million.

In comparison with last year the Revenue at the end of November, 1960, exceeded by \$1.3 million that collected for the same period last year, while Expenditure for the same period exceeded the amount for last year by \$1.7 million.

It is too early to predict with any degree of accuracy what the final outcome will be this financial year. However, from the revised figures so far available it would appear that the current revenue for 1960-61 might be in the vicinity of \$23.7 million (including extraordinary credits of \$279,000) and the current expenditure about \$23 million. This would mean a surplus of about \$3/4 million (including the special receipts) instead of the estimated deficit of \$3/4 million.

The accumulated surplus balance will be reduced to meet part of the capital expenditure; it will not be available for meeting increases in the Island's current expenditure.

During the current financial year the Deep Water Harbour overshadows all other items of capital expenditure, accounting for about 63% of the total. Monthly expenditure on this scheme now runs at an average of \$340,000. The second largest capital project is the New Hospital on which over \$406,000 have been spent: this is about 10% of the total. On Communications \$261,000, or about 8% of the total, have been spent so far, and on Agriculture \$107,000, or 4%.

The main source of finance has been loan funds amounting to about \$2.8 million. Surplus Balances of about \$651,000 have been used and \$341,000 met from Colonial Development and Welfare Grant. The remainder of \$65,000 have come from Labour Welfare Funds.

Public Loans.

In accordance with the policy of Government of always keeping a local issue on tap, a prospectus is open to the public for issue of Government debentures of \$2 million 6% stock. This prospectus is meeting with favourable response.

Planning Unit.

A Planning Unit has been established to advise on the economic and social planning of the Island.

Staff for the unit, which has been agreed to by the Legislature, will include an Economist, an Administrative Assistant, and plans are in train to obtain the services

of an experienced expert to guide the Economic Planning Unit in its formative years, train the staff and act as Economic Adviser to Government during this period.

During the year a Trade Mission visited the Island from Nicaragua. It is hoped that this visit will result in an increase of trade between Nicaragua and the Island.

Trade.

The Barbados Development Board continues to stimulate local and overseas interest in industrial development and to make loans to industrial enterprises and hotels. From its inception in 1957 to the 31st December, 1960, the Board approved loans totalling \$1,560,150. In addition, factories are being erected at the Board's Industrial Estate at Grazettes. Two factories have so far been constructed and two others are now under construction. Negotiations are now proceeding in regard to the construction of other factories.

Industry.

The Board has also given considerable attention to its promotional activities. The Chairman and the Manager paid visits to the United Kingdom, United States and Canada with a view to encouraging industrialists in those countries to invest in Barbados.

The Government continued in 1960 its policy of encouraging the establishment of industries by enabling manufacturers to enjoy the benefits provided by the Pioneer Industries Act, 1958. Five more industries were declared to be pioneer industries and eight companies were declared to be pioneer manufacturers.

The Government has also permitted certain raw materials to be imported free of duty or at reduced duties.

The Government is conscious of the increasing pressure upon the resources of the Island caused by population growth. The annual rate of national increase in the population is just over 2%, so that without taking migration into account the numbers can reasonably be expected to rise to between 255,000 to 260,000 by the beginning of 1966. More jobs have therefore to be found and industrial productivity increased.

The Government has been giving close and urgent attention to this matter and has been exploring further means of encouraging productive investment. The Government has under consideration, for instance, certain measures to encourage the erection of factories for lease to new industries.

The Tourist Board has made great strides in promoting the growth of the tourist industry. The primary aim of the Board is to encourage more tourists to visit the Island during the summer and so ensure that hotels are full throughout the year. With this in view the Board has been doing its utmost through travel agents, airlines and steamship companies to bring about a reduction in fares. The Board has also intensified its advertising campaign in the United Kingdom and Venezuela.

Tourist
Development.

During the year the Board broke new ground in sending a delegation to the United Kingdom to make direct contact with travel agents, airline companies and steamship companies. The delegation toured the main cities of England and Scotland, and it is hoped that their visit will begin to bear fruit in the near future.

During the period 1st January to 30th September, 1960, 27,851 tourists visited the Island, an increase of 4,668 over the corresponding period of 1959. In addition, 51 cruise ships called during the period 1st January to 30th September, 1960, bringing 21,639 passengers, as compared with 36 ships bringing 13,166 passengers in the same period in 1959. During the same period the hard currency earnings of the in-

dustry were estimated at \$6.94 million (W.I) as against \$5.78 million for the corresponding period of 1959.

Labour.

On the 30th September, 1960, 5,200 persons were registered as unemployed at the Employment Exchange. Between October, 1959, and September, 1960, 470 persons were placed by the Exchange in employment locally.

migration.

From January to September, 1960, 3,009 workers emigrated to the United Kingdom. This compares with a figure of 795 for the corresponding period of 1959. Of the number emigrating in 1960, 856 received financial assistance from the Government and the remainder went on their own. The number of those for whom jobs were found through the Liaison Service in the United Kingdom was 714, as compared with 349 during the corresponding period of 1959.

Since the inception of the scheme in 1954, the amount of money loaned to emigrants as at the 30th September, 1960, was \$1,635,029.20. The loans to emigrants for the period January to September, 1960, totalled \$303,972, as against \$140,950 during the corresponding period in the previous year.

The Government has continued its efforts to find employment in new fields in the United Kingdom. It has succeeded in placing workers in cotton mills in Lancashire and, if these workers prove satisfactory, it is likely that that industry will request an additional number.

Additional quotas of conductors and canteen assistants have also been granted by the London Transport Executive and the British Transport Commission.

From January to September, 1960, 643 men were recruited for employment under the United States Farm Labour Programme. This compares with 158 for the corresponding period of 1959. At the end of September, 1960, there were 680 Barbadian workers under contract in the United States.

Under the scheme organised in co-operation with the Canadian Ministry of Immigration, 42 women went to Canada to work as domestics. There are now 209 Barbadian women working in Canada under the scheme.

The Government found employment for a small number of workers in hotels in the Virgin Islands. This began as a pilot scheme and already requests have been received for additional workers.

The Government has continued its consideration of the recommendations made by Mr. C. O. J. Matthews of the International Labour Office. Certain legislation has already been enacted and it is expected that during this session legislation will be introduced to amend the Workmen's Compensation Act, and the Holidays With Pay Act, so as to provide greater benefits for workers.

Legislation to regulate the working hours of domestic employees will also be introduced shortly.

The Government has reached agreement with the Barbados Workers' Union in regard to *ex gratia* payments for such workers as may be displaced as a direct result of the coming into operation of the Deep Water Harbour. The necessary legislation will be introduced during this session.

Negotiations with the Barbados Workers' Union and the Sugar Producers' Federation in regard to the financing of a Provident Fund for workers in the sugar industry are almost now ended. Such legislation as may be required will be introduced in the coming Session.

It is expected that legislation will be introduced concerning compulsory registration of employers and workers in specified occupations and the protection of wages.

An Order prescribing the minimum wage rates payable to shop assistants came into force from the 30th April, 1960. The Shops Wages Council now has under consideration proposals to provide for sick leave for shop assistants.

Sugar continues to be the most important single product in the agriculture of the Island. The crop for 1960 was 153,668 tons. The industry receives the protection of International and Commonwealth Sugar Agreements which guaranteed exports up to a limit of 130,674 tons for 1960 at a negotiated price and a further 12,936 tons at the world market price. The world market price was much below the negotiated export price of \$213.32 per ton thus reducing the average price to the producer for the total 1960 crop to about \$191.99 per ton. Unfortunately during the year owing to lack of available stocks for export, Barbados was unable to benefit from the United States sugar deficit as a result of the withdrawal of Cuban sugar from the United States market.

Sugar Industry

The Commonwealth Sugar Agreement has recently been extended to 1968 and the negotiated price to be paid by Her Majesty's Government for 1961 has been fixed at the 1959 figure of \$216.48 per ton which is an increase of \$3.16 per ton on the figure for 1960 of \$213.32. The limitation placed by these agreements on the Island's export makes it more important than ever for the island to seek to increase its production and productivity in other crops for which there is no such limitation.

About 430 acres of land have been reformed in the Scotland District of which 396 acres are at present under sugar cane. The total area of reformed land includes 182 acres which previously supported little or no vegetation and on which, therefore, crops could not be economically grown. Of this 182 acres, 148 acres are under sugar cane and vegetable crops and 34 acres are being planted in pangola grass and trees including fruit trees.

Agriculture.

An application has been made to the United Nations for the services of a Water Geologist to advise on the water problems in this area.

The mechanical cultivation scheme introduced in 1960 for small farmers has filled a much needed want. 1,220 farmers took advantage of the scheme to have some 1,200 acres mechanically cultivated. The rates of charge for work done is much below the prevailing commercial rates, and apart from this facilities of the Peasants' Loan Bank are available to those farmers who have not the ready cash to pay for the work.

It is expected that legislation designed to establish a marketing authority will be introduced into the Legislature during the forthcoming session and a proposal is under consideration for amalgamating the work of Cooperative and Friendly Societies under one Registrar.

The Peasants' Loan Bank issued 2,095 loans to small farmers for the agricultural year 1959-60 totalling \$231,685 for purposes of cultivation, purchases of livestock, payment of balance of purchase money and irrigation. Legislation is

now being drafted to improve the facilities of the Bank and increase its usefulness to the community by remodelling it in the form of an Agricultural Credit Bank Act.

During the year the services of the FAO Cooperative Expert on the staff of the Caribbean Commission, an ILO Expert and the Caribbean representative of the Credit Union National Association have been made available to the cooperative movement in the Island for training and advice.

Work is progressing on pangola grassland development as the basis for the development of the dairy and beef industry. The use of this grass is expected to increase milk yields as well as to reduce the cost of feeding. Legislation governing the importation of animals and meat is being revised and will be introduced into the Legislature at an early date.

Plans for the construction of a new abbatoir for slaughtering locally reared animals have been finalised and early action for their implementation will be taken.

Local agriculturalists have displayed some interest in a scheme for the heat treatment of milk and for improving milk marketing arrangements. The promoters have sought certain concessions from the Government and as soon as a decision is reached will be in a position to carry out the plans which are aimed at developing the dairy industry. The pig subsidy scheme continues and has resulted in a substantial increase in the island's pig population.

The Bellairs Institute of McGill University continues to cooperate with the Government in relation to fisheries research and in research on irrigation and agromonomical work.

A programme for training fishermen in navigation and maintenance of fishing vessels is being prepared.

The main problem of the fishing industry is one of marketing. Consultants have been engaged in the United Kingdom through the Crown Agents for constructing and equipping a fish cold store in Bridgetown and the assistance of Federal Advisers has been sought on the methods of improving marketing arrangements for fish as well as for vegetables.

Proposals have been agreed with the Bellairs Institute of McGill University for carrying out a series of experiments next year in continuation of those concluded this year on the biology of the flying fish with a view to increasing productivity.

The merger of the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture in Trinidad which has earned itself a high reputation as a training centre in tropical agriculture, took place with the University College of the West Indies during the year. This step is of some significance to agricultural education in the region which has now been raised to degree level by the award of the B.Sc. degree in agriculture by the University College of the West Indies instead of the previous award of a diploma by the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture.

Legislation designed to create an authority charged with the duty of acquiring and developing the Island's beaches and for safeguarding the rights of the public to enjoy them is under preparation.

Deep Water
Harbour.

A steady rate of progress has been maintained on the construction of the Deep Water Harbour during the past year. The Government is appreciative of the services

of Captain Alistair Smith, a retired Port Manager, now attached to the Ministry of Transport in the United Kingdom, who advised it on matters connected with the Harbour during the year. The Harbour Bill passed the Legislature during last December. The Harbour Regulations and Rate and Tariff Book have been prepared in draft and it is also hoped that early legislative action will be taken to give effect to these Regulations.

The buildings which will be erected in the new Port have all been agreed with those vitally concerned, and construction will proceed on these as soon as the Public Works Department can obtain access to the site. The Bulk Sugar Store is expected to be ready to receive sugar very soon. Negotiations have been in progress between the Government and the proposed Landing and Shipping Company. These negotiations have reached the stage where the Company is prepared to proceed with the formalities for its registration and to enter into discussion with the Barbados Workers' Union on wages and conditions of Port Workers. The Government has also been in negotiation with representatives of the Sugar Producers' Association on the terms of the Lease to them of the Bulk Sugar Store. These discussions are still in progress.

During the past year the whole of the West Coast of the Island from South Point to North Point was brought under planning control. Similar action was also taken in respect of an area from Cattlewash to Long Pond on the East Coast.

Town and
Country
Planning.

The advent of additional personnel should enable the expansion of development control in 1961 to cover the whole Island and the commencement of a positive programme of plan preparation. It is hoped to obtain United Nations technical assistance in the latter programme.

The land use survey programme has proceeded at an encouraging rate and the technical staff has completed the urban land use survey from Silver Sands in the South to Hometown in the North.

During the year, outline proposals were made for the development of the Cave Hill Area (between St. Stephen's Hill Road in the South and Holder's Hill Road in the North; and between the Highway No. 1 in the West and the Cave Hill-Thorpe Road in the East) for urban purposes. It has been decided to prepare a detail master plan for the development of this area as a whole and, meanwhile, strict control is being exercised over development in the area to the virtual extent of "freezing" development in the area until such time as the plan has been published. Accurate topographical maps of the area have been commissioned and it is hoped to commence preparation of the development plan early in 1961. My Government is at present studying the extent to which it will actively participate in the physical development of this area and the financial implications involved. The object of this scheme is to ensure that sufficient land is available for urban development purposes to meet the needs of the Island over the period of the next twenty years and to complement its policy of conservation of good agricultural land for agricultural purposes.

During 1960 two hundred and seventy-one permanent houses were completed (including 32 by the Aided Self Help method) and thirty-four were under construction (14 Aided Self Help). 402 loans, amounting to \$224,889 were made to Sugar Workers. Repayments of principal and interest on all loans amounted to \$190,492. 450 loans amounting to \$249,503 were granted to General Workers and repayments amounted to \$46,509 over the same period. 265 loans were made to Public Officers amounting to \$911,985 and \$235,862 were repaid towards principal and interest.

Housing.

It is proposed to introduce legislation early in the Session to permit the Housing Authority to rent houses to aged and needy persons at a pepper corn rent. Consideration is also being given to the introduction of a scheme whereby mortgages could be insured as a means of attracting more capital for large scale housing especially for middle income groups.

**Water
Supplies.**

During the past year work on the new pumping station at Hampton, St. Philip, continued. Tests to date have indicated a supply of four million gallons a day but it is hoped that the daily yield will eventually be six million gallons a day. It is proposed to put the water obtained from the well into the public supply in February. An application has been made to the United Nations for expert geological advice in the matter of the further development of water resources.

**Highways
Improvement.**

During the year the programme of reconstruction of tenantry roads and maintenance on roads, drainage, bridges and culverts continued. A number of highway improvements was also undertaken and the bus terminal at Fairchild Street rebuilt and extended. The extension of the terminal has enhanced the area and relieved parking congestion in the City by providing alternative accommodation for omnibuses plying on certain routes which were formerly parked in Marhill Street and the Probyn Street bus stand. It will be necessary during this year to commence rehabilitation of a number of the highways which will be used by bulk sugar lorries and other heavy vehicles. Modern equipment will be purchased for use in this programme.

The Department of Highways and Transport reinstated a record mileage of roads on the completion of works by the Waterworks Department and public utility companies.

Aviation.

Compared with 1959, some 5,000 more passengers landed and some 10,000 more passengers departed from Seawell Airport in 1960. Approximately 2,000 more aircraft movements were recorded in 1960.

Work on the extension of the aircraft parking apron and the car park by the Department of Highways and Transport was completed. Some of the funds required for the extension of the runway from 7,000 to 9,000 feet for the accommodation of jet aircraft have recently been provided and that Department will shortly commence operations. Funds for the completion of the work will be included in the draft Estimates for the year 1961-62.

Transport.

A statement of policy on the future of the transport services was laid in the Legislature. Legislative approval of the guarantee of a loan of \$1,205,753 to the Transport Board by the Government has been given. The main object of raising the loan was to improve the Board's rolling stock. This equipment and certain administrative changes have enabled the Board to offer an efficient service to the public and to reduce its operational losses considerably.

Postal.

A new issue of postage stamps will be brought out during the year to commemorate the opening of the Deep Water Harbour.

Education.

The programme of providing extensions to the primary schools has continued. Six schools are scheduled for extensions in the current financial year and it is planned to add 6,000 places in the primary schools eventually.

The Pine Secondary Modern School was opened in September with accommodation for 800 pupils. Fees for public examinations taken by pupils of secondary modern schools are now met from Government funds. Apart from this school, over a thous-

and places were provided during the period 1955-60 by the opening of two secondary modern schools and new schools to provide a further 3,000 places are planned.

With regard to secondary grammar schools, work on the extension of St. Michael's Girls' School has begun. This extension will provide accommodation for another 200 pupils.

During the period 1955-60 nearly 1,100 additional places were provided at the Grammar schools and a new school, best described as a Grammar Technical, to provide a further 750 places is planned.

It is also intended that science laboratories will be added at Queen's College, Coleridge-Parry and Harrison College and that workshops and trained craft teachers will be provided wherever possible in secondary schools. Gradually it is proposed to increase the number of free places at entrance and Sixth Form levels until all places at schools now described as grant-aided are free so far as tuition fees are concerned.

The second Induction Course for prospective teachers was held in August, 1960, for which 112 persons enrolled.

A new course for teachers over 40 was started in September. Forty-three persons are enrolled and those who do the course successfully after one year's study will be regarded as trained teachers.

A new one-year emergency course began at Erdiston Training College in September, 1960. This course, along with the course for teachers over 40, is designed to reduce the high percentage of untrained teachers at a quicker rate than if the two-year course was continued.

For the first time the Technical Institute presented candidates for the final City and Guilds of London Institute Examination. One trainee instructor gained a final certificate in Automobile Engineering. At the Technical Institute, there were forty-five passes in the Intermediate City and Guilds of London Institute examination. Secondary Grammar School students successfully took examinations in Engineering Workshop Theory and Practice and in Geometrical Drawing for the Ordinary Level of the G.C.E.

It is intended to award annually in addition to existing University scholarships, open scholarships in Agriculture and Engineering, a scholarship for girls only, and 10 bursaries in subjects such as Economics and Modern Languages. All these will be tenable at the University College of the West Indies and the holders will be expected to return to work in Barbados at the end of their course of study for an agreed period. The Higher Education Loan Fund will also be increased.

An extension to the Headquarters Library has been completed. This will provide increased space for the Reference and Adult Lending Sections of the Library.

It is planned in the near future to purchase two mobile Library vehicles one for schools and one for rural areas.

The Head of the Mobile UNESCO Microfilm Unit completed a four-month assignment at the Library microfilming valuable papers and documents.

A survey of independent schools has been completed and its findings are being studied.

Medical and
Health
Services.

During the first fifteen months of construction good progress has been made with the New General Hospital. The main structures of the Out-Patients Department and the Kitchen have been completed, the Dining and Stores Block are nearing completion and the foundations have been laid for one block of the main Hospital building. Unfortunately, further progress has been seriously delayed by the delay in delivery of structural steelwork from the United Kingdom but the most recent information indicates that shipments of steel are expected to commence in January, 1961.

The first District Hospital and Out-Patient Clinic has been completed and has been formally opened at Oistin. Plans for the provision of a similar service in the Northern Area are now under preparation and negotiations will shortly be opened with the Northern District Council.

The Environmental Sanitation Programme has made most satisfactory progress since its inception in April, 1959. Up to the end of October, 1960, a total of 1,522 bored hole latrines fitted with pre-cast concrete units has been provided.

The demand for services at the three Health Centres continues to increase. Fortunately Medical Officers of Health have now been recruited for all the Centres and a Senior Medical Officer of Health has also been appointed. With the public health services now fully staffed at this level, the expansion of the Health Centre services to the more remote rural areas is now possible.

Social
Services.

The Handicraft Development programme has recently received considerable support through an order from Canada for Pandanus Lace Stitch Mats to the value of almost \$10,000. At the moment there are approximately 132 handicraft workers engaged in filling this order. This has given great encouragement for the future of the programme.

Local
Government.

Further amendments to the Local Government Act, 1958, are under consideration and it is expected that the necessary legislation will be introduced into the Legislature early in the Session.

Fire Brigade.

The new fire station in St. James was occupied in March, 1960. During 1960 the new Fire Service Act was enacted and it is expected that it will be proclaimed early in 1961.

Police.

It is proposed that the Bill to replace the Police Act of 1908 will be put before the Legislature at the same time as the Bills relating to the new constitutional proposals.

Statistical.

The Statistical Department carried out a Population Census during 1960. It is at present carrying out among other surveys a Household Budget Survey and it is proposed that the Department should carry out an Agricultural Survey in 1961.

Civil Service.

Once more I would record my gratitude to the Civil Service for their work during the past year and for their devotion to duty. I am sure that the Barbados Civil Service will maintain and enhance its reputation under full internal self-government.

My Government proposes that, in keeping with other territories in the Caribbean area, there will be a salaries revision during the forthcoming year.

The question of integrating certain Ministries with departments is being actively explored.

The past year has been full of interest and activity but the year 1961 could be one of the most momentous for the West Indies as it is expected that during the year decisions will be taken which will shape the future of an independent West Indian nation.

I am indeed proud to be serving as Her Majesty's representative at this exciting time and I am more than grateful for the many courtesies shown to me and my family since we have been here.

Mr. President and Honourable Members of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker and Members of the House of Assembly:

I now declare the Legislative Session open and I pray that the blessing of Almighty God may always rest upon your counsels.

J. M. STOW
Governor.

Government House,
Bridgetown,
Barbados.

10th January, 1961.

His Excellency presented a copy of his Speech to the President of the Other Place and to Mr. SPEAKER.

HOUSE RETURN TO ASSEMBLY CHAMBER

Mr. SPEAKER preceded by the Marshal bearing the Mace and followed by other members, returned to the Assembly.

PRAYERS

Prayers were read.

MR. SPEAKER REPORTS GOVERNOR'S SPEECH

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that on the last occasion when His Excellency the Governor was pleased to receive this Honourable House in the Other Place, he delivered himself of an Address, a copy of which he handed to me.

The Speech was taken as read.

STANDING ORDERS OF THE HOUSE

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the Standing Orders of the House for the last Session be the Standing Orders of the House for this Session.

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

The question was put and agreed to.

CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the hon. junior member for St. Michael be Chairman of Committees for this Session.

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

The question was put and agreed to.

PRINTING COMMITTEE

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the following members be the members of the Printing Committee for this Session:-

His Honour the Speaker, the hon. junior member for St. Lucy, the hon. junior member for St. Philip, the Hon. Minister of Communications, Works and Housing, the hon. junior member for Christ Church and the Hon. Minister of Education.

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

The question was put and agreed to.

VICTORIA EMIGRATION SOCIETY

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to appoint the following members to serve on the Victoria Emigration Society for this Session:-

The hon. junior member for St. Andrew, the hon. senior member for St. James, and the hon. junior member for St. Andrew.

SUGAR INDUSTRY AGRICULTURAL BANK

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the following members be the members of the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank for this Session:-

The hon. junior member for St. Lucy, the hon. senior member for St. George, the hon. junior member for St. Michael and the hon. junior member for St. James.

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

The question was put and agreed to.

PEASANTS' LOAN BANK

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the hon. senior member for St. Joseph and the hon. senior member for St. James be the members of the Board of the Peasants' Loan Bank for this Session.

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

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, if this is to be my hardy annual, I should like to say that I have never agreed, and I do not subscribe to the idea, that on any Board you should have all Government members. As a matter of fact.....

Hon. D. D. GARNER: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. Before the hon. member goes any further, I would like to tell him that legislation is coming down shortly for the purpose of changing all of this. This procedure will not be standing for too long.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I thank the hon. member, but that strengthens my argument. If you are recognising the Opposition at all you will have to do so come time, because you may have to be in the Opposition. I am moving that the hon. junior member for St. Andrew be a member of this Board.

All hon. members serving in this House should be given an opportunity of seeing the inside working of this Board. I can well remember the big bone of contention, before the political complexion of this House was changed, when the members who are now in the Government argued very strongly that you should not monopolise a Board with Government people. In those days I supported the idea that you should not monopolise any Board with Government members; that you should give other persons an opportunity of being members of the Board. I therefore beg to move that the hon. junior member for St. Andrew, who is a member of the Opposition, whether he is Left Wing or not, (Laughter), be a member of this Board. We should recognise that we are Left Wingers. You yourself accused the members on my left.....

Mr. SPEAKER: Not you yourself.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I am sorry, Mr. Speaker. I meant members of the Government in relation to the hon. members on my immediate left. I do not think that they should monopolise the Boards either with backbenchers or with members of the Government Party. Whether what the Hon. Minister of Agriculture has said is correct or not, I feel that this procedure should be changed today.

Mr. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I beg to second the motion which has been made by the hon. senior member for the City. In doing so, I should like to say that the policy which has been laid down by this House whereby junior members of this Chamber be granted the opportunity of serving in the various Departments of Government and on various Boards and receiving experience in so doing, should be adhered to. I remember quite well that, although I have nothing personal against hon. members who have been nominated by the Hon. Leader of the House, the hon. senior member for St. James who has been nominated as a member of this Board, has had the privilege of serving on this Board as far back as 1955.

11.25 a.m.

Indeed, Sir, I was a member of the Board as far back as 1952; and I think the hon. member served from the time of Ministerial Government in 1954. The hon. senior member for St. James has also served consistently on this Board from 1954 when the Ministerial system was introduced; and along with the then junior member for St. Joseph, the now Deputy Speaker and myself, he has had the honour of serving on this Board on several occasions prior to the introduction of the Ministerial system.

It is therefore clear and simple to understand, Mr. Speaker, that the hon. member in question has served for the last five or six years as a member of the Peasants Loan Bank. With that principle in mind and in view of the fact that the hon. junior member for St. Andrew represents a rural

constituency and is the most junior member of this Chamber, and *a fortiori* the next point being that he belongs to a party as distinct from the Government Party - he belongs to the Opposition - I feel he should be granted an opportunity to serve. I wholly endorse the remarks of the hon. senior member for the City and second the nomination he has made.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, I would like from the beginning to appeal to hon. members. We have much too much to do, and I hate to think that members on this side of the Table are going to follow the Government down the line of frivolity. This is the most frivolous motion you can think of at this stage; this is no stage in our constitutional development to be begging anybody to put you on a Board. Get the Government and you can control these Boards. I think the time has come when members in Barbados should realise that they should not utilise their blood vessels in dealing with this sort of business; it is not worth their while in 1961; leave that for 1939 and 1940.

What sort of old time chat is this of wanting to get on a Board? What is the difference of putting one member on the Peasants' Loan Bank Board and allowing another member to remain? The hon. senior member for St. James is ill and has not been able to attend meetings of the House frequently; therefore, people cannot get the best of his time. We regret any member's illness, but I think it is a positive waste of time to start this Session with this parish pump, political idea. We would never serve the public if we follow the Government with this parish pump politics. What is the point of putting a man on the Peasants' Loan Bank Board anyhow to dish out a few pennies when somebody goes with an application? They do not create policy; they hand out a few pennies to people and tell them that they are responsible for giving loans.

Do not let us waste our time in this way when it could be better used in legislation to advance the political situation of this island. What difference does it make if you put the hon. junior member for St. Andrew or the hon. senior member for St. James? What is the principle involved? There is none. If you say you accept internal self-Government, Party system or Cabinet system, you lose the right of being put on a Board like this. The whole Board wants scrapping anyhow.

Mr. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I regret I cannot join issue with the hon. senior member for St. Peter. I am afraid he has missed the entire purpose of the argument so far. To begin with, we are not wasting any time because the only thing we can do today is to appoint members to these Boards, and to give notice of matters by the Government and the Opposition. But on the other hand, Mr. Speaker, the moment you accept the principle of the two-party system, acceptance of the fact means that the Opposition should be provided with every possible opportunity of learning the inner operation of the Government. In the United Kingdom, Mr. Speaker, that is the practice observed. On all important Government Committees and on all important Government missions, the principle is for both the Government and the Opposition to be represented.

I do not agree with the hon. senior member for St. Peter that the members of this Board have no opportunity to create policy. Certainly the various improvements and the liberalisation of the programme of this Board down through the years have come from recommendations of members of the Board. I have served on the Board myself for years; and when I first began to serve on it, we only loaned money to peasants who owned their own land. It was on recommendation of members of the Board that the policy has now been liberalised and loans are extended to people whether or not they own their own land. Similarly, Sir, it was on recommendation of members of the Board that we advanced money not only for agriculture but for irrigation. It is incorrect to state.....

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member is drifting from the motion. The motion deals with personnel.

Mr. CRAWFORD: Your Honour must have heard when the hon. senior member for St. Peter in his objection to the

nomination of the hon. junior member for St. Andrew said that the Board has no opportunity to create policy....

Mr. SPEAKER: You do not have to make a speech on that.

Mr. CRAWFORD: I am pointing out the misconception on his part. I am saying, Sir, that at this stage there is nothing lost in the insistence by the Opposition of the right of inclusion on all important Government bodies, Commissions, missions and what-not.

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, I will take this opportunity to reply briefly. I am not all surprised at the remarks made by members of the D.L.P. Group, because no doubt....

Mr. SPEAKER: Will the hon. member name the members and their constituencies?

Hon. M. E. COX: I refer to the hon. senior member for Christ Church and the hon. senior member for St. Philip. They are not in charge of anything, and therefore any opportunity they can seize to get in on the ground floor, they will attempt to do.

As far as the hon. senior member for the City is concerned, I do not follow him. He is boss of another place, and I think I am correct in saying that only recently, some time last year, he liquidated his opponents completely from the Finance Board. That Board now comprises all persons connected with his Party.

Mr. MOTTLEY: On a point of order. The hon. member is an absolute stranger to the truth in his statement. I did not liquidate my opponents; the electorate liquidated my opponents and the electorate will further liquidate them. His statement is absolutely untrue.
11.35 a.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member is speaking on a point of order. If the hon. member will disclose that point as briefly, as cogently and as precisely as possible, that is what I would like him to do.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I shall do that. I was saying if because one member whom I believe is a close friend of the Minister was removed from the Board and two other members were put by that party, is that saying that you are liquidating your opponents? Anyhow, I leave the liquidation to the electorate.

Hon. M. E. COX: If that is so, I apologise to the hon. member. I would like to ask this: What do the members who spoke in favour of putting a member of the Opposition on that Board want? Let us say, for an example, that we agree to that proposal. An hon. member of this party goes to a meeting of that Board and say, "lend this peasant \$400," but the member of the Opposition then gets up and say, "lend him \$100 or none at all." Surely, this member's desire to get on this Board was to oppose things.

Now, there are only two seats and if the Opposition must have one, where is the strength of the Government who wants to carry out its policy? If you put one from the Opposition and one from the Government, the situation is equalised; therefore, the Government has absolutely no strength.

Mr. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. Is the hon. member stating that the Board has only two members and a Chairman?

Hon. M. E. COX: Two are appointed from this House, and that is what we are dealing with.

Mr. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I rise again on a point of order. Is the hon. member saying that if you appoint an hon. member from the Opposition and one from the Government, one would equalise the other and interfere with the working of the Board, thus implying that only two members are on that Board?

Hon. M. E. COX: It does not imply that at all. The hon. member knows very well that the other members of that

Board are not interested in any party. The Government stands by its former principle and policy in appointing two members of its party to this Board.

The question that the hon. junior member for St. Andrew (Mr. Corbin) be appointed a member of the Board of the Peasants' Loan Bank was put and resolved in the negative, the House dividing as follows:-

AYES: Mr. GODDARD, Mr. MOTTLEY, Mr. TALMA, Mr. CORBIN, Mr. TUDOR, Mr. CRAWFORD and Mr. BRANCKER - 7

NOES: Mr. BRYAN, Hon. M. E. COX: , Hon. D. D. GARNER, Hon. R. G. MAPP, Hon. L. St. A THORNE, Hon. F. E. MILLER, Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS, Mrs. BOURNE, Mr. SEARLES, Mr. STRAUGHN, Mr. SMITH and Mr. WALCOTT - 12

The question that the hon. senior member for St. Joseph (Mr. Smith) and the hon. senior member for St. James (Mr. Holder) be appointed members of this Board was put and resolved in the affirmative on the declaration of Mr. SPEAKER: "I think the Ayes have it."

S. H. x THE SUGAR PRODUCTION AND EXPORT CONTROL BOARD

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the following members be members of the Sugar Production and Export Control Board:-

The hon. senior member for St. Joseph (Mr. Smith), the hon. junior member for St. Andrew (Mr. Corbin), Mr. McDonald Blunt and Mr. H. A. C. Thomas.

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

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I want to draw to the attention of the Hon. Minister that this is exactly what I was asking to be done with respect to the Peasants Loan Bank Board. You have here as the composition of the Sugar Production and Export Control Board a member of the Government party, a member of the Opposition, a representative of the Barbados Workers Trade Union and a representative of the Sugar Producers Association. Why has the Hon. Minister done it in this instance, but did not see his way to do it in the case of the Board of the Peasants' Loan Bank?

The question that the hon. senior member for St. Joseph (Mr. Smith), the hon. junior member for St. Andrew (Mr. Corbin), Mr. McD. Blunt and Mr. H. A. C. Thomas be appointed members of the Sugar Production and Export Control Board, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

DOCUMENT

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that I have received from the Accountant General the Financial Report showing statement of all Government Funds at 31st October, 1960.

PAPERS LAID

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

The Customs Duties Harbour Equipment (Exemption) Order, 1960.

Statement of sums of money paid over to the Accountant General by the Commissioner of Police during the quarter ended 30th September, 1960.

Barbados Statistical Service - Selected Monthly Indicators - September, 1960.

Barbados Statistical Service - Selected Monthly Indicators - October, 1960.

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

Report on the Audit of the Accounts of the Housing Authority for the year ended on the 31st of March, 1960.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Government Notices were given as follows:-

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Resolution to place the sum of \$219,958 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to supplement the Estimates, 1960-61, Part I - Current as shown in the Supplementary Estimate, 1960-61, No. 30, which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Resolution to approve the Extraordinary Estimates of the Port Department which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Resolution to place the sum of \$60,000 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee for the purpose of making an advance to the Port Department.

Hon. M. E. COX: A Bill to amend the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1943.

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

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Mr. BRANCKER: WHEREAS the necessity for establishment of Single Member Constituencies in this Island has become increasingly apparent, particularly in view of the imminence of the next General Election;

AND WHEREAS, the Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain has appointed a Boundaries Commission consisting of a Judge of the High Court of Justice as a single Commissioner to fix British Guiana's Poll Boundaries;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Government seek to avail itself of the services of this Commission or any other equally qualified person for the purpose of de-limiting constituency boundaries in time for the next General Election here.
11.45 a.m.

Mr. BRANCKER: I beg to give notice of the following Resolution:-

WHEREAS Public Employees of the lower brackets undergo grave economic hardships in striving to make both ends meet, in view of the present high cost of living;

AND WHEREAS this hardship is felt even more acutely at Christmas than at any other time;

BE IT RESOLVED that, as from the instant year, Government take appropriate steps to institute an annual Christmas bonus equivalent to one month's or four weeks salary, for each and every Public Employee who is not now eligible for receipt of payment of Leave Passage.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. senior member for St. Philip re investigation into all phases of the Sugar Industry in Barbados.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, I am not protesting, but I would like to know in what manner Private Members' Orders are being called. If I recall correctly, on the last occasion I gave notice on the last day of the last House, that I intended to ask these questions which I had on the Order Paper. On the last occasion, I gave notice of what I intended to put forward; and I want to know the method by which these Notices are being dealt with today. We have no balloting for them. If my notices were given first, then they should be called first; and if they were behind other members' then they should be called behind.

Mr. SPEAKER: To begin with, if the hon. member asked to have these Notices repeated on the last occasion when the House died, then he is in the same position as any

other hon. member. I am calling these Notices as I see them on the Notice Paper. The next Notice happens to be standing in the name of the hon. member.

Mr. WALCOTT: If any hon. member had given notice to the Clerk that it was his intention to give notice of a Resolution before I gave notice of mine, then that hon. member would have his Notice called before mine. If notice of a Resolution was given before mine.....

Mr. SPEAKER: I would have to enquire of the Clerk.

Mr. WALCOTT: If I gave notice of a Resolution on Wednesday and someone else gave notice of one on Thursday, then I would expect my Notice to be placed higher on the Order Paper than that of the other hon. member.

Mr. SPEAKER: I would expect that too. I have made enquiries from the Clerk as to who have notice of Resolutions and he has said that all hon. members asked to have their notices repeated; therefore all hon. members asked at the same time.

Mr. WALCOTT: I thank you, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. senior member for St. Philip may give notice of his Resolution.

Mr. CRAWFORD: I beg to give notice of the following Resolution:

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.

Mr. WALCOTT: I beg to give notice of the following Resolution:-

BE IT RESOLVED that this House call upon the Government to set up a Commission of Enquiry to investigate all aspects of the operation of the Labour Exchange.

Mr. TUDOR: I beg to give notice of the following Resolution:-

WHEREAS this House has recently taken some steps to assist Public Employees and Public Pensioners to meet the rising cost of living, and

WHEREAS the same problems of high living costs beset those old persons now in receipt of Old Age Pensions;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House is willing to grant a substantial increase in Old Age Pensions as from April 1st 1959 before the end of the current financial year.

Mr. BRANCKER: I beg to give notice of the following Resolution:-

BE IT RESOLVED that this House approve of and sanction the creation and establishment of the post of Standing Counsel to His Honour the Speaker of this Chamber.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. senior member for St. Peter re the Trade Union Act.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, if you will prefer me to give notice of the Bill to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1957, first.....

Mr. SPEAKER: Yes.

Mr. WALCOTT: I beg to give notice of a Bill to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1957.

Mr. SPEAKER: Resolution standing in the name of the hon. junior member for St. John.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I am asking leave to give notice of this Resolution on behalf of the hon. junior member for St. John.

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

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, the Resolution reads as follows:-

BE IT RESOLVED that this House deprecates the renting by the Executive of the Railway Road at Bath in the parish of Saint John to private individuals and the consequential closing of the said road to vehicular traffic.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that action be taken to re-open the said road and to acquire lands adjoining the sea for the use and benefit of the public.

Mr. SPEAKER: Also standing in the name of the hon. junior member for St. John, is a Bill to amend the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1943.
11.55 a.m.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the hon. junior member for St. John, I beg to give notice of a Bill to amend the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1943.

Mr. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move the passing of the following Resolution:

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 school 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

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Bill to amend the Trade Union Act, 1939.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the hon. junior member for St. John, I beg to give notice of a Resolution re the appointment of a Standing Public Accounts Committee.

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following Resolution:

WHEREAS a Statement has been laid in this Chamber on 9th August, 1960, by the Hon. Minister of Communications relative to transportation of Emigrants to the United Kingdom;

AND WHEREAS such Emigrants experience the utmost difficulty and hardship in obtaining for themselves the amount of money required to pay for their transportation to the United Kingdom at the current rates charged by British Overseas Airways Corporation, namely three hundred and sixty dollars one way per person;

BE IT RESOLVED that in cases where Government is properly advised that any Airline offering rates of three hundred and thirty-six dollars per head, or any other lesser sum than three hundred and sixty dollars, cannot offer reasonably safe transportation to Great Britain with their available Aircraft, Government shall undertake to assist any would-be emigrant by paying the difference between seventy-five pounds and the cost of passage by the said cheaper Airline; in view of the extremely impecunious condition of prospective emigrants to the United Kingdom in quest of employment.

Mr. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following Resolution:

WHEREAS the number of children seeking secondary education has increased immensely over the last ten years;

AND WHEREAS the Government over the same period have failed to provide adequate and suitable accommodation, amenities and facilities for this increased school population;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Government establish without delay at least two Secondary Schools (one for Boys and the other for Girls), and in addition a Preparatory School, each capable of accommodating at least 1,000 children at the Garrison Military Buildings now used as flats for expatriates and certain Government employees.

AND FURTHER that such lands at the Garrison Savannah adjacent to or opposite the said Barracks be levelled and converted into regular playing fields for such children.

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

WHEREAS the migratory Farm Labour Programme is of immense economic advantage and importance to the country; and

WHEREAS an increasingly large number of Barbadian migrants are absenting themselves from work before the end of their contractual stipulation; and

WHEREAS every effort should be made to retain and extend this outlet for unemployed Barbadian workers:

BE IT RESOLVED that

- (a) the utmost caution be exercised in the recruitment of workers for U.S. labour contracts;
- (b) an Investigatory Committee comprised of Hon. C. W. W. Greenidge, M.A., L.B., M.L.C., Hilton Augustus Vaughan, Esq., Barrister-at-Law, and a representative to be designated by the Workers' Union for the purpose of investigating, be set up with the approval of the appropriate U.S. Authorities, reports from returning workers of unsatisfactory treatment, deplorable housing accommodation, lacking heat during the Winter, bad food and not only sub-standard but sub-contractual wages.

QUESTIONS

Mr. TUDOR: To enquire of the Hon. Minister of Education:-

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

2. Will the Minister further state what percentage of these were unsuccessful?
12.05 p.m.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the hon. junior member for St. John, I would like to give notice of the following question:-

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

1. Does the Minister for Communications and Works know that the employees of the Waterworks Department have to provide their own transportation to and from work on the new Sandy Lane Road?

2. Is the Minister also aware that the cost of such transportation by bus is in the case of some workers in excess of sixty cents per day?

3. Is the Minister aware that it is the practice of the Barbados Telephone Company and the Barbados Light and Power Company to convey their employees to and from work locations?

4. Will the Government take action to ensure that employees of the three major works departments i.e., Highways and Transport, Public Works and Waterworks enjoy in future conditions of service not less favourable than those experienced by employees of the Public Utilities managed by private enterprise?

Also, in respect of the same hon. member:-

To enquire of the Hon. Premier:-

1. Will the Hon. Premier make a statement without delay as to the history of the negotiations between members of Government and a concern known as the Mitchell Engineering Company in the United Kingdom?

2. Will the Hon. Premier also state at whose expense a representative or representatives of this concern travelled to and were entertained in Barbados?

3. Will the Hon. Premier state the amount spent if any by the Government either on travel and/or entertainment of representatives of the said Mitchell Engineering Company?

Also, in respect of the same hon. member:-

To enquire of the Hon. Premier:-

(a) Is the Government aware of negotiations for the transfer by the Barbados Electric Supply Corporation of the ordinary shares in the Barbados Light and Power Company?

(b) If the answer is in the affirmative, does the Government intend to acquire any of the said shares? If not, why not?

(c) Does the Government intend to guarantee the raising of the Capital necessary to purchase the said shares from the Barbados Electric Supply Corporation? If so, why so?

(d) Does the present action of the Government in negotiating with an alleged manufacturer of Nuclear Power station derogate in any way from guarantees given by the Government to the Barbados Light and Power Company?

Also, in respect of the same hon. member:-

To enquire of the Hon. Premier:-

1. Will the Hon. Premier as Minister of Finance give the figures showing the purchasing power of the W.I. Dollar in Barbados from the year 1938 to the year 1959 taking the year 1938 as 100.

Mr. BRANCKER: To enquire of the Hon. Minister of Health:-

1. Will the Minister state whether any measure 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?

Mr. TUDOR: To enquire of the Hon. Minister of Education:-

1. Will the Minister state what work was done by Olive Williams and Gertrude Clarke up to October, 1959, at Combermere School?

2. Will he state (a) whether they were required to perform duties additional to their normal work, (b) what those duties were, (c) whether they received extra payment for such work, (d) the amounts due to each, (e) the amounts received by each?

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

1. Will the Minister state how many vacancies at present exist in the Civil Establishment of this Island?

2. Will he further state what is being done to recruit suitably qualified persons to fill these vacancies?

Mr. TUDOR: To enquire of the Hon. Minister of Education:-

Will the Minister state what decision, if any, he has reached with respect to 5th Form pupils of St. Michael Girls' School who did not write the London Chamber of Commerce Examinations in July, 1960?

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

Will Government consider the setting up of a Committee with the guidance and assistance of the necessary experts from overseas (if necessary) for the purpose of considering, working out and establishing a Compulsory Insurance Scheme for all types of workers based on the lines of the National Insurance Acts (1946-57) of the United Kingdom?

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

Will the Minister make a statement, at an early date, on the Soil Conservation Scheme in the parish of Saint Andrew?

2. Will the Minister supply the following information for the benefit of the House:-

- (a) the total expenditure of the Soil Conservation Scheme to date;
- (b) The number of acres reclaimed to date;
- (c) Average yield in tons per acre of canes produced on such land since reclamation;
- (d) Net yield (in Dollars) of reclaimed land cultivated otherwise than under sugar cane; and
- (e) Number of acres yet to be reclaimed?

Mr. CRAWFORD: To enquire of the Hon. Minister of Trade:-

1. Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the establishment in this Island of Credit Company known as Olds Discount Company?

2. Is the Government aware of the operational policy of this Company with special reference to its finance charges - interest not being payable on the diminishing capital but a flat charge added to the unpaid portion?

3. Does the Government consider this system to be in the best interest of the public?
12.15 p.m.

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

Is the Government aware of the considerable difficulties experienced by the public and the comparatively high costs involved in the procuring of sand for construction and other purposes? Will the Government take steps

to acquire a number of beach spots in accessible places in order to make sand available to the general public free of cost?

Mr. CRAWFORD: To enquire of the Hon. Minister of Education:-

1. Has the attention of the Minister been drawn to the fact that two new Faculties - Law and Sociology - are expected to be added shortly to the University College of the West Indies?

2. If the answer to No. 1 be in the affirmative, will the Minister please state what steps, if any, have been taken to ensure that at least one of these, namely Law, be established at Codrington College, Barbados?

Mr. TUDOR: To enquire of the Hon. Minister of Education:-

1. Will the Minister state whether it is the Government's intention to erect a School in the Bannister Land area of St. Michael?

2. If the answer is "yes", will he state:

- (a) what kind of School it will be,
- (b) where it will be sited,
- (c) whether negotiations have been entered into for the acquisition of the site,
- (d) what the cost of the land will be?

Mr. TUDOR: (On behalf of the hon. junior member for St. John).

1. How many Civil Servants have applied during the past five years for study leave from the Service?

2. How many of these have been granted study leave?

3. How many Civil Servants have resigned during the same period in order to further their studies abroad?

4. What are the grounds for refusal of study leave to Civil Servants who desire to study (a) Law, (b) Economics?

Mr. TUDOR: (On behalf of the hon. junior member for St. John).

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

1. Is the Minister aware that the beaches at Conssett Bay, Martins Bay and Bath in the parish of Saint John attract large numbers of visitors and holiday makers and are of incalculable benefit to the people of this Island?

2. Will the Minister make provision for the installation of public toilets and baths at these three resorts?

Mr. BRANCKER: To enquire of the Hon. Minister of Communications, Works and Housing:-

1. Will the Minister state how many District Postmasters or Postmistresses are at present employed in the Public Service of this Island?

2. Will he further state, in detail,

- (a) the nature of their duties,
- (b) their other responsibilities, if any, and
- (c) their minimum and maximum salaries?

3. Will he further state whether it is intended to re-grade their salaries to a level commensurate with such responsibilities?

Mr. TUDOR: To enquire of the Hon. Minister of Education:-

1. Will the Minister state whether the dismissal of the Laboratory Attendant at Combermere School has been drawn to his attention?

2. Has the Minister received a Report on the matter from the Governing Body of the School?

3. Will the Minister state the circumstances leading to the dismissal of this Officer?

Mr. TUDOR: To enquire of the Hon. Minister of Education:-

1. Will the Minister state whether it is Government's intention to remit the Examination Fees paid in by those pupils of Private Secondary Schools who have been successful in the recent G.C.E. Examinations?

2. If the answer is "yes", will the Minister state how soon will this be done?

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

1. Would the Government be prepared either

(a) to surrender a portion of its Broadcasting time on Rediffusion to the Opposition Parties for the purpose of Political Broadcasts? or

(b) to request more Broadcasting time and surrender that additional time to the Opposition Parties? or

(c) permit Barbados Rediffusion Limited to sell Radio Time for Broadcasts by the Opposition Parties?

Mr. TUDOR: To enquire of the Hon. Minister of Education:-

Will the Minister state

(a) How many vacancies exist for Instructors at the Technical Institute?

(b) Whether any applications have been received?

(c) Whether any of these are from suitably qualified Barbadians at present overseas?

Mr. TUDOR: To enquire of the Hon. Minister of Education:-

1. Will the Minister state how much per child of the school population is expended annually in

(a) The Primary and Secondary Modern Schools

(b) The Grant Aided Secondary Schools.

2. Will he also give these figures for the current year and for each of the preceding years after 1956?

3. Will he also state the annual percent increase in school attendances during the same years?

Mr. TUDOR: To enquire of the Hon. Minister of Education:-

1. Will the Minister state what new school buildings are to be constructed this year, as distinct from completion of projects started last year?

2. Will he further state where these new schools will be, as well as their nature and capacity?

Mr. TUDOR: To enquire of the Hon. Minister of Education:-

1. Will the Minister state whether he would be willing to permit persons teaching in Private Secondary Schools to receive Teacher Training at Erdiston College?

2. If the answer is "yes", would he state the circumstances in which he would provide such facilities?

3. If the answer is "no", would he say why not?

Mr. SMITH: To enquire of the appropriate Minister:

1. Is it true that the present owners of the Douglas Plantation and certain lands formerly part of the lands of Ashton Plantation in the parish of St. Peter have claimed ownership of the road way leading from the top of Station Hill, St. Peter to the Coleridge and Parry School in the same parish?

2. If the answer to No. 1 is "yes", has the Government accepted any such claim?

3. If the answer is No. 2 is "yes", is the Government seeking steps to get around this difficulty re the making this road passable for the transportation of pupils to this school?

Mr. CORBIN: To enquire of the Minister of Communications, Works and Housing:-

1. Is the Minister aware that a list of thirteen roads was submitted to his Ministry as being in need of construction in the parish of St. Andrew during the current year?

2. Will the Minister state why funds were made available for only three hundred feet of road construction in the said parish.

3. Will the Minister state whether the Government has any policy with regard to the roads in this parish and if so what is the policy?

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

1. Whether he is aware that, since enactment of Magistrates' Jurisdiction and Procedure Act, 1956(1957-7, s 120), Clerks of the Court have ceased to be personally in receipt of payment of the prescribed fee for a copy of Proceedings?

2. Is the Premier aware that dissatisfaction exists amongst such Clerks at loss of income sustained by them who, before the passing of this enactment, were permitted to receive such fees for themselves instead of same, as now, being paid into court?

3. Will the Premier take steps - without delay - to ensure that such Clerks are adequately compensated in lieu of their loss of earnings since the coming into operation of this Act?

12.25 p.m.

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME

On the motion of Hon. M. E. COX, seconded by Hon. D. D. GARNER, a Bill to amend the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1943 was read a first time.

On the motion of Mr. F. L. WALCOTT seconded by Mr. GODDARD a Bill to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1957 was read a first time.

On the motion of Mr. WALCOTT seconded by Mr. GODDARD a Bill to amend the Trade Union Act, 1939 was read a first time.

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Speaker, before the motion for the adjournment, I would like to make an excuse for the absence of the hon. senior member for St. George from today's meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The Order Paper having been fixed.

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday, 17th January, 1961, at 12 noon.

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.

12.29 p.m.