

THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SESSION 1961

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Wednesday, 15th March, 1961

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

PRESENT

His Honour Mr. K. N. R. HUSBANDS, (*Speaker*); Mr. J. E. T. BRANCKER, (*Leader of the Opposition*); Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS, C.B.E., M.D., C.M., (*Premier*); Hon. M. E. COX, (*Minister of Trade, Industry and Labour*); His Honour Mr. L. E. SMITH, J.P., (*Deputy Speaker*); Hon. R. G. MAPP, (*Minister of Communications, Works and Housing*); Mr. T. O. BRYAN, (*Chairman of Committees*); Hon. F. E. MILLER, (*Minister of Social Services*); Mr. C. B. SEARLES and Hon. L. ST.A. THORNE, (*Minister of Education*).

Prayers were read.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that the Minutes of the last meeting are not yet ready for confirmation.

QUESTION

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

Is the Hon. Premier aware of the grave dissatisfaction which exists among Government Pensioners caused by the unnecessary delay in the payment of Pensions?

2. Will he take the necessary steps to revise the present system so as to provide the necessary improvement?

PAPERS LAID

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, I promised the House last night that I would pass on a copy of the Deep Water Harbour Contract to this House. I have got it here and I hand it to the Clerk.

ORDERS Nos. 1 & 2 EXEMPTED FROM STANDING ORDER No. 5

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Orders Nos. 1 and 2, be exempted from the provisions of Standing Order No. 5.

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: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Your Honour do now leave the Chair and the House go into Committee on the Appropriation Bill and that it be an instruction to the House while in Committee to consider the Estimates for the year 1961-62.

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 on the Bill, Mr. BRYAN in the Chair

HEAD 1 - GOVERNOR

Head I - Governor was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$29,417 under Head I - Governor - stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, in connection with Item 6 - Unestablished Staff - I notice that there is an increase of \$8,316 on the sum voted last year, and we are referred to Appendix 13, on page 211. As this amount is 100% over that of last year, I would like to know whether there is a considerable increase in the number of members of the staff. The number of employees, as we see on page 211, is twenty. Have you considerably increased the salaries or wages of these employees, or what is the reason for the increase in the Unestablished Staff?

I would like the Hon. Minister of Finance, if he can, to shed some light in respect of Item 11 - Lighting, Heat and Fuel - where there is an increase of \$600. The Note to it states: "Increased to meet rise in actual expenditure." Is that expenditure due to the increase in the price of these items, or is it due to using more lighting, heat or fuel than the previous year? Just what is the reason for the increase? 12.25 p.m.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: In connection with Item 6 "Unestablished Staff", the hon. member will remember that during the year a Resolution was brought down to this House relative to the State paying the salaries of this Staff in order that their pension rights might be secured. It was agreed that the Governor would pay the portion of the salaries which he is expected to pay into the Treasury. The increase which appears under Item 6 is to cover that arrangement. With regard to the other item.....

Mr. BRANCKER: While the Hon. Premier is checking up on that item, perhaps he will give us a little information as to Item 18; he might be able to do the research at one and the same time. Item 18 calls for a matter of \$2,500 for carpets to replace, according to the Note, worn carpets

on stairways and in guest rooms. Assuming that this vote is passed, as I have no doubt it will be passed, I should like to know what is intended to be done with the worn carpets. Will they just be dumped somewhere downstairs, somewhere in the basement, or will they be given to some poor person who would be very glad to have such carpets? Will they be sold so as to reimburse the Government? I should like to know what will become of these worn carpets because they will still have a certain amount of use in them for an ordinary householder, but not for a building where Royalty is entertained.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: With regard to Item 11, there are certain electrical instruments which had been installed at Government House for the visit of the Princess Royal and that of Lord and Lady Hailes. There were subsequently used by other people. One is a hot water unit and the other is an air-conditioning unit. These units have caused this increase in the amount of electricity used. With regard to Item 18, I am not in a position to say what happens to the old carpets. If the hon. member wants that question answered, I will get the answer for him by tomorrow.

Mr. BRANCKER: It is not so much that I want an answer now, but I would like an assurance to be given that the worn carpets would not just be left lying in some cellar. These carpets may be made available to some poor person who would be glad to have them in her home; they would be the sort of gift which would be accepted.

Mr. GODDARD: I feel that these worn carpets could be handed over to one of these Women's Organisations to be put to some use. When a carpet is worn out at my home, it disappears; I presume that the most eligible employee I have gets it; I may not know that it has gone. Things like carpets find a home without any actual direction by anyone.

If these carpets have been promised to anybody already, it is the right of Lady Stow to hand them out. If she wants to be assisted in this matter, I would suggest that they be given to one of these Women's Organisations which could find a suitable place for these carpets. I do know that the carpets at Government House need to be replaced; they are in a very bad state. It is a reflection on the people of Barbados to entertain guests up there and allow them to go into those rooms with these old worn-out carpets. Personally, I think that these carpets should have been changed years ago; I support the changing of these carpets.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Bearing in mind what the two hon. members have said, I will make enquiries about this matter. I am reminded that the policy is, when items are condemned by a Board of Survey, such are sold by auction. I do not know if that policy will apply in this case. However, I will promise hon. members to enquire as to how these carpets are being disposed of.

The question that the sum of \$29,417 under Head I, Governor, stand part of the Schedule, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

12.35 p.m.

HEAD II - SECRETARIAT

Head II - Secretariat - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$37,282 under Head II - Secretariat - stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, perhaps the Hon. Premier would shed some light on Item 35 - Motor Van - to which the Note reads "To purchase a new station wagon." Would this be an additional wagon? Would it be a replacement? What has become of the former station wagon? Is it just a question of the station wagon being involved in an accident? Could he just tell us the reason why a new station wagon is sought to be purchased?

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, this van has not yet been purchased.

Mr. BRANCKER: I asked why it is sought to be purchased.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: The present van has done 7 or 8 years' service and is in need of extensive repairs. It has been subjected to a Board of Survey, and their recommendation is that a new van be bought and the present one be put up for auction.

The question that the sum of \$37,282 under Head II - Secretariat - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD III - ACCOUNTANT GENERAL

Head III - Accountant General - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$11,189 under Head III - Accountant General - stand part of the Schedule.

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

The question that the sum of \$11,189 under Head III - Accountant General - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD IV - AUDITOR GENERAL

Head IV - Auditor General - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I beg to move that the sum of \$7,746 under Head IV - Auditor General - stand part of the Schedule.

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

The question that the sum of \$7,746 under Head IV - Auditor General - stand part of the Schedule, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD VI - CUSTOMS

Head VI - Customs was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$435,692 under Head VI - Customs - stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Chairman, under Item 24 - Drawbacks, General - there is a large increase by \$160,000 to \$360,000, and the Note explains it reasonably well; but the Premier will recall that some months ago I asked him if he would be so kind as to give a breakdown of this Head. When he came here with a Resolution for a large sum for drawbacks, I said then that it should be separated; and we should know how much drawbacks there were as a result of this in-bond facility. It is all lumped together in one, and I think the time has come when in dealing with such large sums the items should be separated.

I would like to have, if the Premier has it in his files now, a breakdown on the drawbacks of goods exported, short-landed, duty paid pending the arrival of the proper certificates, and most particularly the re-export of goods out of bond. I would like to know what it is costing the Government now that they have this new policy of in-bond facilities.

While I am on my feet, I should also like to know from the Premier whether with the opening of the Deep Water Harbour the Customs Office will be removed to the Dock Site. Are you putting up a building to make provision for the Customs Department to be removed there, or will they continue to be where they are on the Wharf? What proposals have you in mind for them? I am sure that if you have

a policy already it is time that we know; and the employees would also like to know.

With respect to Item 27 - Uniforms - there is a large increase. The Note says "provision for uniforms for Customs Outdoor Staff and Customs Guard. Increase due to the intention to provide more Customs Officers with uniforms." Is it for the Guards or the Officers themselves - those dealing with outdoor warrants and so on? Are they the ones to be increased and how many more will be put into uniform?

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Mr. Chairman, I will deal with the question the hon. member asked concerning the Customs *vis-a-vis* the new Harbour. This is a matter we discussed at length with an advisory panel, and it is proposed to keep the present Customs House and long room at the Wharf where they are at present. Certain Customs Officers will be needed at the new Harbour, and provision will be made for those; but we felt it would be unnecessary from the administrative point of view to move the entire customs organisation and accommodation to the area of the Deep Water Harbour.

I need hardly say that we hope soon to introduce new customs legislation in connection with the Harbour. We hope the majority of ships will use the Harbour; in fact, the only ships that probably might not use it would be a ship of the size of the S.S. *Mauretania*, but certainly all the others that call here can safely use it.
12.45 p.m.

A remark is alleged to have been made by the Captain of the first ship that went into the Harbour; but it depends on how you take the remark. I do not know if the Captain is a diplomat himself, but you must ask yourself in what sense does he mean it? All our technological advisers have said that the Harbour is big enough. Certainly, the Captain entered the Harbour very quietly and took it very easily and, as you know, he may say that he would like a little more elbow room. But, you know how it is with the sensational Press. Anything can do. If a sugar lorry turns over the Hometown Bridge, it is not the Hometown Bridge, it is some other Bridge which is involved. That newspaper editor does not mind false news so long as it catches the public's eye. Those who know the "Daily Express" in England, would know that that is the habit of that newspaper.

Our advisers have said that the Harbour is quite adequate; and we expect that the majority of cruise ships that come here will be able to use it. Maybe, a ship of the *Mauretania* class will not be able to use it, but that happens with all harbours in the world. One or two ships may not be able to use the Harbour and will continue to anchor in Carlisle Bay; and the passengers from those ships will land at the present Baggage Warehouse; therefore, we will have facilities there as well to accommodate them.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: The hon. member asked about uniforms of Customs Guards. I do not have the information here, but I will get it out in due course. One thing I would like to add to what the Hon. Minister said relative to the sugar lorry story over the Bridge, and it is that the Editor of the newspaper was approached and was offered the true facts. He said that he was not interested in the truth.

Mr. BRANCKER: Was he understood, when he mentioned "in the truth", to be referring to another newspaper, or that which was true, or that which is veracity?

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I take it, coming from the gentleman who gave us the information, that he was referring to the veracity.

The information as regards uniforms is that it is proposed to increase the number of Customs Guards, and this provision has been included in this year's Estimates.

Mr. GODDARD: I thank the Hon. Premier for that information. The Note says: "Provision for uniforms for Customs Outdoor Staff and Customs Guard. Increase due to

the intention to provide more Customs Officers with uniforms."

It speaks of both Customs Guards and Customs Officers, and I thought that you were putting more Customs Officers in uniforms. I know that the Customs Officer at Seawell is in uniform; and you have some at the Baggage Warehouse in uniform. I presume when you establish another Customs Office at the Docksite that you will have to put the Customs Officers who work there in uniform. However, that is by the way.

The Hon. Premier has not yet answered the question of giving a breakdown of the Drawbacks General. I would like to know the breakdown of that item. It is too large. I will ask him in future to have that item separated according to the various items that are mentioned in the Note.

In reply to the same Hon. Premier, on the matter of Customs, he said that the intention of Government is to maintain the Customs Headquarters where it is. I hope that he will appreciate that that is one of the worst offices in Bridgetown; it is a warehouse which was converted into an office. I presume that you will be definitely moving the rum bond from there because it is a good ants' nest. That building has more wood ants in it than lumber; and it is time that the Government move out of in there entirely even if they want to maintain offices in town and recondition that building.

I would have thought that with the development of the Harbour - and it is there for all time - that it would have been wiser to move the Customs Headquarters to the Docksite where most of the work will be done. There is plenty of land there; and if you do not do it this year or next year, you will soon realise that, with the facilities on the Docksite, it is a better place for your office than in Bridgetown. It may facilitate businesses in Bridgetown, from the point of view of sending to pass warrants, to retain an office in Bridgetown but in any case, the Customs Office should not continue to be held in the present building.

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Chairman, before you put the question, I would just like to assure the hon. member, as far as the figures to which he has asked me for, that my file containing them was left in the car and someone took the car away. As soon as the car comes back, I will get the information for him.

The hon. junior member for Christ Church, during his speech yesterday, referred to pioneer concessions and said that Jamaica and Trinidad were giving very much greater concessions to potential industrialists so far as the free material was concerned, and I hinted then that it was not correct. The hon. member also said that potential industrialists were a bit frustrated in this country, and did not know what concessions were being offered.
12.55 p.m.

I would like to assure the hon. member that it was as late as 1959 when I was on a Trade Mission in the United Kingdom, that we took along with us a large number of brochures and circulated them at the morning session among industrialists. In addition to that, we sent up quite a few of them to Canada. I would like to say that the majority of these people are acquainted with our pioneer legislation; and up to a few weeks ago, I had a request from an industrialist in Canada to send up our pioneer concessions to him. Our concessions are well known throughout the industrial world.

As far as Trinidad and Jamaica are concerned, I have in my hand copies of the Pioneer Industries Encouragement Law relative to both colonies. In Jamaica, this pioneer legislation applies to building materials, tools, plant, machinery, pipes, pumps or other appliances and materials necessary for use in the construction, alteration and extension of the factory or for equipping the factory or any extension thereof for the manufacture and preparation for sale by the pioneer manufacturer of the relevant pioneer product. That does not deal with the material which is used for the manufacture of the pioneer product.

In Trinidad, the legislation is almost word for word with that in Jamaica. It refers to all other materials, tools, pipes, plant or other appliances and materials necessary for use in the construction and alteration and extension of the pioneer factory or for equipping the factory or any extension thereof or in respect of the preparation for sale of the relative pioneer product or products. If you read our pioneer legislation you will see that the relative section is similar to the sections which are found in the Trinidad and Jamaica legislation.

In addition to that, Mr. Chairman, the hon. member will remember that we passed the Customs Duties (Amendment) Act sometime in 1959-60. That Act enables the Governor-in-Executive Committee to vary the duty on the items brought into the island by Orders made by the Governor-in-Executive Committee and laid on the Table of the House. We have already brought Orders to this House in respect of material for making hose, plastic material and things of that sort, and in respect of many other items, and varied the rate of duty, either to make the items duty free or to reduce the duty in order to enable the pioneer manufacturers to produce their pioneer products. In some cases, I think we are as generous or even more so than some of the territories to which the hon. member has made reference.

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Chairman, to my knowledge, in many cases outside, raw materials are allowed to come in duty free. I do know, as the Minister has said, that it is within their right to be able to alter the Regulations from time to time and lay them in the House. There is one manufacturer who has applied to the Government for a reduction in the duty on articles on which he is working, namely wood and lumber; that manufacturer is Messrs. Angelus and Company. They have paid into the Customs Revenue the sum of \$48,000 in duty on the veneer woods and ply wood which are their basic raw material. They have applied to the Government months ago to have that provision rescinded so that they could have that money to be used in the further extension of their factory.

Pioneer industrialists in any part of the world can go to other territories. I am sure that if these manufacturers were in Trinidad, the matter would have been taken up and dealt with expeditiously. I am told that they will have to continue paying these duties. You can import ready-made furniture from England or within the Commonwealth at 12% but on the raw material which these people are bringing in, because it comes from another source, it is taxed at 24%.

You must consider that in England if you are manufacturing for export you are getting your drawback, therefore they can import any amount of ply wood into England and manufacture the articles at 12% on the raw material. If you want to further the industries which you have invited to come in here, you have to see their problem and act accordingly. They will satisfy the domestic market and after that they have to go into the export market. You have to put these people on a sound footing.

What I was referring to yesterday is this: In Trinidad and in Jamaica even more so, when a potential industrialist moves into either of these colonies, he is welcomed with open arms. Industrialists are given every facility in these colonies. The Development Board is there for that purpose. 1.05 p.m.

Do not let pioneer industrialists hang around the place without knowing whether or not they can get a concession. It is the manner in which you treat them in the early stages that is so important. Make up your mind on what you can afford to give; and you have to give as generously as the other colonies, or you are just making a joke. I am still dissatisfied with the few that has come into Barbados so far. Industries should be in a position to know what is the difficulty facing the Government or the Development Board. What are the industrialists telling you? Are they telling you that the market here is too small? Are they telling you that the incentive is not good enough? Are they telling you that the labour market is not satisfactory?

Mr. Chairman, I would like to know what are the problems. I see these people going elsewhere, and we are not getting the share that I think we should be getting. It would be a good thing to thrash out the problem and let us see why we are so hamstrung in getting more industries. Is it that they are waiting for the development of the Deep Water Harbour? I do think that the potential is here; we have a good labour market; and although our people might not be trained, they can be trained. I would like to see industries move in which would strengthen the economy.

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Chairman, I think I can answer the last question in a few words; and it is: The absence of a Customs Union. I think I have said on several occasions that when I was in England on a Trade Mission, one of the very first questions which industrialists who approached me asked was whether there was Customs Union.

If an industrialist comes to a country the first thing he wants to know is what is your local market. If he cannot export, or if he has not got the facilities for exporting, he wants to know that at least he will be able to sell to the local people as much as will give him a balance or a reasonable return on his money. That is the reason why industries will gravitate to Jamaica and Trinidad before they come to Barbados; not that industrialists would not want to come to Barbados rather than go to Jamaica or Trinidad, but the potential of those places is by far greater. Jamaica has over 1 1/2 million people to cater for; Trinidad has nearly 900,000 to cater for as against 240,000 in Barbados; but if there is Customs Union it means that goods can be manufactured here and flow through the area.

Only a few weeks ago I was discussing this question with a potential industrialist to whom we have given a series of concessions; I will not call his name at this stage. When we thought we had given all the concessions he had asked for, he decided he would still have to give further consideration to this investment, because the amount that is being absorbed in the area is X, and he would have to get at least X + Y to provide for a reasonable return. That has been going on for some time with certain industrialists or potential industrialists who come to Barbados.

The hon. member says that we hold up these people too long, whereas in Jamaica and Trinidad they can get this, that and the other; I am sure the member must have read what D'Aguiar, the Managing Director of Banks Brewery, said about our Ministry of Trade. He said that it was the swiftest agreement he has ever been able to reach since he was in business. Nothing is delayed for the sake of delaying it in the Ministry of which I happen to be in charge. Everything moves quickly, provided that we can get the people for whom we are doing these things to correspond and give us the necessary information.

We have been giving, and we know we have to give; and in some cases we have to give more than Trinidad and Jamaica would give because of the size of our population and the potential output. I repeat, Mr. Chairman, that industrialists want to know how large the market is. As you know, Sir, we have no raw material here; our labour climate is pretty good; we have hard and conscientious workers and strangers appreciate it; they appreciate the friendliness of the people and their cooperation; but whenever they are finished, they think, as the hon. member thinks in hard dollars and cents, and how much they are going to get out of the project. They do not mind the smiles on the faces of the workers; they still want to know how much profit they are going to get from their business when they establish it in Barbados.

I would like to assure the hon. member that Jamaica is now aiming at passing a Bill to provide for people to come in and establish light industries, assembling parts and things of that nature, and then re-export them duty free, without income tax and so on. We will have, in a very short time from now, similar legislation to Jamaica. Whatever the others have done we are doing. It is no fault of ours that as many industries might not be established in Barbados as in Trinidad or elsewhere. We are doing our best from that angle.

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Chairman, I appreciate all the hon. member has said, but that goes to emphasise what I said. We have to give more than the others for that very reason. If they are giving X, we have to give X + Y. I would go further and say that you should not wait for Jamaica and Trinidad to do these things before we do them. If you know they are working on something, come out with it and beat them to the gun. We are smaller, and we have to offer more. 1.15 p.m.

I knew that they were doing it because the Bahamas had started it; and there is no income tax in the Bahamas; of course, there is a very high cost of living. The Bahamas started it and invited the capitalists in and said to them: "you come in and use the facilities here; whatever you export is free of duty and you pay no income tax." Sir, what the respective territory gets out of it is wages and the strengthening of the economy. We have to do the same thing. It is helping us to carry the burden.

Sir, do not think that I want to see somebody running a business like mine. When you allow someone to come in and set up an industry, he is getting off tax in that; but by bringing him in to do something else, he can pay more wages in Barbados, while if all that he exports is free of tax, I welcome him too because we must get something out of it. You know that Jamaica and Trinidad are doing it. I advise you that you get your department working on it; and you must beat them to it.

Now that we have a Deep Water Harbour and an Airport, we should be in a better position. Give what is reasonable so that industrialists would be encouraged. If you bring in an industrialist and he falls by the wayside and has a hard time, the other fellows will shy away. If he is working hard - I am not saying if he is sitting down - and doing everything that he can, you should try and find out what his problems are; if he is already established and making good, it will encourage others to come in. As I have said, there is just a handful of industrialists here; and if one moves out, the others would want to know why. If he prospers - and prosperity follows prosperity - the other fellows will come in. That is why I am so anxious. I know that by their coming in, they will strengthen the economy of the island.

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Chairman, I apologise to the Committee for rising again but I should reply to the point raised about the Angelus Furniture Factory. As far as "Angelus" is concerned, we have done everything possible to assist that company.

When Mr. Angelus came here, he made application for the pioneer manufacture of this and that, and whatever he asked for was given. I agree with what the hon. junior member for Christ Church says. If an industrialist comes and establishes an industry and because of insufficient concessions being granted him he fails, that is not going to encourage other industrialists to come here. He must not fail, because if it is for the lack of certain concessions, others will not come.

In 1959, Mr. Angelus, after the concessions which he asked for were given to him made an appeal to the Government for duty free concessions on chip board, veneer and what not. Soon after he made the appeal, I had it before the Cabinet in less than two weeks and the Cabinet agreed to grant him the concession. He said that he had already paid \$700 duty, but that was no fault of ours since he had accepted pioneer status under the regulations laid down at the time. He did not ask for duty free materials to manufacture this furniture; and when apparently he found out that other people were getting certain concessions so far as materials for the manufacture of their product, he came for some too.

We also agreed that these Orders are not retrospective. When you bring an Order to the House, it takes effect from the time that it appears in the *Official Gazette*. We said to Mr. Angelus "Okay, you would have it duty free as from February 1960." Since then, he came back to us and said that he wanted further materials brought in duty free, such

as screws and bolts and this and that. He claimed that he was supplying hotels with various bits of furniture which the hotels would be allowed to bring in under the Hotels Aids Act duty free; but he was at a disadvantage since those bits of furniture could be imported by the hotel duty free, but the material which was making his furniture was subject to duty.

He made a proposal to us; he said that he was losing money too; and all we asked him to do was to submit a Balance Sheet inasmuch as we have to do business in the right way. If somebody comes along and says that they have lost money, you would not only then take their word, you would ask that person to submit a Balance Sheet. Mr. Angelus took very long before he submitted one. I saw him on many occasions, and I told him that I could not do anything because I would have to show the Cabinet that he was in a bad way.

Only a few weeks ago, not more than two or three weeks, he was able to give us a *pro forma* balance sheet; and although it should have been better than that, yet I took it to the Cabinet, I think, on Thursday last. I tried to get it fixed for him as quickly as possible. We got it around Monday, and by Thursday we had it before the Cabinet. The Cabinet approved and we have to make an Order which will be brought here as quickly as possible. We did it as expeditiously as possible.

I want it to be clearly understood that we have done him no injustice. We have tried to meet him as early as possible, and as far as possible. As I mentioned earlier, there is no question of refunding duty on what he has paid previously; we do not make these Orders retrospective.

Mr. GODDARD: I thank the Hon. Minister for his explanation. I am not blowing the industrialists' trumpet; all that I am asking Government is to deal with all matters concerned with pioneer status in a very efficient manner and expeditiously. There are just a few of them here, so you should see to it that they get going because by their example, others will follow.

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, I just want to make a point on Item 14, Overtime. I have also noticed that there is more than 100% increase on the previous year's grant which was \$7,200. The increase proposed is \$7,800 over that of last year. The Note says that the increase is due to increase in overtime rates and additional work out of official working hours at the Seawall Airport and Baggage Warehouse. I wonder if the Hon. Minister under whose portfolio this comes would be able to give us any idea of this additional work; and whether it is done by normal staff or by persons other than the regular staff. 1.25 p.m.

In other words, I am enquiring whether more people are getting this extra money for additional work. It has been put down here as additional work and not as overtime; I am wondering whether it would be fair to give these people this additional work but have the money expended among other people who would be glad for the remuneration for these services. Would the Minister also let us know how much of the \$7,800, in fact, how much of the total amount is due to an increase in overtime rates and what is the amount to be paid for the additional work out of official working hours at Seawall Airport and at the Baggage Warehouse?

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Chairman, I would like to say that the information for which he asks is not available at this stage. As soon as I get it, I will pass it on to the hon. member.

Mr. BRANCKER: I thank the Hon. Minister for his assurance which, I have no doubt, will be duly honoured.

The question that the sum of \$435,692 under Head VI - Customs - stand part of the Schedule, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD VII - PRINTING OFFICE

Head VII - Printing Office - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$76,240 under Head VII stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, in connection with Item 26 "Maintenance of Equipment" we are told in the Note that this amount is for the purpose of maintaining machines and to purchase spare parts. I wonder if the Hon. Minister could enlighten us as to whether these machines for which we are voting this amount for the purpose of maintenance and the purchase of spare parts, are not adequate for the purpose of printing the Laws of Barbados. I understand that there is a move on foot to have that work done outside of this island, despite the fact that we have a Government Printery and a Printing Company, which, presumably, has as much and as adequate machinery to do this work. We all know that the present Laws were printed by the *Advocate* Company Limited.

These laws should be printed within the island so long as it can be adequately done. Even if the initial cost is somewhat more; you are spending the money within the island; and therefore it will be to the benefit of the entire population. I would therefore seek information as to whether the equipment which we have been asked to provide and maintain does not comprise of sufficient and adequate machinery to ensure that the Laws of Barbados are printed in this island. If this work cannot be done in this island, or in the Federation, then we should consider having it done by other members of the Commonwealth. These present laws which we have here were printed and published in 1944; I do not say that it is the best work that could have been done, but these books have withstood the period which they have been in use. I would therefore be glad to know if our equipment is not good enough for the purpose of printing the forthcoming laws of Barbados.

Mr. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I, too, would like to know what type of Printing Plant the Government has, whether it is the new type which was originally ordered, whether it is the type along the modern lines? I would like to know if they have the old type of equipment which used to be used in the old printeries. I want to support the remarks of my colleague in so far as having the laws of Barbados properly printed and published by a printing firm which is capable of turning out proper and finished work if the Government Printery is not adequate to handle the job.

Mr. STRAUGHN: Mr. Chairman, my comments will not be in respect of the printing of the Laws of Barbados either in this island or outside. I think it is just right that somebody outside the Government should make a few comments on the work of the Government Printery. From the time that I have been in this House I have noticed that the Government Printery has been the subject of a lot of criticism which would appear to be unjustified. What I would like to know from the Minister now is this: we know that the Government Printery has started off with the inheritance of a considerable amount of arrears of various bits of Government printing. Although I do not want to go into details, although it would be good for us to know how we stand with these arrears, it is these arrears which made us feel that the Printery was not measuring up to the requirements.
1.35 p.m.

If we are getting the arrears over, it would mean that we are now being able to make a proper survey of the potential of our Government Printery and the cost of its regular maintenance.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Mr. Chairman, I believe the hon. senior member for Christ Church was abroad when we had open house, so to speak, for members of this Assembly who visited the Printery and saw for themselves the equipment and set-up there and examples of the work which it

was doing. Hon. members were impressed, judging from the comments I heard at the time. The equipment there is in line with the most advanced equipment of that sort in the world today. I remember I did use the word "orthodox"; but the hon. member should realise that what is unorthodox today will be orthodox tomorrow and *vice versa*. I can tell him that that kind of equipment is being introduced more and more in countries throughout the world.

Certainly our members will agree, from what has been taking place in respect of the printing of debates of this House that the position has improved tremendously in recent months. The current debates are up to schedule and in a very satisfactory position. I think, Sir, that the House had copies of debates one week after the debate had taken place since this Session started; and members will agree that this is a state of affairs which has never taken place, at least since I have been a member of this House. I cannot remember seeing copies of a debate one week after it took place; so that is a revolutionary process as far as the debates of this House are concerned.

In reply to the last member, I may tell him that so far as the other Departments of Government are concerned, there is certainly no complaint; and the work of the Departments is being expeditiously handled. Now, Sir, some members asked about the laws. I believe the last member who spoke said that the laws should be printed by the Printery; I believe what he has in mind is the revised laws and the bound volumes of revised laws which require speed and equipment, which ordinarily we do not have at the Printery. All the laws of Barbados from 1958 to 1960 have been printed by the Printery. Publication has been delayed because the laws for 1958 had to be done over, not due to any fault of the Government Printing Office; so it is only now a question of binding which will soon be undertaken; but so far as the revised laws are concerned, the Government Printery does not have the equipment or staff to cope with a job of that size and proportion.

I think that applies to most Printeries in the area. Tenders were called for for this work, not only in Barbados, but in other Units of the Federation, and no applications were received, at least from those other Units especially from Government Printeries. I think the House has been informed that the *Advocate* did tender, but it was a question of time. They could only complete the job some two years after some printing firm in England; and to wait two years would be too long. So this is a formidable job which could not be undertaken even by conventional plants in these parts, far less Government Printeries which would not have the scope and the staff to deal with such a major undertaking in addition to their ordinary functions.

Mr. BRANCKER: In respect of the information furnished by the Hon. Minister, were any applications received from other Unit territories?

Hon. R. G. MAPP: No other Printery in the West Indies submitted tenders.

Mr. BRANCKER: But there was an application from the *Advocate* Company Limited which did the previous copies of the laws. I did have in mind when I posed my question about these machines and equipment, to ask whether the *Advocate* Ltd. were not adequately staffed to do the laws of Barbados which the Hon. C. W. W. Greenidge has just completed revising at the request of the Government. The Hon. Minister has said that the Government Printery has neither the equipment nor the staff. Well, the day will surely have to come - he must agree - when the Government Printery must have such equipment; otherwise although we would have a Government Printery, time and time again when we want either our laws to be revised or republished or when we want anything else of that nature done, we will have to be sending outside. As there is no indication of prices going down, I would have thought the Government would have agreed that the quicker they obtained the necessary equipment not only to do the revised laws of Barbados, but other similar work, the better for the Treasury of this island. We have got to do it sooner or later, so Mr. Chairman, why not do it as soon as possible and have the equipment here?

I have no doubt that there will be no difficulty in getting the necessary staff. The hon. member also mentioned in respect of the 1958 laws of Barbados that they had to be done over. I wonder if he would explain why that happened. Was it a bad job as far as the printing was concerned, or was the manuscript submitted to the Printery inaccurate and they followed it and it had to be done over? Would the Minister tell us why it is the laws for 1958 had to be done over? And could he let us know when we may expect the laws for 1959 and 1960? We are now in March, 1961, and certainly the laws for 1959 should be ready. Would the hon. member shed some light about these two years which are now past?

There is one more bit of information I would appreciate. The hon. member said that the United Kingdom Printery to which the contract had been awarded will complete the job in two years' shorter time than would the *Advocate* Company Limited. Would the Hon. Minister tell us by when the United Kingdom Printery has undertaken to have the job ready for us?

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Mr. Chairman, in reply to the last question posed by the hon. member, the information given me is that this Printery will supply us in six months from the date they start to print.
1.45 p.m.

I am sure that the hon. member will agree, and I hope that he is not advocating, that we should undertake what would be a very costly venture. We agree that it would be impossible, at least foolhardy at this initial stage, to attempt to equip the Printery and capitalise it to the extent necessarily to deal with an undertaking which happens once in every five years; because when I come in and tell him what we were losing, I know that he would be the first to jump up and criticise.

I notice that he added the words "or similar work." What the Printery is equipped to do is the ordinary day to day work of the Departments, the printing of the *Official Gazette* and the work of the House of Assembly. It is asking us to do a very unwise thing to undertake any major work of the sort which the hon. member mentioned. Anyhow, I do not want to prolong the debate; I do not think the hon. member has that in mind. What I think he is thinking of is with the expansion of the Government and the population, that the Printery one of these days will be able to undertake work of that sort in its stride. Let us hope so.

Mr. BRANCKER: Actually, Sir, there is something which I had forgotten to ask. As I understand the Hon. Minister, the United Kingdom Printer will take six months and the *Advocate* Company Limited will take two and a half years to do the same job. What is the difference in price between that tendered by the United Kingdom Printer and that of the *Advocate* Company Limited. I can see that is a very appreciable difference in the time in which they can do it.

The Minister said that so much capital expenditure would be involved now if we attempted to get the equipment for publishing the Laws of Barbados, and that there would not be such a job needed to be done by this island for Heaven knows how long. I see nothing wrong in principle if the Government equipped this Printery with such apparatus as would enable it to publish the Laws of Barbados and then you direct the Government Printer to undertake such work for other units in the Caribbean. As the Hon. Minister pointed out, no applications were made by Government Printeries in other parts of the West Indies to undertake to do this work despite the fact that advertisements for such tenders were made. Only the *Advocate* Company Limited of Barbados offered a tender.

If the Government indulged in the capital outlay which would enable the Printery to do the Laws of Barbados, it might turn out to be quite a business transaction; we would be in a position to do such work for other units in the area. I see no harm in the Government Printery accepting private work. Just as the Surgeon Specialist at the Hospital can do private work if there is any, and if there is no particular Government work occupying his attention and he can accept adequate reward for work done from private sources,

why should not the Printery, if it were so equipped, undertake to do such work? If they are so willing to do it at reasonable cost, they would save all those unit territories from having to go outside when they want such work done. However, my question to the Hon. Minister is as regards the difference, if any, in the cost between the *Advocate's* quotation and that of the United Kingdom Printery which was awarded the contract.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Sir, I am afraid that I do not have the quotation here to see the difference in price. I do know that the tender coming from the United Kingdom Company was actually less: I would not say that it was so much less. If it was a matter of price alone, we would have awarded it to the local concern because there are other factors which would have to be taken into consideration to lead us to favour the local concern. But it was a matter of time; that big difference in the time factor.

I can get the information for the hon. member so far as the tenders for the prices. I do not know, Sir, if the time factor, or the price tendered by the local concern, was dependent on their bringing foreign labour and technical hands from British Guiana. I understand that the local concern made application for nine people from that colony to come here to work at that company; and I do not know if the fact that the Government did not allow them to bring those people in, because of that, the work would take a much longer time. However, Sir, I have just given the actual facts as far as the hon. member specified.

The question that the sum of \$76,240 under Head VII - Printing Office - stand part of the Schedule, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD VIII — LEGAL

Head VIII - Legal - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the sum of \$4,668 under Head VIII - Legal - stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. BRANCKER: Under Item 16, Crown Cases, there is a proposed increase of \$500 due to additional litigation. Is this litigation one which might possibly arise, or one which is actually in progress and for which provision is being made? Is it that you have made it \$500 more just in case, as you had last year more litigations, or is it something which is actually on now and which it is anticipated would involve the Treasury into \$500 more costs for the coming financial year?
1.55 p. m.

There is this matter too, the question of meeting the costs and incidental expenses in cases to which the Crown is a party. Costs usually follow the event, but the winner of a case does not have to pay costs except it is a case in which the decision is that each side pays its own costs. I am wondering if this is a case in which the question of meeting more costs during the financial year has arisen and that is the justification for this proposed increase by \$500. I realise that the Minister of Finance is not as *au fait* with the law as he is with medicine, and he may not be able to answer the question, although I am not finding any excuse for him. I wonder, however, if he could shed any light on this increase of \$500.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: The hon. member will remember that there was some criticism about the amount voted on previous occasions to pay the costs at the Assizes. This increase is intended to meet that case.

Mr. BRANCKER: I am sorry that I did not hear the Hon. Premier.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I was saying that the hon. member will remember that very recently there was some criticism of the amount included in the Estimates to

meet fees for counsel who appear at the Assizes in certain cases. That amount of \$500 has been increased to meet contingencies of that sort.

Mr. BRANCKER: I am wondering if the Hon. Premier is not mistaken, I was dealing with Item 16 "Crown Cases" and not Item 15 "Fees to Counsel authorised to appear by Crown." I was not dealing with Item 15 or Item 42 under a Head of the Estimates which we have not yet reached. I was concentrating on Item 16 and the Note says: "To meet costs and incidental expenses in cases in which the Crown is a party. Increase due to additional litigation."

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I am sorry, Mr. Chairman, I have quoted wrongly. There is nothing to indicate what is the cost of this increase.

At this stage, it now being 2 p.m. of the clock, Mr. SPEAKER took the Chair.

Mr. SPEAKER: It now being 2 p.m. of the clock, this sitting now stands suspended until 2.30 p.m. of the clock.

On re-assembling,

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, I would like to draw your attention to the fact that there is no quorum present and I ask that the bell be rung.

On the Bell being rung, a quorum was obtained.

QUESTION TIME

Mr. SPEAKER: It is now question time. *(After a pause)* I understand that there are no questions ready to be dealt with. The House will now proceed to the consideration of Private Members' Business.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Mr. SPEAKER: It is now time for Private Members' Business. Is any hon. member desirous of going on with any item under Private Members' Business? *(After a pause)* No hon. member being ready to deal with any item under Private Members' Business, the House will resume the consideration of Government Business.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Mr. SPEAKER: On the last occasion when Government Business was being considered, the House was in Committee on the Appropriation Bill dealing with the Estimates.

Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the House resumed Committee on the Bill, Mr. BRYAN being in the Chair.

HEAD VIII - LEGAL

Mr. CHAIRMAN: On the last occasion when we were in Committee, Head VIII of the Estimates was being considered.

The question that the sum of \$4,668 under Head VIII - Legal - stand part of the Schedule, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD IX - MARKETS

Head IX - Markets - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$77,709 under Head IX stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

HEAD X - FIRE BRIGADE

Head X - Fire Brigade - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that sum of \$47,256 under Head X - Fire Brigade - stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

HEAD XI - LIGHTHOUSES

Head XI - Lighthouses - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$28,928 under Head XI stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

HEAD XII - REGISTRATION

Head XII - Registration - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I beg to move, Mr. Chairman, that the sum of \$26,400 under Head XII stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, as to Item 8 "Clerical Assistance" I would like to know if the Government has come to any decision in respect of the copying of documents; whether they are proposing to have the documents typed rather than copied. I should like to know whether they are proposing to type these documents loose-leaf and then have the typed copies inserted in the books. 2.35 p.m.

This has been discussed in the other branch of this Parliament, and I think it deserves consideration. I am wondering if it has been given any consideration that, instead of having this laborious and very slow copying by handwriting from the documents as it is recorded in the books in the Registry, we have recourse to the more up-to-date method of typewriting. You would not be putting anybody out of work, because instead of the clerical assistants writing, they would be typing and inserting the typed documents into books.

The most modern of all is to have the documents photographed just as they appear; that is the ideal thing from the standpoint of producing a certified copy in a court of Law, but photographing might be more expensive. The typing would not be beyond the means of the Treasury; and it would be faster than hand copying which is now the practice.

Under Item 14 - Books for recording Deeds - the Note reads "Cost of books for recording deeds. Increase due to cost of books and necessity for re-copying old index books." I understand that there are complaints in respect of these record books from Solicitors. They tell me that when they have to do searches in the Registry that they have found pages missing from these books. I have heard reputable and experienced Solicitors say that it has been their experience, so you can see, Mr. Chairman, what the position might well be.

You may be lending out some money on certain security, or buying a property, and when your Solicitor goes to search the books in the Registry there are pages missing; so you will lend out your money and subsequently discover there is something on the property on which you lent your money. The Barbados Law Society has been quite active recently in trying to encourage improvement in the running of the Registry.

In respect of Item 13 - Registration of Deaths - and Item 15 - Incidentals - until very recently, anyone ordering a Death Certificate or Birth Certificate if they ordered it one day - the price is only one shilling - would be told that he could not get it that day and would have to return another day. Anybody from St. Lucy wanting a Birth Certificate would have to pay return busfare twice, plus the cost of the certificate; he would have to pay six shillings for a Burial Certificate: sixty cents the day the certificate is ordered return busfare, 60 cents on the day the individual

returns to collect the certificate plus 24 cents which is the cost of the certificate. I am hoping that with the recommendations of the Barbados Law Society and other persons, the office will become more up-to-date than it certainly is now.

Under Item 18 - Office Equipment. People who visit the Registry have complained about the difficulty of finding out who is the correct person to apply to if they want a certificate of birth or death or a wedding certificate, as each clerk who is approached would always say it is someone else; and when you go to that person he would say it is someone else; and he too would say it is a fourth clerk but he is out at the moment. So in voting \$225 as we are asked to do under "Office Equipment" for the purchase of an electric fan, file jackets and cushions, I would say, Mr. Chairman, that there is a welcome innovation in that office. They have put signs on the desks of the different clerks so that you can know that this clerk is for Burial certificates, Wedding certificates and so on; and as long as you find somebody at the desk - of course you do not always see somebody at the desk - you would know that he cannot get out of the fact that he is the person whose duty it is to provide you with the particular certificate which it is stated on his desk his duty is to find.

Anyhow, Sir, what I am seeking as information from the Minister in charge on Item 8 - Clerical Assistance - is whether he can tell us if Government has (a) considered, or (b) arrived at any decision in respect of the copying, and whether they propose to continue indefinitely with hand-writing or whether it is proposed to have them typed or photographed. I would like to know whether the matter has been considered with a view to arriving at some sort of finality.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: With regard to the first question about clerical assistance under which the hon. member has referred to the copying of deeds, and on which I have heard some talk about photographing, I will say that nothing has come to the Cabinet officially; at least not since I happen to occupy the office of Premier. We are not in a position to say whether we agree or disagree. I do not know if the hon. member can take steps or see someone who is responsible and ask him to put it to the Cabinet. The hon. member also mentioned something about the disappearance of books.

Mr. BRANCKER: I said the disappearance of pages from the books.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: There again we have never heard of it; we are not in a position to say anything on that. No representation has been made to us on that. I think the hon. member commended the decision of placing an electric fan in that office.

The question that the sum of \$26,400 under Head XIII - Registration - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XIII - LEGISLATURE

Head XIII - Legislature - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$51,403 under Head XIII - Legislature - stand part of the Schedule.

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

The question that the sum of \$51,403 under Head XIII - Legislature - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XIV - JUDICIARY

Head XIV - Judiciary - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$83,205 under Head XIV - Judiciary - stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, as to Item 41 - Jury Expenses - \$3,600, the Note says "Includes cost of transport, board and lodging."
2.45 p.m.

I would say that is a deserving increase. Exception has been taken to the fact that jurymen are being paid now per day in respect of any loss of earnings on the particular day which the juror is serving. If someone who is employed by the Transport Board or by a firm in Bridgetown is sitting in on a case, and the firm does not make any deductions from that person's weekly or monthly salary, he is held by certain regulations not to be entitled to any remunerations for his services as a jurymen inasmuch as he is not losing anything by reason of the fact that he is attending the case.

There was an instance when a worker from the Transport Board went to draw his money as a result of jury services and he was told that he could not draw from both sides; he would either have to draw the money for the days on which he actually sat as a jurymen or draw his wages from the Transport Board for that day.

While it is not unreasonable, it must be realised if a man's daily routine is fixed in accordance with his daily work, even though his wages or salary may continue when doing jury service, yet inevitably he has to meet additional expenses; he finds that he has to work different hours and he also has to rush somewhere to get a meal. You must remember that a jury is not confined unless in murder cases; and I suggest, Sir, that you should let people feel happy when they are performing one of the most important tasks as laymen. There should be no dissatisfaction or disquiet in a juror's mind when he has a problem of a case before him.

In the past, it was a very small amount of \$1.68 per day which you gave to jurymen, but they actually sat for the whole assizes and were paid for the whole time. Now that the increased amount is payable, that amount is not paid unless you have proved that you have suffered a loss of earnings for the day which you sat in the case.

I think it would be a better way that you increase the maximum and provide that all and sundry get it in respect of jury service, so that everybody sitting there - say that twelve of us are on the case - that we get the amount prescribed plus travelling. That does not obtain now, and I know that there is an amount of dissatisfaction. You should not go too closely into seeing how much you lose or do not lose. It is really impossible to work that out. It is better to increase the amount from \$1.68, plus travelling, irrespective of whether the person sat or not.

Previously, when the Assize Court adjourned for lunch and a jury was sitting in on a case, the lunch for the jury was at the taxpayers' expense. It is only in the case of murder or treason that you do not separate them; and, as you know, there is no case of treason here. I would suggest that in respect of jury expenses that instructions should be given to revert to the former method of payment, but with a substantial increase in the actual rate plus the addition of travelling expenses.

The question that the sum of \$83,205 under Head XIV - Judiciary - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XV - POLICE

Head XV - Police - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum \$391,069 under Head XV - Police - stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, may I invite attention and seek information from the Hon. Premier with respect to Items Nos. 50 and 92. Under Item 50, we are asked to vote \$1,000 for the upkeep of cots; and under 92, we are likewise invited to make provision for the replacement of

unserviceable cots to the extent of \$1,100. In other words, these two items - Items 50 and 92 - separated as they are represents \$2,100 for cots.

It does seem, Mr. Chairman, to be a substantial figure. I am wondering if the Hon. Premier would give us some information as to the number of cots which have become unserviceable and for which this \$1,100 provides for the replacement. Sir, how many cots have become unserviceable and how many replacements are contemplated?
2.55 p.m.

Under Item 97 "Equipment for C.I.D." there is an increase of \$1,756. Will the Hon. Premier tell this Committee what became of the camera which is to be replaced, whether it was destroyed, lost or stolen, or if it has just become no longer of any use and will be offered for sale by public auction and this one will be replacing it? Is it because of old age? When has this camera last been used if it is still usable? I wonder if the hon. member can give a break down in respect of this Item 97. As to Item 68 "Purchase of horses" the Note says that this amount of \$2,200 is needed for the replacement of two horses. Would the Premier tell this Committee whether the horses have died or are no longer serviceable and what will become of them if they are no longer serviceable? What happens to them if there is not a replacement which is due to death?

In connection with Item 62 "Newspapers", I would be glad for a little information as to this item. The Note states that this amount of \$1,758 is required for the supply of newspapers to all Police Stations. This is a case where there is another instance of an increase by more than 100%. We voted \$720 last year and now we are asked to vote the sum of \$1,038 more than we did then. If there has been one less Police Station, and there is a new newspaper, there will be need of more newspapers. On the other hand, we have certain newspapers which have gone out of circulation. No longer is there the *Torch* and the *Recorder* but of course there is the *News*.

What is meant by this Note which says: "Includes provision for the increased supply of copies to offices and stations"? Is it that there was one copy supplied and now there are two or three copies supplied? There is the *News* and that is one of the most widely read newspapers; the most widely read is the *Truth* which has more or less superseded the *Torch* which has also been superseded by the *News*. What is the explanation of an increase of 100% in respect of the supply of these newspapers?

I said in this House that I heard an Inspector say on oath that he does not see the *Advocate* newspaper; he cannot afford to buy a newspaper and he is not able to see any newspaper until seven days after its publication. He has not seen the front page of the newspaper with banner headlines and photographs which are seen in this Chamber. One wonders if that is not possibly one of the reasons for the increased provision for the supply of copies of newspaper at the Police Stations so as to make sure that there will be a newspaper for the Police and that the Inspectors be informed or misinformed. I heard it said that one daily newspaper is a perpetual source of misinformation.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, the hon. member is a little extravagant in his language. I did not refer in such terms to that newspaper; I simply said that I was informed by a gentleman of substance in this community that he approached the Editor of that newspaper to give the facts and he said that he was not concerned with facts but with putting over news.

Mr. BRANCKER: I was paraphrasing what the Premier said. In reference to a newspaper, he said that when the truck was carrying sugar along Hometown Road, the sugar went into the river instead of the place to which it was assigned, and the sensational editor said that it did not matter; the great thing was to create a sensation and people will buy the newspaper. As a result, those people who are at the top get salary increases and those who are at the bottom remain indefinitely at little more than a subsistence wage. If the Hon. Premier can explain, I would like to know

why has the provision for newspapers gone up more than one hundred per cent on the last financial year? I would be grateful if the hon. member can give us that information.

Mr. CORBIN: In connection with Item 52 "Motor transport", the Note says that this amount of \$37,300 is required "to meet the cost of upkeep of motor vehicles.... increased to provide greater Police mobility and increase maintenance costs....." I think it is really not fair that at some of the Police Stations Policemen are called upon suddenly to go to any kind of trouble. In my parish I have seen that Policemen have to walk sometimes three or four miles before they can get to their destination. The Government should supply bicycles to some of these Police substations; that would meet the need of these Policemen and it would help to relieve the situation.
3.05 p.m.

I was at one of the stations some time recently and when the Policeman went to get out the van to go to a fire there was no gas in it. On enquiry I was told there was no gas because the allotment for the month has been used. All the stations should be furnished with more gas and more vehicles to help the Policemen especially when they have to go six or eight miles; they should not have to do all that walking. Each station should have a van to transfer Policemen from one place to another; and by so doing, his service would be more satisfactory to the public as a whole. If a Policeman can get to the spot sooner he might be able to detect the guilty person, but as it is now a person may have time enough to hide in some cliff or gully and you have to get the Police dog to hunt him.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, I am going to speak on any of these Items not fixed by law. I will be brief and I hope the Premier will also be brief. Do not worry about the Item, just listen to what I have to say. There is a certain amount of uneasiness in the rank and file of the Police Force as to the comparison of the salaries....

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Will the hon. senior member for the City please mention the item on which he is speaking?

Mr. MOTTLEY: I am speaking on all, and that is why I got up and said what I did; I wanted to be brief without bringing the Chair into any argument. I am not entitled to speak on those Items fixed by law, but I can speak on the Items to be voted. Am I right, Sir?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Are you speaking on salaries to be voted?

Mr. MOTTLEY: Who suggested that? Do not anticipate what I am going to do.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: That is why I asked the question.

Mr. MOTTLEY: You cannot ask me that; I am not bound to answer. I am going to exercise my right by speaking on the Items to be voted, but if you rule me out of order, I will sit down.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: You are in order as long as you do not bring in the Items fixed by law.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Suppose you look at Item 11. If you want to stop me on that, I will take refuge in another. I want to be brief.

I was saying to the Hon. Premier that recently there has been a rumour - I do not think it was a lying jade - that there was some unrest among the rank and file of the Police Force with regard to salaries. I just want in passing to ask the Premier whether in comparison with the salaries paid out to employees of Highways and Transport and those paid in other Departments, some efficiency is not required. I want to know whether that has been drawn to the attention of the Government and what they propose to do about it. We do not want to quarrel about it at all.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: There have been a number of questions asked, but I will answer the last one first since the hon. member referred to Item 11 while the other

questions come lower down. With regard to the alleged uneasiness in the rank and file of the Police Force, in respect of salaries, the shortest answer is this: Government has already declared its intentions of having a Salaries Revision this year, and we are trying to get a Commission on that. I do not know if the hon. member is referring to an article which appeared in one of the newspapers of this island. I myself did not see it because I do not read that paper. (Mr. MOTTLEY: How did you know, then?) I was told. (Mr. MOTTLEY: Do you mean that friends of yours read that paper?) Probably. I read papers from which I can get some edification. However, on this particular point if the hon. member was referring to that article, I am happy to say that the Police wrote the Government a letter completely dissociating themselves from the article which appeared in that paper, and pledged loyalty to the Government.

The hon. member for St. Lucy referred to Items 50 and 92. The Note to Item 50 says "Provision for upkeep of cots"; that means the repair to cots. The Note to Item 92 reads "To replace cots that have become unserviceable." Evidently that means that when a cot is repaired and its conditions becomes so that it is no longer economical to repair it, it is disposed of and a new one is acquired in its place. I mentioned that in connection with another Department of Government - and the same applies to the Police Department - that the upkeep of cots is very expensive these days. The canvass is very expensive and the wear and tear is terrific; so that to maintain these cots in serviceable condition means that it will have to be done at a considerable cost to what we were accustomed to formerly. 3.15 p.m.

As regards Item 62, Newspapers, I think I told the hon. member already, in the early part of this year, that the Police asked for an increase in their vote to cover the cost of newspapers. Sir, you will remember that the subscription to the *Advocate* went up in price late last year; and since then every Station gets papers; from that vote, it can be determined that the cost must go up for newspapers which are supplied to the several Station. I think that it was in January, this year, when there was a supplementary vote to supply Police at the different Stations with newspapers.

The hon. member referred to Item 68, Purchase of Horses. I thought the hon. member knew that it was the policy of Government for several years to buy two horses from Canada every year. The very useful life of a horse extends from ten to twelve years, and after that they are not quite fit for active service not only for the Police but in private service; and the idea is always to keep the twenty-four horses which we have up-to-date by getting two every year from Canada. The two oldest are sold by auction.

As is customary when a new camera or anything else is bought by Government as a replacement, the old one is then condemned and set up for auction. That is the policy and it is religiously followed.

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, as regards the Item which was mentioned by the hon. senior member for the City a moment ago, with reference to the allowance for Detectives, if you look at the Note, it refers to Act of 1946-2. I only mentioned that because you have the Proof Reader at the Government Printing Office plus a number of Permanent Secretaries and Assistant Secretaries, and I do not think an error like this should have gone unnoticed. The Act 1946-2, is the Saint John (Highways) Loan Act, which was for the purpose of raising a loan for the purchase of a Diesel motor roller for the use of that parish. The Act to which we are referred is Act 1946-25 and the Act at the side of it is the St. Peter's (Highway) Act. I suggest that reasonable care should be exercised by the Permanent Secretaries; and that they should be told that the time of busy legislators should not be taken up on going on any wild goose chase to look up things which could be avoided if they took the requisite care.

In dealing with that Item, I notice that what the Hon. Premier told the hon. senior member for the City was that

a letter was received in which the Police dissociated themselves from the article which was written in the newspaper. I wonder who the Police were. From the prevailing information but not from the expression of the hon. junior member for St. Thomas, we thought that they wanted more money and wanted it quickly.

I was surprised, in reply to a question which I put to the Hon. Premier last year as to whether Government was aware of existence of dissatisfaction amongst the rank and file of the Force at the emoluments and conditions of service, that the answer was "no, Sir." Of course, I did not mean the Commissioner and the people at the top, but the Privates in the Force. I was referring to the work they have to do, their conditions of service and the fact that they are paid less than bus drivers whose work is not regarded as much as theirs. The hon. senior member for the City seemed to be quite satisfied with the answer given him.

I just want one more reference to the Hon. Premier's answer to my question as regards the purchase of horses. He said that the oldest are sold at auction. I must confess, although I know that it is the regular procedure, that I did not take it that while that procedure was carried out in regard to articles and things of that nature, that it applied to such things as animals. I am not at all happy when an animal has done ten or twelve years' service that it must be sold to someone to be hacked out. I believe that this is one instance in which the Hon. Minister of Social Services would find himself in agreement with me. Would it not be better to have them painlessly destroyed by the Local Branch of the R.S.P.C.A., rather than for them to be tortured and brutalised by somebody in order to get out of them the price that they paid.

Mr. MOTTLEY: The hon. junior member for St. Lucy thinks that I was rather complacent, but you must accept answers from a Minister who tries to be decent. I would like to say this: I should be the last person in this country to associate myself with anybody to undermine the discipline or loyalty of the Police Force in Barbados. Undermining of the Police Force in Barbados is not undermining the Government, but undermining the people. However, for the benefit of the Hon. Premier, I would say this: He started off answering me by asking whether I was referring to an article which appeared in one of the local papers. For his benefit I would like to say that I was not referring to any article in the local papers. As I have said on many occasions, I read every paper in Barbados. As a matter of fact, I like to buy the *Beacon*, even though there is not very much to learn from it. (A VOICE: That is a matter of opinion!)

I knew the answer, but the Hon. Premier said that they have received a letter from the Police who said that they have dissociated themselves from that article which was written in the newspaper. What I referred to is something different. 3.25 p.m.

What the hon. member for St. Lucy has said is absolutely correct. Some time ago when the wages of the Transport Board workers were set out, the rank and file of the Police Force complained that they were getting \$22 a week and the efficiency which was demanded of the Police Force was not what was required of these workers. I do not think anybody in this country would disagree that if an Inspector on a bus could be paid \$26.00 a week, surely a Policeman is entitled to something more. If your door bell rings twice and you look out and you do not see anybody, the first thing you do is to call up your neighbour and ask him to call the Police, or you will do it yourself.

The people of Barbados can all count on the loyalty of the Police, and more especially of the rank and file. We say that we dissociate ourselves from this article which was written relative to people building up strife. The men said that they had no intention of striking but they did not dissociate themselves from the idea that they were not properly paid as compared with the workers of the Transport Board. The Hon. Premier has said that the policy of the Government is that during the year they will review the

salaries of Government employees; perhaps the Civil Servants regret that you do not have Elections every year.

If the Premier looks around he will find that if there is one person who is guarded from top to bottom, it is your humble servant. There are certain members of the Civil Service who feel that they should only respect the Ministers, but I am telling you that the Civil Servants are working for the people of this country and we have the right to demand the same respect which any Minister receives. Whether you read this thing in this newspaper or not, you should use your natural experience as a doctor, as a politician, as a man of experience or as a man of a certain age. There was no idea about striking, but throughout the rank and file there was dissatisfaction as to what a Policeman who has to be called out during the day or night, even when off duty, receives as compared with a bus inspector. A Policeman asked an Officer for off duty when his wife had a baby and he was told that if he were in the Mediterranean he would have to stay; he was told "You are in the Police Force on duty and you cannot go." Then in the same breath you are giving people \$26 a week for working on a bus. The men said that they dissociated themselves from that article; they did not intend to strike but they would like you to know that the \$22 a week which you offer them today is inadequate.

Where you have a man who reaches the age of 22 years and he talks about getting married, if he rents a house with a kitchen and shed-roof and a pipe in the yard he has to pay \$35 a month for it. You have your duty to perform from the middle brackets down; a man who is receiving a salary of \$22 a week is called upon to protect everyone in this country, and I do not think that anybody would begrudge a Policeman getting an increase in his salary. We are happy to think that they found people with persuasion to write this letter, but because they wrote this letter, do not let us feel that they are not dissatisfied with \$22 a week as compared with \$26 a week for the Inspectors on these buses.

Mr. BRANCKER: In connection with Item 76 "Passports and Forms", I want to say that I know someone who was seeking to get a Passport a few weeks ago was told that Passports are in short supply, so much so that they are not being issued to anyone unless that person can vouch that he is about to leave the island within a day or two. I was told that they had ceased to import Passports because it was expected that these Passports were becoming outdated. 3.35 p.m.

In this island we are issued a British Passport with the word "Barbados" on it. It was anticipated that those Passports would be no longer required, and that instead we would be having a British Passport, "West Indies," hence no more orders went through for those marked "Barbados." These Passports became in very short supply, with only a few dozen left; but some had been ordered. It was hoped that they would be flown to the island to arrive some time this month. I was told that the weekend before last.

I wonder if the Hon. Premier can tell us what is the position in respect of these Passports, whether a sufficient supply has been forthcoming, or whether we are still in jeopardy. The position may well be that the few which remained in this island, as I was informed by a high-ranking Police Officer, may have been used for people who were just about to leave the island and left last week; so what would happen to those who are about to leave next week if there are no Passport Books available?

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, before the Hon. Premier gets up to reply, I would like to ask a question; and my question is not directed to the hon. junior member for St. Joseph who always infers that he can answer my questions better than members of the Cabinet.

Mr. STRAUGHN: On a point of order, I do not know why the hon. member should say that. I do not think the hon. member should make those remarks at all.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Why don't you let my questions be answered by the appropriate person when I ask them?

The last time I asked a question concerning this matter, the hon. member... (Mr. STRAUGHN: I will tear into you for it.) You will have to shave first! I want to ask the Hon. Premier what steps have been taken since we last spoke on this question of Passports and mentioned that only those persons who could assure the Emigration Department of a job in England would be given Passports. On the last occasion when I drew this matter to the attention of the Government, I was supported strongly by the Leader of the Opposition. People who applied for Passport forms were told that they could not get a Passport form unless they satisfied the Department that they had a job in England, or had bought a ticket from a Shipping Agency. If you were under 19 years of age, you could not get a form. If a girl was under 17 or 18 years although she might have three or four children, she could not get a Passport form without the sanction of the Social Welfare Department. The Government's answer at the time was that people had to be instructed on where they were going and the weather conditions and all that.

Although we appreciate the fact that a Passport is not a legal right, it is still something which every British subject feels that, unless he is a criminal, or unless he has such a record as to prevent you from granting him a Passport, he is entitled to one. There is nothing in the laws of this country which says that every citizen is entitled to a Passport, but it is sufficient to say that every citizen should feel that in a democracy, and not being behind the Iron Curtain, as long as he has not got a record which would spoil the name of Barbados, he should be able to get a Passport. The experiences which the Hon. Leader of the Opposition and I have had are experiences which we get every day. Every day I have to go to the Police Department and ask them to give a form to a girl. What is the point of keeping her here in Barbados to get more children? This girl may be 18 years and may have two children, she has no work and she wants to go to England, but the Social Welfare Department says it is not recommending a Passport unless she can get somebody to verify she has a job in England. I think that is unnecessary; and I hope the Minister in charge of this will stop that.

On the last occasion the Premier told us that no instructions had been given to withhold Passports from people; and when he says something I believe it. The hon. junior member for St. Joseph who had something to do with the Social Welfare Department at one time, tried to enlighten the House on why the Department had to do this; he said that they called in people and told them what they were going to face in England.

The hon. member would have been too young to know that during the heat of the War with submarines around Trinidad, the hon. senior member for St. Philip got in this House and said that people were wanted in America to work. I have never forgotten that. The now Prime Minister of the West Indies, from his seat, said that he had some information from the First Lord of the Admiralty, and he went on to ask what Barbadian was going to take his life in his hands to go to the United States with submarines around the area. A few weeks after that S.S. *George Washington* came in; and instead of having 500 people, there were 12,000 people wanting to go. That was in 1945.

When the hon. member makes all this noise about having to tell people this and that, I wonder if he knows... (Mr. STRAUGHN: I will answer you when you are finished.) I have never worked at the Social Welfare Department, so I do not have to kowtow to anybody with this nonsense. The hon. member has seen pictures of people landing in England; how many died from pneumonia? Mr. Chairman, necessity is the mother of invention and it still knows no law. I would like to know from the Premier what instructions have been given since we last raised this issue.

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, before the hon. member rises, there are two more items on which I am seeking information, namely, Items 82 and 83. Now under Item 82 we are asked to vote \$6,300 to meet the cost of upkeep and maintenance of three launches. These three launches do valuable and indispensable work, and I wonder if the Premier is satisfied that the number is sufficient, parti-

cularly in these days when we have the new menace of the speed boats on the coasts of this island. The way to handle these speed boats, in my view, is to contact the Police immediately and ensure the presence of Police motor launches on the site to deal with the dangers and hazards which are provided by the presence of such boats on our coasts.
3.45 p.m.

I am wondering, with this increased hazard which now is existing on the leeward coast of this island, whether he would consider increasing the number of motor launches. As this Head shows you, we only have to upkeep and maintain three. I wonder if this number is sufficient under present day difficulties. That is a means of handling this hazard on the west coast; it cannot be handled by roping off the sea and providing hotels with these swimming pools. I do not know if they want swimming pools by roping off areas in the sea. I do not know if it is a case where their guests are a little more interested in apartheid than the present day hazard by speed boats; however, the way to protect them is by having more launches.

The next item is 83, Medical Expenses. That is increased by \$500. That is surprisingly low. Sir, you will remember that some time ago I suggested in this Chamber that the Government should regard it as a duty not only to supply medicine to Policemen, but certainly in respect of the lower paid ranks to supply dentures and spectacles as well. It is a disgrace that a Policeman on active service should have to pay for dentures and spectacles without any of which he may not be able to adequately perform the duties of his office.

Mr. STRAUGHN: Mr. Chairman, I would not have joined in this particular phase of this debate if the hon. senior member for the City had not deliberately referred to a previous debate in which I took part. I do not think that the Hon. Minister of Social Services was in the House at the time, if not he would have been able to co-operate with what was said by me.

Just as a preamble, the hon. senior member for the City said that he was not interested in the records.....

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order. What does he mean by that? When did I say to the Hon. Premier that I was not interested in the records?

Mr. STRAUGHN: If the hon. member would sit down I would explain. The hon. member said it in an aside when the Hon. Leader of the House said that he could get the record relative to the S.S. *George Washington*.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I rise on a point of order. Is it honest to say that I am not interested in the records when I said at that time "do not worry with the records"?

Mr. STRAUGHN: I would like to let the hon. member know that I know the reason why he does not want this read back; and I do not think that he will read it later anyhow. He told me yesterday that he does not read any of the debates.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I rise on a point of order. Has the hon. member reached such depths that, if I stand outside of this House in the Lobby and tell him that I do not read back my speeches which I make in here, the hon. member should get on the floor of the House and twist it to say that I do not read any of the debates? What is he trying to do? If the hon. member has reached such depths that no member can say to him privately anything which he would not care to be repeated in the House then I am sorry for him. I told him that I do not read the debates; he was talking about reading his speeches. I meant that I have reached the stage that I do not read any speech that I make. He said that I do not read the debates and that is an absolute, deliberate misstatement.

Mr. STRAUGHN: I did not really think that this *en passant* remark would have disturbed the hon. member like that. I am sorry that the hon. member is so disturbed; I do not like to see the hon. member lose his equilibrium.

The *en passant* remark was made in the House just now as far as the records are concerned; and I was only leading up to what I had to say: that the records would show the debate on this matter in which I participated. I can almost repeat word for word what took place on that occasion. The hon. member said at that time that the Social Welfare Department could not reject young people from getting Passport forms signed.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order. I never said such a thing. The Department cannot reject. I went into the Police Department and asked why they did not give these Passport forms to young people and the Police said that their instructions were that for young girls under 19 years of age, instructions must come from the Social Welfare Department to issue the form.

Mr. STRAUGHN: That makes it easier. It is correct that the Social Welfare Department has no power as such to reject any person from getting a Passport form. I emphasised that and checked on it again since that particular debate. I also said at the time that the Social Welfare Department was carrying out a request which was made by the Welfare Authorities in England; and they gave guidance to any person going to England who needed it. I think it is right to give that guidance. We were told that we do not handle our emigration problems in a wholly competent manner. I have not heard of the Social Welfare Department having rejected any person from getting a Passport; all they might have done is to investigate the case, and they do not investigate a case in a year or two. I know not of any case where they have taken longer than a week or two.
3.55 p.m.

Even if they, as a Welfare Department, did not seem to agree or did not like the circumstances under which the person says he was going to emigrate, they could not reject the idea of that person getting a Passport; all they can say is that they do not like what appears to be the circumstances under which this person is going to England. I repeat emphatically that there is no power to reject any person from getting a Passport. I also say emphatically that the Social Welfare has not rejected anybody from getting a Passport; they have not done it and they cannot do it.

Mr. MOTTLEY: The higher a monkey climbs, the more you see his tail! I have not said that the Social Welfare Department had the authority to refuse or prevent people from getting a Passport. I went to the Police Department..

Mr. STRAUGHN: On a point of order. That is what I said in that particular debate. If he has never said it, I will still say that that is what I said.

Mr. MOTTLEY: The Minister of Labour has told us of his activities in getting people outside. The hon. junior member for St. Joseph feels that because he has worked with the Social Welfare Department he can say what other members say is a lie.

Mr. STRAUGHN: On a point of order. I have never hinted that what the hon. member said was a lie. If the hon. member has handled three hundred types of cases, I have handled them too. I repeat: I never said that what he is saying is a lie; I said that the Social Welfare Department has no such authority.

Mr. MOTTLEY: The hon. member went on to say that he knows as a fact that they were not doing it.

Mr. STRAUGHN: On a point of order. Let the hon. member say precisely what they were not doing.

Mr. MOTTLEY: They were not refusing permission to grant Passports. People take the natural way of getting Passports. I went to the Emigration Department and I was told that they had been instructed that anybody under 19 years of age who applied for a Passport to go to England could get the Passport form filled out, but there must be the signature of the Social Welfare Officer appended before they can bring it to the Police. The hon. member is saying that that is not so.

Mr. STRAUGHN: The two Departments are to collaborate.

Mr. MOTTLEY: What I am making is a statement of fact. The form leaves the Police Department; you go to the Social Welfare Department and they will ask you for what reason you are going to England. What are you going to do? The person will say: "I am going to look for a job." The Social Welfare Department will say: "Unless you have a job we will not sign the Passport."

The Minister of Trade says that he is trying to get work for people; a person is eighteen years of age, she has no job and therefore she cannot go out. Mr. Chairman, it is a pity that I have to say this, but the hon. junior member for St. Joseph has said that the Social Welfare Department has been asked by people in England to do something to prevent people from coming in....

Mr. STRAUGHN: On a point of order. How can the hon. member get that far?

Mr. MOTTLEY: Has the hon. member not said that this Department is collaborating with the Welfare Department in England? It is unfortunate that people like the hon. member have come in here to talk this nonsense. He would be among those who do not want to give people Passports. If people want to go to England, I say that it is their right to go. The Police were not going to ask the Premier's daughter, or my daughter, if she has a job; why should they ask a woman, say, from Chapman's Lane, with three children, if she has a job to go to in England?

4.05 p.m.

When I asked the Hon. Premier on the last occasion a simple question concerning the giving of Passports to people under 18 or 19 years, he said that he had not given instructions to stop anybody; the Government never gave such instructions to the Social Welfare Department. How can the Police Sergeant in charge of the Emigration Department say to me, to the Leader of the Opposition, or to other members that he will grant a Passport form, you can get pictures and so on, but that he has to send them to Government for consideration because they have such instructions? They never said from whom they got the instructions; they never said by whom the instructions were issued. The hon. member said that the Social Welfare Department never turned down any of these applications, but I will tell him on the floor of this House that they have turned down several.

I was put up by the Police to say that it was a shame to give these people all this trouble to get a Passport when you can get them out of this island. In one breath the Minister is trying to get people out of the island, and in another breath the Department of Social Welfare is holding them back. All we are asking is a simple question of the Premier, not the Minister for St. Joseph, not the Minister without portfolio, not the Minister of Education, but the Premier, and we are entitled to ask this question.

I have been associated with members over there, and have had quarrels with them, but you have never heard me say what a member said to me outside of this Chamber. The hon. member just wants something to talk and air his mouth with. (Mr. STRAUGHN: Is that how you are addressing the Chair?)

More women in Barbados are going to England than men, because there are more women out of work. If you were on the floor of this House, Mr. Chairman, you would have to agree with me 100 percent that what I am saying is true; and that it has been brought to your attention.

When you get a fledgeling who thinks he knows something getting up to defend the Department, and then says that the Department is working in co-operation with the Department in England, he is condemning the Department; Government is trying to send people to England, but the Department is saying not to send them unless they are over 19 years. The Premier has said that Government has not given these instructions, but the "Minister" for St. Joseph

has given his own views. Don't you know you are not going to be the "Minister" for St. Joseph too long? He says that his Welfare Department - it is his, he works there - are working with people in England who tell them not to let anybody come if he is under 19 years; but the Government does not say so. I would like to hear the Premier on that.

Mr. STRAUGHN: Mr. Chairman, I want to hear the Hon. Premier too. You can always tell when an hon. member is beaten in an argument; the hon. senior member for the City said he did not ask me the question, but I joined the debate because he deliberately referred to me and the statements I made. It is up to the Ministers to speak on the points they want to, but the hon. member seems to be suggesting that the Government would not know how the Welfare Department is run. If the Minister of Social Services was in the House at the time of the previous debate, he would have been able to clarify the statement which the hon. member was making at the time. He also brought you into it, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Address the hon. senior member for the City; the personal approach is to him.

Mr. STRAUGHN: The hon. senior member for the City - I did not say it is a pity I have to call him so, nor did I call him the dishonourable member for the City; I feel joyful when I call him so because they are all honourable men - has brought you into this matter, Mr. Chairman. He said he did not want you to join the debate; but I am saying that if he had 300 of these cases, I have had 30. (ASIDES)

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I would like to hear the hon. member.

Mr. STRAUGHN: The hon. member is talking about defending the Department. As a matter of fact, I will go further now and say that the hon. senior member for St. Lucy took part in the debate at the time; and in discussion with him in the House and outside he emphatically agreed with and understood clearly the points I made at the time. The hon. member has said that people get delayed for two weeks, but I would not know that; I only know that I had a case like that and I personally checked with the Department and found out what it was all about. I do not know if he checked with the Department, but I did because I had similar cases. Because of that investigation, I have been able to get that information.

Mr. MOTTLEY: On a point of order. Let me ask the hon. member a question. The hon. member said that he got the Social Welfare Department to grant the recommendation of a Passport to a girl under 19. Did they think that she had a job in England? The hon. member said that he intervened and got the Department to agree to recommending the granting of a Passport to a girl who was under 19. Would he say whether she had to show that she had a job in England?

Mr. STRAUGHN: Mr. Chairman, what I was saying and what I repeat again.....

Mr. MOTTLEY: Answer my question.

Mr. STRAUGHN: I am saying that I had similar cases which caused me to investigate the workings of the Department.

4.15 p.m.

I would have to go back and check whether the girl has a job or not. I personally cannot remember that instance but all the other facts were there. Here was somebody going to England and here was a person being delayed from getting a Passport from the Police Department.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Answer the question which I asked you. The hon. member is going all around and saying that there is no instance.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Two hon. members are on their feet.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Answer the direct question which I asked you. Are you saying that you got the Social Welfare

Department to recommend the granting of a Passport to a girl under nineteen years going to England who could not show that she had a job?

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, the hon. senior member for the City has asked for certain information and I am in the position to give that information.

First of all, on the question of Passport forms, the Hon. Leader of the Opposition enquired as to the number available for supply on demand. My information was that there was a shortage at that time; and what he said about the printing of the Passports was correct. In view of that, naturally, we held off ordering; but on Sunday last, a supply came and a further supply is expected on the 21st March. From that information, the Committee will realise that Passports are now available. (A VOICE: Hear, Hear!)

As regards the matter raised by the hon. senior member for the City, it is true that, as a matter of caution, while young girls under nineteen years of age their Passports have never been refused, the authorities take care to find out whether the individual is going to her brother, aunt, cousin or sister. That is for obvious reasons. The Passport is never refused; but the Migrant Service in England has requested that we take such caution.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order. I am not saying that the Passport was refused. When it gets to you, you do not refuse the application for Passport accompanied by a birth certificate. For a person over nineteen years, the request is okay, and up to the Government it goes; but for a person under nineteen years, up to the Social Welfare Department it goes. I still say that some of the applications have not been reviewed. Do you want me to bring them to you?

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I am going to tell the hon. member this: If there are persons you know who have been refused Passports, refer them to the Government.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Repeat that.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: If there is any person, especially young girls on the lines of your suggestion, who had their Passports refused through their recommendation and application refused, ask them to apply to Government. Ask that the matter be referred direct to Government.

Mr. MOTTLEY: All right.

The question that the sum of \$391,069 under Head XV - Police - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Mr. STRAUGHN: Mr. Chairman, I rise on a question of privilege. I would like to draw to your attention that I have previously mentioned that there are two points on this Head on which I would have liked to comment.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: That Head has been passed.

Mr. STRAUGHN: I ask that it be recommitted.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: That has to be done by the House.

HEAD XVI - PRISONS

Head XVI - Prisons - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I beg to move that the sum of \$73,867 under Head XVI - Prisons - stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. BRANCKER: Sir, Item 19 is for Clothing and Uniform. It includes uniform for the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent. I would like to know in respect of the office of Superintendent, now that we are considering the uniform allowance for that office, whether Government accepts the principle that it is not in the best interest of the Prison that a prosecutor should be the jailor?

Sir, when I speak, there is no question of lack of respect for individuals who may be acting as Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent, but there is a principle involved. It is accepted that a prosecutor is one who prosecutes cases; and one whose cases, if successfully prosecuted, the victims are confined at a Prison.

This is no complaint of any conduct or behaviour which is taking place in the Prison; I have heard of no complaints. But what is more important than the individual, is the question of principle; and it is a principle which sometime ago - I think it was when the Conservatives were in power - was accepted even as a temporary expedient that a prosecutor must not be the jailor.

I am not dealing with the case of whether an officer or anyone resigning from the Police Force should become a Prison Officer; when that officer resigns he sheds the shadows of the Police Force behind him; I am dealing with a member of the Force, particularly one who has something to do with the C.I.D. which is the Department in the Police Force which is responsible for persons being incarcerated in Glendairy. Does the Minister accept the principle of the prosecutor also being the jailor?

If it were a case of the Traffic Superintendent being in charge of the Prison there would be hardly any person in the Prison on his responsibility; people do not go to jail for traffic offences except in the case of manslaughter - a charge which a Barbadian jury does not take seriously in most cases and often returns a verdict of guilty of dangerous driving instead.
4.25 p.m.

It is a very important question of principle and I would like to know if the Government has arrived at any policy in respect of it. I would not see any objection to the question if there was an individual who is eminently qualified for that post; but not to put a person to act when he is just fresh from the C.I.D., or when he holds another post. He should then cease to be a member of the Police Force. One looks for such appointment to the rank of Superintendent of the Prison from the Probation Office; that office has some very capable people attached to it; as a matter of fact, I do not know that there is a public office in this island which is more satisfactorily run and ably staffed as the Probation Office. You should take a man from the Probation Office or the Government Industrial Schools for this post because it means promotion to a type of post which is similar. I would like to hear the Hon. Minister on the question of principle, not about the individual. I have no fault to find with people who are working at the Prison.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: This House and the whole community knows about, and was somewhat disturbed over, the conditions existing at the Prison. It was known by every individual in Barbados that the conditions existing up there were far from what might be considered to be normal. The hon. member refers to the principle involved, but I do not see that there is any principle involved; in fact, the only principle involved, as I see it, is that the person who is appointed to that post should be a humane man, whether he was formerly an officer of the Police Force or not. When it comes to the Prison, the appointee has to see that the prisoners are properly dealt with and that discipline is properly enforced; that is why a temporary appointment has been made.

Some years ago, before the substantive holder of the office took over, that same person was there, and he did a very good job; so that in the circumstances which existed recently, when things were in a chaotic state, the Government thought that it could not do better than appoint that person. The Staff is satisfied that he is upholding discipline; and everybody who has been to the Prison either in one way or another, is satisfied that already the Prison is going back to the state which it normally occupied some time ago.

That is to say that as far as discipline is concerned, the gentleman who is acting there is not interfering with any of the policies which have been laid down by his predecessors; as a matter of fact, he is seeing that those policies are being carried out. His main object there is to maintain

some form of order at the Prison so that the inhabitants of Barbados can rest with some assurance that nobody is going to get away and threaten anybody else. That is the broad principle; I do not know what else the hon. member wants. If there is anything else asked I will try to answer it.

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, I tried to make myself explicit. I was not casting any reflection on anybody; I was questioning the Government about putting a prosecutor also in the position of being a jailor.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I was not aware that the person referred to was a prosecutor. He occupied a certain rank in the Police Force, and I was not aware that included in the duties of that rank was one of a prosecuting officer.

Mr. BRANCKER: I am using the word "prosecutor" in the narrow sense; that is, a person appearing in Court and saying: "I prosecute from information received." I am thinking of that person being in the overall charge of an investigation which eventually culminates in people being sent to Prison; and the person who, in the majority of cases, is successful with the termination of the investigation, finding himself in charge of the same people. He is the only person to whom such people would have to be sent. That is the principle which I do not feel should be supported or upheld in these modern days.

Mr. TUDOR: Before the question is put, Mr. Chairman, there are one or two things on which I want to speak with respect to Item 21 and Item 23. It is either one or the other of them or both; it depends under which Item the matter can be properly raised.
4.35 p.m.

It has to do with the Prison, and it happens also to be something upon which I feel very strongly; and at this moment I am entreating the sympathy of Government and this entire Committee. It is to do with certain furnishings or lack of furnishings in the condemned cells at the Prison.

I need not argue very strongly to convince this Committee that a person who sits in the shadow of death is in a peculiar and very perilous position for more reasons than one; the hopelessness and desperation experienced should be well known to the imagination if not to the experience. In recent months unfortunately we have had instances where the length of time spent awaiting execution was longer than was normally the case; appeals have to be heard and consequently the time of waiting, which is bad enough when it is only three weeks, becomes more ghastly when it is longer. It seems to me therefore that although very little, physically speaking, can be done to bring comfort to a person under these conditions, there are still one or two things which if we thought about them may help; and I now refer specifically to the lack of what I call entertainment in the condemned cells.

I hold, for instance, that it would be perfectly appropriate for a Rediffusion speaker to be put in. There is not only the question of entertainment - if you can call it such - for the person awaiting death, but also of the attendants who have to watch the condemned day and night; they are also under a strain as well. Even if they are sick, I believe something can be done.

Last year there was a person awaiting execution, who has been executed, and who was completely illiterate; he was unable therefore to seek his own comfort by reading the Bible for himself; and those of us who perform that service for him will naturally get tired from time to time. You cannot read for an hour or an hour and a half without feeling tired. The Salvation Army, when approached, were kind enough to provide a group of records and a radiogramme which enabled him to hear the entire New Testament merely by pushing a plug. It was a great relief to us who visited, as well as to the man himself. He could request any portion of the Scripture, have the equipment set up and listen to it until he himself had felt he had had enough.

I wonder if the appropriate Minister would consider, for the condemn cells, getting that type of equipment where the whole Scriptures could be played back and listened to

from recordings. I do not suppose it will cost very much, but I am sure it would be a great comfort to the people themselves. Apart from that, I do plead for the installation of the Rediffusion Service in the condemned cells. I do think there is nothing which would be distracting for a person in these circumstances to listen to the Radio. It maintains contact with the outside world; it helps to break that ghastly, monotonous, terrible silence which exists next to the Gallows. I really feel strongly about it, and I do not think I need argue the merits of it. I urge upon the Government as quickly as possible to provide these circumstances.

Hon. F. E. MILLER: I will promise the hon. member to give the matter due consideration. There is something in what he said. From what I can glean, few of these people are willing, except in the case of visits from Ministers of Religion, to have this service; they would rather be alone. Less than two weeks ago I happened to be at the Prison where we visited the cells. I certainly promise that I will give the matter some thought.

The question that the sum of \$73,867 under Head XVI - Prisons - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XVII - INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS

Head XVII - Industrial Schools - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$49,642 under Head XVII - Industrial School - stand part of the Schedule.

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

The question that the sum of \$49,642 under Head XVII - Industrial Schools - stand part of the Schedule, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XIX - ECCLESIASTICAL

Head XIX - Ecclesiastical - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$70,488 under Head XIX - Ecclesiastical - stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Hon. Premier could shed any light on the present state of the discussions between the Church and the State. We are called on to vote \$66,528 as the total personal emoluments under this Head, and I would like to know whether the hon. member who is in charge of the ecclesiastical affairs would give us an oral interim Progress Report.

With respect to the other charges, Mr. Chairman, I wonder if consideration has been given by Government to re-allocating the various sums given by way of grant-in-aid to the four religious denominations which are at present recipients, other than the established Church. I would like to know whether the \$960, \$1,680, \$120 or \$1,200 bear an adequate relation to the number of persons who are on the membership roll of these religious institutions, whether the amounts are really adequate, or whether any representations have been made for adjustment or increases to these grants-in-aid. Perhaps the hon. member would also enlighten us as to whether any applications have been turned down for grants-in-aid from other religious institutions in this island.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I understand the hon. member to ask for a Progress Report relative to the discussion on the Anglican Church. Since the new Bishop arrived, we have had a Committee appointed by the Government to meet with the Church. The Lord Bishop was in attendance and there was an exchange of views on one or two subjects. Subsequent to that a gentleman, a Solicitor, I believe, who is knowledgeable in ecclesiastical law, visited the island on behalf of the Church; and at the request of the Bishop the Committee appointed by the Government and the Committee appointed by the Church, met this gentleman on two occasions.
4.45 p.m.

On account of those two meetings - one was late in December and the other early in January - we have not been able to get together; since then we have been occupied with the compilation of the Estimates. We have not found it convenient to meet since early November. I can assure this Committee that it is the determination of this Government to pursue the disendowment of the Anglican Church very vigorously and forcibly as soon as we can.

As regards subventions for other religious denominations, in answer to the hon. member, I would just like to say that no applications have been received, none have been refused, and none have been expected to be considered unfavourably.

Mr. BRANCKER: I thank the Hon. Premier for his frankness and his straightforwardness. At least, we know where we are.

The question that the sum of \$70,488 under Head XIX - Ecclesiastical - stand part of the Schedule, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XX - EDUCATION (1) HEADQUARTERS

Head XX - Education (1) Headquarters - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I beg to move that the sum of \$1,211,981 under Head XX - Education (1) Headquarters - stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I am going to trespass considerably on the time and patience of the Hon. Minister. First of all, Item 27, Grants-in-aid to Schools. With respect to Combermere School, I want to know if the Hon. Minister is in a position to say what has further emerged from his promise to investigate into the case of Olive Williams and Gertrude Clarke; and whether he has managed to persuade the Governing Body of that School to open the case with the Laboratory Attendant who was dismissed. On the last occasion, the Hon. Minister promised that he would do what he could to persuade the Governing Body to move in that direction. I want to know whether he has managed to do so.

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: Mr. Chairman, in so far as the case of Olive Williams, nothing further has emerged. Relative to the Laboratory Attendant, I wish to say that I have had a talk with the Chairman of the Governing Body, and it has not been possible to get the matter reopened.

Mr. TUDOR: I must thank the Hon. Minister for his replies. He told the Committee that it has not been possible to get the matter reopened; in other words, he means to say that the Governing Body has positively refused to reopen the matter.

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: Sir, my own view is that this individual was not on the permanent staff of Combermere School, so to speak; he was not appointed; he was only employed temporarily. In other words, I got the impression that he was there at the pleasure of the Governing Body. To be frank, what emerged is this: He was there not with the unanimous approval of the Governing Body, and was dismissed by those who considered that he should not be there any longer by reason of the fact that his conduct in the past was not what it should have been.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, there is great cleavage of opinion here. First of all, I would like to tell the Hon. Minister of Education that I have no interest in this case, but if I understand the Hon. Minister correctly, I must disagree with him. The Minister says that the impression he has got is that, because this man was not appointed on the Established Staff of Combermere, he could not be treated as fairly as if he had been appointed. If that is what the Minister is saying it is reprehensible; it cannot be right and proper that there should be different treatment for people who are appointed, and another treatment meted out to people who are acting. Either this employee was unfairly

dismissed or his dismissal was quite in order. If his dismissal was quite in order, it would not be subjected to discussion now before this Committee; and certainly, there would be no request on my part to ask the Hon. Minister to get the matter reopened on the fact which the man claims, and which I believe he has drawn to the Hon. Minister's attention as well; which was, that he was dismissed without being heard in his own defence.

Sir, if that has happened, that was manifestly wrong. He should have been given a list of those charges in writing preferred against him, and should have been given a number of days' grace in order to study the gravity of the charges and to prepare his defence accordingly. Then he should be summoned by a meeting of the Governing Body to answer to the charges mentioned.

I understand that that procedure was not followed. Now the Hon. Minister has told me that in his view the man was treated so shabbily because he was not a member of the Established Staff. I know that the Hon. Minister, himself, must be revolted by the force of this argument. He tells us that he understands that the man was not particularly liked by members of the Governing Body, and was even put in the acting job against the wishes of some of them even if not all. 4.55 p.m.

Whether that is true or not, is nothing at all to do with the matter. The merits of the case would have to be examined; and whatever the merits are, the manner of the dismissal of this man is open to question. I am profoundly sorry that the Minister has not been able to make the Governing Body of the School say that they had been written to and requested to re-open the case. I am not arguing that the man should be reinstated; that would be a matter to be dealt with when the matter has been gone into. You cannot dismiss a man without giving him an opportunity to hear the charges which are made against him. I am sorry that the Governing Body of Combermere School has fallen into that miserable blunder. I am afraid that the Minister's answer is, to that degree, unsatisfactory; I am not saying that he has not investigated the case; I know that he has investigated it and he himself must feel dissatisfied.

This man was an employee of this Government for the time being; and you do not want the principle to be established that people who hold acting appointments can be charged and have their rights taken from them. I do not think that this is a principle which should be given any consideration at all. The Minister should not allow this matter to drop just there; he should not just say that the Governing Body is unwilling or it has not been possible to do something. That is not satisfactory. After all, the Minister is responsible for persons employed in the Ministry especially where cases of manifest injustice are brought to his attention. He should leave no stone unturned to prevent an injustice of this nature taking place, where the Governing Body of a School can say that they have unjustly treated an employee of that School.

Hon. L. ST. A. THORNE: On a point of order, I should not like the hon. member to import anything foreign into what I have said. I gave him a straightforward answer. If he feels that the matter should be further gone into, he can say that; but do not let him try to imagine anything which I did not say.

Mr. TUDOR: I am saying inferentially that the members of this Governing Body are boasting about the matter; they feel smart about it. If they can tell the Minister that the man was employed against their will or without their knowledge, and they were not in favour of his being there, it stands to reason that they would not be sorry to get rid of him. That is the inference which I have drawn. What has stiffened them in their responsibility to the Minister is that they did not like the man being there and they did not approve of his being there. I used the word "boast" in that sense; they are resisting whatever pressure the Minister is bringing upon the matter and the Minister should bring pressure on them.

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: I have not tried to bring any pressure on them. However I will promise the hon. member, if he wants me to bring pressure on them, I will do that.

Mr. TUDOR: I am grateful to the Minister. I do not think that anybody should be dismissed without having been given a chance to defend himself. I ask that the case be reopened and the man be given a chance to make his own side right. If they dismiss him after that, that is all well and good; nobody should be able to say anything after that.

Mr. Chairman, with respect to the Coleridge-Parry School, is the Minister in a position to say why this School has not been able to establish a Cadet Corps? Has he got anything useful to say with respect to the Boys' Foundation School? I am sparing him the trouble of having to answer me twice. What about the erection of a Sports Pavilion? Has any request been made in that direction?

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: As far as I recollect, no request has been made with respect to the matter of the erection of a pavilion. Where the Cadet Corps is concerned, we are considering the matter; and, as soon as possible, we shall do something in that direction, not only for the Coleridge-Parry School but for other schools as well. It is only the question of expense in having this Cadet Corps.

Mr. TUDOR: I appreciate the answer which the Hon. Minister has given, but is there anything else which stands in the way besides expense? I believe that the schools would be willing to cooperate.

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: Would the hon. member elaborate a little and say what he feels would help in this matter?

Mr. TUDOR: The Hon. Minister is treating me as if I am the Minister and he is the questioner! However, I do know that at the Coleridge-Parry School there is a great anxiety about the matter; and if the Government would say what it is prepared to do, it is possible that the parents of the pupils would consider helping the children. I suppose that the same thing applies to the other schools.

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: There are certain projects which we have considered and have decided upon. Such projects will be implemented as soon as there is the forthcoming revenue. There are other things pertaining to the school which are more necessary than the establishment of a Cadet Corps; I would try to get these things established before the establishment of a Cadet Corps.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I am afraid that my next question might produce the same answer. With respect to the Alexandra School, I have been informed that the Ministry has had its attention drawn to the need of an Assembly Hall for that school.
5.05 p.m.

I wonder whether the Minister is in a position to say how far, if at all, plans are for the erection of that particular building. If plans exist at all, how soon will these plans be implemented?

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: Mr. Chairman, I would like to assure the hon. member that I am just as anxious, if not more anxious than he is, to see that our dear children in these schools get all that is essential and necessary for their proper development. As a token of that, and in connection with the Alexandra School, I am to inform the hon. member that just towards the end of last year, I have had six class rooms added to the School, besides a Domestic Science Room, at a total cost of \$53,000. I am positively sure that he would not feel that we would not give all the necessary assistance to that school; so that where the hall is concerned, I hope that will come in the not too distant future.

Mr. TUDOR: I was well aware of the additions which were made to the accommodation of these schools — and very good they were too. But that should not prevent me from asking for more if more is required.

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: I am not saying he should not ask for more; I am only saying that he must understand that he will have to wait a bit before his request can be met.

Mr. TUDOR: In this connection, I would like to remind the Hon. Minister that Sir Winston Churchill, when he was Chancellor of the Exchequer, used to reply to requests like that by saying that there were too many little pigs and not enough nipples on the old sow! That, I suppose, is as good and reasonable an answer as any.

With respect to the Boys' Foundation School, I am not quite clear about the position of the Sixth Form. Is there one, and is it likely to increase?

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: In my own view, Mr. Chairman, and in the view of educationalists of standing, a real sixth Form School should offer a choice of twelve or more subjects. In that respect, I would be inclined to say that there is no Sixth Form there in that sense; this School has about eleven boys who are taking advanced level studies in Mathematics, Higher Mathematics, Mathematics for Science, Latin, French and History.

This Government is fully aware of the fact that some effort will have to be made to increase the amount of Sixth Form accommodation at our schools; it is working towards that end so that there is absolutely no fear. We are certainly not discouraging a school from having a Sixth Form, but we would not appreciate the idea of having a school trying to build up a Sixth Form at the expense of the lower and middle forms. It would have to have adequate staff, and would have to be able to offer the variety of subjects to which I referred when I began to answer the question.

Mr. TUDOR: I find that my own views, and the Government's views, on this Sixth Form question are not so very far apart, and I will tell you why. I do appreciate that it might not always be economically possible to have a Sixth Form in every School; there would be a certain amount of wastage of talent on the part of the staff. I feel that any pupil in every school who wants Sixth Form training should not be debarred from having it. What I suggest therefore is the establishment of a central sort of post-ordinary-school to accommodate 200 or 250 pupils with Science Laboratories offering all the possible courses which would be taken at Sixth Form level; and then to allow that school to cater for pupils coming from these grant-aided secondary schools who could not be fitted in at Harrison College, Queen's College or Lodge School. It might be worth while trying.

This question of not being able to afford staff for nine schools might thereby sort itself out; you would probably have three schools with Sixth Forms and a central post-ordinary-level school. That might be worthwhile considering; and I throw it out to the Minister, because it may solve that end of the problem. At any rate, I believe it would enable Sixth Form tuition to be given to persons who could benefit from it without their having to be deprived of it.

I need not press the question in that respect then about St. Michael's Girls' School; it was almost of the same nature. With respect to Queen's College, however, I would like the Minister to say, if he can, the number of pupils transferred from other Girls' Schools to the Sixth Form of this School; and secondly also with respect to Queen's College, what plans are being made about the Science Laboratory.

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: Mr. Chairman, in answer to the first part of the question, there are eleven such persons at Queen's College: seven from St. Michael's Girls', two from Foundation Girls' and two from the Alexandra School. In 1960 there were eight: seven of whom came from St. Michael's Girls' and one from the Alexandra. I am hoping that in the next financial year the matter will be fully decided.
5.15 p.m.

In point of fact, it is rather a coincidence that this matter has come up in here now; it is due to appear before the Cabinet tomorrow. I cannot say too much on it now.

Mr. TUDOR: I am glad that it is due to appear before the Cabinet tomorrow. I counsel the Hon. Minister not to be weary in well doing, but to do a good job so that they will not hold up this project.

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: Sir, I cannot let that remark go unchallenged. I should like to take this opportunity to say that perhaps of all the Ministries, mine might be the most well favoured in that all of my colleagues are very keen on the question of education; and I can assure hon. members of this Committee that if there were the necessary finance, quite a number of things would have been done already. This Ministry of Education is getting the greatest and biggest slice of cake where the revenue is concerned. The hon. member can hardly be more efficacious than I am, but when one's conscience is not dead, one must listen to reason. It is a question of dollars and cents, that is all.

There are quite a number of schemes quite ready for implementation. I would take this opportunity to stick my neck out and refer to the many sleepless nights as far as the development and improvement of the education of the Island is concerned. I am wondering whether the people of Barbados would be prepared to show their appreciation of education in a sort of practical way.

I feel that it is not good enough to say that we are interested in education, and that we would like this and that. I wonder if the business-houses, the people who make money, would see fit to offer scholarships, or agree to a levy of one per cent of their whole earnings to be spent towards education. It is quite time that we get practical and do away with a lot of talk.

The only thing which is preventing the wheels of education from spinning at the rate which they should be spinning is finance. The reason why we cannot proceed at a greater rate is because of the many commitments which the Government has. I am most conscious of that.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, the Hon. Minister could not fail to get my agreement with the sentiments which he has just uttered; except that I would qualify it by saying that, while it is true that the heavy financial commitments of the Government might prevent him and his colleagues from doing more, there are some financial commitments to which very special attention need not be paid so that the money released might help in the direction of education. It is a question of rearranging your priorities.

I was astonished in this financial year to note that we are earmarking another \$150,000 for deficiencies in the Transport Board Service. If the Hon. Minister can get hold of that \$150,000 for the scholarships for which he is now pleading, that would be a very good thing. We might tighten up wherever is slack so that the money can be released for a purpose which is universally acknowledged. I agree that he must impress upon his colleagues not to throw away money in other departments because he wants to use it.

As regards the question of increased scholarships by way of benefits from business-houses, I agree with him; and I believe that they would respond. When Princess Alice was here, and in other parts of the Federation, we endowed scholarships, but if an attempt had been made to enlist the sympathy and support of the business-houses here on a wide scale, I believe that favourable response would have been forthcoming. However, if you want to get them supporting education, you would have to encourage them; and I think the Government should start an unceasing amount of propaganda in this respect. The only thing is that the people would want to know that such scholarships would be awarded in subjects and in courses of study which would be of real benefit to the island; and I believe that it would be fair that part of the regulations of these endowment scholarships could be that the persons so assisted should give four or five years of service to this community after they have qualified.

With respect to Items 30 and 31 - Barbados Scholarships and U.C.W.I. Exhibitions - following on what the Hon. Minister has said, I need not draw to his or anybody's attention, that we are all hoping to celebrate the independence of the West Indies some time next year. I am wondering if this Government would not like to consult the Federal Government and other Unit Governments of the Federation with a view to establishing at least 100 scholarships at university level to mark the occasion. I say 100 scholarships be-

cause I think with a population of three and a half million, 100 new economists, engineers, architects, soil experts and so on would not be too many. I believe that it is established that all of these territories can manage 100 scholarships tenable at any university in the Commonwealth.

It might not cost the Federation much; other countries would like to congratulate us in this respect. The Commonwealth of Australia was very enthused with our people after a recent visit of the West Indies cricket team; therefore, they might wish to mark the occasion of our independence by offering a dozen or so scholarships tenable at an Australian University - if they were approached. I have reasons to believe that the U.S.A. Government might want to assist us; not to speak of Canada, and New Zealand, Ghana and Ceylon might so wish also.

Sometimes the realisation of these things is a matter of initiative. I want the Barbados Government to consult with the Federal Government and other Unit Governments to establish these Scholarships; and then the Federal Government could take up with other Commonwealth Governments whether instead of giving a chair for the House of Representatives, they could give us a scholarship. The occasion is one when we could cash in on the goodwill of the people in the Commonwealth.

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: I am grateful to the hon. member for his suggestion. It is a worthy one, and one which should be pursued.

Mr. TUDOR: Now, Mr. Chairman, with respect to Item 32 - Evening Institute - I would like an answer from the Hon. Minister, if he can, as to how many people use this service on an average in a year. Is the attendance satisfactory? Can he say whether or not any more centres are needed, or have been requested?
5.25 p.m.

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: Mr. Chairman, there were in August, 1960, nineteen centres, and eighty-eight different classes catering to 2,700 students. The attendance is satisfactory. New Centres are introduced from time to time, and whenever there is need for the services of the Institute.

Mr. TUDOR: I thank the Hon. Minister. If he will look on page 45 of the Estimates, at Item 35 "Teacher Training". I would like to get some idea of this special course for the training of teachers, the nature of the course, the number of people taking it, apart from those who have attended courses in the United Kingdom. Would the Minister explain what is meant by the "Prospective Principal of Commercial Institute?"

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: Mr. Chairman, with reference to the special course of training for teachers, there are 45 persons who are attending this special course. I will send the hon. member a copy of the syllabus. In addition to these 45 persons, there are 47 others taking the Certificate "B"; others, the A.C.P. Those are all extra from the ones taking the regular course of training. The term "prospective Principal of Commercial Institute" is used because this is a project which, I would say, the Ministry has not yet got clear. We cannot say very much about it; but as soon as the necessary clearance has been obtained, I shall be able to explain the necessary details.

Mr. TUDOR: I am entirely ignorant of that matter, I must confess. Is it going to be a Commercial Institute?

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: I think there should be such an Institute.

Mr. TUDOR: In that case, provision is made for the prospective Principal; is that it?

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: It is not that exactly. The term "prospective" has to be used in as much as the matter has not been cleared; we have not been able to put it up to the Cabinet.

Mr. TUDOR: When the Cabinet agrees that a Commercial Institute is to be set up, will the prospective Principal be selected and sent out for training?

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: That is so.

Mr. STRAUGHN: Mr. Chairman, I am referring to Item 30 and Item 31. It has been said that there were certain senior students, chiefly senior students at the U.C.W.I., who do not get certain additional allowance which it had been agreed that they should get. I know that up to some months ago the Ministry was engaged to see that matter rectified. I do not know how far they have got in that respect.

A number of students told me, when the Minister was in Jamaica in 1960, that he had assured them that some action had been taken in the House of Assembly to the effect that these allowances would have been increased. Subsequently a Mr. Barrow in Jamaica had told them that no such action had been taken. These students were quite confused over the issue. It would be well if we could now get some clarification.

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: I well remember the matter to which the hon. member refers. There was no hitch. What I told the students of the Council was what had happened; if they saw fit to believe what was given them by someone else, I do not see that I can be blamed for that. By this time the thing has been gone into.

Mr. STRAUGHN: I am grateful to the Hon. Minister.

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Chairman, when you come to education, not only in relation to Barbados but in relation to all the world, it is one of the greatest and most important things in our lives. Any Government in the world should take heed and give to the teachers and to the masters.....

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: Mr. Chairman, I should like to know on what Item the hon. member is speaking. 5.35 p.m.

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Chairman, I am speaking chiefly on Item 20 - Unestablished Staff - on page 43. All assistance should be given to teachers since they are performing one of the greatest tasks in this island. I would be in agreement with any facility which the Government saw fit to grant to schoolmasters, schoolmistresses and teachers in general inasmuch as they carry such a responsibility. Mr. Chairman, the little children whom we have to send to school are to me like a little kid that is weaned from its mother and has to take the rope around its neck; when you tie it and remove it from its mother that kid throws itself on the ground and tries to get away. So too with a child when the mother takes it to school. The teacher under whose care it is put has to exercise great patience, and has to inject some of his knowledge into that child.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The hon. member said that he is dealing with Item 20 - Unestablished Staff - but he is now referring to teachers. You have not yet made any reference to Item 20.

Mr. CORBIN: Let us say then that this unestablished staff refers to teachers or assistants, whether they be cleaners of the school, or gardeners. I hope that Government will do its utmost for everyone who contributes to education.

Mrs. BOURNE: Mr. Chairman, there is just one question I would like to ask the Minister under Item 12 - Maintenance and Extension of Buildings - on page 52. I would like to enquire of the Minister if provision is made under this Head.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN: We are dealing with Head XX - Education (1) Headquarters.

Mrs. BOURNE: I am sorry.

The question that the sum of \$1,211,981 under Head XX - Education (1) Headquarters - stand part of the Schedule, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XX - EDUCATION (2) ERDISTON COLLEGE

Head XX - Education (2) Erdiston College - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$29,342 under Head XX - Education (2) Erdiston College, stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I desire to ask the Minister a general question as to whether he can say if the establishment at Erdiston is now working at its full complement, whether all the vacancies for teachers have been filled, and whether everything is now going smoothly.

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: Mr. Chairman, the College at Erdiston is at the moment running on what I might call an acting staff. We have advertised certain vacant posts but they have not yet been filled.

As far as the course is concerned I have very much pleasure in saying that things are going quite nicely; and we are receiving congratulations from all persons who visit this school. We have just had visitors from the U.C.W.I. and they have proclaimed that the work is going quite nicely. We ourselves have been getting around and seeing the progress which is being made. I have had the good fortune of speaking with quite a number of students who are in training, and they testify that they are getting everything from the course.

Mr. TUDOR: I thank the Hon. Minister. There is one other small point. Erdiston still accommodates, I believe, teachers sent here for training from other units from the Federation. How have the Governments of those Units reacted to the change from the two-year to the one-year course?

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: Speaking from memory, I think there is only one territory which has withdrawn its patronage. The number of students from abroad is generally one-third of the population at the College; and we still get that proportion. Whereas one territory has withdrawn, one or two of the others have doubled the numbers they sent. We have not suffered any reduction.

Mr. TUDOR: Would the Hon. Minister like to say which territory that was?

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: I have not got that answer at my fingertips. I will let the hon. member know.

The question that the sum of \$29,342 under Head XX Education (2) Erdiston College - stand part of the Schedule, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XX - EDUCATION (3) TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

Head XX - Education (3) Technical Institute - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$47,712 under Head XX - Education (3) Technical Institute - stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I have to speak at some length on this matter of the Technical Institute particularly with respect to Item 5 - Trainee Instructors. I just mentioned that to enable you to know under what I am speaking. I believe that the Minister understands that considerable anxiety exists with respect to the Technical Institute; not anxiety as to its usefulness or potentialities, but anxiety because in recent months it has been having some staffing trouble. 5.45 p.m.

I believe it was about a month ago - perhaps more - that I asked the Hon. Minister of Education what steps were being taken to fill vacancies which existed at the Institute. He answered the question, but the ink on the answer had scarcely dried before we heard that the Principal of that Institute had resigned.

Mr. Chairman, this is a serious matter. It is bad enough to lose the head of an important educational estab-

lishment even when it is running with the full complement of its staff; but it is a thousand times more disastrous to lose his services when you do not have the full complement of staff. I want to know from the Minister, first of all, if he can tell us what exactly is happening there. Can he tell us, regards the recruitment of proper staff, whether he has anything to add to the answer which he gave me a month ago as regards someone who was appointed to the Institute from the Middle East, but who has not been released from his present post to join the Technical Institute?

Hon. L. St.A. THORNE: I must apologise for not listening. I am sorry to ask the hon. member to repeat what he was just saying.

Mr. TUDOR: I understand someone was coming from the Middle East. Has he been released yet from his post in order that he may join the Technical Institute?

Why has the Principal chosen to resign at this moment? Surely, the Institute would be thrown into some crisis by not having the full complement of staff, and with the Principal leaving at the moment. What is the situation at the Technical Institute?

Hon. L. St.A. THORNE: Mr. Chairman, the situation is one which is not alarming, although one would wish that things were in a better state. The Principal seems to have seized the opportunity to sever his connections with the Institute for a better market; he has hinted that he will be retiring to take up what he calls a more remunerative employment. Sir, that is the situation in which we have found ourselves.

The Technical Institute is a sort of echo of the very narrow concepts of education which we have held; and the principle, more or less, being pursued in our idle moments. Through no fault of our own, we have been led to regard education primarily as academic training; and there have been those of us who, without any compunction, would refer to an individual capable of making a very excellent piece of furniture but who was without education, as an illiterate. I quote that to show you the erroneous concept which we have of education.

Because of that concept, we have put all the emphasis on academic training; we have put all the emphasis on classics, mathematics, science and so on. But the time has come when we have to be awakened to the fact that the acquisition of vocational skills is of paramount importance to the general development of any country. So now that we have started to launch out into the vocational field, we are confronted with the very startling spectacle of not being able to put our hands on the necessary qualified instructors in this sort of work; and it is also a question of supply and demand.

We need the services of these people, but since we have not got the supply we have been forced to go overseas and recruit instructors. When a country finds itself in such a position, it must expect difficulties due to the fact that a pistol is always kept at your head. A person employed by you will always be asking you for more money; and, presumably, this is the sort of thing which obtains in all Governments at the moment.

I have taken necessary steps to counter that. The only way to do this successfully is to be prepared to send abroad batches of your own people with the necessary bent and intelligence to be properly trained; you will find yourself readily supplied with those people when they have qualified. Of course, that will take some time before it reaches maturity; nevertheless, that is the course which we are prepared to pursue. I am not ashamed to say that we are in a bit of a fix, but I think that we will soon be out of it.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I agree with the Hon. Minister that the thing to do is to take our own people and send them abroad and train them. I am astonished to think that it has taken the Government that long to decide that; that is a policy which you should have already embarked on, even if it were not for a shortage of staff. We are looking forward to the time when we would be able to recruit our own people.

I would just like the Hon. Minister to get along with that scheme or policy as quickly as he can.

Hon. L. St.A. THORNE: There is nothing which I have said which would have indicated that the Government had not had the idea of training its own people; but the way to do it is a different way to.....

Mr. TUDOR: The one which the Minister suggested is the right way. With respect to the resignation of the Principal, as I understand the Hon. Minister, Mr. Holmes has accepted an offer more remunerative elsewhere; and although Government regrets it, yet they are letting him go.

Hon. L. St.A. THORNE: What I would say in explanation is that the offer has been made; but as far as I have been able to gather, it is just possible that there are certain obstacles. Apparently, the individual was not lucky to have certain matters settled which should have been settled; he is still in office.

Mr. TUDOR: Sir, since our salaries are going to be revised shortly, can you not persuade Mr. Holmes to wait for a few months and have his case put before the Salaries Commissioner? I understand that the Government has decided not to negotiate with the Civil Service as employer versus employee, but has taken the decision to hand over the matter to a Salaries Commissioner. I have not heard the Hon. Premier get up to deny that, so I take it that the Salaries Commissioner is coming out.
5.55 p.m.

Since it is a cardinal principle on both sides of this House that educational institutions should not be improperly staffed owing to the lack of proper salaries, I believe it would be possible to persuade Mr. Holmes in that direction. There is no reason why we should lose Mr. Holmes because some other colony is offering him something more. Is it so much more that he is being offered that he is inclined to resign this position here? By paying the holder of the post of Principal we may emphasise his importance even more.

While I can see the Minister's point of view, I think you should stand in his way in the sense that you should prevent him from leaving by holding out to him the promise of greater attractiveness in his salary. Fortunately, as I say, a Salaries Commissioner is coming out. Just as five years ago a lot of people waited and did not go until they knew how their salaries would be regraded, so in this case Mr. Holmes could be prevailed upon to keep his resignation in cold storage until he sees in which way the Salaries Commissioner is going when he comes.

Hon. L. St.A. THORNE: Mr. Chairman, I would like to say to the hon. member, and I believe he will agree with me, that his suggestion has something in it; it brings to my mind a situation which arose between the Britons and the Danes. I am considering the matter; I have an idea of my own which I will put up to the Cabinet when the time comes.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, in respect of Item 19, "Evening Classes", I should like to get some information so as to clarify a difficulty existing in my mind. What exactly are these Evening Classes? Are these Classes a part of the work of the Evening Institute?

Hon. L. St.A. THORNE: These are classes which are run by the Evening Institute.

The question that the sum of \$47,712 under Head XX - Education (3) Technical Institute-stand part of the Schedule, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XX - EDUCATION (4) HOUSECRAFT CENTRE
Head XX - Education (4) Housecraft Centre - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$11,753 under Head XX - Education (4) Housecraft Centre-stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

HEAD XX - EDUCATION (5) PRIMARY AND SECONDARY MODERN SCHOOLS

Head XX - Education (5) Primary and Secondary Modern Schools - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I am asking leave to increase Item 17 "Cleaning" by \$9,000. That will make the total to be voted under this Head \$905,640.

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

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I beg to move that the sum of \$905,640 under Head XX - Education (5) stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, with respect to Item 3 "Supernumerary Teachers". I should like the Minister to explain to me in some detail the position of Supernumerary Teachers. I do not know whether these are teachers who are trained, or whether they will be qualified teachers when they go to Erdiston, or whether any provision is made for their training. Since it seems as if the number of Supernumerary Teachers are almost a quarter of the teachers who are on the Establishment, why are these Supernumeraries not assimilated into the full Establishment?

This is the point: you pay them from year to year with unfailing regularity; what prevents you from incorporating them into the Establishment? Personally, it seems to me to be unfair to ask people to act without being appointed, in some cases for three or four years; and without any certainty of being appointed. They are losing their pensionable time during that period.
6.05 p.m.

What is the justification for having 220 Supernumeraries, which is a figure of 25% of the 835 Assistant Teachers on the Establishment. Altogether there are over 1,000 persons in the Primary and Secondary Modern Schools apart from the Headteachers; 835 Assistant Teachers and 220 Supernumeraries. I will ask the question about Relief Teachers separately.

Hon. L. St.A. THORNE: Mr. Chairman, "Supernumeraries" as the terms implies, are teachers who in the main serve in places of teachers who are undergoing training at Erdiston College, or act in cases where teachers are on long leave, whether it be sick leave or vacation leave. Then there are a few who are there by reason of the fact that the numbers on school registers may overgrow the size of the staff. Many of these teachers have not got the full qualifications, as far as I can remember, which would entitle them to permanent appointment - but that is subject to correction. Wherever possible, there are those who seem fit, and are allowed to pursue a course of training and take the Certificate "B".

Mr. TUDOR: If the Hon. Minister would give way for a moment, Did I understand him to say that some are permitted to take a course of training?

Hon. L. St.A. THORNE: Yes.

Mr. TUDOR: But not at Erdiston!

Hon. L. St.A. THORNE: They take the Certificate "B".

Mr. TUDOR: If the hon. member would remember the second part of the question: What prevents those of them who are qualified from being assimilated into the Establishment?

Hon. L. St.A. THORNE: As soon as the Establishment is to be increased, preference is always given, as far as I know, to the Supernumeraries who are qualified for appointment to these vacancies. For instance, this year we are

appointing 35 Assistant Teachers, and I presume that these will be from the ranks of the Supernumeraries.

Mr. TUDOR: Now, Mr. Chairman, with respect to Relief Teachers. Would the Minister say just exactly how they are paid - I mean the rates as well as the method of payment?

I understand that they are daily paid teachers, and as such are not paid for bank holidays and things like that, since the school is not open on these days. I would like him to explain that and give me the actual figures because I do not know them.

Hon. L. St.A. THORNE: The Director advises that Relief Teachers should be only employed for short terms of service, and therefore these teachers are paid on a day to day rate. I have not got the figures here of the rates, but the rates are almost the same as those which would be paid to teachers who are of the same qualifications and who are serving their first year.

I know that the males who are appointed, start at roughly \$80 plus \$9 cost of living per month. I do not think that the Relief Teachers are very far from that. I have not got the figures as I said already, but I will promise to get them for you. The method which is applied, in so far as their hire is concerned, is one which lends itself to the usual day to day employment. If the Regulations are observed, these Relief Teachers would not be expected to be serving for any long periods; if there is any length of period, that would normally fall to Supernumeraries.

Mr. TUDOR: I should like to ask the Minister this: If he says the Relief Teachers work for only short periods, does he mean that the period in which a Relief Teacher would work would be shorter than a term or half term?

Hon. L. St.A. THORNE: That is what is intended. But I am not in a position to say that it is strictly observed.

Mr. TUDOR: I have known cases where they have worked for two years, not necessarily at the same school. I really do think it is undignified in the teaching profession to pay a man or woman by the day; and there is much more to it than that. You will never be able to achieve proper professional standards and dignity if you employ people in this profession, more so than any other, on this daily basis. A Relief Teacher is not somebody coming to weed up a yard for a few days, or somebody coming in to scrub a house before a tenant comes in. I am not arguing with the Minister, because he is well aware of this.....

Hon. L. St.A. THORNE: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. The hon. member is preaching to the converted. I do sincerely hope we may find ourselves in a position to do what we would like to do to better the situation.

Mr. TUDOR: Even if you employ a man for three weeks, employ him on a monthly basis; so that the 18 or so days' work will be 18 out of 30 or 28 or whatever days there are; and pay him on a monthly basis.

Now there is another matter which is more serious with respect to Relief Teachers. I asked a question here some weeks now which the Minister has not yet answered: whether he knew that certain Relief Teachers did not receive their December stipend until well into the New year? Has the Minister anything to say on that? I want to draw to his attention that I have been informed - in saying this I am saying it to help the Minister because I have no means of investigating it - that in two cases the money had been held over at the school for no known reason. In other words, the Headteachers of the Schools responsible did not hand it over.

I would like the Minister to investigate it. I believe complaints have been made to the Department, and it can easily be investigated. If it is known that there is substance in these complaints, I would like him to cause directions to be given to Headteachers that in no circumstances should they withhold money from people until they feel inclined

to give it to them. I am not suggesting any improper motives; it was just that they did not give it to the teachers when they could have given it to them.

Hon. L. St.A. THORNE: I have investigated the issue raised in the hon. member's questions, and I will be in a position to give the answers very shortly.
6.15 p.m.

Mrs. BOURNE: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask one question as regards these Relief Teachers. What are the qualifications necessary for the appointment of these teachers at Elementary Schools? The number of pupils which are allowed to any one teacher, as I understand it, is 40; but some of these Relief Teachers have 50 or 60 pupils in their class. I believe that number is a bit large, particularly when these teachers are responsible for the teaching of every subject on the curriculum. They are different from teachers in Secondary Schools where you have a special teacher to teach a particular subject.

I will also like to raise a point as regards the paying of Supernumerary Teachers at the girls' school in Belleplaine. There is an Acting Headmistress and five other Relief or Supernumerary Teachers at that School; and there are two Assistant Teachers from that School in training at Erdiston. They have five teachers who are not appointed at that School and some of them have been working for quite a number of years.

I should also draw to the notice of this Committee that I know of two of these Relief Teachers who came out of School with six subjects at Ordinary Level; and because they felt that they have been deprived of pension rights - and particularly so since they were paid daily - they left the teaching service and have gone to England. I understand that they are doing well in the United Kingdom; therefore, I sound the warning that if something is not done along these lines, I am sure in the very near future we are not going to find ourselves in a very rosy position as regards teachers in these elementary schools. Just imagine a youngster leaving school with six subjects at Ordinary Level and working by the day when he can go abroad and better his position!

While I am on my feet, I should make a few comments on Item 12, Maintenance and Extension of Buildings. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister if part of the money allocated under this Item would be spent on the two schools in Belleplaine. Along with the Minister of Education and the former Director of Education, I have visited there; and the Minister is aware of the conditions there. I am aware that we are spending a considerable sum of money on education, but any money spent on education is well spent.

The condition at these two schools in Belleplaine could hardly be much worse than they are as regards space. I am sure when the Hon. Minister visited there along with the Director of Education and myself, he saw children squatting and trying to learn something. I have seen some repairs going on at the girls' school since then.

There is another question which I want to raise on Item 11, Electricity, Water and Gas. Since we had electricity in Belleplaine, it has been installed in the boys' school, and I certainly would like to find out who was responsible for the installation of it at that school. There is one fluorescent lamp in the centre of the hall. When we had a group of teachers from overseas visiting the school, right on the platform they had to use a light to see what they were reading. I do not know who was responsible for the installation, but someone told me that somebody in the Education Department was responsible; and he said that one tube would be enough. There is just that one fluorescent lamp, and there is not even a light at the entrance. I would like the Hon. Minister to take up this matter in the proper quarters with a view to seeing if he can have this state of affairs rectified.

Mr. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I want to raise an old matter in connection with nutrition; a matter which has en-

gaged the attention of this Assembly on numerous occasions. We see that the substantial amount of \$182,708 is being spent on this Item and the Note reads as follows: "To provide materials and equipment for operating the Nutrition Scheme. Includes provision for transport of supplies. Increase due to additional number of children and in the cost of milk and yeast."

Undoubtedly, this is a very commendable scheme. The question of providing a hot mid-day meal for these poor school children in most cases has been gone into and the Minister of Education and the Government thinks that the cost is prohibitive. As far as my memory serves me, the cost of that scheme during the years 1955-56 or thereabouts amounted to over \$1 1/2 million. I happen to know that the school population has increased since then, therefore it is reasonable to assume that the cost has increased.

However, we see in every Budget for the last few years that a deficit budgeting produced revenue far more in excess of \$1 1/2 million. That being so, it is thought that after all, money can be found for implementing this hot mid-day meals scheme. I am asking the Hon. Premier and the Government, even at this late stage, whether something more can be done on this Nutrition Scheme in order to assist the poor children in these Elementary Schools. It would be a good thing if the Government went a little further and provided a hot mid-day meal for these elementary school children so as to assist needy parents in that way.

If you are teaching Domestic Science in your schools, and doing a lot of domestic training, what is more appropriate than that the male or female child should learn the practical side of domestics? The question of not having the accommodation and the equipment to produce a hot mid-day meal is no excuse today at all. The sooner the Government can get down to that, in spite of the fact that they are budgeting for a deficit, the better. You generally have a surplus of \$2 1/2 million; and there is no better way that money can be spent than for providing a better type of nutrition or more nutrition for the men and women of tomorrow.
6.25 p.m.

Mr. Chairman, this question of providing a hot mid-day meal for Elementary school children is nothing new; the Hon. Leader of the Opposition has been a member of this Chamber for the past 23 years and he has always raised this matter on the floor of this House by way of Resolution or questions on numerous occasions; this is one of his pet subjects. For us to sit here and say that we are Socialists, and have the opportunity of providing a hot mid-day meal for these starving children in the various schools and do nothing about it, is not good enough. There is no point in our sitting here and saying that we are waiting for money; you do not know how to spend that one and a half million dollars.

Hon. L. St.A. THORNE: I should like to tell the hon. member that I am tired of hearing this plea for hot meals for these children. I am one of those people who believe that our children should be provided with all the things which are necessary to enable them to develop to the fullest. All that the hon. member is talking about as to hot meals for these children, I appreciate; I feel that this sort of thing should be done. I would like to hear hon. members change their tune and point out how we can do this thing. I know what the hon. member is saying, but let him please try and show us how we can get this money and do these things. I would be delighted to hear that.

Mr. TALMA: I am very pleased to hear that the Hon. Minister is so favourably disposed towards the question of providing a hot mid-day meal for children at the Elementary Schools. I think that the Minister did hear me say that although we are budgeting for a deficit, yet we have got an extra \$ 1 1/2 or \$2 million. If they do not know how to use this extra money to carry out this scheme to appropriate \$ 1/2 million of this money.....

Hon. M. E. COX: That is not correct; let the hon. member read the Memorandum to the Estimates.

Mr. TALMA: If the Hon. Minister is disposed to carry out this scheme, the money is available. At the end of 1962 you will have a surplus balance of over \$1 million. It is that balance of \$1 million which they know we will have by the end of the next financial year to which I am referring. We have a balance this year, and next year we will have a bigger balance.

Mr. Chairman, while we are on this question, I should like to ask the Minister, in view of the fact that we are being asked to vote the sum of \$182,708 in respect of this sub-head, how is this money being spent? Are tenders called for in order to purchase this milk? Do you purchase this milk in the cheapest market so as to provide the greatest quantity having regard, of course, to the quality? Would you consider importing this milk directly? If you are spending this money on these items it would affect a big saving by importing the milk. Those are the points which the Minister should consider; you want to see the full benefit of this expenditure of the enormous sums going to the benefit of the children and not into the hands of the merchants who want to see how much money they can get from a business point of view.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I little thought that when I asked my colleagues to excuse me for a minute or two, I would have come back to find that one of my pet subjects had been so well handled by the hon. senior member for Christ Church. The thing which puzzles me whenever I am discussing this matter with hon. members opposite is this: I cannot get from them what I would like to get from them, that is, whether they agree in principle with this matter or not. They have agreed in principle with the idea of providing a hot mid-day meal for the children of the Elementary and Secondary Modern Schools, but the question is: how is it to be done in practice? I rather suspect that the difficulties they put up may spring from the fact that they do not recognise the idea as an idea. I would like to know if the Minister of Trade, for instance, likes the idea; he was not in favour of it when he and I clashed on the last occasion.

Hon. M. E. COX: On a point of order, I would like to ask the hon. member when did I express a contrary opinion to this scheme?

Mr. TUDOR: It was during a debate two or three years ago. The hon. member said then that however good the scheme may be it could not work out since all the children do not like the same meal; and it might be difficult to satisfy large numbers.
6.35 p.m.

Hon. M. E. COX: That does not show that I was opposed to it. It shows the difficulty; plus the question of finance.

Mr. TUDOR: I would like to know now, and have the assurance, that the Government is in favour of the principle.

Hon. M. E. COX: The Minister in charge has already put the Government's point of view.

Mr. TUDOR: Well if the Government is in favour of the principle, there is a way of looking at it which might help the situation. Nobody standing on his feet can say in a minute detail how a scheme like that is to be financed; but there are certain things you can say about it which will be true, even when you investigate it further. The economic justification for a daily hot meals scheme is that it will be expenditure mostly within the community; let me illustrate what I mean. It has been said on this side of the House that there are a number of persons unemployed in this island. We have a Housecraft Centre which is doing good work. In the reply which the Minister gave me on this matter some weeks ago, it was stated that it would take at least 800 or 1,000 women to be employed on this Scheme to work as maids, cooks and so on.

Any scheme in my opinion which would employ as many as 1,000 women would not only be justified - I am going to

come to question of finance in a few minutes - but would take up a lot of slack among the unemployed women and provide even greater justification for the work of the Housecraft Centre. It could recruit them in large numbers, train them in the same large numbers, and put them at your disposal; they would be well trained and well qualified for this work in the nutrition of the schools.

But it is more than that. If you had to feed 30,000 children and you wanted to give them flying fish on a Wednesday, the demand created for fish in itself would be vast; the boost you would give to the local fishing industry would be incalculable. No longer would people have to run about the streets in the early hours of the morning waking people up out of their houses to sell the fish they have caught at such great danger to their lives; they would know that the Ministry of Education would be their largest buyer.

The women who walk around in the hot sun with their carrots, string beans, beets and cabbage, or sitting down outside the markets because they cannot get inside, would take their produce to the depots and centres set up by the Department and would sell them there.

Mr. Chairman, all the money which you would be spending on foodstuffs would be money spent among your own population; you would have created an additional market of 30,000 or 40,000 children every day for five days a week, which is 150,000 meals. Since you see immediately the monetary reward which would come to a large number of your working population by the establishment of such a scheme, the fears and anxieties about taking money which you might badly need, it is true, and putting it into this should be allayed. You cannot lose. First of all, you cannot lose because you would be stimulating internal trade within the island. It is true the merchants would get some of it, and that some of it would go overseas inasmuch as some part of the food would have to be imported; but I am anxious to see the stimulation of our own dairy and kitchen garden industries, and of the fish industry; I would like a market created for those industries - a market which does not exist - in addition to the employment which you would be giving to the 800 or 1,000 persons.

Now to the finance. One part of the problem is to set up a capital of establishment - the kitchens, the forks, the knives, tables, pots, pans, containers and trucks to carry the food from the central kitchen to outlying schools. This Government has enough standing to make an application on those grounds to one of the agencies of the United Nations, probably UNICEF. I believe that UNICEF would, with the backing of the British Government and with the blessing of the American Government, give us \$1 1/2 million or \$3/4 million for this purpose; I do not think therefore that the need to find money for establishing the capital part of the project would give this Government any anxiety at all. A request backed by the British Government sponsored by United Nations, genuinely made, would I think meet with a terrific response.

So far as the recurrent cost is concerned, that is where Government would have to make an outlay. If the Government is really serious, this is what I suggest about that: Go into the General Revenue Balance - some will be left, all will not be spent - and earmark whatever is needed from that for the first year's current expenditure. There has got to be a preparatory period; and there has got to be a period in which you examine the situation on its merits to see what it will cost.

Secondly, and this is where I would take the bull by the horns, I feel that if a direct appeal were made to the people of this island - the parents of children - explaining to them the desire of Government to establish these services and explaining the recurrent costs, that is, the costs from year to year, and explaining also to the parents that they could help by contributing a little to the recurrent costs, say, five cents per meal, I believe that five cents per meal would more than pay the costs of the persons employed to serve the meals; it would more than pay the costs at least in the initial stages of the fuel consumed in preparing it.

When the idea catches on - and I am bearing in mind Government's information that it will cost per head of school population 50 cents to provide it - you might ask the parents whether they would like to increase - you could not make them - to seven cents or ten cents. I am certain from my experience - I know what I am talking about - that no parent if he or she were receiving value for money, would be against providing a child with a five cent piece every morning. It would be easier for the parent to do that than to provide a meal at home; and it would certainly be easier than to provide an adequate lunch out of his or her own pocket.

6.45 p.m.

I teach in a school daily, and I see children from the country spending as much as 28 cents on lunch; and if they come from wealthy families, they spend anything up to 50 cents and even 75 cents to get what they call an adequate lunch. Those who are very poor, by the time that they have eaten a cutter and have swallowed a *Ju-C* or a *Coke*, have exhausted anything like 18 cents; and if they had that at breakfast time, some of them are roaring hungry by lunch time.

Appeal to the parents; tell them what you are doing. I always believe that if you want to enlist the support of people that you should speak with them quite frankly and fairly and let them see that there is a reason in what you say. If you are willing to provide a meal which would cost you 55 cents per child, you can comfortably ask the parent to provide five cents. It is much easier for a parent to give his child five cents to give you than to prepare a lunch for that child. By so doing, you will get in enough money to pay for operating the soup kitchen.

I do not think you will come off too badly; there are certain economics which you will be able to practise; it may not be necessary to have a soup kitchen in every parish, certainly not at every school. You may have to do with half a dozen soup kitchens serving the various areas, but this is the advantage which you will derive from them: You will save money because you will be, as it were, indulging in large scale production of meals.

These central kitchens will also serve for the greater training of young women and girls, therefore, I do not see the school meals project as just as school meals project. I have even ignored the problem of the nutritional benefit to the children because that is too obvious to be argued. I know that you cannot feed 30,000 or 40,000 people without bringing a filip to the economy of this island, and that is what I want you to see.

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Chairman, speaking on Item 2, Assistant Teachers, I wish to say that school teachers, Headteachers, Assistant Teachers have a very great task to perform. There is no greater task than to try to educate infant children. It takes a great amount of control especially when a mother brings a child to school and leave it. Teachers have to inject some of the best training into those children in order to enlighten them and to prepare them to meet the public on the basis of a livelihood. Because of that, I would say that a teacher should be given all the facilities that are necessary for them.

Teachers have to walk to school; and I suggest that - as Government is giving other officers in the Public Service facilities to purchase motor cars, and also willing to lend them an amount of money without interest - the teachers should have the same facility to borrow money to purchase a motor vehicle. I will go as far as to say that if they want to install water in their homes, you should help them with it; teachers are playing a very important part in this country.

We all know the meaning of education. Many of us who are parents were not formerly in a position to have a very high standard of education, even a good elementary training which is one of the best things in the world since it is the foundation. Before you can send a child to a College, it must receive elementary training. I advise the Government to give all the facilities that are given to other officers

in the Service to school teachers. These teachers are going out to other parts of the world in order to work for better wages; and you should do as much as you can to keep them here. If you give them such facilities, you will keep them from running out of this country. If you go on in this way and do not give them any of these facilities, they will run away.

When I look at the Minister of Education, he puts me in mind of a father. I just want to tell him this: You have to try to build more schools. Try to give lunch to school children. Every facility which the Government allows other people in the Service, give to school teachers. I think school teachers are doing a mighty good job, and I trust that they will get more support from Government during the coming session.

Speaking on Item 11, Electricity, Water and Fuel, I wish to say that the boys' schools at Belleplaine, St. Andrew is divided into several different rooms, therefore, it would be impossible for one light to illuminate the whole school; it would take around three lights in that school to give proper lighting. I hope that the Hon. Minister of Education will force on this Government the need to enlarge that school; it has more children now than it can accommodate. As a matter of fact, there is congestion in both the boys' and girls' school. I look forward to the future when this Government, or any other Government, will be in a position to raise the education of the people of this colony to the highest standard; education is very important.

6.55 p.m.

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: Mr. Chairman, before the question is put, I think it is incumbent upon me to make a few remarks. I am appreciative of the great interest shown by hon. members who have spoken on this subject of Education. Many worthwhile suggestions have been put forward, but I feel that I would be definitely lacking in, or falling short of, my duty if I did not try to put forward the Government's position.

During the three years of my association with this Government, in so far as education is concerned, I have been extremely willing to put forward concrete proposals from time to time with a view to the improvement of the educational system of this island. I do not want hon. members of this House to forget that the amount of money which has been spent on Education has increased considerably for the last decade. Hon. members only have to refer to their copies of the Estimates which they possess and they will see on page 5 the general rise in expenditure in connection with this particular subject.

For instance, in 195-51 the recurrent expenditure on Education was \$1,651,566; in 1951-52, it was \$1,774,384; in 1952-53, \$1,974,705, the next year it was \$2,302,856; in 1954-55 it was \$2,379,975; in the next year, it was about the same as the proceeding year. Then in 1956-57 we have an expenditure of \$2,478,668; in 1957-58, the expenditure went up to \$3 1/4 million; in 1958-59, it was \$3,254,841; in 1959-60, it was \$3,664,009 and in these Estimates now before us we have gone up to \$4,207,430.

From the quotations which I have made, it is quite obvious that efforts are being made at improvements.

At this stage, it now being 7 p.m. of the clock, Mr. SPEAKER took the Chair.

Mr. SPEAKER: It now being 7 p.m. of the clock, this sitting now stands suspended until 7.45 p.m. of the clock.

On re-assembling,

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: Mr. Speaker, I should like to draw your attention to the fact that there is no quorum present and ask that the bell be rung.

On the bell being rung, a quorum was obtained.

RESUMPTION OF COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATION BILL

Mr. SPEAKER: On the suspension of the sitting, the House was in Committee on the Appropriation Bill.

Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the House resumed Committee on the Bill, Mr. BRYAN being in the Chair.

HEAD XX - EDUCATION (5) PRIMARY AND SECONDARY MODERN

SCHOOLS

Mr. CHAIRMAN: On the last occasion when the House was in Committee Head XX - Education (5) of the Estimates was being considered. The Hon. Minister of Education was speaking.

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: Mr. Chairman, on the suspension of the sitting I was trying to point out that this Government has not been sleeping on this question of Education during the last decade; its efforts had, more or less, to be curtailed by reason of the fact that Government cannot work without revenue. I have heard adverse criticism levelled on the work which the Government has been doing. There are apparently few people who realise that the revenue has been more than doubled during the last decade, and that expenditure has outstripped the revenue. Then there are various monuments which testify to the very creditable work which has been done by the Government in power.

From my association with this Government, and as a part of it, I want to assure hon. members that where this matter of education is concerned, we shall not rest until we have succeeded in providing a situation which will admit of each individual child being able to develop to the best of its talents; but, of necessity, progress at this time must be slow by reason of the fact that there are several big commitments already undertaken.

In replying to the hon. senior member for St. Andrew, I am to say that those schools should be in this programme of extension. I happen to know that those schools were on the list of priority where extensions are concerned.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I apologise for rising after the Minister; I did not know that he was rising to wind up the debate. There is one question which I would like to ask him with respect to the Primary Schools. I have been told that Mr. F. A. Hoyos' book has proved to be very useful. Would it not pay if more copies were made available in most of the schools? I remember, the Minister will correct me if I am wrong, that five thousand copies of "Barbados Our Island Home" were ordered for the primary schools. I wonder if the Minister would say if it is proposed to order more copies of this Book or whether he will consider that.

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: Mr. Chairman, I am extremely glad to hear the hon. member with respect to the grand reception with which this Book has been met. I want to assure him that I shall do my best to get more copies of this book distributed.

The question that the sum of \$906,640 under Head XX - Education (5) stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I now beg to move that the sum of \$2,206,428 under Head XX - Education stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

7.50 p.m.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I am asking leave to postpone Head XXI.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The Hon. Minister is asking leave to postpone Head XXI - and unless there be any objection, leave will be granted.

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

HEAD XXII - PUBLIC LIBRARY

Head XXII - Public Library - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$47,014 under Head XXII - Public Library - stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, under Item 16 - Reading Room - I want to inquire of the Minister, not of course for the first time, whether he has anything further to add with respect to the provision of the night service at Libraries. Some weeks ago, I attended with the Minister, the opening of the extension to the Public Library; and I was very pleased to see the facilities provided there in that extension and their general suitability for the project I had in mind.

I have drawn to the Minister's attention before how necessary it was to provide facilities for using the Public Library, and at times the Branch Libraries, at night. It is a question of accommodating the convenience of members of the working population who might not be able to use the services during the day, but who from 4 o'clock onwards might be able to use them if these services were available. I do not know what stands in the way. It may be of course that no big request has come from the public yet, but I believe that if the Minister would undertake to let it be known that the service will be provided the response would be forthcoming.

Mr. Chairman, there are lots of people who have no time even to read the daily newspaper. Perhaps they cannot afford even to buy one; but they would certainly avail themselves of the opportunity of keeping abreast with world events if after their work is concluded they could in a quiet hour go to a library and enjoy these facilities. I do not imagine there will be much difficulty in the way of staffing. If the response was great, presumably extra staff might be employed for the three or four hours of the nights' reading session.

In addition to that, a Reference Library too would enable persons who can only study at night because they work in the day, to pursue their studies. Not only have I got in mind the provision of these services at the Public Library, but in time I should like to see it extended to the Branch Libraries.

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: Mr. Chairman, the matter of the extension of the Library services is under consideration. It is going to entail additional staff at night. As soon as the necessary arrangements are concluded and approved of, hon. members' desires will fructify.

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Chairman, I am very glad that we have got to this Item. In the parish of St. Andrew, the caretaker in charge of the Library, which is situated in the community centre, has oftentimes complained that there is a press which holds the books, the back of which is decaying. A new press should be provided so that when the caretaker leaves he is certain that the books are protected. He has told me often that if a book is lost, it would not be his fault; he has continually asked for a new press. I hope that in this new financial year the Minister will try to see that a new press is provided or the present one is repaired, so that the books will be protected.

The question that the sum of \$47,014 under Head XXII - Public Library - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

8.00 p.m.

HEAD XXIII - MEDICAL (1) DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL SERVICES

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

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$70,877 under Head XXIII - Medical (1) Director of Medical Services - stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, I see that Government has asked for an increase of \$2,500 for Rat Destruction. The Note to that Item reads as follows:- "Expenses in connection with the destruction of rats in Bridgetown, especially along the waterfront and on board vessels in the Careenage. Includes wages of five labourers. Increase due to employment of an additional labourer."

What can the Hon. Minister tell us about the destruction of the rats at the Hospital? Can he tell us what has been done to ensure that there is no recurrence of a thing as serious as that which happened last year? Can he say what has been done to ensure that rats are completely eliminated from the General Hospital? It is true that the Hon. Minister was a patient there sometime last year and nothing adverse happened to him; but you must bear in mind the position which the hon. member occupies; and it is not so in the case of those people for whom we are concerned. People in a certain position are always well taken care of; but we are concerned with people of the humble strata of society from which that infant met his death as a result of being destroyed by rats. I know of no hospital in the British Commonwealth at which such a thing — as that which happened at the General Hospital — occurred; and the public minds indeed seek to be relieved as to the future in respect of rats at the General Hospital.

Hon. F. E. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, I think the Note is explanatory. It says that the expenses are in connection with the destruction of rats in Bridgetown, especially along the waterfront and on board vessels in the Careenage. It includes wages of five labourers; and the increase is due to the employment of an additional labourer.

We have been operating in the past, twelve or more campaigns in the Hospital annually; on an average there is one campaign every week now at that institution. As regards the destruction of rats on the waterfront and on board vessels, everything known for their destruction has been used. But with all that, I think that it is almost impossible to bring about the entire destruction of rats.

When you think of the cellars in that institution, you cannot really bring about the entire destruction of rats. Another thing which you have to bear in mind is that we have 1,200 persons who go into that institution to visit their family and friends; they take in candy and fruit for them; and as a result there is a lot of litter left about after their visits. That serves as an inducement for the rats to gather there. We have intensified our campaign there, but I cannot vouch for the complete eradication of rats.

On the other side of the road where there is an expanse of the river and the banks thereon butt and bound the Hospital, you will also find that rats harbour there. The authorities feel happy about what they are doing since they have been spending quite a lot of money on bait and other material to eradicate the rats there.

We have intensified our campaign all over Bridgetown to exterminate rats. The Chamber of Commerce has also come to our assistance. All along Roebuck Street, the owners of buildings are trying to remove the wooden floors and to substitute new concrete floors. I hope that I have answered the hon. member's question.

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, it is heartening to hear the Hon. Minister, and particularly to see how much better he is physically. I am glad to see that he is in such vigour. Obviously he is in the pink of good condition, so much so, I would like him to give us the assurance that the Gillette Report will be laid tomorrow, when I expect this House will be meeting. Now that the hon. member is back in full vigour of his political life, there seems no justification at all for continuing to delay the laying of that Report — unless, of course, the Hon. Minister tells us straight and frankly that he has no intention of laying it. Then we would know what steps to take.

This is no laughing matter. That report was in the hands of the Minister long before he became ill. He should

realise that it is a public document; there is no justification for his continued failure to lay it on the Table of this House.

Hon. F. E. MILLER: Sir, I have been searching Head XXIII (1), and looking through the items to see where this report comes in; I have not seen any such item. However, while I see no mention of it anywhere, I need not go further than to repeat what I said on the last occasion; that is, that it is now before the Cabinet. Until it has been completely discussed there, and a decision has been reached, I shall not say anything about it. When we have reached a decision, then I will come with a statement or inform the House of what we plan to do about it.

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, do I understand the Hon. Minister to say that the matter is before the Cabinet? There is one phrase which he used which I cannot allow to go unnoticed; he said "until it is discussed there." The hon. member does not seem to realise that it is a matter of urgency.
8.10 p.m.

When the Minister said "until it is discussed", that gives the impression that it is at the bottom of a long list of priorities beginning from "A". When is the Report likely to be discussed? Is there any hope of discussing the matter within the Minister's tenure of office before he and his Cabinet go out at the Election? Does he feel that that would be the last nail in the coffin of his Cabinet? That cannot possibly affect the result of the Election; Gillette Report or no Gillette Report, there is no hope for the return of the present Government in power. I am sure you will agree with me, Mr. Chairman (*Laughter*). I am not prophesying as to your personal fate; I want to know how things will work out in the absence of single member constituencies.

I trust the Minister will realise that it is not good enough to say that the matter is before the Cabinet and he cannot say anything until it is discussed; we agree with him that there must be some attempt to press it forward. Despite his dynamism and displays of energy, is he unable to make his colleagues realise the importance of this matter of health and to find out what the Gillette Committee has recommended? There is nothing, I submit, which they have before the Cabinet tonight which is of greater importance, or which is more deserving of priority, than the decision to publish or not to publish or how soon to publish that Report.

The question that the sum of \$70,877 under Head XXIII Medical (1) stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XXIII — MEDICAL (2) GENERAL HOSPITAL

Head XXIII — Medical (2) General Hospital — was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$1,166,856 under Head XXIII — Medical (2) stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, with regard to Item 41, "Student Nurses", I wonder if the Minister would take this opportunity to assure or inform this Committee and the public generally, whether there is any substance in the complaints which one reads or hears about from Nurses as to the conditions of their employment at the Hospital. There are complaints about conditions of work, there are complaints particularly about food, and complaints about difficulties of getting on with certain of their superiors and all of that.

The Minister's attention might have been drawn officially to these matters. There was a letter which appeared in one of the daily newspapers some days ago signed "Nurse". That letter purported to be a full catalogue of grievances experienced and suffered. I know, Mr. Chairman, that there is always the temptation to treat these things as being of no merit merely because one does not

read about them in any detail or, because no great fuss is made. Nevertheless, public opinion cannot help being disturbed about reports of dissatisfaction among the staff day in and day out. I believe that the trouble with the doctors must be trouble in connection with salary and other things allowed to them, but among the nurses there are complaints of actual, physical discomforts, particularly as to the manner and quality of the food.

In an island where the attractions for Nurses to go overseas are so great, and in a situation in which we, on all sides, notice the disappearance of these Nurses from our own institutions to go to institutions abroad, we are not hearing of any official announcement from the Canadian Government that there would be openings for Nurses in Canada because of the shortage obtaining there. It strikes me that if our Nurses could be guaranteed employment in Canada they would leave here in any case because of greater opportunities; but the urge to do it would be greater if they are not satisfied with their present conditions of work.

I understand that that applies not only to the Student Nurses but to those who are Staff Nurses as well, I am wondering if the Minister can give some information as to what is at the bottom of it all, to what degree the Director or the Superintendent has been able to get to grips with the problem, and what steps they are taking to solve it.

Mr. BRANCKER: May I enquire of the Hon. Minister in connection with Item 21, "Services Rendered by Specialist Officers and Medical Staff", whether it is true that there is not instantly on the Staff of the Hospital a Specialist in Heart Diseases. If so, when was there last one? Is there any attempt on the part of the authorities to enlist the services of such a Heart Specialist on the Staff of the Hospital? Does the Ministry not regard it as being of sufficient importance to have a Specialist in that particular subject on the staff of a Hospital of the size of ours?
8.20 p.m.

Mr. TALMA: I would like the Minister to give us some idea of Item 20 - Dental Out-patient Service. I see the same amount is being asked for this year, that is, \$3,160. I want to know how many dental surgeons are employed in this service. Under Item 19 - Visiting out-patient Medical Service - it is stated that four part-time Visiting Out-patient Medical Officers are employed. I would like to hear the Minister give some sort of report, if possible, as to how this Dental Out-patient service is administered. The Minister should be able to give us some sort of *ad hoc* report on the number of extractions, the number of Dental Surgeons and where the service is performed, and whether or not the Service is free of cost. I would like to hear the Minister on that point so as to see whether enough is being done to assist the very poorest in this country in securing dental aid which is so essential.

Hon. F. E. MILLER: First in replying to the hon. senior member for St. Lucy, his question was more or less restricted to the Student Nurses and the nursing staff generally of the Hospital; it concerned the food and other conditions physical and otherwise.

With regard to the food, there is no need for worry; that has been settled two years ago and the Nurses are all happy. There is a small committee operating particularly for the benefit of the Nurses at the Nursing Home; it is representative of every grade of Nurses; the Charge Nurses and the Sister Grade is also represented on this Committee. I am happy to say that there is more food there than they want anyhow.

On the question of the Student Nurses, there is always some wastage from failures along the line up to the Staff Nurse grade, which is four years or thereabouts; but there is nothing like a problem at all so far as the Student Nurses are concerned. We have been having no end of trouble with the Staff Nurses. What you must realise is that this is common all over the English speaking world, and Barbados is by no means an exception. I can say with a lot of joy that there is satisfaction in the Hospital here, and we are better staffed than most hospitals in the Federation.

Nursing is regarded as a profession; the Nurse is wanted in the United States and in Canada, and a girl with probably five years' experience would go into a job at about \$300 Canadian. Certainly there is no hope in Barbados, I should say in the immediate future, to have such salaries paid to Nurses as that offered and paid in the United States of America and in Canada.

Now not so long ago, Mr. Chairman, you will remember that there was a delegation from Trinidad; they were in an awkward position. They recruited seventy Nurses, most of them Barbadians, and paid their passages from the United Kingdom to Trinidad. Fortunately for us, we are still in a better position than Jamaica, British Guiana and the United Kingdom.

I do not know if this would mean anything to the hon. member, but I was visiting in a Harlem hospital two years ago and it must have been 7.50 or 8 p.m. when I saw in a ward with 34 patients, one trained nurse and a male attendant sitting outside to help with the 34 female patients. That has never happened in Barbados, thank heavens; and there is no reason to fear it will ever happen. In the United Kingdom, the condition is even worse. At King's Hospital most of the Nurses are Italian and French; and how they get on in an English institution is to me some sort of surprise.

I did read the article in the newspaper which contained a lot of exaggerations. You cannot think of 270 ladies working in an institution where there is no administrative staff to run that institution; even the straight administration must be left to them; therefore you must always get dissatisfaction. I have been uncomfortably pressed in the last few years, since the Godsall Report on salaries paid to Staff Nurses; but you have the assurance of the Hon. Premier that some time this year there will be a salaries revision.

The hon. junior member for St. Lucy referred to Item 21 - Services rendered by Specialist Officers and Medical Staff. I am a bit worried, and I would be happy if you would state precisely what you would like to know. The hon. member was rather broad. This is the second time this year on which the hon. member has asked about these services.

I have said on a number of occasions that it is not likely that we are going to attract to Barbados a Heart Specialist, and I gave the reason. If the hon. member had something else in mind, he should pin-point it; we have discussed and settled on a number of occasions in Parliament all questions regarding a Heart Specialist, or whether we can find the money. I said on a number of occasions that it would be a question of practice. I believe that if the hon. member was in my position he would want to spend that money on an Ophthalmic Specialist, or a Gynaecologist Specialist, rather than bring out a Heart Specialist with one case a year and sometimes none.

Mr. BRANCKER: The hon. member is getting a little mixed up; he is confusing the brain with the heart! It was the Brain Specialist that I asked about once, by way of questions, at the General Hospital. I asked whether we could afford one on the staff of the General Hospital or whether the Minister could give us any information as to whether the U.C.W.I. Hospital would be able to assist us in treating cases within the territory instead of having to go to the expense of sending such cases to Edinburgh. I do not know if it is that sometimes the Minister's brain and heart seem to interchange, but he has certainly got rather confused and mixed as to my previous queries about a Brain Specialist. I am asking now about a Specialist on cardiac diseases.

I am putting it to the Minister that the heart has its reasons, but the hon. member, I am sure, on serious reflection would appreciate the difference between the heart and the brain. The heart has a mind of its own; and it is by means of the heart at times that one thinks the hon. member finds the source of his speeches!
8.30 p.m.

Hon. F. E. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, I can appreciate all the interesting things the hon. member has said of me - but again, I think that something is happening to him and his

memory! You will remember that last year we discussed this question of a Heart Specialist for the General Hospital.

I appreciate the horrors and fears which those hon. members have on this being election year and because of that, almost anything can happen. On the question of having a Heart Specialist at the Hospital, we have discussed it at length and, as I have said, it is not a question of the equipment; we need not trouble ourselves with the equipment for the purpose. It is more so the number of cases which we will have in one year to attract him, and not a case of the fees which we can pay him.

The hon. senior member for Christ Church is concerned about the dental treatment there; he wants to know where it is located. I would be happy to take him to the Hospital and show him around. I must confess that I was somewhat shocked to see him concerned with such an important service, and thoroughly unaware of where this service is offered. I was convinced that he was so much interested in the welfare of the community that he knew where all these services were carried on, particularly that of dental care. He passes the Hospital almost everyday and he can stop and see it.

The building which once housed the Matron's Quarters is the place where this treatment is carried on; it is on the left and adjacent to the out-patients casualty. It is a little building with a shed-roof which leans to the main wall of the casualty; that houses the area for dental surgery. I will say that there is no immediate need for a full-time dentist on the staff.

The hon. member asked about the \$15,600 provided for Visiting Out Patients Medical Service. In addition to the regular staff, we pay four doctors for about three hours' service in the afternoons and they alternate five afternoons a week. As I have said, this is an addition to the General Hospital Staff. This is about the first time that we are up to the full complement of the Hospital staff; and along with them, we have these four part-time visiting Physicians who handle the Out Patients Department in the afternoon.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I would like the Hon. Minister to look at Item 94, Instruments and Equipment. Some time ago, it must be a year now, a patient died in the Hospital under very distressing circumstances. It appears that there were two patients who simultaneously had to be treated with oxygen; and while there was a supply of oxygen, there appears not to have been an adequate supply of oxygen tables; so that the tent was snatched off one woman and put on the man, and it turned out that she did not get quite as much as she needed, while he did not get it quick enough to make any difference between life and death for him. Those are the circumstances as far as I can remember them; it was a question of the shortage of oxygen tents.

I wonder if the Hon. Minister - presuming that he is aware of the case - can tell this Committee whether that situation has been rectified. Certainly, he can tell us at least what would have been responsible for such a shortage of what we would have thought to be a routine piece of equipment. The idea of only one of such a thing at the General Hospital seems quite incredible to me; I was more inclined to believe that there was only one in the particular ward. Is the Hon. Minister in a position to say whether that situation has been rectified, and whether the likelihood of a recurrence of such a disastrous and unfortunate thing can be reduced to the minimum?

Hon. F. E. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, surely, the hon. member will remember raising that same issue in the form of a written question. I am quite clear that he remembers it; and the Reply was laid on the Table of the House.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I certainly remember asking the question, but I do not remember getting a reply. I am not challenging him now about his giving the reply; but if I had known the answer or had seen his reply, I would not ask him now. If the Hon. Minister would be willing to reply now I will be willing to hear him.

Hon. F. E. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, as you know, it sometimes happens that you reply to a question but you do not have the chance to debate the reply. I am more sure that the reply was laid on the Table of the House.

However, Sir, there is no truth in that matter whatsoever; and I think you will regard it not as vulgar if I say that it is a lie. An oxygen table and a tent are all in the big wards of the Hospital; as a matter of fact, there are two or more in each of those big wards. On top of that, there is nothing in the records that two patients died as a result of not obtaining oxygen. The hon. member's question is not based on any fact whatsoever. There is no shortage of this equipment, hence we have no fear.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I am relieved to hear the Hon. Minister say that it did not take place. I certainly would not like an oxygen tent to be taken from over me if I needed it, and for it to be placed over another patient, even if that patient was the Hon. Minister! I would like to know that there was sufficient equipment available for both of us to have oxygen at the same time. However, it is strange to hear the Hon. Minister say that it did not happen that way at all. My information came from relatives and persons very close to one of the deceased. From what I can remember, I believe the same relatives made representations about the matter to the Hospital authorities.
8.40 p.m.

If the hon. member says that he has investigated the matter, I think the facts discovered should have been known. The Minister said that it did not happen as I have said, but what happened should have been told in the public interest. Whenever complaints are made about tragedies occurring at the Hospital, it is in the interest of the Hospital to have that investigation carried out departmentally and have the Minister or the Director of Medical Services satisfied that there is no truth in it. The public regard the Hospital as a threatened institution; whether rumours are proved to be nothing more than rumours or not, the more is there a solemn duty laid on the Hospital Authorities to show that they are only rumours. When these rumours spread it takes more energy to kill them than it would take to deny them promptly after an investigation has been made. I should be more relieved if the public knew what the Minister has disclosed tonight.

Hon. F. E. MILLER: I laid the reply to the question in the House, and I am more than sure if it appeared in the Newspapers. You ask the Minister something, he goes to the Director of Medical Services and an investigation is made. There must be a record card even for a death; and that would be indicated on that card. I had a check made and I replied to the question; it did not happen that the patient died as a result of the shortage of oxygen.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, the Minister has given another turn to the matter. He has not said that there is a record and the record proves or disproves anything; he says that there is no record. Might it not be possible that the person could have died in the circumstances suggested, although the circumstances were not recorded, either through deliberate omission or through remissness? It is all very well to whitewash the Department and the Ministry, but I do not think that the Minister should go quite so far to absolve them when the facts you mention do not show where absolution comes.

I am willing to believe that the reply was laid but I missed it; I am willing to believe that, so far as the Minister's investigation goes, there is no record to show that the person died as I have been told. But I cannot undertake to believe, because there is no record of it, that it did not happen.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The question is.....

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, you did not even give the Minister time to reply; I am not saying that you are saving him from embarrassment. However, I am speaking in connection with Item 108 "Debt Collection".

The Note to that Item says: "to pay commission at the rate of \$20" that, of course, should be 20% "and Court charges for collection of overdue accounts....." It is a pity that there was no proof-reader dealing with these Colonial Estimates because he could see the great need of having a second perusal on this year's Estimates. However, in connection with the collection of overdue accounts, is there any principle followed in putting people in Court? Do you put them in Court from the standpoint of dates? Are people put in Court after a lapse of three years, five years or less according to the amount of money involved? Is this collection done after a means test, or does the collection of these accounts take place in respect of people who do not have friends at Court or who may be suspected of not belonging to a political Party? I would like to know what principle is followed in respect of over-due accounts. As to the people who have been put in Court in respect of these accounts, it is curious that certain cases do not seem to belong to the same category.

Hon. F. E. MILLER: First of all, Mr. Chairman, the reference in the Note to "\$20" is just a printer's error. The hon. member will be aware that that should have been 20%. I have debated this matter of the collection of these accounts on more than one occasion, and I think that the hon. member knows that instructions have been given to the Secretary to the effect that no bill would be collected through the Court until after a period of six months. If you elect to go into the Pay Ward, you should want to make your contribution; and failing to do so, steps will be taken to have the money collected. There is no idea of pressing anybody to the wall. As to the question of discrimination, I take it that the hon. member is thinking of his Party.

Mr. BRANCKER: On a point of order. My colleagues from this Party always pay cash.

Hon. F. E. MILLER: I would like to express the gratitude of the Government to the hon. member! Making rash comparisons is not our portion; and those who are on the other side are so smart that you do not need to have any fear about collecting fees. Does that satisfy the hon. member? 8.50 p.m.

Mr. BRANCKER: Then, Mr. Chairman, I understand that no one is put in Court for his account unless the account is at least six months' old irrespective of the amount. With respect to the Pay Ward, Mr. Chairman, are people allowed to remain there, or to be patients there while periods of six months are permitted to lapse before you begin to collect? I thought that had to be cleared up every week. I would like to know if there is prior notice at the General Hospital in respect of Pay Ward patients and how they are required to pay.

Hon. F. E. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, this is certainly wasting valuable time, but it is my duty to reply. When you go to the Pay Wards, there is a fixed rate; and that is also true of the Tercentenary Ward. The fees could be paid in advance, and though you regard them as fees, it is really for the use of the Hospital.

In addition to this, your Specialist may require an X-ray, and there is another amount which is added to the cost of the operation. You know the fees because they are set out in a Schedule by the Specialist; but you get an official bill a week or two after you return home, though you are not expected to pay and no collection would be started until the expiration of the first six months.

If within the first six months you pay a quarter or a third of the fees — let us assume that it is \$100 and you paid \$25 and owed the Hospital \$75 — they would need to wait until six months before that could be collected. You go to the Pay Ward and you only pay the fees of the Pay Ward; it is never known before hand by any surgeon what would be the cost of the operation; there are so many things involved. What may appear to be a very simple operation for which a doctor would probably charge \$50 or \$60 may end up as an operation for \$100 or more.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, under Item 112 - Training School - Orderlies, I am told, do some sort of duty in the

Surgery. I wonder if the Minister can tell us whether special training, however rudimentary, in surgery technique is given to these people; and what is the nature of their duties in the Surgery; if they have to do with the preparation of instruments or anything like that.

It does seem to me that if you are asking Orderlies to do that sort of work, some sort of rudimentary training in surgery practice ought to be given to them. I do not dislike the idea, but I like to know if people who had been hitherto untrained are going to be called into the Surgery to assist, that they have the barest minimum of training which will enable them to know one knife from the other.

Hon. F. E. MILLER: A year ago the question about surgery technicians was asked by his colleague; he did not discuss it, but now he has mentioned Item 12 under the Estimates to raise the question again. We have no training school for Orderlies.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, if you did not have one a year ago, it is possible that you could have one now. All we want is a Progress Report to let us know what is happening since you spoke in this House. There is no need to get up and shout as if it were impertinent to ask these questions. We have a duty to ask, and it is your duty to answer.

Hon. F. E. MILLER: You want to ask intelligent questions, so you cannot ask me to look at Item 12 - Training School - and ask about training technicians and Orderlies when that question was asked before and replied to. Need I waste more time in the House?

Mr. TUDOR: I am afraid you must because as I read the explanatory note, it says "provision of books and other training material for the Training School." I am entitled to ask if surgery technicians are being offered any training in the Training School. It is a perfectly legitimate question and there is no reason why I could not be favoured with a courteous manner.

Hon. F. E. MILLER: We have no Training School for Orderlies and there is no officer on the staff of the Hospital known as a Surgery Technician.

Mr. TUDOR: Well then, Mr. Chairman, I am more entitled to ask what precisely do these Orderlies who work in the Surgery do. What is the nature of their work? It is incredible to me that you would take them from the yard or wherever they are and bring them into the Surgery and ask them to stand about. I presume they are not only there for lifting patients but assisting in the work of the Surgery. I would like the Minister to say what it is precisely they do, so that this Committee would know what they do and would be able to judge whether or not they ought to be trained.

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, would the Minister give a breakdown in respect of Item 107 - Incidentals? I would particularly like to find out as much as I can since there are so many things so very far apart from each other which are all connected with this vote of \$1,470 for "provision for plants and manures, Rediffusion Service, Christmas Festivities, shortages of cash, contribution to Prize Day, transportation expenses and other incidental expenses." How much of this amount is to be applied to shortages of cash? I notice the same amount as last year. I do not recall if a break-down was asked for or given last year, but for two years in succession the amount has been the same; and there is not one cent more or less when it contains items such as I have just read out, and it is anticipated to be the same this year as for last year, not even the round sum of \$1,400 or \$1,500. Would the Hon. Minister favour us with a break-down with particular reference to cash shortages? 9.00 p.m.

Hon. F. E. MILLER: It will probably take me a little time before I can answer that question because I do not have it here in my file. If the hon. member will continue the debate, I will probably find it and will be able to give him an answer.

Mr. TUDOR: Sir, I want to return to this familiar question of Orderlies in the service. I want to say here and now

that the Minister should not allow the debate to take this turn. I feel that I am doing this in the public's interest. I have heard that in the Hospital people who are not trained as Surgery Nurses are taking part in the work of the Surgery; and I understand that they are not merely there to lift patients and lift furniture around, but that they are actually participating in the work of the Surgery. They handle the instruments, they set them out, and they take some part but to what degree I do not know in the anaesthetic side of the work in the Surgery.

Sir, you are bound to be alarmed to hear that; the average layman must be bound to feel that to undertake work like that you would need some larger degree of training. I cannot imagine how a person untrained would find his way about a Surgery.

On behalf of the people whose lives are in the hands of people, who rest under the care and protection of people who may have the best will in the world, I would like to know whether this is a true state of affairs. I would like to be in the position to be able to say that the people around do this and that, but that they do not do this or that; and that everything which they do is under the supervision of the Surgeon or the Assistant in charge of the operation.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, the hon. member is labouring this question, but does he think that any Surgeon would allow untrained people to be around when he is working? Whoever he has there must be trained to do something, such as the Anaesthetic Nurses and others. I do not think any untrained person would be anywhere near around, or would be assisting in a case of operation in the Surgery. I cannot see it taking place.

Mr. TUDOR: I am grateful to the Hon. Premier for his reply, but I think the Hon. Minister can inform him differently. There are Orderlies in the Surgery who are not there for lifting or anything like that; they actually do some work in the Surgery.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: If the Hon. Minister does not know he cannot tell the member anything. When an operation is going on, the Hon. Minister cannot go in the Surgery. If the Minister does not know, he does not know. I cannot imagine while a Surgeon is operating that he would tolerate untrained people moving about or sitting around there.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I would just say this: I take it from the Hon. Premier that if the Minister does not know, he does not know, therefore, I cannot pursue it any further.

Mr. BRANCKER: The Hon. Minister promised to assist us by giving us an answer. I do not know if he can do so now.

Hon. F. E. MILLER: I promise that I will give it later tomorrow afternoon during the debate.

The question that the sum of \$1,666,856 under Head XXIII - Medical, (2) General Hospital stand part of the Schedule, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XXIII - MEDICAL (3) MENTAL HOSPITAL

Head XXIII - Medical (3) Mental Hospital - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I beg to move that the sum of \$280,116 under Head XXIII - Medical (3) Mental Hospital - stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, under Item 24, Temporary Nurses, I see that the sum of \$5,040 is to be voted and a similar amount was voted last year for that purpose. The explanation to that Item is: "Provision included for four additional Temporary Nurses to take care of the varying number of patients."

In an institution of that sort, I am wondering if their services are particularly necessary as it would appear; because if their services are necessary, I feel that they should be put on a permanent basis and granted their increments as anybody else. As long as they are employed on this temporary basis they have no security of tenure and they are placed at a disadvantage. In an institution of that magnitude, nurses whose services are necessary for attending special patients, should be employed on a permanent basis; and it should not be that you merely enlist their services at their convenience or at our convenience.

I would like the Hon. Minister to lend some sort of consideration to this matter and not to persist in a policy which has been persisted in at the elementary schools where you have Assistant Teachers and Supernumeraries employed temporary and not on a permanent basis. In other words, if these peoples' services are strictly necessary from year to year, you should put them on a permanent basis where they can have their increments and everything else.

Hon. F. E. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, I do not know why the hon. member should generate all that heat in speaking on this matter. The figures of that institution reveal that the average number of 720 patients go down during the crop season; and with a number fluctuating like that, you must need temporary nurses who can come in for a few months.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, with respect of Item 37, Provisions, I notice that there has been no increase in the amount to be voted under this Item; it is the same as last year. Would the Hon. Minister say whether there is any appreciable increase in the average number of patients? I ask him that because I understand that the provisions would be supplemented by the produce from the farm of the Mental Hospital.
9.10 p.m.

It strikes me that in an Institution where there must be something like seven hundred patients or more, and with the increased cost of all sorts of things nowadays, something more would probably have been required. The only reason, it seems, why the figure remains at the same level today is that the numbers have been reduced, or more provisions are being had from the farm. That is why I asked the Minister if he could explain that and at the same time give some idea of the number of inmates now housed at the Mental Hospital.

Hon. F. E. MILLER: The number at the Institution is 720 but on the overall picture, there is an increase. We are now operating an Out Patients Service hence the increased accommodation is not immediately necessary. If you examine the figures in 1959-60 you will see that the amount voted in respect of this item was \$168,033; last year the amount was \$175,000 and this includes a couple of items taken from Item 43 "Incidentals", such items as cigarettes, tobacco and snuff. With regard to the other items on the farm, I think the hon. member will be happy to learn that we were satisfying the requirement with 400 pints of milk. We are now in the happy position where we can supply all the requirements of the Institution from the farm.

The question that the sum of \$280,116 under Head XXIII - Medical (3) Mental Hospital - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XXIII - MEDICAL (4) LAZARETTO

Head XXIII - Medical (4) Lazaretto - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$22,047 under Head XXIII - Medical (4) stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. TUDOR: Again, Mr. Chairman, I am certain that the entire community is always gratified to hear an anticipated reduction in the number of patients at the Leprosarium. Would the Minister say how many people there are at

the Leprosarium now, and whether his advisers have told him in what number of years we may hope to see that Institution empty?

Hon. F. E. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, I do not think that anybody alive could attempt to answer the question as to how soon that Institution would be empty.

Mr. TUDOR: In the absence of any new patients, of course.

Hon. F. E. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, it would be impossible to answer that. This Institution can accommodate eighty or more people. The population is still eleven, seven males and four females; and that information was obtained as late as five o'clock this afternoon. There are nine positive cases and two negative. There two negative cases are there merely for humanitarian reasons; and they are not willing to leave the Institution. They have no contact outside, and therefore it is our responsibility to make them happy in there.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I do not understand what the Hon. Minister means. Are there no homes to which these people can go, or nobody who is willing to take them? Am I to believe that anybody who is incarcerated in this Institution and gets cured is not willing to leave the Institution? The Hon. Minister realised that I had entered the Chamber when he was speaking but I want to tell him that I did not come in here in any wheelbarrow; I was elected in here just as anybody else was elected. I want to ask him if people who have been diagnosed as being cured of this illness are not willing to leave the Institution; I would like to hear something more about that. That is something which is news to us.

Hon. F. E. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, what has happened? The hon. senior member for the City was elected in this Chamber just as anybody else; he did not come in here in any wheelbarrow. I gave the figures as to the population of this Institution obtained up to five o'clock this afternoon. There are eleven souls in the Institution — seven males and four females; nine positive and two negative. I said that for humanitarian reasons these two people are in the Institution. The hon. member has asked if it is true to believe that a patient refuses to leave the institution when he is told that he is negative and is able to go out.....

Mr. MOTTLEY: On a point of order. I asked the hon. member if one is incarcerated in a leprosarium and is declared negative and cured and is free to go out, would he refuse to do so?

Hon. F. E. MILLER: If you think of the gross disfigurement of the people in the institutions, you would appreciate what I am saying. Over the last three years about three females died in the Institution. One was there for some forty years, and another was there for about two or three years.

Mr. TUDOR: With regard to the humanitarian reasons to which the Hon. Minister has referred, I wonder if he would consider or has considered this since there cannot be a large number of persons involved: If you have two, three, or half a dozen people who are cured and who are so disfigured that they may have to live by themselves, would not the Government allow them to live in some of the houses which are in charge of the Housing Authority?

Mr. MOTTLEY: That is why I arrested the Hon. Minister's remark.
9.20 p.m.

I agree with the member for St. Lucy, when he said it would be better for humanitarian reasons for Government to provide some place so as to remove them from the atmosphere of the Leprosarium; and he went on to ask if not only were they pronounced cured and negative, but they themselves were unwilling to leave. Would you tell to the world that people at the Leprosarium have been pronounced cured and are unwilling to leave? You would have to bring the Angel Gabriel to satisfy me about that. After all, you are not talking about the Hospital or the Infirmary; and if you look in

Holy Writ you are not going to see T.B., a most dreaded disease; you will see the disease of leprosy. It is a dangerous disease to human beings today, and nobody thinks about it along the lines of medical science as you think of T.B.

Mr. Chairman, all discharged patients are given money. You will remember that once we had to say here that it was not fair to ask them to go there for the money. This is a matter for the Minister of Social Services. If you have a medical practitioner practising for forty years, I wonder if in his experience he can tell you that a man who was afflicted with a dreaded disease to humanity, though not contagious, was pronounced cured and negative was unwilling to leave the Institution. This is not the Hospital or the Infirmary that we are talking about, or even the Mental Hospital where you might have a man not knowing what he is doing. I do not quite understand that, and I do agree with the hon. member for St. Lucy.

I am going to ask about the after-care of patients who receive allowances for which the members of the Opposition asked for an increase, and I hope the hon. member will be willing to give the answer. It would be infinitely better to provide a spot in your estates or a detached house where these people could live. I have seen them mixing and going around; and I cannot understand that they would refuse to leave the institution if they are pronounced cured. I wish the hon. member would answer the question raised by the member for St. Lucy as to whether they have taken steps to offer them one of the Housing Authority houses, and also what is the number of after-care patients today.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, the hon. senior member for the City said it would take the Angel Gabriel to convince him! I am not the Angel Gabriel nor am I asking him to believe it; but I do know of the case of an old lady who was released from there who lived in the back of Dayrells Road. She was cured of her illness, but she was miserable; she was scorned by everybody and she could not go to the shop to buy what she wanted, so she went back to the Leprosarium. Although these people are cured, the stigma still remains and they are not accepted in society.

Mr. MOTTLEY: On a point of order. So does the stigma remain with T.B. He has not answered the question; he is not the Angel Gabriel so he has not convinced me. Mr. Chairman, the hon. member has not said that in his experience there was a person who was pronounced cured and was unwilling to come out. He said he knows of somebody who came out.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I did know of people there who would not come out when I was Minister of Social Services. They had lost contact with their relatives and they remained there.

Mr. MOTTLEY: The Hon. Minister has not answered my question. As a medical practitioner do you know of people who have been diagnosed as cured and refused to come out?

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Yes.

Mr. MOTTLEY: You did not say so. (ASIDES) Look the two of you Clerks, shut up! (Hon. M. E. COX: That is not fair.) I understand what the Hon. Premier is saying to me. I am asking if you know of cases which have been diagnosed as negative and cured and offered an opportunity to come out, but you are saying that you know of cases that came out and they were made so miserable, that they went back in. What made them miserable was the fact that the allowance was so small that they could not exist on it, and their only hope was to go back to the institution.

Another thing, Mr. Chairman. After you have been discharged, can they take you back in unless you are diagnosed? There is one prescribed method in the law for accepting people into the Leprosarium; it is not like the Mental Hospital where you have a private Mental Board. The law says that if you are suffering from leprosy, as long as you keep away from public places, you can stay at home

and live; therefore you cannot be sent back in like that. To my way of thinking the hon. member has not answered my question.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: You are talking about your way of thinking, but I am talking about what I know!

Mr. MOTTLEY: The difference between what I am thinking and what you know is very great. You know about the medical side and I know about the humanitarian side. The law is that if a person was afflicted with leprosy tomorrow, as long as he kept out of public places, everything would be all right. As a matter of fact, the only arrest could be made is between one place and another.

If this is not giving out any secret, the usual way is for the Doctor to diagnose the case, leave the person to go back home and then phone the Public Health Authorities and say that between here and there they will find the person. That is the usual practice. How then are you going to take in somebody whom you have discharged as cured? What do you take them back in for? I do not accept the hon. member's explanation. (Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: You do not have to.)

Mr. Chairman, if the hon. member had gone on to say that these people were so deformed that it was not possible or unwise to go out, I would understand; but do not tell me that a human being was offered an opportunity to come out of a Leprosarium at least for one day and did not accept it. The Hon. Premier's explanation is quite different from that of the Minister of Social Services. The Premier is saying that he knows of a case that was diagnosed as negative and cured and came out, and for some reason he was accepted again. As a matter of fact, I know of such cases, because they went before the Board and it was found that they had broken down again. I know of such a case too, but that is not the case I am making out.

9.30 p.m.

Is the Hon. Minister asking anybody to believe that anybody down there who had been there for any time and was released, unless they were so deformed, that they would like to stay down there instead of coming out? I have been reliably informed that such cases of extreme deformity are not given the opportunity of coming out.

We are told tonight that of the eleven cases, two have been pronounced as absolutely negative but they have refused to come out. I do not believe it and I do not care who says that it is so. I accept what the Hon. Premier has said that you would come out, but when you find that you are in a different world that you would prefer to be down there. What I believe is that you will come out but after you have found that you are no longer wanted in your social strata or in society that you will possibly ask that you be taken back. That is not saying that they have refused to go out. How can I believe that they have refused to go out. They will go out if they go out for two days.

The hon. senior member for St. Lucy posed the question about these people having no where to go, no family, no house to go to. You have a Housing Authority, therefore allow them to put aside a few houses for this purpose and let these people pay a small rent for them.

People are becoming more health minded. People are beginning to shun persons who were incarcerated in a hospital with tuberculosis, because the people have been lectured that that disease is highly contagious; and although they have been told that leprosy is not contagious, yet they shun those persons too. The Bridgetown City Council has to pay rent for a tremendous lot of persons who are affected with tuberculosis. I do not accept the explanation given by the Hon. Minister.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I wonder whether we should reduce this issue to practical proportions. Let us assume that it is not that the people concerned have refused to go out but that they have found living outside so terrible, that after having tried it for a period, they prefer to go back in. Now, if the Government were to say to these peo-

ple that it is prepared to put at their disposal two houses from the Housing Authority and to charge them rent as little as 25 cents a week so that they can live outside and adjust themselves to the outside world, I do not see anyone of them refusing that offer.

I am therefore asking the Hon. Premier whether he would undertake to consider that as a serious practical situation; the only objection I see to it is the question of numbers, and that objection does not arise. There are two people now and you are not likely to have them increased to such a number as to make the problem one of difficulty; therefore, it is better to say to these people, "we are willing to offer you the facilities of a house, one house each, belonging to the Housing Authority, where you can live if needs be in seclusion, without disturbance and to pick up your lives as well as you can." Would the Hon. Premier agree to give that active and his most earnest consideration and make that offer to those people?

The Housing Authority does not stand to lose because one or two houses are always empty in each of those areas controlled by that Authority. Give them the chance of being able to live outside and under the aegis of the After-Care Committee and the Government, by making one or two of these houses available. I think that is something which can be considered.

Hon. F. E. MILLER: You have said nothing new in that statement; at the moment there are three of such houses which are released to the people of that Institution, and they pay the minimum rate for rent. If you give them a house and you give them for nothing that is only part of it; you are not yet taking into account the feeling of those broken, dejected souls. That is not the answer. It is all bound up in their contact with other people; and how that person is ostracised in the community. Do you want to know the plight of such a patient?

In the year that I took up the Ministry of Health, one of the first things I did was to call in the Superintendent of that Institution and have a long talk with him. I told him to go to the forty patients and see what arrangements he could make as to their getting money and come back and tell me. Previously they had to travel, to take a bus to the Lazaretto for the little pittance, which they did not like to do; and I asked whether it could be arranged so that the money could have been paid through the Post Office. Not one of the forty patients was willing to have the Superintendent, or any officer connected with the Government, coming to their homes to pay them this pittance. It is heart breaking to think of it. They did not want to go to that Institution; they did not want a postal order to carry to the shop.

These people are hiding all over the countryside. They do not leave home to get water until well after midnight. We have a pathetic case which would move you; of a man disfigured almost to his elbows. He lives in a gap by Esso Gasoline Station and when Rediffusion goes off at night, he then comes out on his all fours to go to the standpipe. The man has been attacked on two or more occasions by angry dogs. He should not have been outside of the institution but he has the right to be outside, and there is nothing that you can do. He has someone who would hardly wash his clothes.

Sir, you do not know what you are discussing; he is free and wants to enjoy life outside but it is heartbreaking. You must give him his freedom but the suffering he entails is more than the sweetest heart in these days is expected to bear. This man is entitled to assistance.

9.40 p.m.

It is true to say that he is getting a little of the Government's attention, but you can understand his position. If he wants his shirt washed, it would probably cost a shilling to wash it, but he would probably have to pay eight shillings, and the washer would call for it in the night. This patient was almost devoured by dogs, but you cannot get him to go back to the Institution. I can tell you where these people live.

The hon. member talks about the Archangel, but he could not get such contact like me. (Laughter) It is pitiable that all of this will have to go down in the debate. You do not know what it is to be hiding for the rest of your life. You are hungry, you have money in your hands and you cannot go to the shop's door; the shopkeeper's fear is that he will lose business if it is known that you are attending his shop. For a little employment this man cannot expose himself outside. You thought you could do like Einstein, splitting the atom.....

Mr. TUDOR: On a point of order. The Hon. Minister is going outside his scope; he speaks about this person having been attacked by angry dogs. The question then is whether these two people having refused to go out of the Institution you would build them houses. We want to know what you want to do with them.

Hon. F. E. MILLER: We have two or three houses for the Housing Authority to offer patients. If they require one of the houses, the answer is "yes"; but it is not a question of providing a house. These broken souls need help, and we want somebody who will go into the house and render them assistance.

Mr. MOTTLEY: The Hon. Minister has described what I know is one of the worst cases outside. This man has accepted his freedom. Has it been brought to the Hon. Minister's attention that these two negative cases which have refused to leave the Institution are as bad as this case? This case is so bad, that it would bleed the heart of human beings; but although he is in that condition he has accepted his freedom. Tell me if these two cases which the Medical Authorities have cured are worse than this case. That is the whole crux of the matter.

I hope that when I get near the angel Gabriel I will be able to convert you! I serve notice on the Hon. Minister that I am going to pay my official visit to the Leprosarium, because I cannot believe that anybody who is incarcerated in an Institution like this, would refuse to go out when he is offered freedom.

I expect that such a person would go out and would go out of the way to ask to be sent back in. If the doctor said that you are free to go out, you can get \$32 a month; you are entitled to public assistance and you can get a little house to rent. If you are prepared to live in a place where lights must be off at a certain time.... (ASIDES)

Mr. Chairman, the Almshouse is a place where you can go and you can tell the doctor fly in hell; but with this other Institution you are given freedom and you can go out. However, when you go to an Almshouse, you go in today and you come out tomorrow. The Almshouse is a place of refuge. Neither of these two people is like the case where the person cannot come out until eleven o'clock p.m. This case is one in which he can get nobody to wash his clothes, he cannot go to the shop; but he has asked for his freedom. On the other hand, these two cases will say: "I do not want my freedom; I want to remain inside." You have cases in which people will say: "Medical science says: 'I am cured and therefore let me see what outside looks like.'" If they asked to be back inside the Institution, Government will take them back in, but the Hon. Minister has not said that.
9.50 p.m.

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Chairman, this debate has gone very far. Under this Item there is a decrease due to the anticipated reduction of patients. I have heard the Hon. Premier and the Minister of Social Services as well as other members on this, but I will give my opinion. I have known of persons who were suffering from T.B. having been tested by the Doctor and sent out of the Institution, and I am certain I saw one wanting to sell fish from a pick-up to some one, and a proclamation went out that the T.B. man was selling fish. Well he had to dump his fish in the gully; he could not get them sold. I am not surprised that when a man leaves an Institution of this sort that he is scorned by the community. Those people

in the Institution put me in mind of a man who had a fowl tied; it was tied so long that when he loosed it it would not walk!

There are people in certain institutions that are afraid to come out because they would be treated badly, scorned and mocked by other people. If you are going to take these people out of the Lazaretto, you should provide a home with water facilities and send their meals to them, and have someone to go once or twice a week to look after them. By doing that you would lessen the expense of running such an Institution. To me this matter needs no further argument.

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Your Honour do now report progress and ask leave to sit again.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I beg to second that.

The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Thursday 16th March, 1961, at 12 noon.

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

SOUTH AFRICA'S WITHDRAWAL FROM THE COMMONWEALTH

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, before the motion is put, I would like to say just a few words on an item of news, which has come to us tonight which, I believe, will give great pleasure to almost every person in this island. It is that the Union of South Africa has left the Commonwealth. I am sure we feel pleased about it, because at long last we now believe that the Commonwealth is an organisation which uncompromisingly stands for racial tolerance and equality of human beings. So long as South Africa had remained there was bound to be some element of compromise, reservation and weakness in the structure of the Commonwealth; but by her choosing to leave she has served notice on the other countries of the Commonwealth that she is not prepared and would not be prepared to retract or go back on any of the so-called principles of racial separance, and therefore the other countries of the Commonwealth have now passed perhaps the only test of Commonwealth solidarity in that with her expulsion, there is now left all those countries united around a single principle, the principle of racial brotherhood.

I therefore could not forbear to mention my own pleasure and happiness at this thing; and I am sure that this House entirely feels the same way.

DEEP WATER HARBOUR CONTRACT

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I would just like to say with Your Honour's permission how grateful we are to the Hon. Minister of Trade for keeping his promise today in laying on the Table what appears to be the contract of the Deep Water Harbour. I would like to say, however, that this appears to me to be a draft of the Contract; this is not an actual facsimile of the Contract. It is rather voluminous and it is marked "House of Assembly" and dated 15th March, 1961.

This is supposed to be a preliminary draft. I do not know what changes have been made; but I would like to record our appreciation at the promptness in which the Hon. Minister has carried out his promise in laying it on the Table of the House. This is very important, and since those of us who are in this Assembly during the period of the building of the Deep Water Harbour know that it will change the whole structure of Barbados, I am asking that a printed copy be given to each member of this House.

Mr. SPEAKER: If there is no copyright involved,

Mr. MOTTLEY: That could hardly be involved in a contract between the Government and the Company building the Deep Water Harbour. Although I am not taking away the thunder of the legal luminaries, and though I appreciate what has been laid, I must say that in perusing it you will see that it is really a draft. We do not know if this is exactly what was signed. I am not suggesting that the hon. member would have something that is signed and has not brought it; this is the first time we have had the terms of this Contract and we appreciate that.

Mr. Speaker, I am asking that you direct that copies of this be printed for hon. members. While I am on my feet I would just like to point out to the Minister who has been in charge of this that there seems to be no figures. I have not had the opportunity of scanning it myself, but my colleague on my immediate left, the hon. junior member for Christ Church has mentioned to me that there are no figures, and suggests that it is bound to have figures. I do not want to go any further than that. 10.00 p.m.

I ask, therefore, that you, Mr. Speaker, direct that, now the Deep Water Harbour is nearing completion, a copy of the contract which was laid today to be printed and circulated among hon. members.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am giving no such promise until I have seen the copy myself. As far as I can see, it is rather voluminous. If the House on a motion moves that it be printed, that is another matter. To ask that I direct that it be printed is a matter on which I will give no such promise at all.

Mr. GODDARD: Sir, before it is printed, I agree that you should see it. As far as I see, it is valueless. I have just scanned it and it shows that approximately £1 million would be spent, and the body of the contract is only a form of tender. We can go there and see how many sheds there are and we know the length and width. That is in the detailed statement. Perhaps, many of those things might even have been changed. I agree that Your Honour should give it study before you undertake to print it. However, we would still like to have a copy of the contract as signed by Mr. Costain.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Mr. Speaker, I think it was last night after much hullabaloo that I told the House that a copy of the contract had been laid in this House; and one member at least was vociferous in challenging that statement. As was promised, a copy of the contract has been laid.

However, I would like to inform this House that a copy of the contract had been laid on the Table of the House of Assembly on the 10th March, 1959. That has been verified by the Government, and has now been verified by the Clerk. It is not my fault that this document was laid and hon. members have not seen it; I remember laying a copy on the Table of this House. I do not know if somebody went out there and took it up or something happened to it which has caused it not to be there. But that is not my fault.

I wish to repeat that the laying of it has been verified. I remember specifically laying it and handing it to the Clerk.

Mr. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I am not one of those persons who is satisfied with small mercies. In the first place, I think it is great discourtesy to this House that the time the contract was awarded, the House did not have the benefit of copies of the contract. The House should have had copies of it not in 1959 but in 1954 or 1955.

We all know that local parliamentary procedure orders that regulations and documents should be laid on the Table of this House; but there is no Table in this House at which a member can go and verify that a particular document has been laid. I will give you an illustration. It is true that the report of Mr. George Cumper came into this House on the 15th February, 1956, and by 7 o'clock the same evening, that document was nowhere to be found in this Chamber and it did not see the light of day until three or four years later.

An amount of \$25 million or \$30 million of the taxpayers' money is being spent on a project, and the Minister got up with a sense of pride four years after, to say that he remembered laying the document on the Table of the House.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. What matter of pride is he talking about? I do not understand what nonsense he is talking. Last night in answer to a charge, I got up and made a statement of fact. The document had been promised to be laid and it was laid today.

Mr. BARROW: Last night, the hon. member said that it was laid in 1956.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: I did not say what year it was laid. I said that it was laid. (ASIDES)

Mr. MOTTLEY: The hon. member did say that the document was laid in 1956.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: I mentioned no date. The Clerk said that I mentioned no date. You are always manufacturing something. (ASIDES)

Mr. MOTTLEY: If the Clerk who has now gone over to him tells him that he did not say that it was laid in 1956, the Clerk should not be in here. The Clerk has just reminded us that he said that it was in 1956 (ASIDES)

Hon. R. G. MAPP: I rise on a point of order.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I am speaking.

Mr. SPEAKER: Both members are out of order, will both hon. members sit? (ASIDES)

There now being disorder in the House, I now declare that this House stands adjourned until Tuesday next, 21st March, 1961, at 12 o'clock noon. 10.10 p.m.