

THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SESSION 1961

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Friday, 17th March, 1961.

A Special Meeting of the House of Assembly was held at 12 o'clock (Noon) today.

PRESENT

His Honour Mr. K. N. R. HUSBANDS, (*Speaker*); Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS, C.B.E., M.D., C.M., (*Premier*); Hon. M. E. COX, (*Minister of Trade, Industry and Labour*); His Honour Mr. L. E. SMITH, J.P., (*Deputy Speaker*); Hon. R. G. MAPP, (*Minister of Communications, Works and Housing*); Mr. F. C. GODDARD; Hon. F. E. MILLER, (*Minister of Social Services*); Mr. C. E. TALMA; Mrs. E. E. BOURNE; Hon. D. D. GARNER, (*Minister of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries*); Lt. Col. H. A. DOWDING, M.B.E.; Mr. C. B. SEARLES and Hon. L. St.A. THORNE, (*Minister of Education*).

Prayers were read.

Mr. MOTTLEY entered the House and took his seat.

MR. SPEAKER EXPLAINS PURPOSE OF MEETING

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that since the last meeting when the House was adjourned through disorder until Tuesday next, I have been approached by the Government and I have considered it in the interest of the public welfare to summon members to a meeting today. That was done under the authority of Standing Order No. 9 which reads as follows:-

"If, during an adjournment of the House, it is represented to the Speaker by a Minister that the public interest requires that the House should meet on an earlier day than that to which the House is adjourned, he may give notice accordingly and the House shall meet at any time stated in such notice. The business set down for that day shall be appointed by the Government and notice thereof shall be circulated not later than the time of meeting."

I would like to point out to hon. members that it is not a very desirable thing that on occasions reference should be made in the House by hon. members to the alleged behaviour of Officers of the House. If, at any time, the alleged behaviour of an Officer of the House becomes noticeable to an hon. member, I think that attention to that matter should be drawn to the Speaker, and any discussion or action should be held or taken in a private session of the House. That is

the least which should be done because it must be remembered that an Officer of the House has no power to defend himself. I think, therefore, that any discussion dealing with the alleged conduct of an Officer, if such conduct is drawn to the attention of the Speaker, should be the business of a private session of the House.

SUSPENSION OF PROVISIONS OF STANDING ORDER No. 5.

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Speaker, before you call the Orders of the Day, I should like to make a motion. That motion is to the effect that the Appropriation Bill, the Resolutions in Committee of Supply, the Expiring Laws Continuance Bill and the Rates of Income Tax Bill 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.

RESUMPTION OF COMMITTEE ON THE APPROPRIATION BILL

Mr. SPEAKER: The first Order of the Day is to resume Committee on the Appropriation Bill.

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

Mr. CHAIRMAN: On the last occasion when we were in Committee on this Bill, Head XXIII - Medical (4) was under consideration.

HEAD XXIII - MEDICAL (4) LAZARETTO

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

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I beg to move, Mr. Chairman, 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.

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

HEAD XXIII - MEDICAL (5) DISTRICT HOSPITAL SERVICES

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$30,995 under Head XXIII - Medical (5) District Hospital Services stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, this question of District Hospital Services is so bound up with Medical Services that it was unfortunate that I was not here to hear for myself what I consider to be one of the most brazen statements

made by a Minister in the 20th Century in this country. I refer to the statement made by the Minister of Social Services that we have the best equipped Hospital in the West Indies. 11.25 p.m.

I am wondering if justice was done to the Hon. Minister in the blatant headlines which the newspaper report carried to the effect that we had the best staffed Hospital in the West Indies. I shall await for him to contradict that statement; I cannot understand it. I hope the Press is wrong and that the Minister did not say so. That reply, I understand, Mr. Chairman, was in answer to the Hon. Leader of the Opposition; but how could we accept that when just a few months ago the Hon. Minister told us that the reason for appointing a Committee to go into the workings of the General Hospital was purely administrative? When hon. members of this House had been pressing for the Committee's Report, the Premier made it clear, and I think we accepted it, that through the Minister's illness it had not yet reached Cabinet level and he further said that it was to do with administration and internal affairs. If these headlines are correct, then that will lead us to believe that the Report which was made by those three gentlemen who were brought here and paid for at our expense, must have given the Minister reasons to say that we have the best equipped Hospital in the West Indies.

In dealing with the District Hospitals, I am told by authority that you are so short of staff that the children who attend elementary schools and are suffering from nose, throat and eye diseases, and who must attend these District Hospitals, have been told through the Director of Medical Services - and I have seen it in black and white - that there is very little hope for those applying in 1961, because the 1959 list has not yet been half completed. Yet the Minister says we have the best staffed Hospital in the West Indies; and yet in 1959 the children who would normally be suffering could not be attended because another appointment had not been made in this Department.

It is obvious to the general public that the Government is very concerned about the damning Report which was put in on the work of the Hospital, and which criticised it from top to bottom. Incidentally, in passing, the Minister said to a member of the Opposition that all was well with the nurses and they are all happy and and satisfied. I challenge the Minister that that is not true; I do not know if he means an individual nurse or two. I am not challenging the Minister because of a letter which I saw in the *Advocate* signed by a *non-de-plume*. Does he know that the Report which he fears to put before this House and the public which tells us how to run the other Hospital, condemns the actual treatment of nurses? I am going to bring out something here today which is the responsibility of the Hon. Premier to the people of this country to put right. We pay two Specialists at this Hospital.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: May I tell the hon. senior member for the City that he is dealing with the General Hospital?

Mr. MOTTLEY: I am dealing with the District Hospital, and I am going to show you....

Mr. CHAIRMAN: You should deal with Head XXIII - Medical (5) District Hospital Services.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I am going to show you that the services rendered at one Hospital, if sufficiently carried out, would save us from a tremendous expenditure at the other Hospital; and you will agree with me that you do not put Specialists at the District Hospitals because any case from the District Hospital which needs specialist attention should go to the General Hospital.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The substance of your address will be on the District Hospital though that does not prevent you from making a passing reference to the General Hospital. That does not entitle you however to make a full dress debate on the General Hospital.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I will never attempt to make a full dress debate on the General Hospital, and believe me if I attempted to do that.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN: There is in these Estimates a place where you can deal with that when the time comes, but under this Head only a passing reference can be made.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I am not making a full dress debate on the Hospital, because if I did nobody would leave here until 4 a.m. in the morning! Mr. Chairman, I always abide by your rulings. All I am saying is that the Hon. Minister ought to correct the statement in the *Advocate* that we have the best Hospital in the West Indies. He should not let that go through the West Indies; it just is not true. 12.35 p.m.

You have your District Hospital and this is the only one which has started up to now; this is to cost \$30,955. We all know how this Hospital is to work. My remarks are not only addressed to the Hon. Minister, but I hope that the Hon. Premier would also take cognizance of them. No friendship with anybody would prevent me from doing my duty to the people of this country when it comes to the health of the people. What is the position? There is a Specialist whom you have at this Hospital whom we pay and he must give assistance to people who are sent from the District Hospital. What do we find? (*ASIDES*) I want the Hon. Minister to get up and categorically deny these headlines. Let them splash my name in the *Advocate* and let the people bring a case against me if my statement goes in the *Advocate*.

I am mindful of the treatment which Ministers and members of this House can get at the General Hospital, but we should be mindful of the 200,000 souls who cannot get similar treatment. We hear that the General Hospital is a properly equipped Hospital but it is a fact that nobody can see the Specialists at the Hospital? I mean the poor people, the people whose taxes pay those people. Is it an established fact that nobody can see these Specialists unless they have money to go to their private clinics? That is the question which I put to the Hon. Premier; and he must get up and say if I am slandering or scandalizing anybody at the General Hospital.

Once before, Specialists did a certain amount of work on poor people for nothing, and a certain amount of work on people who could pay. We have reached the stage now that only those persons who can pay can see the Specialists; therefore, those of us who keep our tongues in our cheeks on this matter are criminals to the people of this country; furthermore, you get up in here and say that we have got the best equipped Hospital in this area.

Hon. F. E. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order. It is not correct to say that the Specialists' services at the General Hospital are denied any section of the community, or that the Specialists serve in three clinics outside.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Sir, I hope that is a fact. I want the Minister to deny it. The Minister said that it is true to say that people can go to the Specialists, or that they can only be seen by Specialists through what is considered the private office of the Specialists at the Hospital and not in the general run of things through the Casualty. I am talking of the Specialists seeing people who cannot pay; and I am going further than that.

There is at the General Hospital at present a bickering around the ground that one Specialist having refused to see the people, the other refuses to see people because of the practice of the other Specialist. I am calling on the Hon. Minister to investigate the matter; I do not come in here and make wild statements. When I come in here I have things properly investigated before I speak on them. Because certain Specialists have been refusing to see poor people, the other Specialists are following the same example, and as a result the people are suffering. Then the Hon. Minister is getting up and saying that we have the best equipped Hospital!

Hon. F. E. MILLER: Sir, if the hon. member will give way, I will just tell him that the General Hospital has three Specialists - the Physician Specialist, the Surgeon Specialist and the Ophthalmic Specialist. At the

moment, there are three Out-Patient Clinics; and the Physician Specialist in operating a free Out-Patient Clinic, and the same thing applies to the Ophthalmic Specialist. Something is wrong with the source of information of the hon. senior member for the City.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, since my office was referred to, I think some people may want to know if the hon. member is acquainted with the procedure. He has got it mixed up. What the Hon. Minister said just now is quite true. Investigate the procedure.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Both Hon. Ministers, Sir, seem to think that I am groping in the dark, but I think they are keeping something in the dark. Both hon. members know that it is not a matter of principle or any procedure; it is a matter of a statement of fact. I am going further than that. This matter was brought before the Director of Medical Services and it has not yet been solved. (A VOICE: That statement is incorrect.) Is it incorrect? (A VOICE: Yes, not solved is the point.)

Does the Hon. Minister of Health tell this Committee that the matter which I raised was not brought before the Director of Medical Services and was not solved? I go further and say that it was giving him headaches.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Under which Head are you speaking?

Mr. MOTTLEY: I am dealing with Head XXIII - Medical (5) District Hospital Services.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I am glad to hear the hon. member say so, I want to draw to your attention that we are dealing with that Head but I am afraid that this whole debate is on the General Hospital. The tenor of your speech is about the General Hospital. The Head which you are speaking on is District Hospital and I take it that you were saying that people will be sent from the District Hospital to the General Hospital, but having established that point, I am asking that you go back to District Hospital. Do not let your entire debate be on the General Hospital only.
12.45 p.m.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I have never left the subject of District Hospitals; I said that the greater includes the lesser. I do not want to take any advantage of the Chair; I have always bowed to the ruling of the Chair especially when you are there, Mr. Chairman. (Laughter). Anyway, I am sure that both the Premier and the Minister, while it is part of their duty to defend the Ministry or the Department, in their saner moments they will realise that somebody has to raise this matter on the floor of the House. What is going on in Barbados and at the General Hospital is absolutely wrong. The Premier knows and the Minister knows that what is going on is wrong.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: On a point of order. As to the point which the hon. member has made relative to the Specialist refusing to see poor people, I know nothing about that; I know nothing about any matter being referred to the Director of Medical Services.

Mr. MOTTLEY: In view of the fact that the Premier is also a medical practitioner, I would have thought that, although it was unnecessary for this matter to reach Cabinet level, with his experience, he would have been brought into the matter so that he could bring his professional experience to bear and let it be known what the position would have to be. I regret that I was not in the House when the Hospital debate was going on, otherwise I would have made a full dress debate on it.

If the Premier says that he does not know anything about it, that is not saying that the thing is not so. This matter was referred to the Director of Medical Services and I know that it must have given the Hon. Minister some headache. I am not criticising him, but when matters are raised on the floor of this House, matters of this magnitude and importance, they strengthen the Minister's hands. You are talking about a policy and you are not pointing at any Tom, Dick or Harry; you want to see something corrected. If you get this disagreement between learned men whose duty it is

to do certain things, you must get the Director of Medical Services settling it; but who suffers? It is the people who obviously suffer.

When the Premier says that I have been misinformed, I would like to draw to his attention that I have not been misinformed. I would further like to draw to his attention that of all the medical men whom you have in this country - well, I was at pains to get this matter settled. This is something which people saw going wrong; this is something which the Doctors and the staff saw going wrong. You cannot prevent the Doctors and the staff from talking; they saw something going wrong and they wanted it remedied. Our duty is to look after the souls of over 200,000 people. Let us call a spade a spade. I cannot see how the Minister of Social Services could say, in the circumstances which we have in Barbados, that we have the best staffed Hospital in the West Indies.

I have the greatest regard for the Specialists which you have here. For years I have said that we need another Surgeon Specialist and another Radiologist. Somebody is suffering and wants a barium; somebody is sent to the Hospital by a private medical practitioner who says that he is suffering from cancer and it is only three months after that he has a chance of getting a barium from a Radiologist. That is the best-staffed Hospital in the West Indies! Three months after a medical practitioner sent to the Hospital a man who is suspected to be suffering from cancer, the Radiologist says that he must have a barium. Imagine that taking place: imagine the danger done in three months. And you are saying that you have the best staffed Hospital in the West Indies still?
12.55 p.m.

I wonder what happens with the people at the District Hospital. I could not let it go unchallenged that there was an Opposition in the House and such a statement appeared in glaring headlines in the *Advocate* that the Minister of Social Services proclaimed to the world that we have the best staffed Hospital in the West Indies, when three months after somebody is sent to the Hospital by private practitioners, he cannot get attention. This does not happen only in cases of paupers, but in cases of paying patients.

Mr. Chairman, if a Physician suspects something malignant inside - the Premier is bound to admit this - he expects within one week if not one day to get a report, and I have been pressing for another Radiologist. You should not be telling children in 1961 that they have little hope because those on the list for 1959 have not yet been seen. Maybe a lot of time is wasted by the Ophthalmic Surgeon in attending school children. As I understand it, an Optician today has been trained in such a way that he can very well examine the eyes and fit glasses, but when he discovers that there is some deformity or disease he refers these to an Ophthalmic Surgeon. If you say that the school children from 1959 have not yet been attended, what are you doing about the Opticians in the island? You should use them at a cheaper rate.

Mr. Chairman, the Premier knows that Optician training today is different from what it was years ago. As a matter of fact in Canada and the United States you have to reach a certain standard, and therefore they can do fittings and so on; but when it comes to deformities you refer them to the Ophthalmic Surgeon. I am saying that you should have an Optician for the Southern District Council and one for the Northern District Council to deal with school children in those areas, because these children should not be allowed to wait all the time.

I could not therefore sit here and allow this headline which praises the hon. member and says that we have the best staffed Hospital in the West Indies to go unchallenged. When he talks about the West Indies, he probably means Tortola, Sombrero, Anguilla, Carriacou and other smaller islands with Barbados as the big West Indian island. You cannot make that kind of statement when you have patients suffering from thrombosis or hypertension and you have to send them to Trinidad where there are Specialists to relieve the pressure on the brain. Mr. Chairman, I agree with the Hon. Minister that there is no hope of getting a Brain Specialist to come to Barbados....

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Every time I speak to the hon. member he refers to the words "District Hospital".

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, if there are people suffering from coronary trouble or complaints of that nature, where is your Specialist? If there is a colotomy to be done, where is your Surgeon? The hon. member has got up here and fooled the people that Barbados has the best Hospital in the West Indies. I wonder what people said when they read that? You could not even say we have the best equipped Hospital because you have not got an equipped Hospital yet. If he had said that we hope to have the best equipped Hospital, it would have been different, because I believe that with the hon. member in office, he will go all out when it comes to equipment to see that we get the best for the new Hospital. Later when we are dealing with another Head, I propose to reveal something which is going to be very shocking to this House.

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Chairman, this District Hospital has been opened for some nine months now, and I would appreciate if the Minister would tell us something of the work so far at this Hospital. I would like to know how much is being made of it, and if as a result of his investigations or surveys this is the correct size for other District Hospitals to be built. This Hospital has twenty beds because you moved into an already established building; but in the other District Hospitals to be built in other parts of the island, experience gained at this District Hospital should be of great value to the Minister in determining their size. I understand you are going to have a Hospital in St. Peter, in St. James, St. John and in St. Philip.

I would like him to tell the Committee what are the figures and the position as regards the size, the efficiency and the use of this District Hospital.

Mr. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, while approving of the arrangement which has been entered into - and I am speaking on Item 15, Subsidy to the Almshouse - in order to supply food and service for the District Hospital, yet it strikes me that unless this food and service to be supplied would be of a better quality, that it would not meet the need of the patients at the District Hospital.

I would like to put in a special plea on behalf of the inmates and patients of the District Hospital because it may be felt that the standard of food supplied at the Almshouse is fit and proper and containing the necessary vitamins and nourishment generally to supply women who may be termed pre-natal cases, in other words, pregnant women. I want to see the patients at the new District Hospital given some sort of extra treatment and nourishment. If you base your standards on the standard of the meals supplied at the Almshouse, that is not good enough for the children of tomorrow. It means that an impoverished race would be born in Christ Church, and the women who give birth to children of that parish would be giving birth to a sickly type of individual.

We are grateful to the Hon. Premier and those other people for the establishment of the District Hospital. I know that it is a matter which is not only close to the hearts of all of us on this side but also to the Hon. Premier. I would like to see another \$25,000 voted to this amount to provide extras like eggs and milk and protein generally for the patients of this District Hospital in order that a higher standard would be maintained for pregnant women who are regarded as pre-natal cases.

Hon. F. E. MILLER: I will reply to the point raised by the hon. junior member for Christ Church first of all. He asked what experience was gained in the eight months of the operation of the District Hospital. In reply, I would say that we are now getting experience.

He is also concerned about the size. I think the hon. member is aware that we are now building a new General Hospital, and there are so many of us who fail to realise that this new Hospital is almost half completed. In this new Hospital there is an additional 80 beds. On that ground I do not think that you will require more than 20 beds at the

District Hospital at Oistin. I can see that 80% or 90% of the Children of this country will be probably born in these institutions in the next ten years.

My experience with that District Hospital is heartening; and we are satisfied with what we have seen. However, it would be about a year or two before it catches up with its stride and be able to serve the community at Oistin as we anticipate.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, did the Hon. Minister say that 80% of the cases would be treated at that Hospital?

Hon. F. E. MILLER: I said that from the trends the majority of the cases handled there are maternity; and it would appear, as regards maternity cases, that may be in another ten years, you will find that 80% of the children of this country would be born in these Hospitals. However, eight months is not enough to judge the operation of that Institution. In the Estimates under another Head with which we will deal, perhaps, later today, you will find another \$65,000 voted for this Hospital.

Now, may I attempt to answer the hon. senior member for Christ Church. I was somewhat disturbed over the question he asked. He lives in that parish, and is a Socialist; and he made use of the unhappy term of impoverishment in our modern society. He is concerned about a better standard of food at the District Hospital; and comparing it with the Almshouse, he seems to want a better standard at the District Hospital. We are concerned with all people. The people in the Infirmary are free patients, and the same thing applies to those at the District Hospital; therefore, why should we differentiate in the food at these Institutions? There is a subsidy given of \$11,000 to the Northern District Council for food for patients in the District Hospital. There is one thing with which we are not satisfied, and that is the crockery of the District Hospital. I would be happy if the hon. member would discuss that with the members of the Council.

Mr. TALMA: The Hon. Minister has missed the point. What I did say was that it is universally known what is the standard of food at these Almshouses; and I asked that in the case of pre-natal cases at the District Hospital that they be given some sort of extra consideration and a better type of food with more protein.

Hon. F. E. MILLER: Again, I think it is unnecessary, and I do not understand why the hon. member wants to repeat the question. There is a subsidy of \$11,000 given by this Government for food to be supplied in that Hospital. The standard must compare with the standard at the General Hospital; it is so clear; our figures are calculated on that standard. What we were unhappy about at that Hospital was the crockery.

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Chairman, I still thought that the Hon. Minister could have given me some idea as to how the Out-Patients section is improving. Eight months is still time enough that you can give an opinion.
1.15 p.m.

If the Hon. Minister has that information, then that is the important thing. We still have beds at the Infirmary but the preference goes to the District Hospitals. What use are the people making of the Outpatient Department of the District Hospital? Is the number of rooms adequate? The experience gained there would be of great value in establishing the size of the other District Hospitals; that is the point I am making.

Hon. F. E. MILLER: As to the question of size, I said that the new Hospital would handle an additional 100 patients. The Out-Patient Department at Oistins is a hive of activity; there is ante-natal and post-natal care, and teams move in from St. Philip. I still say that you will have to wait a little longer to see what is really happening with your activities there. We have one man, Dr. Standard, operating there. (Mr. MOTTLEY: He is a humane man.) The hon. senior member for the City approves of that man. We operate part-

time clinics in the afternoon, but the clinic is doing a wonderful job in that area. I think that the number at that centre is, to some extent higher than the Health Centre at St. Philip. We are lucky to have not only the Clinic, but the man, Dr. Standard.

Mr. GODDARD: I knew all that the Minister had to say; why did he not say it in the first instance? Are you going to establish the same size District Hospital as in Christ Church? Do you mean to say that because they have established a Hospital there, they are not going on with the others? What the hon. senior member for the City was saying is that if the efficiency at the General Hospital was as good as what the Minister has said, he would not have such a hive of activity in the Southern District. The Specialists down here would be able to take on more work especially among the non-paying patients. The General Hospital is being over-worked because of the work not being done where it should be done.

Hon. F. E. MILLER: I think that that was unkind of the hon. member. The hon. member should have reminded the House that we have converted a building. You discussed the District Hospital, you referred to the twenty beds and reminded me that it was a converted building from the Infirmary. If the attempt is to decentralise, is it reasonable to ask patients who could be served at Christ Church to journey to Bridgetown to crowd out the General Hospital? The General Hospital has been the subject of criticism from the day of its inception; why discuss this question when a new Hospital is being built; because it was difficult to run the old Hospital? Day after day we will have these discussions in here although we are building a new Hospital to take over from the old Hospital.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The Hon. Minister must address the Chair.

Hon. F. E. MILLER: I have unswerving respect for the Chair. We are wasting time on this matter when there is so much work to be done.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, I do not like the idea of the Minister saying that we are wasting time. If anybody is wasting time, it is the Hon. Minister. If the hon. member had not proclaimed that everything was perfect.....

Hon. F. E. MILLER: On a point of order. Again, there are occasions when we have to say things which we know to be correct. I said that the Hospital has the best staff.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I should like to inform the Hon. Minister that I stopped the hon. senior member for the City when he attempted to make a full-dress debate on the Hospital. Therefore, I cannot allow the Minister to open any such debate.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I abided by your ruling. But to proclaim to the world that we have the best staffed Hospital in the West Indies, is doing too much.

With regard to Item 15, "Subsidy for Christ Church Almshouse", the Note says this: "Reimbursement in respect of food, service and cleaning provided at District Hospital by Almshouse." Will the Hon. Minister just give me an idea of what percentage of this amount of \$11,000 will be for food? Surely, if he says that they want this money in respect of food and so on, if you have \$5,000 or \$6,000 for clothing and what not, how much is for food? When the Southern District Council discussed this matter with the Government, the Government felt that with a 20-bed Hospital, the supply of food all the year round would take "X" dollars and the rest of the money would be for other services.
1.25 p.m.

With respect to food, service and cleaning provided at the District Hospital, one has to be so careful these days. Does "service" mean clothing for some of these people and so on? Will the hon. member tell me that if he has it on his file or promise to get it later?

Hon. F. E. MILLER: I have not got the detailed breakdown as requested by the hon. member. As set out here, we are voting \$11,000 in block. That is paid to the District Council and includes provision for food, cleaning and medicine at the Institution. I cannot give a detailed breakdown at the moment because the expenditure on food would probably depend on the number of patients at the Institution. There may be ten patients today and twenty tomorrow.

Mr. MOTTLEY: That is not what I am asking. The Government had to arrive at the figure of \$11,000 to give to the District Council. The explanatory note says reimbursement in respect of food, service and cleaning provided at District Hospital by Almshouse. What the hon. member is saying could therefore hardly be correct, because we voted \$11,000 last year; so it is not a matter of whether you have twelve patients or twenty. You should know therefore what would be the cost of feeding.

Hon. F. E. MILLER: I would have to get that for the hon. member. If we meet again tomorrow or on Tuesday next, I will bring in that information.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I must thank the hon. member.

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Chairman, under this Head I notice that we are making provision for part time officers. I feel that we should have a whole time officer at this District Hospital and not a part time officer. If we have a part time or whole time officer who has not got the qualifications as a Surgeon or expert, we would still have to send people to the General Hospital; but if we have a whole time man with the qualifications, we could use him in that capacity and he would know the nature of the complaint of any patient. If we have a man in office who has not got the qualifications, what are we going to do? It does not matter, Mr. Chairman, if you try to stop me. I have the same facilities as any other member here so long as I do not break the Rules, and you have to hear me.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Did you say something about the Chairman trying to stop you? Are you accusing me of trying to stop you?

Mr. CORBIN: I cannot accuse you but I see that you are listening to the asides. If you are ruling in the right way, then no voice should be heard above that of the member who is speaking. This island has been divided into districts by the Government, so there should be men with qualifications in each district to take care of the patients. Instead of having one officer, you should have two so that if one becomes ill, you would have another, otherwise you would have to send people to Trinidad, Jamaica, or England. We should have one practitioner for the General Hospital and one for the District Hospital, then the others can come after.

Mr. Chairman, if Mr. Leacock dies tonight, what are we going to do? We would have to send to Africa or Russia and bring in somebody. No matter what it costs we need another Specialist.
1.35 p.m.

Members of this Government do not want to hear me because they believe that I am insignificant; but I was sent here for a particular purpose, and they do not know for what purpose I was sent here. Hon. members of the Government are too proud, and the day we have good knowledge we will live. The only thing which is against this service is that we want two men with good qualifications. That is my argument, Mr. Chairman.

Hon. F. E. MILLER: Sir, I want to thank the hon. member for his advice and recommendation, and I promise him that I will study and examine all that he has said. I will also like to pay tribute not only to the lustre of his speech, but also to say that it was tempered with a mild state of in-sobriety.

Mr. CORBIN: I thank the hon. member. (ASIDES)

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, how dare the Hon. Minister to insult the hon. member? That is a case of insult; it ought to be withdrawn.

Hon. F. E. MILLER: There is no withdrawal asked for by the hon. member but if he requests it, I will withdraw the remarks. May I add the gratitude of the Government to him for his recommendation. As a matter of fact, the hon. member thanked me, therefore, what is there to worry about!

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Chairman, I must say that when goodness is springing up there is much evil to prevent it from growing. We have the source of goodness from creation. You will meet good and when you are trying to direct a fool, he will curse you to your face. The Hon. Minister believes that I am 100% drunk, and he is trying to ignore the goodness which is given to him; but, Mr. Chairman, this is too early in the day for any member to be drunk. I gave the hon. member specific reasons why they should have two men. Hon. members of this Chamber are sent here by the people to discharge their conscience in the right direction, and I say that they are not working in the right direction. It shocks my modesty. A man who is in authority and understandeth not is likened unto the beast. I say that in respect of every Minister. There is no remedy for ignorance.

I was trying my best to pull things together; I was not trying to resist the Minister of Social Services. I gave him the best I could, yet he does not appreciate it. They all believe that I am insignificant but God has sent me here for a particular purpose. I should have been with members on the other side but they have rejected me. I am here for specific reasons. There is one of the members of the Government in this House of Assembly whom I love, and I will love him if he is in the Government or not, because I have met him in homes and have expressed my views to him; but it is not right that I should express them on the floor of the House or to say who is the member. However, I love him just the same.

If the Government of Barbados will take heed, they will be further advanced. We are here to discharge our consciences and our views to the Government whether they accept what we tell them or not. That is what we have been sent here to do. If there is no opposition, there will never be a House. We are here to guide and direct them in the right path. Tomorrow, if the Opposition wins the Government, you lose.

The Labour Party did some things, and the reason why they did it was because they had the means. In former days you could not do the things which we are doing today, because you did not have the means. If the Barbados Labour Government were to do the things which are good, no man would even think of putting them out of power; but they are not doing the things which are good; they are not helping the poor man. They are not helping me with water facilities; and the repair of roads is a pressing problem.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I think I have given the hon. member sufficient latitude. He has now gone off to water facilities and roads. I will ask the hon. member to get back to the Head with which we are dealing.

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Chairman, we have to go off the latitude to build up our points. I will make my last point on this debate. The day that this Government in power or any other Government which may come into power, helps the poor people by giving them water and roads, they will never get out of power. I thank you.

Mr. BRANCKER: The only reason why I rise to object to the hon. junior member for St. George making that objectionable remark is because, according to the phrasing of the remark and the syntax, you will see that it applies only to the hon. junior member for St. Andrew.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Sir, I have been in here for a long time now. I feel myself that if the Hon. Minister of Social Services had made those remarks to me, that he would be quite in place for telling me that because I would be able to tell him something in reply. Something similar happened in here last week too. I have seen the Hon. Prime Minister of the West Indies make that error. I do not think it is nice for the Hon. Minister to say such of the hon. member. People do not think well enough.
1.45 p.m.

I remember Mr. Hugh Springer and Mr. Alder, the bosom friend of the Party, and that was thrown at him. You will never get the Minister of Education doing that. You cannot do it with me, because I will tell you about your mother or your grandmother and all of your family. As to the Barbadian language which the hon. member is using, the mothers of everyone of them over there talked like that. I remember when learned men never did that sort of thing.

I remember the editorial in the *Beacon* referring to the member's English, but the boy who wrote it had a smattering of education. You talked English in St. Andrew, you used adverbs, but the hon. member got the seat. I have not seen the Prime Minister do that sort of thing to Mr. Alder; I have heard the Premier of the West Indies and the present Premier of this island, and I have never heard them do that sort of thing. I sat here and heard people say things about the Minister of Agriculture but I jumped into them; they were said by people who were in the Government.

This all reminds me of one day when I went into a Bank; a woman put in a cheque from the Peasants' Loan Bank not endorsed and a little poor white girl at the Bank treated her very badly. The woman could not read or write. I was very hot in the Bank. I signed my name at the back of the cheque for the woman, but it went home to my heart. You should not worry with that. The people in St. Andrew want the hon. junior member for St. Andrew.

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: Mr. Chairman, it is incumbent on me to make a little explanation relative to the accusation which has been levelled by members on that side at the members on this side of the House. I should like to remind the hon. senior member for the City that he laughed too, and what caused him to laugh is what caused us to laugh.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I am not talking about laughing. I said you would laugh; I am saying that it is not necessary to get up and make the remark which was made.

Hon. L. St. A. THORNE: I am not speaking with reference to any remarks which were made. Any reasonable member will admit that when the hon. junior member for St. Andrew speaks he is seized with such fervour that his gesticulations invoke laughter. I am sure that what caused the hon. senior member for the City to smile.....

Mr. MOTTLEY: On a point of order. I smiled at his gesticulations as a local preacher, but another remark was made during last week which was not necessary to make. I consider as damning the article which referred to the hon. member's English as being bad. It was the worst thing that could have come from a Socialist Press. It was the most wicked thing that could have been done.

The question that the sum of \$30,955 under Head XXIII (5) District Hospital Services stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XXIII - MEDICAL (6) HEALTH CENTRES

Head XXIII - Medical (6) Health Centres - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I beg to move, Mr. Chairman, that the sum of \$167,307 under Head XXIII - Medical (6) stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

HEAD XXIII - MEDICAL (7) MATERNITY HOSPITAL

Head XXIII - Medical (7) Maternity Hospital - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$25,131 under Head XXIII - Medical (7) stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Premier could tell me if it has been settled that intending mothers who are going to be delivered, are still insisted upon to bring in the necessary sanitary apparatus? Or is that provided?

Hon. F. E. MILLER: It is provided. It is imported in bulk from the Crown Agents.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I thank the hon. member.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, with regard to Item 17, "Training Grant for Twenty Pupil Midwives", I believe that there are quite a number of elderly women in this community of a good enough standing who, because of their age, do not find it possible to enjoy facilities which are opened to them to be trained as midwives. I believe that there are some such persons who, if the training could be made available to them, are intelligent enough to profit by these facilities and to be qualified as midwives. Years ago it was possible for persons, who themselves were not Hospital Nurses, to be trained at the Almshouse. 1.55 p.m.

I cannot be quite sure what the procedure is nowadays. I know of course that nurses who qualify at the Hospital can go over to the Maternity Hospital, and other young people who were fortunate enough to be admitted can receive their training there; but I want to know whether the Minister can say anything about facilities for elderly women who are in good health, who are of average intelligence and educational qualifications, and who if the training were made available would be willing to have it.

Hon. F. E. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, I think you will appreciate that the original idea of the Maternity Hospital was to meet the need of a Hospital for training. The classes were made up of nurses from the General Hospital and from the Almshouses in addition to free-lancers from outside.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I agree with the hon. member for St. Lucy that today we have not got enough registered midwives, therefore you have got to allow those practising grannies or persons who have been so practising as midwives for a period of years to continue to practise. That is the state of affairs in Barbados.

Since you brought in your Nurses Registration Act saying that after a certain period people must be qualified midwives, registered midwives and so on, because you have not got sufficient to go around the entire island, you have got to allow these grannies who have been practising in St. Michael, St. George and St. John to go on practising. There is the feeling that because an old lady delivered my mother with me, I feel that she should deliver me with my three or four children. The hon. member is absolutely right in what he is suggesting, and the Minister should pay some attention to that. It is a fact that the educational standard of these women might not be up to the mark possibly to assimilate the general modern knowledge of midwifery, but because you have got to let them practise.... (Mr. CHAIRMAN knocked the gavel.)

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Mr. CHAIRMAN left the Chair and Mr. SPEAKER took the Chair.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I would like you to give a ruling on this question. When a member is speaking in Committee and the clock strikes 2 o'clock, must he stop speaking before Your Honour takes the Chair?

Mr. SPEAKER: As long as the Chairman asks him to take his seat, he must.

Mr. MOTTLEY: The Chairman did not ask me to take my seat. I only wanted to find out when I should stop speaking, whether when Your Honour resumes the Chair and decides it is 2 o'clock or at the Chairman's request.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Chairman controls that.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I thank Your Honour.

Mr. SPEAKER: It now being 2 o'clock p.m., this sitting now stands suspended until 2.30 o'clock p.m. 2.00 p.m.

On Resumption.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: Mr. Speaker, I beg to draw your attention to the fact that there is no quorum and ask that you direct the Clerk to ring the Bell.

The Bell was rung and a quorum was obtained.

HOUSE RESUMES COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATION BILL

Mr. SPEAKER: On the Suspension, the House was in Committee on the Appropriation Bill.

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

MATERNITY HOSPITAL

Mr. CHAIRMAN: On the Suspension, the hon. senior member for the City was speaking. I observe that he is not now in his seat.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, before you put the question, I want quite briefly to emphasise the point which I made when I spoke. What I wanted to find out from the Minister was whether anything at all could be done to give some basic training to these women. The position is that there are large numbers of them in this island who practise midwifery with, I believe, quite a competent degree of success, and who would welcome any basic training which they could be given to supplement their knowledge. As I said, it is not so much the question of intellectual capacity as of competence.

Obviously they cannot undertake the sort of training which would result in the sitting and passing of examinations, but I believe that if arrangements could be made to give them some sort of training, perhaps in methods of sterilisation and things like that and just the barest minimum, I believe they would appreciate it; that is why I asked the Minister whether anything could be done. I am not now thinking of persons who would be entering that profession for the first time, but women who have perhaps had 15 or 20 years and in some cases as much as 25 years' experience in practical midwifery, but who know nothing at all about its theory or of the advancement in technique which has been made.

Mr. Chairman, it seems to me a pity if nothing can be done. I wanted the Minister to consider very carefully whether any provision could be made whereby these women could take what you might call refresher courses in the basic skill and training necessary.

Hon. F. E. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, I am not aware that the hon. member need to be unduly unhappy. The nurses who come from the Almshouses are well on in years, and have been serving these institutions for a number of years without training. The hon. member should appreciate that we strive to meet the international standards set by the Nurses Council of World Training, particularly in midwifery. I hope the hon. member really does not want us to water those standards down to satisfy a number of grannies. If it would make the hon. member happy, I should like to state that the majority of nurses on that staff have been trained at the Maternity Hospital, along with nurses from the General Hospital and from those Infirmarys as well. 2.35 p.m.

If anyone is unqualified and wants to take advantage of training in that institution, that person is free to apply. But to arrange a course — as envisaged by the hon. member — for such persons would be most improper; it would be giving licences to nurses who cannot be regarded as trained.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I want to know if any such person with practical knowledge, extending over 40 years, would have a reasonable chance of being accepted if she applied? I believe the Hon. Minister meant to give that assurance; and if this is so, it should be made known to these people so that they can apply.

Mr. STRAUGHN: Sir, it was just about a month and a half ago that a number of us in the Northern District Council were discussing this matter of training with the Director of Medical Services. It was a matter of general concern to us. We found out that from our knowledge of the institution, it could not accommodate all of our people as we would like. I would like to know if the Hon. Minister feels he might be able to increase the number of persons to be trained there, or the training facilities. We realise the good job which they are doing at the Maternity, but we cannot get applicants trained in that institution in those great numbers we would like to see.

The question that the sum of \$25,131 under Head XXIII - Medical (7) Maternity Hospital - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

SUMMARY OF MEDICAL DEPARTMENTS

Summary of Medical Departments was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I beg to move that the sum of \$1,763,289 under the Head Summary of Medical Departments stand part of the Schedule.

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

The question that the sum of \$1,763,289 under the Head Summary of Medical Departments stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XXI - SCIENCE AND AGRICULTURE

Head XVI - Science and Agriculture - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Sir, there are some new additions to this Head. As regards Item 100 - Cooperative Section - we are asking to add an additional \$360 so that the amount to be voted under Item 100 will be \$2,960. Added to the Note will be: "Additional provision to meet the cost of a visit to Barbados by a United Nations' expert on Cooperatives."

The total amount to be voted under that Head will be \$717,179. I beg to move that the sum of \$717,179 under Head XXI - Science and Agriculture stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, there are quite a few questions which I propose asking the Hon. Minister of Agriculture. If the Minister has a report on irrigation, or the tractor scheme, or the pig subsidy scheme, the powered boat scheme, the cooperative scheme, the Lancaster Factory, the Mental Hospital farm and such schemes, and if he is in a position to give a summary by way of a report on the operation of these various schemes, it may be a means of avoiding a lengthy debate. (Hon. D. D. GARNER: Under what item are you speaking?) I was prefacing my remarks. I said that if the Minister had an interim report, an annual report or a report of some sort to give the House an account of the irrigation scheme in St. Lucy, St. Philip or wherever else it may be, the tractor scheme, the pig subsidy scheme, the powered boat scheme which provides loans for the boats of fishermen, the cooperative scheme, the operation of Lancaster Factory, the Mental Hospital Farm and Dodds Plantation, to mention a few of them, so as to give this Committee an indication in some manner as to the operation of these various schemes, then a great time saving device might be served and the Minister might avoid many searching questions, if not embarrassment.

Of course, he has been out of the island and that may be an argument used in defence. His Permanent Secretary has also been out of the island with him; but if the Hon. Minister has reports on these matters so that he can let this Committee know how these various schemes are progressing and which justifies their existence, I shall be pleased to hear.
2.45 p.m.

If, on the other hand, the Minister has not seen fit to secure reports from the Permanent Secretary or the Departmental Head as to the various schemes under his control, we must question the Minister and see what information he has handy. If he would like me to give way at this stage I am quite willing to do so, in order to save any unnecessary questions which may be put to him; but I reserve the right to repeat the questions in case the Minister is found wanting in his replies.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: Mr. Chairman, I wish to thank the hon. member for having put his questions so wisely; he has shown a sense of responsibility. He has said that I have been out of the island just a while ago and that I may not be up-to-date with these matters; although it is nice of him to think in that way, yet that is not so. I can answer his questions, and he has asked some very good questions too.

The Irrigation Board has not been functioning as well as it should have been, due to the fact that at one stage we were doing certain work in the parish of St. Andrew relative to the Soil Conservation Scheme. We did not have the opportunity to go throughout the length and breadth of the island as heretofore; we were concentrating on that particular area. That is a good thing because we have found out more than we would have found if we were going throughout the island.

We have discovered certain reservoirs which we may be able to tap successfully later on. We are awaiting the arrival of the Geologist and therefore we cannot say much more on that. The irrigation of this island is dependent upon the water supply. Hon. members will appreciate the fact that for the past two years we have been passing through a serious drought, and the first thing we have to consider is the supply of water for domestic purposes; anything on the irrigation line must be secondary to water for domestic use.

We are making efforts to step up production in agriculture but that depends upon the water. We have to be very careful as to how much water we use, and to see how much we plan to use for agricultural purposes. I want to assure hon. members that we have new schemes coming up for irrigation; but I repeat again that that must be ascertained by the services of the Geologist. When the Geologist comes and has gone and we know the facts, we will present to this House what plans we have for irrigation.

The next question is in respect of the tractor scheme. I should like to say that that scheme, which the hon. senior member for Christ Church knew about while he was Minister of Agriculture, is a pilot scheme. Today this is an active service throughout the island. Last year we started in February and we were very much surprised to find how many people welcomed this service. We dealt with something like 1,200 acres and we had a little over twelve applications. Nevertheless, everybody who had land ploughed was absolutely satisfied. That is due in part to the fact that we were so much below the commercial rates which prevailed before, that it was a God-send to these farmers who were unable before that time to have their land ploughed. The peasants are very enamoured about this service; I can speak for many of them. They have been able to get their land ploughed early so that when the rains came they were able to plant their crop. We have not lost any month on that scheme; the only regret is that there has been some depreciation. We were short by one thousand pounds of the amount for depreciation in machinery. I found that that was very good going.

We were very generous with the tractor drivers; we have a complement of nine tractors and we want to get

another one this year. We have made arrangements to the effect that any person who owns land, whether he is a freeholder or a tenant, can get the services of a tractor. If he has not got the money, then he can secure a loan from the Peasants' Loan Bank and he can have his land ploughed. It is a service which is very much appreciated by the small holders in this country.

As to the Pig Subsidy Scheme, that continues to grow. It is true that last year we had to supplement the amount of \$80,000 which was provided. We have not budgeted for anything more than \$80,000 this year, because this year seems to be a dry year, as hon. members will realise; and money is not as free as one would like it to be. Therefore, in the coming year we may have to come back and ask for a supplementary vote; but we thought it wise to keep the same amount in the Estimates as we had last year.

The position for 1959-60 was as follows: we received 5,259 applications for feed; piglets as per applications, 41,339; total quantity of feed involved in applications 644,625 lbs; number of piglets surviving at first inspection, 40,255; the number of feed deliveries ordered, issued 5,061; number of pigs seen at final inspection 37,224. The total quantity of feed delivered to applicants, 606,375 lbs. 2.55 p.m.

There are certain exclusions in that figure because there were some people who did not apply at the right time; they applied too late for this feed, and then by the time the inspector visited them, the pigs were weaned and gone.

Mr. TALMA: I am sorry to interrupt the Hon. Minister, but this will give him a spell to catch his breath. Now that the Minister is on this question of the issuing of feed, I want to know if the Minister is still persisting in the policy which was advised and insisted on by the experts of refusing to release this concentrated animal feed until after seven weeks had expired.

The experts' advice was not to administer the feed in time for the mother of the piglets to benefit, but to wait until seven weeks — after some of the piglets have died out through malnutrition and lack of food — before issuing this pig feed so that the piglets would benefit as a result of the feed and not the sow. Is that policy still being adhered to? Is that the reason why on first inspection there were 40,255 and on final inspection there were 37,224?

Hon. D. D. GARNER: The hon. member has asked a good question; he knows about it. Like the hon. member, when I first went to the Ministry, from a layman's point of view I wanted to change it, but when I had had discussions with people who should know because they are experts in this field, they said we were helping pig breeders and not rearers. That is where the difference is. I felt like the hon. member felt, but I was absolutely convinced that they were right and I was wrong.

We are helping pig breeders and not pig rearers; and piglets cannot digest feed until they have reached a certain age. I accepted the advice of my experts, therefore the system which was perpetuated when the hon. member was there is still being perpetuated today. I realise that you, like me, felt that it would be an advantage to give these pig breeders the feed at an early stage; but you cannot build up a weak sow in a week or two after having had the feed.

Mr. TALMA: On a point of order. Is the Minister aware of the fact that the whole object of this pig subsidy and pig breeding scheme is in the final analysis to produce pigs and pork for the consumption of the people of Barbados? And, if we have enough, to export pork?

Whether people are pig breeders or pig rearers or whatever name the experts want to use, no matter what fantastic arguments are used to get out of it, the object of this scheme is to help poor people to produce more pigs in order that the hungry people can get pork; so I do not and never will accept the Minister's argument. In order to do this you have to give people the feed at an early date, at the time when the sows need the feed to sustain their piglets.

We have to produce more pork which has fallen off; pork is now in short supply.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: Mr. Chairman, I do not understand the hon. member's heat. If, as Minister, he started it, Mr. Chairman, I am merely following in his footsteps; I do not know that I am doing anything wrong. This was so when I took over; and I wanted to change it, but I found out the difference after the experts came to me and explained. I will persist in this policy so long as I am there, and until he returns there — God forbid!

With regard to the question of more pork in the island, we are getting better pork. Some butchers want to get the people's pigs too cheaply; but apart from that, I think even now it must be a matter of concern to some pig rearers or people who keep piggeries, that we continue to suppress the price of pork so that the people in the island can get cheap pork. Barbados is the only place where you can get good pork at 60¢ a pound; and the people who raise pigs are at a disadvantage with this suppressed price.

This scheme has done a lot to keep people in the pig business, otherwise a lot of them would have gone out. The price of pork is controlled and people cannot go on forever rearing pigs and selling pork at controlled prices. Everybody wants more money for this and that; and people who are in agriculture, naturally being human-beings, want more money for their services and the products they have. I do not know, therefore, how much longer we can continue to keep the price of pork at 60¢ irrespective of this \$80,000 to help pig breeders.

Sir, I have a further note which says "a subsidy is given to pig breeders in the form of a free issue of 100 pounds of concentrated feed — costing about \$8.80 — for each litter produced." The feed is distributed when the piglets are seven weeks old and after an inspection is carried out by inspectors appointed for the purpose. You will see, Sir, that when the hon. member asks about the number of piglets which were not found, some pigs do die like children. You will always have a certain percentage of mortality, but the rate is not high; then you have some bad sows which will lie down on the piglets if they have too many. You may have ten tonight and only four tomorrow; so you will see it is not all due to feeding. 3.05 p.m.

You have some sows when they hear their young cry, make all kinds of defence to protect them; they are just like some human beings. Some are kind and some are unkind. Some human beings do not mind if you take out your heart and give them, they will still be unkind to you.

As regards the question of the powered boats, the hon. member knows that there are some fishermen who do not like to repay their loans; of course, there are some who get into genuine difficulties. There are others who are paying well. You have some responsible fishermen who make a business of fishing; some of them have four and five boats and are doing well.

There are some people who know nothing of the fishing industry, but we lend them money and they get into fishing industry and they have Tom, Dick and Harry operating their boats and they get a lot of trouble. I am going to review that policy shortly. If you do not know anything of the fishing industry, keep out of the business and leave it to the people who understand about it. So often, we have fishermen going out toiling in the hot broiling sun to bring back money for somebody else; and when it comes that way, it does not work well.

I think this Honourable House has been informed that sometime during this year Government will be building a cold storage and an abattoir. It is going to cost nearly \$1 million. It is an attempt to help the fishing industry; and by that I mean whenever there is a glut of fish the price is depressed, and whenever there is a scarcity of fish, the fishermen get the normal price — but with the building of the cold storage, it has as its objects the facility for storing fish during the period of glut so that we would have fish too when fish is scarce.

Further to that, we expect to have more trained people and other agencies coming in later on to tell us how to catch more fish during the fishing seasons. During certain seasons of the year flying fish and other fish pass through here in large schools, so we intend to put all our effort in the building of this cold storage. We also hope to be able to export a few to some of our West Indian friends in America and Canada so that they can keep alive their taste for our delicacy of flying fish.

Now, Sir, as regards the cooperative section. We have been doing quite a lot in that direction. I have had the experience of going throughout the length and breadth of this island in my capacity as Minister of Agriculture and speaking to groups as soon as they are formed. They are making rapid strides, thanks to the help of the F.O.A. and other organisations who have been sending us expert help from time to time. We also have been getting help from the Federal Government who has been sending us Dr. Heiss whose advice we cherish quite a lot.

However, I must say this: Barbadians, from time immemorial, are people who are very individualistic, and for that same reason the cooperative movement will not be able to thrive in Barbados as it has done in other places. On top of that, this Government contributes quite a lot to the needs of the people who would otherwise seek cooperative means, by way of the service which we run through Government agencies. For instance, agriculturally speaking, the Peasants' Loan Bank fills a need which you cannot find in any of the other West Indian islands. I would have liked the hon. senior member for the City to have been here to see if he would have challenged this statement as he challenged the statement with respect to the Hospital.

People who work in the cooperative movement, even in C.U.N.A., say that we have no fertile ground here for co-operatives; but we provide services and cooperation where the people cannot get them singly, and where in other parts of the world people have to band themselves together to get them. This Government in its wisdom has seen fit to provide these agencies so as to come to the rescue of the people of this colony and if you want to prove that, travel abroad and see the state of the people that are dealing in agriculture.

Every Barbadian should hold his head up with honour and dignity, especially with the working of this country, to be told this. I am glad to be a participant in this Barbados Government, and as Head of its Ministry of Agriculture to be told so by those able stalwarts, who come here from time to time. Those who try to remove us by false chat, cannot hope to help us now; this Government is preparing the things which we came here to band the people together to do. That makes me feel happy. Of course, I am not ego-tistic in that.

Mr. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order. While agreeing that the Labour Government has done a great deal, I want to remind the Hon. Minister who has just sat down that the Peasants' Loan Bank was started in 1936. It is true that it has been improved from time to time, but we all have helped. I, myself, have had a lot to do with that Bank so that a person without title deeds could go and get a loan. Our idea was to get the maximum productivity out of the soil. I only just want to remind the Hon. Minister that the Peasants' Loan Bank Act was put on the Statute Book in 1936 while the first Labour Government came into power in 1944.
3.15 p.m.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: What is the hon. member saying? The hon. member and myself were members of the Peasants' Loan Bank together. He knows that. We were also members of the defunct Congress House Party. I am sorry that the hon. senior member for St. Philip is not here; he tries to think I am lying when I am saying these things. The Congress Party could not even get a meeting at one time, and they had to send out a round robin to get things signed!

It would surprise the hon. member to know that in another week or so I am going to bring down an absolutely new Bill extending these services from what they are to-

day. The position is changed, if some of the former people were to rise from their graves now they would be surprised. In those days no tenant could get any money.

Mr. TALMA: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, I am only trying to put the records straight; and I am giving justice where it is due. In 1936 the Peasants' Loan Bank Act was put on the Statute Book; and what is the hon. member's new Bill. Has he done anything new, or has he got the position just where he found it?

Hon. D. D. GARNER: I am going to answer him as politely as if he was in my drawing room. I came to the Ministry after the hon. member, but that does not mean that he has done things which I could not improve upon. If the hon. member has done things which have not been brought into fruition, what is the position? I said that in 1940.....

Mr. TALMA: On a point of order. This is something which has been going on for many years. I would like to know what is included in the new Bill which would amend the Peasants' Loan Bank Act. Has the Minister got anything new in it?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I am afraid the hon. member will have to wait until the new Bill comes down.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: I am telling the hon. member that the new Bill will be quite a revolutionary one; however, I am not going to say anything more on that. I have my personality and the hon. member has his; nature has been very kind in giving me my own distinctive personality.

The hon. member also asked about Lancaster Factory. That is one of those hangovers of the past; it is a good old friend which served us at the time when we needed it most, and one which we cannot very well throw away. I regret to say the condition is not one of which I can really speak well. The best language I can put it in is to say that if you have a friend who has served you well, you will have to be very careful how you get rid of him.

Mr. TALMA: If the Minister has found it embarrassing to make a report, may I ask him a few specific questions? The Hon. Minister is going into history but we want to know what has been happening in the last twelve months. How much money stands to the credit of the Revolving Fund and how much money went down the drain within the last three years? What are the type of operations performed at Lancaster? Are they grinding cassava or corn or are they just drawing money? Are they assisting in the "Grow More Food" campaign or are they doing anything to improve the economy of the island or what? Has corn been purchased by the factory during the last year in order to turn out corn meal? Does the Minister consider it feasible and in the best interest of the economy of this island to persist in the operation of Lancaster now that supplies from overseas are easily available? I do not suggest that they should demolish the factory; there is no war on, at least no global war, so that supplies are easily available in the island. If the Minister can answer those questions then he will avoid a waste of time.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: Mr. Chairman, I have a few things which I will be able to give the hon. member, but I cannot find them at the moment. It is a strange thing that when you begin to give facts without fumbling, the hon. member says that we do not want to go into history; but if I sit with my tongue in my cheek then he says that I am dead! We are not here to attack each other, and I have a great regard for the hon. member; we may be in different political camps now, but he knows what the position is.
3.25 p.m.

As far as Lancaster is concerned, it is on what we call a care and maintenance basis; two people reside there who have something to do with the production of feed. As hon. members will know, the factory is primarily used for the making of pots for the Department of Agriculture. I cannot tell you off-hand about the operation and how much money was lost; I have not got those facts here. If the hon. member wants to get them I will bring them on another occasion.

There is one manager who gets \$114 per month; one foreman who gets \$13.96 a week, plus \$725.92 extra from the Pottery Suspense Account; that is for another work which he does. There is a female labourer who gets \$14.20 a week; a male labourer who gets \$16.20; a caretaker-watchman who gets \$21.35; and a relief watchman who gets \$2.60 per period. The travelling done there for the year has been \$144, gas \$120, electricity \$180 and maintenance \$300.

As I said before, Sir, we are really loathe to close this building down. I am not trying to aggravate the situation but as far as the hon. member is concerned, he should know that we were trying very hard to see what we could do in making maize here in Barbados. We have had certain interested persons whom we thought would bite. Personally I would not like to undertake it from the Government's point of view; I would like private industry to come in and do it.

I am now going to make a statement which anybody can repeat at any time in any campaign: Until people in Barbados, whether or not they are in the Opposition, learn that the things of a national character should not be ill-spoken of, or people should not be aided or abetted in destroying their own resources, it will be very hard for the Government to come forward on its own. The Opposition has a duty in Barbados to see to it that when the Government begins a project that they do not aid and abet people into doing foolishness, thereby preventing us from doing things which we would want to do which are of a national character.

Mr. TALMA: On a point of order. The Minister said something about aiding and abetting and I object to those words.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: By what stretch of the imagination could the hon. member think I mean him. If he wants me to say whom I mean, I can call at least one member. I have had the displeasure of sitting here and hearing hon. members over there get up and say they have told people in Barbados not to repay loans for housing and so on. I am not saying that it was the hon. member, nor am I speaking about this particular question.

Mr. TALMA: On a point of order. Mr. Chairman, we are dealing with the Lancaster factory, and I am interested in knowing how much money has gone down the drain, how much money was lost in the last three years, and the present state of the Revolving Fund; it is for that that we are voting money. I want to know if Lancaster factory justifies its existence and operation. If the hon. member says I am aiding and abetting, I am only trying to see money better spent. Maybe you can use it for old age pensions.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I did not understand the Minister to refer to you; he made no personal reference to you at all.

Mr. TALMA: With all due respect, he said the Opposition, I happen to be a member of the Official Opposition.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: Mr. Chairman, I hope the hon. member will appreciate that when he is asking me to give him information, he cannot pin me down to saying "yes" and "no" as though I were a stereotype. I am not seeking a quarrel, but giving an explanation to the things he has asked me.

I said before that I am loathe to think that we would have to close down the factory; it will serve a useful purpose. I am hoping however, that somebody may come along and work this place to manufacture what we call corn-meal or maize. Even now I think there is man who has applied for Pioneer Status; and there is one condition we have to put to him, but we are not sure he is going to bite. We are going to intensify the growing of corn and we expect any person who comes here to operate there to take all our corn.

Some people would like to come here and only use the services but bring corn from outside. We are not against them bringing corn from outside, inasmuch as we would not have enough to supply - but we do want them to know that

they must buy all we can produce. If the Government has to work it later, we may have to, but I personally would prefer to see private industry doing it.

Mr. TALMA: On a point of order. I am trying to help the Minister. Is it the policy of the Government to purchase any surplus corn which cannot be beneficially sold outside? In other words, I would like to know whether it is the policy of the Government to assist the peasants and to entice them in planting more corn to produce cheap corn-meal. I would like to have the assurance that they can go in for the planting of more corn and have a ready market.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: Mr. Chairman, when I took over from the hon. member, I found a lot of corn at Lancaster which was absolutely no use to this island. With no policy behind it, the Government bought this corn although we were not making maize or corn-meal. In order to make a meal in Barbados, the grain would have to be dehydrated. You cannot send it there with the fat and oil in it; and you have to have proper machinery which is separate and distinct from growing corn. So we had to dispose of it at a loss.

Mr. TALMA: Is the Minister aware that corn was used to assist in the animal feed mixed with other animal feed secured from DaCosta & Co., Ltd.?

Hon. D. D. GARNER: The corn was sold later at a loss; we got less for it than what we paid. The following year I gave directions not to buy any more corn. A notice was put in the newspapers that this Government was not buying any more corn.
3.35 p.m.

Peasants do not grow enough corn for themselves to eat; it is the large plantations with the large acres whom we compelled to plant corn. I have made it known to them that instead of planting corn, they can plant beans, peas or anything else. I have told them that you need not plant corn because we cannot take care of it; we have no machinery, no export market for it. That is why I said that I loathe to get rid of that building; one of these days we may get somebody to come and do this kind of thing.

We can make a plantation plant more corn, but the facts are that they have to sell it at market price. The hon. member must bear in mind that a lot of the corn which comes here from Canada is subsidised by the Canadian Government; and a lot came from South Africa until we put up the ban on imports from that country. It was far cheaper than we could grow it here.

Mr. TUDOR: What would happen if the surplus corn went into the making of animal feed? Would the people still be producing it at a loss?

Hon. D. D. GARNER: I do not understand what the hon. member is talking about.

Mr. TUDOR: I understand you to say that you have stopped the planters planting corn because they could not get rid of it. I want to know whether the extra corn which was sold to be made into flour could not be sold to be made into animal feed.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: You cannot convert it into meal, therefore you have to make a bid with the people who use it to make animal feed. The people who make animal feed say that they could get cheap corn from South Africa before the ban, and from America. Although we were buying it from the planters at \$3.25 per bushel, the buyers claimed they could buy it from outside sources at a cheaper price than what we could offer them.

Mr. CORBIN: I rise on a point of order. There are many things.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The hon. junior member for St. Philip has not finished. If you are going to speak on a point of order, you will be allowed to establish the point of order. Apart from that, I would suggest that you speak after the Minister.

Mr. CORBIN: I thought that he was finished.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: Sir, I will say no more on this corn business. I believe that I have answered all the questions of both hon. members.

Mr. TUDOR: There is just one thing more about the operation of the factory which I did not get clear. I understood the Minister to say that only routine operations are being carried on there. I do not know what are those routine operations carried on.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: There are two inspectors who go around and see that the plantations carry out the orders of the Department of Agriculture. Each year orders are sent out and are published in the newspapers to tell each plantation how much percentage of his plantation must be planted in food crops. There are two inspectors to see that those orders are carried out. Formerly, it was known as the "Grow More Food" Order. While these inspectors are there for that purpose, they also make pots for the Experimental Station and do all that sort of thing.

As hon. members know, it is not the Cassava Factory any more, but it still has its useful purpose. I am hoping that we would be able to make greater use of it.

Mr. TALMA: Will the Hon. Minister state what percentage of the land at present is planted in locally grown food? I know that it was 12% in my time.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: It used to be 12% but it is now 17%.

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Chairman, I am speaking on Item 107, Operation of Lancaster Factory. It is one of the best projects which we have in the Island today, and I want members of the Government to realise that. Whether it is profitable at this stage or in time to come, it is a project which provides food or commodities for the inhabitants of Barbados. It can grind cassava, corn or potatoes, and do many other things. If we ever have a shortage of commodities from any country which we are importers, this Government can cause the planters of this island to plant materials or commodities which can be ground by that factory for the whole of this country. I would not agree to put such a factory out of operation regardless of what happens.
3.45 p.m.

Mr. Chairman, in 1942 I was in St. Lucia when the German submarines were refuelling at Martinique and were blasting all the ships around the Caribbean, ships which were bringing food to the various islands. I saw a schoolmaster at a primary school make the children go into the fields and plant potatoes, corn, cassava and all of those things because the communication from these islands was cut off. Nothing was coming in and nothing was going out.

When we have an industry like that carried on at the Lancaster Factory, and when such a factory is capable of functioning continually, we will have to grind more corn because we will import less food. To shut down this factory or abandon it is wrong; let us keep the factory in operation and give it the wherewithal by which it can function. The best thing which the Government has done was to put down that factory; but the Government has since ignored it. Let us see that the planters plant more vegetables instead of canes so that this factory can be kept in operation.

At any time we may experience famine. We are dependent upon the rain. We should give all our support to the factory and cause it to continue to operate and so save the importation of food into Barbados. This year we have a budget of \$26 million. The Minister of Agriculture is one of the best men we have in this island; he does not know his value. (ASIDES) This is the Government's chance now.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The hon. member must address the Chair.

Mr. CORBIN: I am sorry, Mr. Chairman, if I went out of my latitude. The Lancaster Factory is the best which we have in Barbados. I hope that the Minister of Agriculture

will go home tonight and think over this matter and call on his Government to supply the necessary machinery for all purposes for that factory and never let it go out of existence. It is the only possible means of our existence, if any country fails to send us food.

Give the factory everything in the way of equipment, if it costs \$1 million, \$2 million or \$3 million; we can do without clothes if we are hungry, but we cannot do without food if we are hungry. I say: Let your light shine and do not let darkness cover the whole scene. (Laughter). We have food and water and if the mosquitoes sting us we will still live. Are you going to shut down this factory?

I hope the Minister will take this warning and look into what this feeble, insignificant man has said. I have been sent here for a purpose; I am only waiting for inspiration, and after that I will tell you all about it. Carry on this factory and do your best; do not go and shut it down.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, various hon. members have taken the Minister from Country Road down to St. James; I am now going to take him to Bathsheba! (Laughter) Is the Minister aware that due to the increase of the fishing boats at Bathsheba, the beach space is becoming inadequate?
3.55 p.m.

I was told by the fishermen that, in order to beach their boats, they have to tow them over several rocks that are near the shoal; and that is damaging the bottom of the boats. They have asked me to see what can be done relative to blasting these stones from so near the beach so that they will be able to beach the boats without having to tow them across the stones and wreck the bottom of them. I hope the Minister is making a note of what I am drawing to his attention. (Hon. D. D. GARNER: Speak to the Chair.) The Chair is not the Minister!

Now, Sir, at Bathsheba the fishermen are finding some difficulty in getting in at night due to the lighting facilities there. If a light was placed on the post near to the beach, it would help them to get in easier when darkness catches them out at sea. They have also asked me to draw that matter to the Minister's attention.

With regard to water facilities, there is no fresh water there when they are going out or when they come in; they have to take their small barrel or whatever they call it to the pipe, which is a good distance off, and draw water to take out to sea with them. They feel that if a pipe was erected near the beach, they would be able to get water to take out with them and to wash their knives and things of that sort which should not be done by sea-water.

Mr. Chairman, would the Minister consider the training of someone in Bathsheba to drive the tractor in case the present tractor driver should suddenly become ill, so that the fishermen would not have any difficulty in getting their boats beached? It would be hard if when they left the tractor driver was well, but when they returned again he was ill. They would have to leave their boats in the sea, and the sea at Bathsheba is no respecter of persons.

Not long ago the public would have read what went wrong up there due to the illness of the tractor driver. I would not like to see or hear that happen again through the lack of a second driver. If you have a second driver there, not necessarily a man to whom you have to pay a salary, but a trained man living nearby, in case of anything going wrong with the tractor driver, these fishermen would not be embarrassed. I was speaking to some of these men and they are quite willing to be trained — even some from among the fishermen.

Mr. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, while giving the Minister a breathing spell, so to speak, the member who has just sat down has raised a very interesting point. Further to the questions which I have already asked, I would like to seek some information on Items 57 and 71. I will deal with Item 57 first for which the sum of \$21,049 is to be voted. The Note to that Item reads as follows:— "Paid at Key Scale

Rates. For details see Appendix 13. Includes provision for payment of substitutes for unestablished staff on leave." This includes the tractor driver of whom the hon. member was speaking a few minutes ago, and you will see this Appendix 13 on page 212.

The whole question is that it includes provision for payment of substitutes, and I want to know if these substitutes referred to also include a substitute tractor driver. In order to prevent a repetition of what took place quite recently at Tent Bay, or what is reported to have taken place by the *Advocate* newspaper, of the tractor driver having fallen ill and no proper or suitable arrangements having been made for his substitute to deputise in his absence, I want to know what arrangements have been made by the Minister to relieve the suffering or inconvenience which the fisher-folk at Bathsheba had experienced; and whether Government has given any compensation for their loss of earnings for the three or four days during which they were prevented from going to sea through no fault of theirs, but due to bad arrangements on the part of the Fisheries section which should have drawn this to the Minister's attention.

Mr. Chairman, in such cases, files may take two or three days before they reach the Minister, but be that as it may, he is still responsible. A matter like this should not be put on file, it should be brought directly to the Minister's attention by helicopter if possible and presented to him by his Permanent Secretary. I know that when matters like these are put on a file, several days may elapse before the file gets to the Minister. I am not blaming the Minister or attacking him on this question, but I would like to know what arrangements have been made for substitutes.

4.05 p.m.

This tractor driver at Bathsheba has worked for many years without leave and has kept to his job slavishly, and I do not want to see a recurrence of what has happened recently. Under Item 71, Insurance, the sum of \$1,400 is to be voted and the Note reads as follows: "Now includes insurance of fisheries experimental boat and tractor at Tent Bay used for hauling up fishing boats, also one motor lorry at Codrington Experimental Station."

I want to know how much of this amount is for coverage of the tractor at Tent Bay and if it is a comprehensive policy and with what company is it insured. I want to know if that tractor is insured, how long it has been in use, and if it is serviceable.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: Mr. Chairman, before I go any further I should like to inform you that there is a question now before the House asked by the hon. senior member for St. Joseph relating to this matter, therefore if I give the information now I hope the hon. member would not be vexed.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order. The question that I tabled in this House was relative to the suspension of the service for a time by the Fishery Officer. I did not table any question as regards blasting the rock at Tent Bay or anything like that.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I do not think the Hon. Minister referred to that.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: So far as the lights and the garage building are concerned, all is not well at Bathsheba; there is a cleavage somewhere and relationships are not very good. A little bit of sabotage is going on here and there. As far as the lights are concerned, I can promise the hon. member to look into the matter; but as far as the blasting of the rock is concerned, I cannot promise to give him a firm answer. They have asked me to go very carefully into this matter, lest I bring the sea at Bathsheba unto the banks. They have said that any man-made passage there may someday open a gateway, and you can never tell how far this gateway will go. That advice came from experts outside, not from any here. I have information from two experts, and one of them is here now working on the Deep

Water Harbour. He has suggested that we go carefully into this matter because in an attempt to do the fishermen some good, we may do more harm than good. Wherever we look, there are things which we cherish, and the man who cannot change his mind after hearing facts is a fool.

As regards the tractor service, there is a service which is done on afternoons. Fishermen do not come in all hours of the day and therefore, there is no point in saying that you should have two people down there to drive the tractor. What happened recently down there was unfortunate. Any time the tractor driver is ill, all the person in charge has to do is to inform the Ministry that the tractor driver is ill and, presto, some other driver from one of the departments will go down there and take over.

The hon. member also asked how much it is insured for. The answer is that it is comprehensively insured. He also asked how much more life it has in it. No one can tell; I am strong today and moving around, but tonight you may hear this: "Do you know who has passed to the Great Beyond? The one and only D.D.!" Years of life depend on care and so on, and as far as the tractor is concerned, it seems to be good for many more years.

Mr. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, the Hon. Minister has not got through with all the questions I raised. He has not touched on the Mental Hospital Farm or on Dodds Plantation.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: Mr. Chairman, you have given every other hon. member the latitude to speak. While I was on my feet, I attempted to give this Committee a most exhaustive report on my department. There have been many interruptions. Now you get the hon. member trying to make this Committee believe that I am incapable of giving the replies when in truth you have stopped me from being so exhaustive.

Mr. TALMA: I rise on a point of order. I am not trying to make this Committee believe anything; I am not casting any aspersions on the Minister.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: When a member rises on a point of order, I must hear him. Most of the interruptions were on a point of order. I know that some of the questions have not been answered and I sent a message to the Minister to inform him about them.

Mr. TALMA: It is my duty to see that they are answered. What sort of representation would I be giving if I did not see that they are answered? I am not casting any aspersions on anybody; but the Minister would be casting aspersions at me if I allowed the questions to go unanswered, because he might say: "Do you think he can get me to answer all those questions?"

4.15 p.m.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: What is the hon. member generating so much heat about? At one time he complains that I will not talk and at another time he says I am talking too much! The hon. member will know that only last year we took over the running of the Mental Hospital Farm; we employed 20 casual labourers there, one Senior Livestock Attendant and one Overseer. The produce of the Farm consists of green vegetables, milk, pork and feed for the Institution and piglets for sale to the general public. Nearly all the produce is consumed at the Institution.

The value of all produce from the farm from the period April to July was \$44,608.35. The Mental Institution gets all the milk produced at the Farm. We are about to have a pen for laying hens for the production of more eggs; the piggery will be extended this year to include more pigs because at the moment we cannot produce all the pork for the Institution; we will still have to buy pork outside. From what I know, and from the reports I get, the Institution is better managed now than when it was not under our care. In fact, we are responsible for the Institution *in toto*. do not know what else the hon. member would like to know.

Mr. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, in the first place, I would like a break-down of this \$37,730. I would like to know how much is paid out in wages, how much is for the upkeep of animals, how much for fertilizers and so on. Is the feed under the control of the Minister of Agriculture or the Director of Agriculture?

Hon. D. D. GARNER: Mr. Chairman, the break-down is as follows: Salaries, \$3,500; Casual labour, \$13,500; Fertilizer, \$1,000; Food, \$16,000; Farm upkeep, \$2,000; Water, \$1,700 and Incidentals \$30.00.

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Chairman, I am speaking on Item 71 "Insurance". The Note says: "Now includes insurance of fisheries experimental boat and tractor at Tent Bay used for hauling up fishing boats....." I think that this is one of the greatest industries that we have in this island. All human beings in Barbados should contribute the best of their skill, knowledge and wisdom to the help of the fishing industry in this island. All facilities which are necessary for the fishing industry should be granted.

We have at Tent Bay one tractor driver and when that driver was taken ill, there was no one to operate the tractor; consequently, the fishermen could not go out to sea because when they returned their boats could not be hauled up. These fishing launches are built heavier than they were built before. I must say that I know the concern which was caused to many housewives when the fishermen at Tent Bay were not operating.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I should like to remind the hon. member that, as has already been mentioned, what he is referring to is the subject matter of a question which is before this House. The Minister has said that he is now collecting the necessary information so as to be able to reply to the hon. member. Therefore, I suggest to the hon. member that that matter be left out so that exhaustive replies can be given. The Minister does not now have the replies to give.

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Chairman, we are here to express our views and opinions to the Government, whether the Government will accept them or not. If the Minister will reply to us, I want him to give a further explanation to the scheme. I am not exaggerating, I am helping the Minister. If you allow me latitude on this matter, I want to tell him that he should have a substitute for this tractor driver.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: When the replies are given by the Minister, that matter will be dealt with.

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Chairman, let us get back to the fishermen. I would be glad if the Government would insure the fishermen. The Government insures the boats because they have spent money on the boats, but the lives of the fishermen are more valuable than the boats. A fisherman may go out to fish and he might not have had any breakfast; he might not even be able to get breakfast when he comes back in, far more insure himself.
4.25 p.m.

I would ask the Government to undertake the responsibility of insuring the fishermen and deducting the money from the fish they catch. If the Government does that, and a boat sinks at any time, that poor man's family would be protected through the Insurance Company. I should like to hear what the Minister has to say on this particular aspect.

Mr. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, for fear that it may be taken that the hon. junior member for St. Andrew is singing a solo, I would say that I think the time has come when the whole question of insurance should be gone into by Government. For Government to spend vast sums of money in insuring their buildings, in granting loans for the insurance of fishing boats, though not of the fishermen, and spending money in vast quantities each year is to my mind bad economics; and my reason for saying that is that whenever an earthquake, a storm or a hurricane occurs, the Government has to come to the assistance of the entire population. In other words, Government has to take up \$2 million or \$3 million from the Treasury in order to repair the damage done. If Government has to do that to

protect the people of this island, how much more should they have a compulsory insurance scheme whereby all Government property could be insured, thereby affecting a saving, instead of voting enormous sums and paying to these Insurance Companies each year for damage which is not likely to recur at least within living memory. Even if the damage were to recur, there would be no amount of trouble in securing any refund or compensation.

I am suggesting that the time has come when the Government should launch their own insurance, and by so doing see that the lives of these poor fishermen are properly covered by way of insurance. That has been one of the matters to which, along with my colleagues of those days, I gave some thought when I was a Minister; and I am very happy to hear the hon. junior member for St. Andrew giving vent to his feelings in stating a measure of that sort. I am asking the Minister to put that down on his agenda and have the question of insurance for fishermen gone into again.

We want to see what steps will be taken by way of granting some sort of security to these fearless men who go out in the sea in boats, and who venture their lives to provide a better type of nourishment for the inhabitants of the island.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: I shall note that, Sir.

Mr. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, the Minister's memory is apparently not functioning. He has not answered the question about Dodds.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: I am sorry, but I have not got the file on that.

Mr. TALMA: Well say that, I am afraid, Mr. Chairman, I will have to ask a few more questions. I am dealing now with Item 87 - Pine Plantation and Central Livestock Station. If the Minister is doing his work thoroughly, he will have the answers to these questions at his fingertips. This is an enormous amount of money, and you cannot come to the House of Assembly in this year of Grace 1961, although there may be many nitwits including myself, and ask us to vote \$178,000 and expect it to go through like that without anybody questioning how this money is broken down. If I were the Minister I would give a breakdown without being asked to show how the \$178,000 is made up. The taxpayers are entitled to know how their money is being spent.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to have a breakdown on how much is for the Pine Plantation, how much for the Central Livestock Station, how much goes in livestock inseminations and how much in the pig breeding scheme. I want to know too what is the present animal population at the Central Livestock Station, and what is the cost of insemination service; how many services there were up to December, 1960, and which breed of pig is the one recommended. You have highly paid experts at the Central Livestock Station. These questions may seem far fetched, but they should all be there in the files, so the Minister can play for time while some other member asks more questions, and he will find the answers.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: Mr. Chairman, the facts are these; the estimated revenue from the Pine Plantation; the Central Livestock Station and the six District Agricultural Stations is \$132,500 as against an estimated revenue of \$105,000 for 1960-61. Up to 28th February, 1961, the revenue collected was \$123,373, the anticipated increase due mainly to the increased selling price of milk. We have increased our milk supply due to the establishment of Pangola Grass in certain areas, and therefore we are able to sell a little more milk which is responsible for the increase.

The plantations and stations have an overall average of approximately 400 acres made up as follows:- Pine Plantation 183.21 acres; Central Livestock Station 100 acres; The Home 18.12 acres; Sayes Court 11.60 acres; Jerusalem 15.66; Bullens 10.48; Groves 20.10 acres; and Haggatts 13.75 acres making a total acreage of 372.92 acres. Part of the land at Groves was made available to the cane breeding station.
4.35 p.m.

Mr. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order. I have not asked the Hon. Minister about the extension services at the Agricultural Stations; I have asked the Minister about the Pine Plantation and Central Livestock Station.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: The hon. member should know that they are all interwoven. If he looks at the Note, he will see that they are all interwoven. The Note reads as follows: "Provides for the general running expenses of Pine Plantation and Central Livestock Station. Includes the running cost of the Livestock Insemination and Pig Breeding Scheme. Revenue estimated at \$10,000."

They all have something to do with each other at some time or the other; they all come under the same Head. The hon. member asked for information and I am attempting to give him.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The hon. member asked about the \$178,000 for the Pine Plantation and Central Livestock Station.

Mr. TALMA: That is what I asked.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: Sir, I have not got the actual breakdown of that expenditure because that has to do with very many things. For instance, the Pine Plantation and Central Livestock Station employs two Watchmen, four field Watchmen, five Tractor Drivers and Chauffeurs, one Superintendent, one Groom, seven Assistant Herdsmen, seven Stock Attendants, between 103 and 300 Agricultural labourers, one Irrigation Mechanic and one Poultry Attendant.

I would have to search the files for the actual money spent on these different things, and if the hon. member wants it, I would promise to get it for him. So far as the population of the animals are concerned at the Central Livestock Station, we have a total of 16 bulls, 71 cows, 37 heifers, 18 calves, two bull calves, 23 boars, 27 sows, 12 gilts, 75 young pigs, 160 sheep, 33 goats, 172 poultry, one mule and one donkey. I do not know if the hon. member wants a breakdown of the animals at the other stations. That is why I told him that they are all interwoven.

Mr. TALMA: I have told the Hon. Minister that I am not concerned with the Agricultural Stations right now; I simply asked him to give me a breakdown of the \$178,000 for the Pine Plantation and Central Livestock Station. If the Hon. Minister does not have the figures, let him say that he does not have the figures, but do not try to insult me. Do not try to read in Agricultural Stations into my question.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I am speaking on Item 93, Recovery of Fishing Boats going adrift. I see in the explanatory note that this amount is recoverable and I want to know from the Minister what is the position. Is it when a fishing boat goes adrift and is brought back here that the Government is required to pay the expenses and then the Government recovers these expenses from the owners? What is it?

Mr. TALMA: Before the Hon. Minister replies, I have a question to put to the Minister on the same Item. How many fishing boats went adrift over the last financial year? I know that the Government in its wisdom is voting \$1,000 for fishing boats going adrift; I know that this is something more to do with the type of engine which is used in those boats than it is due to bad weather. It was brought to my attention that the type of engine advocated to be used by the Fishery Officer is not the best type and it creates an amount of embarrassment to the fishermen as a whole.

I would like an enquiry by an expert conducted into that type of engine sold to owners of these powered boats. That matter is all tied up with the remittances of money owing to the Fishery Office by way of loans for engines. I understand that it is mainly through the type of engine you use that these fishermen are entailing any amount of hardships and expense. I would like to hear the Minister on that point.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: Sir, I cannot tell the hon. member how many fishing boats went astray during the last financial year, but this I do know: The Insurance Company has reported that several boats have been reported missing from their moorings and have not been found. Those matters are being investigated by the Police.

We should not mix up boats that are missing in the Careenage with boats that have gone astray; there is a terrible thing which is going on here right now as regards boats missing in the Careenage. The Police have reported to the insurers and they have not made out a proper case for the insurers to honour the claims of the owners.
4.45 p.m.

As far as boats going adrift are concerned, this is what I can tell the hon. member: Arrangements with other West Indian Governments for the recovery of fishing boats going adrift are as follows: "This Government accepts charges directly attributable or reasonably incidental to the cost of repatriation by the cheapest available means, of crews of boats which drift to neighbouring islands and of their reasonable maintenance pending repatriation. Such expenditure may accordingly be incurred without reference to this Government, which, however, should receive early information of cases arising, and reclaimed in the usual way. This authority includes the supply of fuel, lubricants and supplies to a powered boat to enable it to return with its crew under its own power, when repatriating the crew is the cheapest. Salvage charges and, subject to the paragraph above, the cost of returning the boat to Barbados are not so borne by this Government, which, however, advances funds to owners in suitable cases to enable them to meet the charges. The charges in question are accordingly not to be incurred pending reference to this Government which may thus have the opportunity of deciding whether or not it will meet the charges in the first instance. In an emergency, however, such minimum salvage charges as are essential for the safety of the boat and/or crew may be incurred on this account without reference to it. Repatriation of charges and maintenance of crews are met from Head XXIX, Miscellaneous Services, Item 37 'Repatriation of Barbadians.'"

Does that satisfy the hon. member?

Mr. TALMA: I would like the Minister to answer this question specifically. How many powered boats have been seized and sold within the last three years for non-payment of the loans?

Hon. D. D. GARNER: Mr. Chairman, I have not had one boat sold during my term of office. I have seized only two - until the men came in and made proper satisfaction; but not one boat was sold during my tenure of office.

Mr. TALMA: How many boats have been seized and are now lying idle at the Reef with the engines taken out of them, while the families are suffering?

Hon. D. D. GARNER: Not one boat has been seized by me and the engine taken out anywhere. I know that the hon. member was mixed up in one boat having been seized and parts taken out of it.

Mr. TALMA: I am not mixed up in that. People came to me about it. I know of about four different cases because four people from the parish which I have the honour to represent have come to me about their boats. I am not mixed up in that except, in trying to help the people.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: Mr. Chairman, I do not want to get into a long argument about this matter; I know what I am talking. The hon. member has represented somebody who is alleged to have sabotaged a boat in which he had an interest; it is now lying somewhere in the Careenage.

Mr. TALMA: On a point of order. Does the hon. member refer to a boat in which I had an interest? Let him make it clear who has the interest - the man or me?

Hon. D. D. GARNER: I said that the hon. member is representing a fisherman who has an interest in a boat; and it is alleged that this fisherman has done some sabotaging to this boat, and it is left lying in the Careenage. I investigated the matter and the person whom he is representing failed to turn up in the first instance when we wanted to have a face to face talk with each other and either deny or confirm things as the case may be. One man came in and not the other. The hon. member's client made dogmatic statements against his partner, and when I invited them both to come in and sit face to face on this question, one said that he had given \$80, the other said that he had also advanced \$80.00. In the circumstances what was to be done but to seize the boat, which could be done under the law? A case is pending in Court as to somebody stealing vital parts of the engine; that is the only boat which I have seized.

I may say that certain officers may have seized some boats for nonpayment of the loans. When the matter comes before me, I always give these people a chance to do better. I think it is well that people in the Opposition, as good citizens, should tell others that the Government is doing something for them which they cannot do for themselves. It is unfair to make these people feel that they have no responsibility after having signed a contract. You carry that joke too far.

The fishing industry is an industry and the people in that industry must honour their financial obligations. If I find that there is any genuine difficulty, I will extend the period of payment; but when you get direct dishonesty and rascality then you have to step in. I have had a boat seized after a long, drawn-out discussion; two people were interested in a boat, they denied having signed anything and I seized the boat until the case was established. Two years is a long period of time. I asked them to come into the Ministry and thresh out the matter; if that is not done we cannot encourage them in that sort of thing. We give them an extension of time.

I am not doing this business so as to get votes. You have to do the Government's business in an absolutely straight-forward and business-like manner. When they come to me I say: "I do not want any votes for this foolishness: you owe the Government money and therefore you should pay it."
4.55 p.m.

Rather than let a fellow embarrass me, I have gone to the extent of assisting him myself; there are those who will testify to that, but there are others who come with unreasonable requests. To the latter I say that they can carry their complaint to anybody; my conscience is clear, and I am doing my duty. I want this Fund to revolve so that people coming in after will be able to get something. I usually tell these people that we have an obligation to help them help themselves, but not an obligation to help them to dispose of this money at will. Mr. Chairman, you know when these people sign for money and get it and meet with any difficulties how they are.

In the shopkeeping business, Sir, you will find people who instead of putting the money to the right purpose, would take it and use it in other channels, and then when they have their obligations to meet they cannot find the wherewithal. We have to let them know that while we are interested in helping them to help themselves, they must realise that they cannot appropriate the money they get to everything because the whole business would fall to pieces and the fishing industry would go.

Mr. Chairman, I am sorry to have to refer to the incident which has taken place now, but I can tell this House that this is the only seizure I have made since I have been in this Ministry. In this case I found out that one person threatened to shoot the other, and in going into the case I found that it was a matter which stinks from earth to heaven; so I had to seize the boat because the Government's money was involved.

Mr. TUDOR: On a point of order. If the Hon. Minister would give way, I would like to know whether the Fisheries

Officer can order the seizure of a boat without the Minister's prior knowledge or instructions. I myself can remember at least three cases which would be more than the one the Minister speaks about. I just want to know if the subordinates in the Ministry can order seizures which need not come before the Minister. I suspect that is what may have been the case.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: Until a year ago when I brought certain amendments into the House, that could have happened; but since then I have changed the system whereby seizure can take place. For instance, before I brought the amendments to the House, if they did not pay an instalment which became due, say in June, they were sent a letter and by the end of July if they did not come in the boat could be seized.

This is what is happening now: if the money is due on 30th June, a letter is sent to the boat owner from the Fisheries Department; if he does not reply, a second letter is sent on July 31st; again if he does not reply, a letter comes to the Ministry saying that two warnings have been sent out to the particular person and no reply has come in. We then send a letter from the Ministry saying that that is the final letter, two prior notices having been sent out and he has paid no attention to them; and failing to come in now he will have to pay the entire amount. That usually brings them in. Before the amendments were brought in, the boat would be seized and the Ministry would be notified; and when that happened I would instruct them to release the boat and let me find out the circumstances. The final order for seizure must therefore come from me; unless I approve of it, it cannot go out of the office.

Mr. TALMA: Is the Minister aware of any cases in which the engines have been seized though not the boats themselves? In other words, engines have been removed from launches and kept at the Fisheries Department. Have any such cases been reported to him?

Hon. D. D. GARNER: No.

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, dealing with Item 93 - Recovery of fishing boats going adrift - I would like to know something of the current attitude of the Government over the insurance of these fishing boats. I know of a case, which I think must have been drawn to the Minister's attention, of a boat which was moored one evening and the next day the boat was not found nor has it been seen since. It is a matter of years now.

The insurance company is giving extreme difficulty and showing complete reluctance in making a payment to the owner of that boat. The owner's premium was paid up-to-date, and there was only one Insurance Company which so far as I know was insuring these fishing boats. I am wondering if the attitude of the Ministry is to use what pressure it can bring to bear on the Insurance Company - in a case where there is no evidence that there is any fault on the part of the owner of the boat, or any foul play by him which resulted in the disappearance of the boat - to cause a payment to be made.

Mr. Chairman, in the case of which I have a personal knowledge and to which I am referring now, the owner does not depend only on that boat for his livelihood, and therefore his position is not so critical as would be the case of other people; but after all he has paid his insurance premium, the boat has disappeared and no blame can be laid at his door. Unless the Ministry exercises what influence it may have, the owner of the boat will have to go to the extent of bringing an action in the Supreme Court against the Insurance Company.
5.05 p.m.

If this is one company - the one which I really have in mind - which has the approval of the Ministry in respect of underwriting these launches, then I suggest that it would be well for the same Ministry to let the same insurance company know that in any case that the Ministry can be satisfied that a claim is a *bona fide* one, that they should pay up; and that if they adopt a diffident attitude that the Ministry will not continue to insure with that particular

company and will get another company to do the business, which business apparently one company is doing now in respect of all the boats.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: I sympathise with the hon. member because he does not know the full situation; but I can tell him that insurance of boats in Barbados is a very ticklish question. It is a business which the Ministry of Agriculture has almost begged them to undertake. I was looking to see if I could find the figures which they gave us of the accounts, but these figures have shown a great loss to them.

This question of insuring boats is unique in Barbados; you do not get everybody grabbing at this business. After the first company dropped out of the business, we had difficulty interesting other insurance companies; you are dealing with businessmen, not sentimental politicians. As soon as a boat is lost the Police has to get behind it and make all sorts of searches to satisfy the underwriters in London. What we have over here is only the agency. The agency over here has to send a complete Police statement up to Lloyds; and when Lloyds reads through it and finds anything which they do not like, they send back and say "we are not honouring this."

We have three such cases pending. A man moors a boat here tonight and then tomorrow he says that he cannot find it and he reports that he has lost it; I am not sure what total loss means for the insurance company to honour the claim. However, we are dealing with an insurance company which is perhaps a little more viable than the others; it would give us part of the damage, but unless you have a damage of about \$50, it would not give you a cent. I repeat, this business of insuring fishing boats is not an easy thing; it is not business which the insurance companies want. The present company which has it does not want it.

I have a case in my office now, and it is a hard case. The insurers would not budge a peg. I had a chat with them and they told me that they are not like politicians, they are businessmen and they do not give out money for nothing; the people have to establish the claim. I have had conversations with them from time to time trying to get better terms and all of that; and I may say, with respect to the first company with which we were doing business, that they tried their best until the business broke down. Too many claims went into them and the underwriters said that it was not profitable. They sent me a written statement and then discontinued the business.

We had a case in which I tried to press a claim for the boat owner; the insurers were not kind to me; they told me that these people are paying a small premium and the company is not going to pay out unless it is sure the boat is lost. They depend on the statement which the Police give them. Unless the boat is lost at high seas or around a reef or something like that, you have to establish a strong claim to get the insurance to pay you one cent. I do not know if sea law has anything to do with the stealing of a boat near the shore.

For the benefit of the hon. senior member for Christ Church, he asked me a while ago for the breakdown of the \$178,000 against the Item Pine Plantation and Central Livestock Station. At the Central Livestock Station, the figures are as follows:- Cattle: wages and feed \$42,000; Pigs: wages and feed, \$9,2000; Sheep: wages and feed \$6,000; Goats: wages and feed \$3,100; Poultry: wages and feed \$7,400.

There are various other items. For holidays with pay, \$800; fodder, wages and fencing, \$9,000; electricity \$2,800; upkeep of grounds, \$2,000; veterinary supplies and A.I. scheme, \$3,350; telephones, \$500; silage and molasses \$3,000; disinfectants, \$400; transport van, \$2,500; watchmen, \$1,650; purchase of livestock, \$1,500; upkeep of building, equipment etc., \$2,000; miscellaneous, \$1,500. This makes a total of \$101,300.

These are the figures for the Pine Plantation:- Sugar cane production \$21,300; sugar cane reaping, \$14,400;

water \$2,000; electricity, \$2,700; weed killers, insecticides, etc., \$600; transport, \$13,600; tracked tractor, \$1,500; manures, \$5,000; irrigation, \$2,500; horses, \$600; water, wells, main drains and roads, \$2,600; holiday with pay \$2,700; telephone, \$231; watchmen, \$2,969; upkeep of buildings, \$2,000; miscellaneous, \$2,000. These figures make a total of \$76,700 and when this total is added up to that of the Central Livestock Station, the grand total is \$178,000.

Mr. BRANCKER: Sir, as regards what the hon. member said about insurance, the case which I have in mind now is that of Mr. Ashburn Hinds.
5.15 p.m.

Mr. Ashburn Hinds' boat "Lotina" was moored in Half Moon Fort; the owner was out of the island and did not return until weeks after. The person in charge moored it one afternoon and on the next morning there was no sign of the boat. The Police investigated and the boat was not found. The Insurance Company, Messrs. Frost and Company, are now out of the Insurance business and that business is now undertaken by Messrs. James A. Lynch & Co..

One insures against loss and there could be no more eminently genuine a case than this particular one. There was no evidence found by the Police to implicate the owner, and yet the insurance company is now saying: "We are not in the insurance business now; we have come out of that kind of work. You have paid the premium but we are nothing to do with it". The owner of the boat is therefore left with the only recourse, that is, to what will be extensive litigation in order to ensure that he gets the full value of the boat.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: Mr. Chairman, it would be a good thing if the Hon. Leader of the Opposition would make a test case of this thing. If the Police give a favourable report, then the money is forthcoming, if they do not give a favourable report, then the position is otherwise.

After we had certain discussions and things were gone into, I asked about the work of this insurance. This insurance is not mixed up with any other insurance business in this island; this is kept for Barbados. They can tell you at a moment's notice how many boats have been paid for and how many have been lost. They were thousands of dollars out; so that if there is all of this headache, then we had better get out of it. Furthermore, we have letters from London from those in the business for which we are asking.

It would pay people to make fast their boats when they go home on afternoons. Just to report that a boat has been lost is not sufficient evidence on which you can get your claim honoured. If you fail to establish your case, the insurers must clear the position; and invariably the Police take a long time to get replies. I do not know what the replies are, but whenever they are drawn up, we ask for information and we usually get it; but we cannot, no matter how smart we are, force the insurers' hands. If these people do not comply with the conditions then the insurers do not pay out the money.

It is incumbent on the Government to keep these people in business, because our money is at stake. We are doing all that we can in order to see that we get back this money. If the Hon. Leader of the Opposition would make a test case of this thing, that would give us an idea as to how the wind is blowing; we would be glad to see if some of these fishermen could be reimbursed.

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Minister would agree with me that he has made out a very good case for the Government taking this insurance on its own. The Government could well consider having a comprehensive scheme for motor vehicles and other things, and therefore you would have the one to pay for the other.

If there is this great difficulty in getting insurance companies to accept the risks and pay out money, obviously there must be some means of safeguarding a person who has diligently paid out his premium, feeling that he is quite safe and if anything goes wrong through no fault of his, he

will be able to collect his cheque. The position is far from being satisfactory. Government could well realise that there is a case made out for the establishment of an insurance scheme run by the Government.

Mr. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, before the Minister winds up the debate, I would like, first of all, to thank him for the numerous replies and the information which he gave us generally. I would also like to say, in passing, that the Minister has proved to be *au fait* with his department. We are satisfied with his answers, generally speaking. However, I want to pose one more question in connection with Item 69 'Seed store'.

The amount asked for in connection with this item is \$42,000, an increase of \$2,000 over the last financial year. This is a good thing, provided that the money is utilised to the best advantage. The Note states this: "To provide planting material, fungicides, and insecticides for sale to the public, to assist the 'Grow More Food' Campaign and to cover all expenses in the distribution thereof." This is a very commendable thing in itself; at least it reads in that way.

I would like to know what seeds are available to the public at large in order to assist in this 'Grow More Food' Campaign. I would also like to know if it is sufficiently publicised in the local Press so that it can go home to the public that these seeds are on sale in order to assist in the 'Grow More Food' Campaign; that they are sold at a reasonable cost so that people can take full advantage of the purchase of these seeds and that this 'Grow More Food Campaign' will not merely be expedited but will also be actually implemented in actual returns.

5.25 p.m.

It is all right to come with these pretty notes, but the question is whether more food is being grown as a result of this. Does the public patronize this Seed Store Department? Is it advertised and do people know about it? I want to know what seeds are available.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: Mr. Chairman, I think the hon. member is trying to make it very difficult, because I am certainly not a walking encyclopedia! All seeds relating to agriculture and food are sold there: string beans, onions, cabbage, cauliflower, asparagus and all sorts of other seeds. There might be an extension to the seed store, since the hon. member was Minister, in respect of which we are asking for \$2,000 more. The seed store is well patronized and business is growing daily. More people are taking advantage of this programme and planting beds of this and that, and the place is becoming more popular. You can understand this due to the fact that we have to get \$2,000 more, and this money has to be voted through the Legislature. The hon. member knows, as is set out in the note, that this money is recoverable.

Mr. Chairman, I have a note here which reads as follows: "The provision for 1961-62 is an increase of \$2,000 on the previous years. The Department imports supplies of vegetable seeds, fungicides, seed coconuts and insecticides for sale to the public at approximately cost price. At present a Seed Store Clerk, an Assistant Seed Store Clerk and five Assistants in the Key Scale are employed."

Now I will give you an exercise on what has been happening from 1954 until 1961. In 1954-55 the expenditure was \$12,901.09 and revenue \$17,960.32; in 1955-56 expenditure was \$18,988.82 and revenue \$21,048; in 1956-57 the expenditure was \$20,542.67 and revenue was \$20,441; in 1957-58 expenditure was \$22,799.14 and revenue \$22,766.21; in 1958-59 expenditure was \$27,793.86 and revenue was \$32,136.06; in 1959-60 expenditure was \$34,895.40 and revenue was \$35,344.92; in 1960-61 expenditure was \$38,624.16 and revenue so far \$38,140.65. So you can see, Sir, that this is a very well kept and well run Department; it serves a very useful purpose in the community. It tries to get the seeds as fresh as it possibly can, by not buying large amounts, so that the seeds would be able to germinate when they are sown. I think the public generally is satisfied with the service rendered at this Seed Store.

The question that the sum of \$717,179 under Head XXI - Science and Agriculture - stand part of the Schedule

was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XXIV - BARBADOS REGIMENT

Head XXIV - Barbados Regiment - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$74,732 under Head XXIV - Barbados Regiment - stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, with respect to Item 30 - Grant Cadet Corps - yesterday when we were doing the educational estimates, I did draw to the attention of the Minister the desirability of the establishment of a Cadet Corps at the Coleridge-Parry School and I believe the Boys' Foundation School. I asked if there was a demand for it, but I did not reflect then of course that there was a separate grant in the Estimates for this purpose. I wonder if the Hon. Premier can tell me if, when this sum was put up, whether it was contemplated there might be an increase some time this year in the Cadet Corps at these Schools and whether this sum will cover it.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Your question is whether this Head was under consideration....

Mr. TUDOR: If the hon. member will give way, I will repeat, I want to know if when this whole Head was being discussed and this sum under Item 30 was being put in for Cadet Corps, it was anticipated that there might be a request from another school to establish a Cadet Corps this year.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Yes, As a matter of fact, it came before the Cabinet; but for financial reasons, as the Minister of Education has explained, it was postponed. It was referred to the Head of the School in one case, who said he was not yet ready for it.

Mr. TUDOR: I thank the Hon. Premier. One other question concerns Item 23 - Upkeep of Band.

5.35 p.m.

I do not know if I am in order, but I want to take this opportunity to ask the Hon. Premier whether Government has any plans whatsoever for the retention of Captain Raison's services in a musical capacity after his retirement. It strikes me that he has rendered such valuable services in this island that it would be a pity to lose him entirely. I believe that there would be scope for the retention of his services.

I have not discussed this with anybody, neither am I the Spokesman of any particular interest, but it does seem to me a great pity to lose him entirely. I feel if his musical knowledge and experience can be used in some other direction say, for the purpose of training young musicians, whether for band purposes or other purposes, it would be a valuable thing. It is a pity to let such valuable talent go after his completion of service.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I want to draw to the hon. member's attention that that has nothing to do with the Band of the Barbados Regiment.

Mr. TUDOR: I said so. It was the only opportunity I had to ask the question. While that may be so, the Hon. Premier, if he knows, can still answer the question.

The question that the sum of \$74,732 under Head XXIV - Barbados Regiment - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XXV - PUBLIC WORKS

Head XXV - Public Works - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I am asking leave to make an addition. Item 24, Pumps, is to be in-

creased by \$74, which would make the total to be voted under that Item \$844. This increase will bring the total to be voted under the Head to \$475,507. I beg to move that the sum of \$475,507 under Head XXV - Public Works - stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, under Item 44, District Post Offices, I want to enquire of the appropriate Minister if there are any plans to erect a new Post Office in the parish of St. Lucy as the hon. junior member for St. Lucy, my colleague, was asking for some time?

I would like to impress on the Minister that there is considerable inconvenience in this matter, especially for the Old Age Pensioners, who have to travel quite some distance from some parts of the parish to get across to Benthams. Although it is central for some, it is a bit out of the way for most people. Would the Minister, therefore, like to say how soon we can have a new Post Office in St. Lucy?

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Sometime ago, in a reply to a similar question by his colleague, I informed him that this was being contemplated in connection with the next Five-Year Plan. As to when it would be constructed, I am afraid that I cannot tell him that yet.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, there is one suggestion I would like to make; it is that you provide for the people who use the Post Office, of which I was speaking, a couple more benches in the little room in which the Old Age Pensioners are served. It would help. Quite a number have to stand for a considerable time. There is just enough room for them and it is a bit inconvenient; if you can put in another bench or two, it would help a great deal.

The question that the sum of \$475,507 under Head XXV - Public Works - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XXVI - PENSIONS

Head XXVI - Pensions - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I beg to move that the sum of \$1,434,793 under Head XXVI - Pensions - to be voted under this Head. The summary is as follows:- "Fixed by Law, \$8,275; authorised by Law, \$1,188,659 and to be voted \$246,134; making a total of \$1,443,068. The amount to be appropriated is \$1,434,793.

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

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I am speaking on Item 18, Cost of living allowance to pensioners. First of all, I would like to ask the Hon. Premier if he can explain why we are making \$7,900 less provision for these cost of living allowances to our old age pensioners. Are there fewer pensioners? What is the trouble? It just strikes me that it would normally be more than the previous year rather than less.

While I am on my feet, I would like to know from the Hon. Premier whether Government Pensioners can look forward to any consideration this year inasmuch as it is proposed to adjust the salaries of Civil Servants. I believe it would help to comfort pensioners if the Hon. Premier would be in a position to tell them with a certain amount of definiteness that they would be considered after the Civil Servants.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, to answer the first question first, that is due to the fact that pensioners have died. Relative to the other question, it is the established practice that after a salaries revision for the Civil Service, the pensioners are considered. 5.45 p.m.

Mr. TUDOR: May I ask for an assurance that he will consider them generously when he does consider them?

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: As has always been done! (Laughter)

The question that the sum of \$1,434,793 under Head XXVI stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XXVII - CHARGES OF DEBT

Head XXVII - Charges of Debt - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$2,279,454 under Head XXVII - Charges of Debt - stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

HEAD XXVIII - SUBSIDIES AND GRANTS

Head XXVIII - Subsidies and Grants - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, under this Head, I am asking leave to make the following amendments:-

Item 13A (New) - Research Establishments in the U.K. To be inserted \$485

Note to read: This Government's contribution for 1961-62 towards (a) The Tropical Virology Unit at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine \$163.20 and (b) other research services maintained for the benefit of colonial territories \$321.60.

Item 15 - Contribution towards relief of West Indians in Cuba

To be increased by \$11,520

Note to read: Add to note: Provision is also made to remit to the Foreign Office, contributions due for the years 1958-59 and 1959-60 at the rate of \$5,760 per annum.

Item 30A (New) - Brenmore Day Nursery

To be inserted \$200

Note to read: Grant towards upkeep of Nursery at Elberton, St. George.

Item 31A (New) - Caribbean Women's Alliance

To be inserted \$120

Note to read: Grant towards upkeep of Nursery at Fontabelle, St. Michael.

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

Mr. Chairman, the amount to be voted under this Head will now be \$909,103. I beg to move that the sum of \$909,103 under Head XXVIII stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, with regard to Item 11 "Overseas Territories Income Tax Office", will the Hon. Premier say why we need an income tax agent in the U.K. as set out in the Note? What exactly are his duties?

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I am sorry that I cannot give the hon. member the information now; I will supply it at the next meeting.

Mr. TUDOR: I thank the Hon. Premier very much. The next question is for the Minister of Social Services whom I observe is not in his place. As regards Item 15, "Contribution towards relief of West Indians in Cuba", I should like to know which of the Hon. Ministers will answer this question.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I will try to answer it.

Mr. TUDOR: First of all, I would like to know if any applications have come in to this Government from distressed Barbadians in Cuba, or whether this is a part of the contribution which we make to a general West Indian effort. I myself have received some correspondence from people who have had contact with refugees coming out of Cuba, and that correspondence informs me that the plight of West

Indians in Cuba is very severe indeed. That is why I wanted to know if the Government has had any applications from Barbadians resident in that territory, who are suffering perhaps due to the present regime.

I see that the Hon. Minister of Social Services has now taken his seat, so I will repeat my question. I want to know, first of all, whether this Government cooperates on a Federal basis with other unit Governments in this matter, or whether it is an exclusively Barbadian concern. I also want to know whether any applications have been received from Barbadians who are now resident in Cuba, who may be suffering in consequence of their disagreement with the present regime. I have been informed from correspondence that the plight of the West Indians in that territory is not at all to be envied and that some very serious and heart-rending appeals have come out from West Indians living in Cuba to the various Governments of the Federation. 5.55 p.m.

I understand now that there is on a very large scale a certain amount of persecution of those West Indians who for one reason or another cannot come to terms with the Castro Regime. I regard it therefore as a very serious matter, the idea that there should be West Indians, especially Barbadians, in Cuba who are suffering any sort of disability. I just would like to know whether Government has any information on the point, and what either the Government itself by itself or the Government in consultation with the other units of the Federation is doing.

Hon. F. E. MILLER: For the hon. member's information, this matter hitherto used to be handled by the Chief Secretary; in recent months it has been transferred to the Ministry of Social Services. In recent years the repatriation of people from Cuba was done by the individual territories. Two or three years ago it was down to a trickle of one a year and sometimes less; but quite recently there is a sudden upsurge of applications bordering on about fifty. It is for that reason that we find it necessary to increase this Fund from \$10,000 to \$21,000. At the moment I would say that there is a tremendous movement.

Mr. TUDOR: One more question. I want to know whether complaints come in from Barbadian residents there about ill treatment by the Cuban Government; if there is, that would be a matter which we would have to let the Federal Government or the British Government take up for us. Some time has to elapse before everybody who wants to be repatriated gets repatriated, but we would like the assurance from the Cuban Government that during that period there would be no ill treatment of our nationals in Cuba.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I will answer that. The complaints from Barbadians or any British subject resident in Cuba come through the British Consulate, so much so they are the people who put out to the various islands the complaints from West Indians or other British subjects resident in Cuba. These complaints would hardly therefore come directly to the Government of Barbados; they would have to be processed through the British Consul. I personally have not seen any; I do not know if the Minister of Social Services has seen any.

Mr. STRAUGHN: Mr. Chairman, speaking on Items 24 and 25, I note that the Children's Goodwill League Creche and the Young Men's Christian Association have been getting the same grant at least for the past three years. I wonder if the work of these organisations, especially the Y.M.C.A., has not sufficiently increased and is sufficiently widespread that they might have been granted a bit more in their subsidy.

With regard to the Children's Goodwill League, it is possible that that organisation might be able to give assistance in training young women for the running of daily nursery institutions in the country districts; in as far as some of these Day Nurseries unfortunately find that they have difficulty in recruiting qualified staff - using the term "qualified" in a relative sense - to run the Day Nurseries. With that point of view, I feel that the Ministry, if not

immediately, might want in the near future to give some consideration to an increased grant to these Associations.

I note that we have increased the grant to the Rifle Association; I think that is what Item 13A is for. I have nothing against the Barbados Rifle Association, but I am certain my heart must be nearer to the Y.M.C.A.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: On a point of order. I must correct the hon. member about Item 13A. I particularly said it is a new item. Item 13A is Government's contribution to the Tropical Virology Unit at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

Mr. STRAUGHN: My apologies to the Hon. Premier but I did not get that information before.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: First of all, I would say that there have been no applications from these two organisations; and secondly I hope they would not take this as an invitation to apply for an increase.

Mr. TUDOR: With respect to Item 44 - Tourist Board - I wonder if the Minister of Trade would just answer two important questions. First of all I noticed that the subvention to the Tourist Board is \$150,000 more than it was in the current financial year. What I want to know from the Minister of Trade is whether he is prepared, or whether it is in his power to recommend to the Tourist Board that some part of this money should be devoted towards the training of hotel staff.

This very important matter was raised by the hon. junior member for Christ Church the other day, and I do not think that enough emphasis was placed on it. I think it is important that if public funds are to be spent in the support of the tourist industry, it should be part of public policy that people working in the industry should be raised to the fullest possible level of competence. That is why I want to know whether the Minister would find it in his power to direct that some part of these funds be diverted to that particular use.

Now the second and more important question is this: It seems to me that a large part of this money is going to be spent on advertising, tourist promotion, and development generally speaking, therefore in all the big countries of the world, the United Kingdom, the United States and Canada, we are going to advertise that we have tourist attractions here to sell. 6.05 p.m.

I am wondering whether the amount spent in that sort of advertisement is as well spent as it might have been. We should be in a position by now to say to airliners which ply here that if we are spending so much in your countries to advertise our tourist attractions, you should help us by making your air fares as cheap as possible. It strikes me that you could draw attention to these two points, particularly the latter: whether anything could be done by the Tourist Board to see that cheaper air fares are possible.

Mr. TALMA: Sir, I would like the Hon. Minister to state how many local young ladies are employed by the Tourist Board, and I want to know how many imported ladies are there. I want to know if there is any discrimination or differentiation in the salaries structure as far as these women are concerned. I will also like to know if there is any scheme for training these ladies who do a very important piece of work as regards visitors and all that sort of thing.

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order. Will the hon. member repeat that question?

Mr. TALMA: I would like to know how many local young ladies are employed at the Tourist Board as compared with imported or foreign employees. I would also like to know what is the differentiation in salaries paid to these foreign and local employees; and if there is any training scheme to equip these young ladies to do the important

work which they are doing. I say that because first impression counts. When one lands at Seawell or at the Baggage Warehouse, the first impression goes a long way; and we should see to it that the young ladies employed at the Information Desk are kept satisfied and are paid adequate salaries and are given every facility to perform their services satisfactorily.

Hon. M. E. COX: We have no strangers or non-Barbadians employed there, to my knowledge. Quite recently, it was brought to my attention that some stranger had made application; but as far as I know for some time now, these people who work at that Board are all local people. I promise the hon. member to get that information for him. At Seawell, you have five receptionists and their salaries vary. You have one at a salary of \$2,160, another at \$1,920, another at \$1,980, and two at \$1,800.

As far as the question asked by the hon. senior member for St. Lucy regarding training and so on of these people, I must confess that the money which is allocated to the Tourist Board does not provide for the training of receptionists. However, I share the views of the hon. member. I feel that these employees should be trained, and that the Tourist Board should undertake the training. From the breakdown, I do not think that they would have any savings to allocate part to that exercise.

Mr. TUDOR: Can the Hon. Minister give the figures of the breakdown?

Hon. M. E. COX: The expenditure of the Board is as follows:- Salaries, \$46,440; administrative expenditure, (including travel, office rent, care of buildings, electricity, telephone, water) \$33,000; special promotion expenses, (including payment of Carib publicity for Public Relations), photographs and participating in national expenses, \$25,000; advertising, literature, \$44,400; advertising: United Kingdom, \$48,000, Canada, \$71,200, U.S.A. \$180,680, Venezuela, \$27,520, Caribbean Tourist Association, \$8,600 Caribbean Advertising, \$7,000, General advertising, magazines, etc., \$6,327; visitors expenses, \$10,000; photographs, films, etc., \$29,920; stock of post cards and films, \$5,000; local tourist promotion, \$5,000; special missions abroad \$15,000.

That is the position as it stands. The Board is comprised of sixteen members.

Mr. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, before you put the question, I will like to know how many taxi owners are on the Tourist Board.

Hon. M. E. COX: One. He is the Secretary of the Barbados Taxi Association.

Mr. TALMA: Sir, I will like to go back to Item 41, District Councils. The Note reads as follows:- "Expenditure on parish highways from this Item will be subject to approval of the Governor-in-Executive Committee on submission by the District Council of detailed programmes for the year 1961-62. Expenditure on the parish highways of St. Andrew, St. Lucy, St. Michael and St. Joseph is made from Head XXXII".

6.15 p.m.

What I want to know is if this money is to subsidise and assist in the repair of roads. This money is allocated by the Ministry to the various parishes, and lists are submitted by the District Councils to the Ministry in order of priority. I want to know if, when a list is sent into the Ministry, certain roads are left out or if the list submitted by a District Council is dealt with in order of priority according to the list. There have been complaints in my parish about roads which have been left out; I refer to the Rendezvous roads which have been on the list for some time.

These are main highways; roads which have been handed over to the Government and have not yet been put in a proper state of repair. If the list of roads as submitted by the District Council is followed, how is it that these roads have not been repaired? One finds that a list of roads submitted a year or two ago are by-passed and preference is given to other roads.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Mr. Chairman, the usual practice is that these lists of roads are submitted by the various District Councils. The lists as submitted by them are usually adhered to in the way in which they are submitted. These are grants to the District Councils; so that it is a matter principally for the District Councils, although if I receive petitions from the various residents, after consultation with the Councils, and after visiting the roads in connection with which requests may have been made, we arrive at a decision. There is no unilateral business going on; we act in cohesion.

As regards the parish of Christ Church, it was brought to my attention that the old regime had left things in such a state that it would take some time and a lot of money to put all these roads in order. Some of these roads in the parish which the hon. member represents are very bad, but that is not our fault; these roads have been left over from the old regime.

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Chairman, I am glad to hear the Hon. Minister refer to these roads. I am speaking with reference to Item 41, "District Councils". All of us know that roads are essential to the island and should be considered. We are talking about tourism and everything else, and the only possible way in which we can encourage tourism in any island is if we have roads. We realise that our chief product is sugar cane and we have estimated several times for a certain amount of sugar. Sometimes we realise that amount, sometimes we go over, sometimes we do not produce as much. I am saying that we can produce more sugar if we had better roads. If the people in St. Andrew and in St. Joseph for instance had proper roads by means of which to convey their canes to the factory, they would be able to plant more cane. I am sure.....

Hon. R. G. MAPP: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, I do not want the hon. member to feel that I want to inhibit him in any way; his remarks are very applicable to a Head of the Estimates which we have not yet reached. However, I would like to draw to his attention that any mention of expenditure on roads in St. Andrew should be withheld until we have come to Head XXXII of the Estimates. This Item to which the hon. member is referring, is not applicable either to roads in St. Andrew or to roads in St. Lucy.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I was about to draw to the attention of the hon. member that this Item which is now before us, deals with the expenditure on parish roads which are recommended to be repaired by the District Councils. This is what the note states:- Expenditure on parish highways from this Item will be subject to approval of the Governor-in-Executive Committee on submission by the District Councils of detailed programmes for the year 1961-62.

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Chairman, I will submit to that. I will give myself a chance until that particular Head of the Estimates comes up. (Laughter)

The question that the sum of \$909,103 under Head XXVIII stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XXIX - MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES

Head XXIX - Miscellaneous Services - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, under this Head, I am asking leave to make the following amendments: 16 (a) New Item - Local Government Central Tenders Committee; To be inserted \$85.

Note to read: To meet the travelling expenses of members of the Local Government Central Tenders Committee.

Item 78 (New) - Deep Water Harbour Opening Ceremony.

To be inserted \$18,000

Note to read: Provision to meet expenses in connection with the Opening Ceremony of the Deep Water Harbour.

Item 79 (New) - Caribbean Exhibition 1961.

To be inserted \$38,000

Note to read: To meet expenses in connection with the erection of a Booth and the display of Government activities and projects at the Trade Fair which is to be staged during June, 1961.

5.55 p.m.

Mr. Chairman, with these additions, I beg to move that the sum of \$933,443 under Head XXIX - Miscellaneous Services - stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. TUDOR: With respect to Item 16 - The West Indies Gazette - I do not object at all whatever to subscribing to the West Indies Gazette. What I object to is the fact that one can get very little information to read about the activities of the Federal Government. I have the feeling therefore that for what we pay, which is over \$2,000, we do not get what it is worth in value. Speaking for members on this side, I believe it would be true to say that it must be some time now since hon. members in this House have been kept up to date so far as reading matter is concerned and with publications of the Federal Government; and that is why I am asking the Premier if he could say whether we do get what we pay for.

I am aware of the fact, of course, that the money represented here does not cover much more than the documents we receive in this House; the Federal Gazette and other Federal publications go to the Government Offices and Government Departments, but the Federal Government has only itself to blame if its case is not well known in Barbados. I am speaking generally now and not particularly; and I do think that if \$2,000 a year is going to be spent on Federal publications, they should be coming in greater quantity and with greater regularity. I repeat it is not good enough to be spending money to that level and not being able to be satisfied that we are getting all the information we possibly could. I spoke about it last year and I thought that there would have been some improvement.

Apart, Mr. Chairman, from what we read in the newspaper and hear occasionally over Rediffusion and apart from whenever the Prime Minister comes in and "outs" with any pronouncements he may make on Federal matters, we get no information whatever on Federal matters; and therefore if the awareness in this island of Federal issues is not as keen as some people would like it to be, I am afraid the Federal Government has only itself to blame. It has a positive duty of seeing that information on its policies is spread to the unit territories, and not even make it the duty of the unit Government to purchase Federal publications. I feel that the West Indies Gazette and all important Federal publications should literally be dumped in the unit territories, so that we would know what is going on at Federal level. It is bad enough not knowing, but worse paying \$2,000 a year and not getting enough in terms of information.

There is only one more question I want to raise with the hon. member with respect to the Trade Fair which is to take place in about three months' time at the Deep Water Harbour site. Before I ask the question I want to make this observation. I believe it is true to say that Government has leased a bit of land to the Junior Chamber of Commerce. I would like to know if this is so and what is being charged them for that site.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Mr. Chairman, in respect to the last question, we are allowing them to hold the Fair on a piece of land there. I know that they want us to lease them some other piece of land, but as far as I know nothing has been settled as yet.

Mr. TUDOR: If the hon. member would give way, I did not mean that, though the Minister has let out something I did not ask for. What I meant was whether Government is extracting any rate for this space they are going to occupy for those eight days.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: I do not think we are. We regard it as an effort at trade promotion and so on. We are not charging them anything.

Mr. TUDOR: Now perhaps I might ask the Minister this: Did I understand him to say that the Jaycees had made an application to lease a bit of the Deep Water Harbour and Government is now considering it? I did not ask that question then and the Minister answered me, so I must take him up on it.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: They would like a portion of land evenly situated for the future use of Trade Fairs. I believe they had in mind having a Trade Fair annually; and rather than build up a fresh area year after year, if they had a site laid out - I believe they are contemplating what Trinidad and Jamaica do - it would of course suit their purpose in this respect. It would suit them very well if they had it near the Harbour. Obviously, Sir, a lot of factors will arise in considering that; and I do not want to say anything more at the moment which would prejudice the decision.

Mr. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, under Item 21 - Expenses of Standing Cane Fire Board - the amount to be voted is \$1,623.

6.35 p.m.

The Explanation in the Note states: "To pay fire-watchers; and to meet expenses of the cane fire prevention campaign. Increase due to intensification of work by maintaining a twenty-four hour watch daily."

I want to bring to the Hon. Minister's attention that the alarming number of cane fires which we have had, and are having, would necessitate a more vigilant watch than the Cane Fire Board is providing. I am wondering if this Cane Fire Committee is performing their work as they did a few years ago. Are they holding meetings on an island-wide basis and explaining to the people generally the danger involved and the loss sustained through cane fires? If campaigns of that sort were started on an island-wide basis, the Board may be of some assistance in reducing the number of cane fires which are now prevalent. If these fires continue, they will entail great loss to the revenue of the island and to the sugar workers.

I am appealing to the Hon. Minister to see if anything can be done by way of recruiting and extending the number of fire watchers and other helpers who may be employed in this respect. To suggest that ample provision is being made by increasing the vote by \$123 is not satisfactory at all, when one considers the hundreds and thousands of dollars which would be lost to factory owners, plantation owners, Government and the employees as a result of these numerous and widespread cane fires.

If the Minister could increase this amount to \$10,000 in order to put the Cane Fires Committee on a proper footing, and to create more watchers and more points of vantage, that in my opinion would be money well spent. I am asking the Hon. Minister even at this late hour, with the consultation of the Premier and the Cabinet, if they can see fit to increase this vote from \$1,623.

At present many people would not consider the situation to be a crisis; but after the crop season is over and one realises the number of fires we have had and the number of tonnage that was lost, then one would wake up to the reality of what has taken place.

In 1954 or 1955, we had thousands of meetings island-wide, and these meetings did prove helpful. I am appealing to the Hon. Minister to see at this late stage, even though the crop may be mid-way, that a great deal of good and savings would be effected if active steps are taken to re-organise the Fire Prevention Committee and get it functioning and doing the work which it was set up to do.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: Sir, I think the hon. member will see that this amount of \$1,623 is an increase over last year's amount. While it is true that all of us are worried about the frequency of cane fires throughout the island, yet I would like to assure the hon. member that cane fires are not anything which we can check and prevent so easily. The fire which would break out and burn at eight o'clock to-night, most probably, was set about eight o'clock this morning. A man does not walk in a canefield and draw a match and walk out. Real canefire setters know how to catch them. The most that we can do is to set up a watch to see when

a fire breaks out. Only God can catch the real cane-fire setter, therefore to set up a watch for him is useless.

It is humanly impossible to devise any scheme to catch any person who is going to catch any field afire if he is so bent. The system whereby they do it is foolproof. Something is rolled up very tightly and put in a bunch of canes hours and hours before, and only the wind fans the flames. It is a scientific operation. When a real canefire setter sets fire to a field, it is going to take six, eight or sixteen hours before it blazes, therefore the most that we can do is to set a watch on top of a hill to tell when a fire blazes out from a field. We do our best to stop the fires as quickly as possible after they have broken out.

We have arrived at this amount judging from the number of weeks the crop is expected to take. The amount is worked out on the number of working days, and how many people you are going to employ at certain vantage points. As I have said, this has nothing to do with running down people and seeing whom you are going to catch; this is only to give us information when a fire breaks out to warn the people in charge and to get people to come out and to send water and what not to extinguish the fire; but apart from that, the principal work goes on, the campaign work goes on, and we are doing our best to see that fires are reduced to the minimum.

We are very worried about this thing. It is not one of those things for which you can find an easy solution. It behoves all of us who have the welfare of Barbados at heart, to do our bit whenever we can to tell the people how much depends on their carefulness; we should try to educate them to how important it is to save the crop from further damage. I do not think that we can do much more than to provide this service; we might do something more, but we will only be throwing away the money.
6.45 p.m.

I do not know if there is anything wrong with the management of the Committee or what; I cannot speak authoritatively on that question. Some people say that this is a bad year and they try to recover from the insurance company; other people say that the cane-cutters will burn the canes so as to get rid of the trash. In any case, I can assure you that whenever sugar-cane is planted, you will find cane fires; it is spreading all over the world. I am not saying that the cane-cutters or the planters set fire to the canes; I do not know. But I am saying that it is something to be worried about, because as to the ratoon cane fields, if we do not get rains early after the fires, they are lost to us and the sugar production is lowered. I saw fields of cane being burnt because they are using mechanical loaders; the easier and cheaper way is to burn the canes so as to get rid of the trash and mechanisation starts. If the hon. member wants a break-down of these things, I can give him, but what I have said is the explanation.

Mr. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I have listened very carefully to the Minister. I know that the tendency has been to cast the blame more on the workers than on the other parties.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: On a point of order. At no time did I ever do that. I particularly said that I do not know who is doing it, whether it is the workers or the managers. I hope the hon. member will be honest.

Mr. TALMA: If the hon. member can understand English.....

Hon. D. D. GARNER: I understand it more than you; I will not have any such thing.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Will both hon. members take their seats?

Mr. TALMA: I said, Mr. Chairman, that I know the tendency is to put the blame on the cane-cutters. I am speaking generally.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: Let the hon. member say what he means.

Mr. TALMA: I said it, but he does not understand English. I am saying that the tendency has been to place the blame on the cane-cutters and workers of this island; people generally will try to influence you that it is the poor workman who is doing this thing; that the workers want to get to England before the clampdown comes, and all sorts of excuses. It does not pay the workers of this island to ruin the cane crop and place the cane fields in such a condition that the workers do not earn as much eventually for their labour in the reaping of the cane crop as they would earn ordinarily if no canes had been burnt at all. The cane-cutters are not insured or anything like that; they have no insurance with anybody at all. The same workers are called upon to go through the filthy work in cutting the canes and they end up in the Hospital.

I want to say that no one is accusing anybody of setting fire to the canes, but when you weigh the matter in the scale, you will see that the workers have nothing to benefit. The crop is shorter, the sugar yield is less and everybody loses. If the canes are burnt and they are insured, I do not know how the plantations lose, provided that the canes are cut within two days. For anyone to say that the cane-cutters are the people at fault where burning the canes is concerned, that is entirely out of place. It is unkind to the workers of this colony.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: On a point of order. If the hon. member does not know, I think that I should inform him at this stage. A real planter does not want to see his canes burnt because the insurance is only about \$20 or \$24 an acre; and the amount of weeding which has to be removed is such that it does not pay us to have these cane fires. I am defending the labourers because they are not in a position to defend themselves. The majority of these labourers have voted for me in the past and probably they will vote for me again.
6.55 p.m.

Mr. TALMA: I am also here to defend the workers because it is a very popular thing to point a finger at them and say they are the ones who burn the canes down; but how many of them have been brought before a Magistrate in recent years?

I am suggesting that the Fire Prevention Committee should be put back into operation to do the work it was doing when it was first organised in 1954 or 1955; and by way of broadcasts over Rediffusion, pamphlets, leaflets and the employment of more fire watchers at more vantage points island-wide, it may be possible to curb or reduce the number of cane fires. Cane fires are of no advantage to anyone. To blame any one section as against the other is entirely out of place and wrong. A cane fire is an easy thing to occur, and in most cases I believe it is due to the negligence of those thousand and one motorists driving at random and throwing out cigarette ends in an indiscriminate manner.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Mr. CHAIRMAN left the Chair and Mr. SPEAKER took the Chair.

Mr. SPEAKER: It now being 7 o'clock p.m., this Sitting now stands suspended until 7.45 o'clock p.m.
7.00 p.m.

On Resumption.

Mr. SPEAKER: On the Suspension, the House was in Committee of Supply.

Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the House resumed Committee of Supply; Mr. BRYAN being in the Chair.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: On the Suspension, the hon. senior member for Christ Church was speaking. I observe that he is not now in his seat.

The question that the sum of \$933,443 under Head XXIX - Miscellaneous Services - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XXX - INLAND REVENUE

Head XXX - Inland Revenue - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, under Head XXX, I am asking leave to increase Item 24 by \$17,000. This \$17,000 is really to pay the cost of that case, the Barbados Government versus the Estate of Lady Carter which went before Privy Council. That makes a total of \$539,139. I beg to move that the sum of \$539,139 under Head XXX - Inland Revenue - stand part of the Schedule.

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

The question that the sum of \$539,139 under Head XXX - Inland Revenue - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XXXI - LABOUR

Head XXXI - Labour - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I am asking leave to reduce Item 24 by \$200,000 thus making the amount to be voted \$888,928. I beg to move that the sum of \$888,928 under Head XXI - Labour - stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, with respect to Item 24, I should like to ask the Minister of Labour to clarify, if he can at this stage, a doubt on a problem which is arising with respect to the recruitment of girls to Canada.
7.50 p.m.

It is well known that the Canadian Government does not encourage the immigration of our own women to Canada if they are mothers of children. I believe the Federal Government, as well as this Unit Government, are aware of this. I do not know whether the Canadian Government has in any way relaxed its policy, but it has been drawn to my attention, not as a complaint, but as a difficulty, that some people who have been successful in getting other persons to adopt their children are nevertheless facing difficulties in emigrating to Canada principally because the Canadian Authorities have felt that the mere adoption of children by other people does not absolve the parent of the children from any responsibility; and they feel that if children are adopted, the parent can still subsequently either claim or be responsible for them in some way.

What I want to know about the difficulties surrounding this matter of adoption, particularly with respect to parents who want to emigrate, is whether anything could be done about it. I want to know whether the law is such that it can easily be changed, and whether these grave difficulties that come into the way of these people can be removed.

What I understand is that it frequently happens that persons are willing legally to adopt children and by adopting them give the opportunity to the mother of these children to go on to Canada, or at any rate abroad; but I am also made to understand that the adoption, although legal as far as our laws are concerned, does not prevent the Immigration Authorities in Canada from saying that once the child is yours, mere adoption cannot separate you. I am wondering if anything can be done to make that smooth. It seems to me that that is a terrible thing to stand in the way of any woman. Can anything be done about it?

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Chairman, where the Immigration and Citizenship Department of Canada is concerned, they have always frowned upon the question of persons having children at all migrating to Canada. Quite recently, I have had reports which do not appear to be very favourable as far as this service is concerned. The Canadian Authorities, as you know, have laid it down that you must not be a married woman, you must not have children, you must not be under the age of 21 years. Your medical certificates must prove so and so; but, occasionally, apparently, some individuals manage to slip through the net.

There have been a few cases where people have been able to get somebody to adopt their children; but the Canadian Authorities have told us that they have discovered cases of a few domestics who, after they have worked for a few months in Canada, become anxious to get their children with them. That is causing some anxiety among the Canadian Authorities. From our angle, we have done everything possible to assist, but I must confess that the Canadians do not like it at all.

In addition to frowning upon people who have children migrating to Canada, the Canadians are also a bit perturbed over the high percentage of domestics who, after they have served their year as a domestic, have gone into other fields of employment; it appears as though the Canadians would much prefer these domestics to remain in domestic employment. However, as long as the domestics have completed their year's service, they have not abrogated in any way their contract. According to the contract you must stay in the employment for a year, then after serving your year, you are free to accept other employment.

I know that two surveys were made in 1959 and 1960 and the Canadian Authorities claimed that over 60% of the domestics had left their employment. Of course, we are pretty glad for that; none of our girls would like to go up there and be domestics for life. The Canadian Authorities say that for two successive years over 60% of the domestics have gone into other jobs which the Canadians say are overcrowded. I do not see how the jobs can be overcrowded if not, they could not get in the jobs. However, we are doing out best to assist in every possible way. The Canadian Authorities certainly do not want any of these women who have children at all.

Mr. TUDOR: I thank the Hon. Minister for his reply. One further point. I wonder if it would be worthwhile taking up with the Canadian Authorities the possibility of some of these people who have children being allowed to enter Canada on condition that they do not make applications to bring their children in, say for ten years or so. Why I mentioned that is because the Canadian Authorities might not quite understand the conditions of life in Barbados. The Canadians may not quite appreciate the fact that some proportion of the women who apply for work in Canada would probably be the mothers of children; as a matter of fact, the fact that they have children is part of the incentive for them to go outside to work. Surely, then, the fact that they have children should not debar them so long as they can satisfy the Canadian Authorities and give the undertaking not to send for their children, say in ten years.

The reason why that should be put to the Canadian Government is this: Only this week at the Commonwealth Conference, the Canadian Prime Minister showed himself to be of a liberal mind; and from the reports, it appears as if he took the leading role in the fight against South Africa staying in the Commonwealth with her policy of apartheid. It seems to me that the same liberalism which may be applied to that may be applied to ourselves so long as we explain, as thoroughly as possible, what the conditions of life are here among women, some of whom are bound to be mothers of children.
8.00 p.m.

These women who go to Canada to work as domestic servants are seldom over thirty years of age, and they are at the age when it is possible for them to have very young children. If they were asked to sign an undertaking not to attempt to get their children to Canada under ten years that would be no hardship since the children would still be of school age. I would not like these mothers to lose their chance of going out because of having their children; that should not be any barrier to girls going out. The women themselves might be able to get their children adopted, or they could just leave them with such relatives as would take them.

I do not know that we can assume that the Canadian Government would not change its attitude; we would have to try that, but it is a point which is worthwhile taking up. It

is not that the Government chooses people who have children, but of any number who are eligible to have children they will be mothers of children. If the matter is put to the Canadian Government in that way and not to debar valuable workers on that ground, some arrangement can be worked out whereby these mothers would not take out their children.

The Canadian Government fears that these children might come in hard on the heels of their mothers. If there were long periods of five or ten years before a mother could dream of getting her children in Canada then the Government would be inclined to agree. We are in a fix all around; it is very likely that the people who are mothers of children are better workers than those who are not; what we just do not want to see happening is that the best of the lot get turned back merely because they have children.

Mr. STRAUGHN: Mr. Chairman, I would like to say that there are mothers of children who receive correspondence from Canadian families who would take these children if they could get this point rectified. I saw a Canadian gentleman and his wife call in at the Social Welfare Office and they were enquiring on behalf of their friends if a little girl could get through the net. You have people who are asking their friends to make personal contact with these people through the Adoption Committee. There are those who will qualify from the economic side and what not; they are doing everything so that they do not engender the wrath of the Canadian Authorities. Those are the facts of the case which is pending.

Mr. SEARLES: Mr. Chairman, it is seldom that I speak on such matters, but it has been very forcibly brought to my notice that the Selection Committee has a very indiscriminate way of dealing with these things. Certain members of the community who possess Grade "B" Certificates, are given preference over those who possess the Grade "A" Certificates. There are some Grade "A" domestics who are not very pretty to look at, it is true, but they hold the qualifications. I am asking the Minister of Labour to see to it that there is no discrimination taking place when these awards are being made. There you have a person who is qualified as being in Grade "A" and preference is given to one who is in Grade "B", when the person in Grade "B" could not have the qualification as the one in Grade "A". You cannot tell me that a person in Grade "B" is more intellectual than one in Grade "A".

This thing seems to be going from bad to worse and these officers must realise that if they have forty-two persons to send away, they must do it in the right and proper way. We have twelve constituencies in this island and if this thing is done in a proper way, forty-two divided by twelve must give three with a fraction over. I am saying that every constituency should have the opportunity of sending out at least three persons; perhaps the constituency of St. Michael being the largest constituency, could be given an extra six. If, in a population of 6,000, you have three and in a population of 40,000 you have six, then the six cannot complain against the three nor can the three complain against the six.

8.10 p.m.

We are more or less all bound to our constituencies, and we have to see that every individual in this country gets his chance irrespective of colour, class, creed or Party. I am earnestly and confidentially appealing to the Minister of Labour to investigate this thing. I am not calling the individual's name, but he will be able to give all the facts. If this individual who has a Grade "A" certificate has been knocking at the door for three or four years and has been turned down all the time, something is wrong and it must be put right. I have faithfully promised to see that justice is done though the Heavens may fall.

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Chairman, speaking on Item 24 - Emigration - as far as I can understand from the last speaker, I fear that there is some impartiality. I have visited the Emigration Department on several occasions, and from the preparation and teaching of these classes, I can say that we have proper men there who are well equipped for this work. It is a privilege for us to be able to send people out of this island for work, because we are heavily popu-

lated, but I am certain that the officers in charge of the Emigration Department would not try to put a Grade "B" domestic servant before a Grade "A".

Mr. Chairman, if any member in this House has a personal knowledge of something going on in that Department, he should go there and find out; I do not like to hear these things coming into the House when I know that the officers there are doing their part. I am speaking conscientiously now and not as a member of any particular Party, and I will say that I never speak evil against a man when he is not deserving of it. The hon. member who last spoke said that he would do his duty though the Heavens may fall; but as slight as this debate may be, it might cause those who are in that Department to be victimised.

Mr. SEARLES: On a point of order. I have never made any insinuating remarks against any officer of that Department. I simply put the facts and left the matter entirely in the hands of the Minister for him to investigate. I laid no blame on anybody. I want the hon. junior member for St. Andrew to understand that I would be the last man in the world to use insulting remarks to or about anyone; I would not like it done to me.

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the hon. member understands clearly what I am saying. I am not saying that the member has laid a charge on anyone, but I understood him to say that the authorities at the Emigration Department were putting Grade "B" in front of Grade "A". I have seen officers in that Department turn down girls who had five marks short of the 100%. I am not criticising the hon. member, but sometimes careless words cause lives.

We have to respect those who are training these girls in such courses. When we hear of incidents like these, we have to analyse them before bringing them to the public. This House is not a place for bringing everything we hear outside. We are trying to select the best people to send outside, and therefore every encouragement must be given to those people at that Department who have to train them.

Hon. M. E. COX: Mr. Chairman, in reply to the hon. senior member for St. Lucy, I should like to assure him that I will again take up the matter. Frankly speaking, I do not have much hope of success; and that is conditioned by the fact that in 1959 when I had an opportunity to go up to Montreal and then to Ottawa, I took up this matter with the Deputy Minister of Citizenship and Emigration, Colonel Fortier. I also had a gentleman with me by the name of Mr. Smith who came here when the emigration to Canada was first mooted; he was very helpful to us on that, and he was also very helpful to me when I was there.

One of the points I took up with the Deputy Minister - the Minister for Citizenship and Emigration, the Hon. Mrs. Fairclough was not there then - was the question of allowing domestics who were more or less being selected by persons who visit Barbados from time to time and express their desire to have these maids taken home with them, to follow them to Canada. Mr. Smith, with whom I discussed this matter first, was very sympathetic towards that suggestion and told me he would back me 100 percent. He also suggested that I should discuss the matter with the Deputy Minister, and that if he could only get the Minister to let him sit in at the meeting, he would strengthen my case for me. Unfortunately that did not happen.

8.20 p.m.

We also discussed the question of girls having children, and so on; but, as far as that part was concerned, that was completely ruled out; as a matter of fact, they did not want you if you were married or over 35 years.

I will now give you an instance of how far they have gone. Sometime ago, an individual who came here from Canada and was desirous of getting a maid to Canada, was told on his return to Canada that he would have to apply through the Barbadian Emigration Department to have that individual emigrated to Canada. What happened until recently was that interested Canadians would submit a name to the Labour Department here and would ask if there was anything we could do to assist that person; there was, of

course, the understanding that the individual for whom this request was made would have to comply with the stipulations laid down by the Canadian Authorities; that individual must fit in under the Canadian Government's rule of only 42 immigrants allowed into Canada per year; the Canadian Government is not allowing the forty-third immigrant to come in.

Even that practice has been discontinued. Any request by a Canadian desirous of bringing a particular Barbadian or Barbadians to Canada must be made through the local Labour Department; and that request may be considered among the normal 42 immigrants a year allowed by the Canadian Government. As I see it, the Canadian Authorities are not prepared to relax any of their rules and regulations as far as Barbadian domestics entering Canada.

If a domestic goes to Canada, after she has completed her year's residence, she can send for her fiancé and within 21 days he must marry her. After you have completed your year's residence successfully in Canada, you become a citizen of Canada, and you can send for your whole family and get them there. It is for that same reason that women with children are so anxious to get them up there. Sir, I have a feeling that there is a further reason which is not revealed to us why the Canadian Authorities are not willing to have our women who have children coming up as domestics; however, that is the position. I promise the hon. member that I will again make a try at it.

I just would like to make one other point in reply to the hon. junior member for St. James. Perhaps, he is labouring under the belief that this training is more or less academic; he says that he is sure that the one who gets a "B" certificate is inferior to the one who gets an "A" certificate. As you know, you get teachers, nurses and stenotypists who apply to go to Canada under this scheme. They sit this test and some of them get a "B" Certificate, whereas others as a domestic as such can get an "A" certificate. It is not an academic test as such; it is purely adaptability to the particular job. You must be able to cook, wash and so on in a particular time.

Whatever job you do, however you may try to please everybody, you will get criticisms of favouritism and partiality; but I am convinced from my experience that the Department does a good job; and the Selection Committee does a good job. You do not send out an individual because he has an "A" certificate; a lot of other things are taken into consideration. For example, if there is a person who is reaching 35 years as against a person who is only 21 years or 22 years, you may be inclined to give that individual reaching 35 years the opportunity to go first since in the following year that individual would not have the opportunity of going.

You may be inclined where an individual has a large family behind, to give that individual the first pick so that that individual can go out and work for a little money to send back here to help her mother, sister and so on. In addition, it is a question of the individual helping his or her family to Canada after she becomes a citizen, and so on. I say all that to show you that the question of certificate "A" and certificate "B" does not weigh heavily in any consideration of selecting people because both "A" and "B" are qualified. Both reach the standard required for them to be selected.

It is true that a person with an "A" certificate has the better certificate - in that it shows that a better job was done. But it does not mean that a person with a "B" certificate when he gets up there, will not work better and give better service than the individual with the "A" certificate; that is the position. I hope the hon. member is satisfied. We have over 150 girls qualified, but we can only take 42 girls from that number; therefore, you can see how difficult it is for the selectors to decide.

The question that the sum of \$888,928 under Head XXXI - Labour - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XXXII - HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT

Head XXXII - Highways and Transport - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$1,857,463 stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I do not wish you to hurry because we are going to be at this for some time. I better draw the hon. member's attention first to Item 34, Leave Pay to Casual Employees. Some time ago, Mr. Chairman, some member from this side of the Table drew to the Hon. Minister's attention the complaints which were made by employees of the Department of Highways and Transport about the unsatisfactory way in which their vacation money was being computed and the inconvenient times at which it was being paid; we also drew to his attention that there were some who were not getting vacation at all or when they got it, it was badly computed. 8.30 p.m.

I do not recall at the moment what assurance the Minister gave, but I believe he did say that he would have the matter investigated so that he would be in a position soon to announce to the House that all of these difficulties have been smoothed out. I wonder if he can tell us whether he has given instructions to the officers concerned about tightening up on these arrangements, and that perfect satisfaction now reigns.

While I am on my feet I would say I think that either my colleague or I myself had drawn to the Hon. Minister's attention that in our constituency we have had complaints from people at the Highways and Transport Department and the complaints made it appear that the matter was more widespread than we thought it was at the time. I would like to know if the Minister can say whether any investigation has been carried out.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Mr. Chairman, that matter has been settled since December last year. I do not think that there has been any recurrence of it; at least I have not heard anything else.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, the next item to which I wish to refer is Item 50, "Work undertaken for Utilities Companies and Government Departments." The explanatory note does show to some extent what these Government Departments are and who will be doing this work; however, the note does not indicate for what reason the increase in respect of this item is required this year. There is an increase of \$4,000. Could the Hon. Minister say something as to the present activities of the Natural Gas Corporation?

Hon. R. G. MAPP: The hon. member will remember that last year we came down for a number of supplementary votes in this respect. Judging from the forewarning and the notices which have been sent to us, this year's programme will be as heavy as last year's. That accounts for the increase here.

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Chairman, in connection with Item 65, "Repairing, re-surfacing and drainage of parish roads, St. Andrew", I see that a certain amount of money is granted for parish roads. I should like to bring to the notice of the Government the conditions of the roads as a whole particularly those in St. Andrew. Last year there were only three hundred feet of road constructed in St. Andrew where tenantry roads are concerned. The parishes of St. Andrew and St. Joseph are two of the most difficult parishes when it comes to the question of freighting canes or anything else which is produced in this island. In other parishes, lorries can go into the land and take away the produce, but where the parish of St. Andrew is concerned, I want the Minister to realise that the poor people have to head their canes out of the field. When they get them down to the tenantry road they have to drop them there, and then they have to convey them from the tenantry road to the main road.

I know that in a certain district the people say: "If the Department of Highways and Transport would only send the

bulldozer to work down here, we would do the balance of the work so as to help ourselves." This work is placed in the hands of the Director of Highways and Transport; all power and authority is given to him to distribute the amount of money which he is given and he spends it just as he likes to spend it. He leaves out the parishes of St. Andrew and St. Joseph. He has said that the parish of St. Andrew should be hemmed in for the purpose of rearing stock. I am quite sure that the parish of St. Andrew could produce over 20,000 tons of cane. If you ever pass through these difficult places and see when the poor people have to head their canes in order to bring them to the main road so as to help the economy of this island, I am sure, Mr. Chairman, that it would shock your modesty to see what these poor people have to do.

8.40 p.m.

I remember some time ago, Mr. Chairman, a man by the name of Mr. Bailey told me that he had reaped sixteen tons of cane and sent them to Bruce Vale Factory, and when he had finished paying for labour and transportation he only got \$12 in his hand. What hurt me was that the road comes directly up to his home, and it is only in need of repairs. With regard to Hillaby, I have gone there several times and seen the deplorable condition of the roads leading from St. Thomas to St. Andrew. There is a road dividing the two parts of Hillaby which only needs a tunnel, and all you need do is to send a bulldozer to level the road so that the people can get out their canes.

Mr. Chairman, when you take a man who has not got the qualifications and ability and put him in power, he is likened unto a beast that perisheth; such is the Director of Highways and Transport. I hope I will live to see the time come when he will be out of office and the right man put into power who knows how to distribute the money which this Government grants to help the poor people in the various districts. I went to the Director in my natural form and in my proper senses and asked him what he had done with money for these roads, but he told me that his office was not a political platform and asked me to get out.

I have been sent here to put the grievances of my people before the House, but he told me to get out of his office. That is the man which this Government had put in that position. I am glad that I can control myself, because there is no telling what might have taken place if we were outside the office. How can a man without the necessary ability and qualifications direct a Department and have things working in the right way to please the public?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I should like to draw to the attention of the hon. junior member for St. Andrew that in as much as he was involved in the incident, I have given him some latitude, but I want to remind him that there is this matter on the Order Paper to be dealt with. I would suggest that he does not develop it now because an occasion will arise on a later occasion when he can deal with it.

Mr. CORBIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think I have seen it on the Order Paper, but what I am saying is that the Director of Highways and Transport should get up and go around the various districts as often as he can and look at the places that are in need of repair. As I said before, only 300 feet of tenantry road has been done for a whole year in St. Andrew, though we submitted several tenantry roads which would involve some 7 3/4 miles. It seems to me that he was spiting me, but in doing so, he is spiting my people. If I am to be crucified, crucify me and let my people live; it is better for one to die and the rest to live.

I hope that in future the Minister of this Department will consider St. Andrew and St. Joseph especially and do something to relieve their plight. If the peasants can get these tenantry roads done, I am certain that they would produce at least 50,000 tons more of cane. There is land which the people refuse to work because they cannot get out their canes. They often ask me if I do not remember them when I come to the House of Assembly. They need as much help as people in the other parishes in Barbados. The island depends on the sugar industry, and from St. Andrew to

St. Michael the people have to cooperate to produce 200,000 tons of sugar when the year comes. I trust that this money which is being voted will be distributed among the parishes and that special attention will be paid to St. Andrew and St. Joseph.

Mr. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, under Item 29 - Travelling Expenses - I see that the amount of \$42,000 is to be voted. The explanatory note reads as follows: - "Paid in accordance with the Travelling Allowance Regulations. Based on actual 1960-61 Expenditure." 8.50 p.m.

Now that the Travelling Allowance Regulations have been amended and brought up-to-date, and now that a bicycle allowance is provided, how many employees or workers of the Highways and Transport Department are allowed this bicycle allowance? How many workers of the Highways and Transport Department, whose work entails travelling, are in receipt and drawing travelling allowance? If the Hon. Minister can furnish the answer I will be glad.

Mrs. BOURNE: Mr. Chairman, I have one or two remarks to make in reply to my colleague as regards the roads in St. Andrew. He said that he was sent here to put the grievances of his constituents; that is what all of us here are sent to do. However, I wonder if I heard him correctly.

He said that a gentleman by the name of Mr. Bailey who lives at Work Hall - I think he means the Mr. Bailey I know - only got \$12 out of canes after they were reaped, because the road in which he lives wanted repairing badly. If it is the same Mr. Bailey whom I know, he is drawing public assistance and he claims that he is not the owner of any land in St. Andrew. I want to know if that is a statement of fact. As a member of the Guardians Committee, I am in a position to tell the hon. member that Mr. Bailey is in receipt of public assistance, and he says that he has not a foot of land in St. Andrew.

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order. Does the hon. member know that he had the land but that it is now out of his possession? I was speaking of him when the land was in his possession last year and the year before. In order for the poor man to get his pension - and it is so with lots of them - he may have had to give away the land. Before I was born, the public used to repair that same very road and keep it in order.

Mrs. BOURNE: Mr. Chairman, those remarks make it all the worse. I am wondering if a representative of the people can be so irresponsible that he would allow a person to give away his land and then ask the ratepayers to be responsible for giving that person assistance.

Mr. CORBIN: I rise on a point of order, Mr. Chairman. I said that some of the people in order to get a pension may have to give away their land. I said "may".

Mrs. BOURNE: Mr. Chairman, I am sure you were sitting there all the time, and I wonder if you heard the word "may"! Whether Mr. Bailey had given away the land or not, my colleague, the hon. junior member for St. Andrew, sat on the St. Andrew Vestry with me, and the former owner of that land at Cambridge, Mr. J. Haynes, before it was sold to the present owner Mrs. Rock, and he heard Mr. Haynes say at the Vestry meeting that he had fought and fought but could not get that road fixed because it ran through his plantation, and it was not a road to be done at all. He even wondered if Mrs. Rock would be able to get it fixed.

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order. I have been to the owner of that land myself and she, herself, said that she does not see any road on the plot. She said that the public used to repair it for many years, and she did not see any reason why they should not continue to repair it.

Mrs. BOURNE: That is the difficulty; that is the snag. It is not fair to the Director of Highways and Transport for the hon. member to say that the Director is not interested in

the roads of St. Andrew. I would be the last to get up in here and defend any officer of the Government, but only this morning I saw the Director of Highways and Transport and the Minister of Communications, Works and Housing, going all through St. Andrew trying to assist the people by trying to get the roads repaired.

Mr. CORBIN: That is only because the elections are near. Mr. Chairman, I have been to the Director divers of times and asked him to come and he would not come.

Mrs. BOURNE: Mr. Chairman, the hon. member can rise as many times as he likes on points of order and I will sit down and get back up. The hon. member said that he has invited the Minister of the Government to come to St. Andrew and the Minister has not seen his way to come. I am sure that on one occasion the Minister had to send Mr. Badcock, the Soil Conservationist, to call him and then he came; I will say no more.

Mr. CORBIN: I rise on a point of order, Mr. Chairman. The hon. member says that Mr. Badcock, the Soil Conservationist, had to call me. I produced to the Minister the letter which had the particular hour of the day when he was to come, therefore, I thought he would have come at that time of the evening. I showed Mr. Grant the letter and he said that he had made a mistake. That is why Mr. Badcock had to come for me.

Mrs. BOURNE: I would like to ask the hon. member this question since he is criticising all the work which has been done by the Department of Highways and Transport: Is it not true to say that in Springvale thousands of dollars were spent there on the roads? And that it would be repaired this evening and tomorrow morning you will find the place in a gully? Now, ask him how long that road has been done since the Highways and Transport Department has repaired it.

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order. Have I criticised the work done by the Department of Highways and Transport? I said that they have not done enough roads; I did not say that the work was not done properly.

Mrs. BOURNE: The hon. member said that very little work has been done by the Department of Highways and Transport. He named the Harewoods Road. Part of that has been done; it must have been done this year. There are other roads which have been done; there is one which is gullying now. The hon. member knows that he took the Director and myself to that road which you would have to get a helicopter to get there.

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order. The road I talked of is the Harewoods Road, and the Engineer and myself went there; the hon. member was not there. It is just a drop, just like a landslide. The people told me that if we could put in a tunnel there that they will be able to get out their canes.

Mrs. BOURNE: The hon. member may interrupt as much as he likes but I am still going to make my points. That is the type of thing he is going about doing. He is going about telling people that they are going to get this and get that this year because it is election year.

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order. You have to allow me to put my point of order.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Can I put a suggestion to the hon. member?

Mr. CORBIN: You may.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: When you rise on a point of order, it is true that I have to hear you and see if you establish a point of order, but I am going to suggest to you to make your notes and remind you that we are in Committee and that you have the opportunity to speak again.

Mr. CORBIN: The hon. member said that I am walking about and telling the people that this is election year and so

on, but what is she telling them? She is walking about saying that she has not any foot! *(Laughter)*

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I ask the hon. junior member for St. Andrew to make his point of order and refrain from making any personal remarks.

Mrs. BOURNE: Let the hon. member say whatever he likes about my foot; I am not sinking to that level. Ask the hon. member if he was not on the Committee which recommended a list of priorities; ask him if the roads have not been done; now he tells you the roads that have not been done. If he had put these particular roads on the priority list, they would have been done and the people would not have been suffering as they are now.

Mr. CORBIN: The hon. member knows that we had put forward the Harewoods Road, King Street Road, Workhall, Shorey Road and the Cane Garden Road. The hon. senior member for St. Andrew said that she did not know the Cane Garden Road.

Mrs. BOURNE: The hon. member is absolutely untrue. He can tell you, Mr. Chairman, that I said I did not know the Cane Garden Road, but I will walk over that road again, and I will walk over him too! *(Laughter)*.

Mr. CORBIN: The hon. member knows the Cane Garden Road, but she said she did not know the road about which I asked in here.

Mrs. BOURNE: Money has been spent on roads which have been broken down, but the hon. member is not saying anything about them. The hon. member was a preacher and he knows that God Almighty took seven days to do what he could have done in one day. Has the hon. member found out if the money has been spent on the roads? Instead of his going to the Director of Highways and Transport and finding out.....

Mr. CORBIN: On a point of order, I am sorry that the hon. member does not know herself.

Mrs. BOURNE: I object to that remark.

Mr. CORBIN: The hon. member said something about me too.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The hon. senior member for St. Andrew has objected to the remarks made by the hon. junior member for St. Andrew and I ask him to withdraw them.

Mr. CORBIN: Why did you not ask her to withdraw her remarks?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I am asking the hon. member to withdraw those words. Did you object to the words made by the hon. senior member for St. Andrew?

Mr. CORBIN: I did not object to them. I will withdraw the remark but it remains with me just the same.

Mrs. BOURNE: The hon. member is a small fellow to deal with.

Mr. CORBIN: I think that you are a big one! *(Laughter)*.

Mrs. BOURNE: Mr. Chairman, our hearts bleed as much and more for our constituents than the heart of the hon. junior member for St. Andrew who says that his heart bleeds for his constituents. I know what it is for people to have experience in reaping their crops; I have had canes left lying for some days before I could get them out. *(ASIDES)*. We are not now dealing with Soil Conservation; we are dealing with tenantry roads.

When the hon. member objected to the Government dealing with Soil Conservation in the Sedgepond Area, the people will deal with him for that. The hon. member knows, as well as I do, that that part of the road which he has mentioned has been fixed; even if it is not completely fixed, it

is because of some difficulties which the engineers have come across. The hon. member is not an engineer, but he says that he can take a peck and shovel and fix the roads and the money should be given to him to be spent. We know how the money would be spent.
9.10 p.m.

Since the Director of Highways and Transport has fixed that road to Boscobelle, there have not been any land slides and the roads are very passable. What I should like the Minister to do in respect of the road is to let the men go back again and resurface it with colas or whatever they use to give a proper coating to the road — it is just what you might call a white road now — and line it up with the road from St. Peter. I can tell him that the people feel that the road from Boscobelle is like Broad Street, and they would like to see the road in St. Andrew like that.

Mr. Chairman, I do not have much more to say to the hon. junior member for St. Andrew. Tomorrow morning I am going to hear somebody say that I got in the House of Assembly and disagreed over having the roads fixed in St. Andrew. He was on the Committee, and if he had recommended these roads to be fixed instead of Corbin's Road first and foremost on the list, they would have been fixed. These roads are the most difficult and they should have been fixed to relieve the suffering of the people.

Mr. CORBIN: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, these roads were fixed in the time of the Vestry system. The hon. member was in the Vestry and each one of us had much latitude. At that time she could recommend and I could recommend, and whatever we recommended was done. Since the institution of the Local Government system the hon. member is the head of that Committee and I am no longer on the Board.

Mrs. BOURNE: On a point of order. The hon. member is an absolute stranger to the truth; he is a member of that Board. Do you mean that the hon. member does not know what he is doing?

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Chairman, I am asking that the hon. member withdraw those words.

Mrs. BOURNE: I said that he was a stranger to the truth; is there anything unparliamentary in that, Mr. Chairman? If you are going to rule that I withdraw, I will await your ruling.

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Chairman, it is a pity that both of us represent the parish of St. Andrew and there is need for this argument. I did not bring her into the debate, but I know why she has got into it; she has an evil disposition. I am saying that I am on no Board other than the Town and Country Planning Board; there was never a meeting of the Tenantry Road Committee.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I would suggest that the hon. member get back to Highways & Transport, and leave the District Council Committees out. (*ASIDES*)

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Chairman, I would be glad if you will maintain order and allow my voice to be heard. The roads I was speaking about were recommended before the Vestry went out of existence, and the hon. member knows that too; both she and I used to fight for having roads done in those days. There was nothing brought forward by her that I would not second, but I do not know why she is straying; her portion is still the same; nobody can stop the current.

Anyway, Mr. Chairman, I am sorry that we have had to go so far in this debate, but I hope in future the Minister in charge will give some consideration to the roads in order to help the poor people in St. Andrew and St. Joseph especially in the Hillaby District. I know that if a small crevice appears at Seawell Airport, money is voted to repair that, and some of that money comes from these same people. These people have borne the burden of the day and have caused Barbados to be where it is; they have built up the economy of the island, and yet they are still heading canes

twice and three times and putting them against the street as was done ten or twenty years ago.

I remember that Joseph told the butler to remember him when he got before Pharoah and put his grievance before him that he might take him out of the dungeon because he was a poor boy; similarly the people in St. Andrew would like me to put their grievance before the Government so that some relief might come to them. Now that it is election time, you will go around and see about roads and water, but it is not fair. They have given you a trial for fifteen years, but what have you done? They remembered you when things were not good, so now that they are good, you should remember them and pull them out of the gully, the mud and mire, and God will bless you.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, before the Hon. Minister replies, much as we have been amused and entertained by a foretaste of the St. Andrew campaign, we must get back to the business of this Committee!
9.20 p.m.

I want to ask the Hon. Minister something in connection with Item 66, Repairing, Re-surfacing and Drainage of Parish Roads in St. Lucy. I do not want the wrong impression to be got about; I am not asking this for campaign purposes. It strikes me that two miles of roads to be done in St. Lucy do not seem to be enough. I want the Hon. Minister to tell me what roads have been recommended for repairs by the sub-Committee of the Northern District Council. There are two or possibly three members of that Council here, so it is possible to get that information from them. I would like to know because it does seem to me, the fact that there are more than one parish for which this service must be provided every year, that you can find no more than two miles of roads to be repaired in this parish and the adjacent parish.

I want to branch off from that to a more important point. I wish to draw to the attention of the Government that they will help the tourist industry, if not in a direct way in an indirect way, if access to the Animal Flower Cave was provided with a proper road. There is not a road leading to it; there is a pathway which is difficult to trudge over and quite frequently when the weather is not good, visitors have to stop their cars some fifty yards away and trudge over the stones and the uneven surface down to the mouth of the Cave. Frequently, people set out for it and cannot see it because they do not want to trudge that perilous journey by way of the pathway. I think it would be well if the whole road there from Connell Town to the Cave be made good and serviceable.

The second thing is this and, again, it is with a view to tourist attraction: There is one road which leads to River Bay, at least that which is used by the excursionists, but the people who live in Pie Corner and Connell Town on the other side do not have easy access there without going across tracks. In other words, there is no road. I wonder if the Government would consider instead of waiting on the sub-committee of the Northern District Council to tell them, to link up River Bay with Pie Corner so that tourists or visitors can approach there from the other side, that is to say they can follow a straight course without having to turn. I mention it because very soon from now quite a good part of that coast may be taken over for tenement construction. It would be a foolish thing not to have good access roads; and it would be even more foolish not to make use of the attractiveness of that part of the St. Lucy's coast for making it possible for people to see it, without much trouble.

What I want to emphasise is that there are certain sites in a parish through which roads should lead and if those roads are built, they benefit the island generally. You cannot wait for the local authority to recommend a road because they may take the narrow view. The Central Government always have to observe what are the benefits for the entire community and so seek to serve them. I think the tourist trade deserves whatever encouragement can be given to it and certain places which are attractive in themselves ought to be made more attractive by having access roads to

them. I throw out that suggestion to the Hon. Minister. As a matter of interest, I would like to know what roads are recommended for repair.

It is well known that generally speaking, St. Lucy has good roads and we do not suffer very much in that respect. I am not therefore asking for more than our fair due but I am asking this. A parish which has such a fair proportion of good roads, the very fact that it has them, should give encouragement to the Government to do the few that remain undone and, therefore, you should not have to come here every year for money to resurface the roads of that parish.

To come every year and do two miles and then use the excuse that you cannot do more because other parishes must be considered may sound reasonable, but you should remember that you are dealing with a parish which has good roads. That is why I say that you should not wait for the Northern District Council to urge upon you what roads to repair; you should take it from the central body itself and even anticipate where possible the wishes and requests of the local authority. To show you that I am not selfish in any respect, what I say for St. Lucy, I would say for any parish, even for those which are not mentioned here.

When Government replies on this matter, it may well be that they will say that there are too many little pigs and too little nipples on the old sow. I say that it would be better and more economical in the end to make a rush and do as many of these parish roads as can be done within the course of a single year and not to apportion them in every single year in small quantities because the cost of keeping them in good repair goes up from year to year.
9.30 p.m.

Mr. STRAUGHN: I think that the hon. member would like to know the names of the Sub-committee. The last Sub-committee was comprised of Mr. Campbell, Mr. Greaves, Mr. Harper and Mr. Yearwood. At least two of these gentlemen are very closely associated with the hon. member.

Speaking on the Head generally, I think it would be well worth the time to re-emphasise to the Minister that it might be a good thing to look into the length of time that notice is given by the Public Utilities Companies as far as the digging up of these roads and the repairing of them in concerned. The Minister should see that they do give six months' notice, but I am certain that it is well worth demanding even more than six months' notice.

Mr. SEARLES: Mr. Chairman, on the question of water courses I should like to say that in St. James the Town and Country Planning Officer has been concerned about a house in Fitts Village; there is some legal entanglement in the matter. We do not know if it is a question of the duty of the Town and Country Planning Officer or that of the Department of Highways and Transport. I hope that the Minister will be able to help us in this matter. We have been dealing with the Department of Highways and Transport but we have not been able to get anything done. The question is whether the Department of Highways and Transport is responsible for the water courses. If a man claims that he should protect his property I cannot see where he is wrong. I would like to know if the Minister can help us in this matter.

Mr. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, in connection with Item 45 "Parish Roads", I wonder if the Minister is in a position to give us a break-down of this amount of \$150,102. I would like to know how the allocation goes to the various parishes. If the Minister can do that, I would be very grateful. The Note states: "Maintenance of approximately 227 miles at an average of \$580 per mile. Provision to meet the wages of 26 cantonniers employed on a casual basis who are not on Unestablished Staff and including provision for 10 miles of tenantry and other roads taken over during 1960-61." I wonder if the Minister could tell this Committee in which parish these ten miles of tenantry roads have been taken over and also how are the cantonniers divided up among the parishes.

With regard to the Item 69, "New Traffic signs", I see that the sum of \$6,350 was voted in the Estimates last year

and the same amount is to be voted again this year. I would be grateful if the Minister would say where these new lights will be erected. I would like to know whether, in this new programme, the entire set of traffic lights will be erected.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Mr. Chairman, this is the first time I have heard about this local problem to which the hon. junior member for St. James refers. I do not like to make pronouncements off hand on local problems without having legal advice, but I can assure the hon. member that we will have a chat about it later on. I will take up the matter in the proper quarters.

As far as the question asked by the hon. senior member for Christ Church is concerned, I am afraid that I will have to do a little research; however, there is an average of 28 miles at approximately \$580 per mile. That is maintenance throughout the island and in connection with all parish roads; that has gone on from time immemorial. The amount has been increased because the expenditure costs have gone up, and we have taken over other roads in 1960-61 subsequent to the changeover under Local Government.

As far as the question asked by the hon. senior member for St. Lucy is concerned, I am wondering if some of the roads leading to the places which he has mentioned, like the Animal Flower Cave and one or two other places, do not run through private land. It may be that there is a stretch of land which is public, but the rest runs through a private plantation.

Mr. TUDOR: On a point of order. I did intend to refer to that. I am suggesting that the private land be acquired so as to repair the access road to the Animal Flower Cave. I do not think it is a question of more than fifty yards of road to be acquired.
9.40 p.m.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: I can tell the hon. member that I will not recommend purchasing any land like that; for the simple reason that the land referred to belongs to the same person who owns the cave. If we put a road to protect the people, he would benefit from it. We do not believe in the policy of compensating people for any land through which a road might run, because such owners benefit; they can bring out their produce more easily and the value of the property goes up.

Mr. TUDOR: I agree with the Hon. Minister in principle, but this is rather a set case. I am not arguing for this particular gentleman, and I do not want to be understood to be doing that either; but the Animal Flower Cave is after all a landmark; it is still a tourist attraction. Even if you do not want to buy the land, there is certainly some way in which you can make the last bit of road to it serviceable, even if you enter some agreement with the owner to reimburse Government. I do not mind which arrangement it is, but I would like people to be able to drive up to it without let or hindrance.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: There are many of these places of historical value which are threatened to be bought by people from abroad; and I am thinking of other places in St. Lucy in which I heard tourists were interested. I do feel that now that we have set up a National Trust that they could be active in such matters and do something about preserving these historical places for the benefit of the island as a whole. In that particular case, the National Trust could deal with this particular owner; and I feel sure that the owner or owners who might have property in the vicinity of, or connected with these particular places, would in the public's interest donate these bits of land to the National Trust. The National Trust will purchase places like the Welchman Hall Gully, but I am sure when it comes to having proper roads that they will cooperate; and after all if they make a covenant giving over these bits of property to the National Trust, they will be free from income tax.

So far as St. Lucy is concerned, I believe that for the past two years we have been resurfacing two miles of road as compared with three miles in St. Andrew, three in St.

Joseph and three in St. Michael. When you consider the difficulty of the roads in the other two parishes as compared with St. Lucy and the size of St. Michael, I do not think that St. Lucy is doing too badly. I do not think the hon. member is serious, Mr. Chairman, when he says we should do five miles and stop; we have to spread the milk, so to speak, from the old sow to these various piglets; and if you want to have enough milk distributed fairly and evenly, you cannot over-balance in one direction or over-supply in one direction; you have to preserve a proper balance. If you give St. Lucy five miles in one year, it means giving somebody less or none at all; and we have to think too of employment. Are we going to shift labour to St. Lucy from another parish?

Mr. TUDOR: No! You can employ more St. Lucy people.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: If we employed more St. Lucy people in one year, we would have to reduce them by that extent the next year, and that would only lead to more dissatisfaction. If the hon. member looks at it more realistically he would not pursue that argument. I do not remember the other question which the hon. member asked.

Mr. TUDOR: I asked about more roads to River Bay from the point of view of tourist attraction.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Mr. Chairman, my remarks would also apply to River Bay. I believe that the majority of these areas are privately owned. I see from my file that the Salmond Road will be done, but that will come under another Head. I do not see the other tenantry road here, but that nevertheless come under the Head we did previously — Subventions to Councils.

With regard to St. Andrew, Mr. Chairman, it is difficult at this time of night to deal with the hon. junior member for St. Andrew. When I see the male member being taken on so forcibly by the female member of that parish, what is there left for me! I would like to say that being the Minister responsible, I cannot be silent on what the hon. member has said. We have to take notice sometimes of what he says, and when he attacks the Head of a Department who has done extremely good work in the parish, I think it is time that a halt should be put to it.

There is one road that was practically abandoned there, Highway 2 in St. Joseph, and since it has been done under the regime of the present Director, it has stood up beautifully to all kinds of weather. The Spring Vale Road was always slipping and disappearing from view; whenever that road was repaired, we literally threw Government's money over the hill; but since this Director took it in hand, it has stood up beautifully. The hon. member cannot say he is talking about tenantry roads and not other roads, because they are all connected.

If you bring produce from the tenantry roads and the lorries cannot get over the main roads, it is useless repairing the tenantry roads and not doing the other roads properly. Look at the amount of money we are spending in St. Andrew: Spring Vale to Triopath, \$15,000; Hillaby to Baxters, \$21,720. That is only one year's programme. Let us remind this Committee that the programme in St. Andrew is vitally connected and linked up with the Soil Conservation programme. Most of the tenantry roads, especially in St. Simons and those areas affected by slipping are linked up in every aspect with the Soil Conservation programme, and it would be useless attempting certain phases.

Mr. Chairman, as the lady member for St. Andrew has said, we were there this morning looking at the St. Simon road with a view to seeing what can be done. The only thing we can do is to try to erect a temporary road, because to try to do that road would be literally pushing money over the hills or into the valleys. This road slips continually.

The hon. member also mentioned Mount Als Road or some other road; that presents the same problem as the roads I am mentioning. I think he should forbear from carrying out any vendetta against the Head of the Department who has really done good work.

The question that the sum of \$1,857,463 under Head XXXII - Highways and Transport - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

9.50 p.m.

HEAD XXXIII - CIVIL AVIATION

Head XXXIII - Civil Aviation - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I beg to move that the sum of \$148,095 under Head XXXIII - Civil Aviation - stand part of the Schedule.

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

The question that the sum of \$148,095 under Head XXXIII - Civil Aviation - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XXXIV - ELECTRICAL INSPECTION

Head XXXIV - Electrical Inspection - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$12,222 under Head XXXIV - Electrical Inspection - stand part of the Schedule.

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

The question that the sum of \$12,222 under Head XXXIV - Electrical Inspection - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XXXV - HOUSING

Head XXXV - Housing - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$63,563 under Head XXXV - Housing - stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, under Item 2, Public Officers Housing, I see that the sum of \$27,000 is being voted. The explanation is: "estimated part interest on capital raise by the authority for this purpose." What I want to know from the Hon. Minister is if the old policy is still employed whereby Civil Servants are expected to secure the land on which they propose building their house, or whether the Government has seen fit to assist Civil Servants with the purchase of the land, or if Government has areas of land in various localities to assist public servants with obtaining land and not only their houses.

I regard the policy of expecting a Civil Servant, first of all, to secure the land on his own as a prerequisite to a loan as being very difficult; it is a means of rendering the whole scheme, if not impossible, less practicable. As you know, the price of land has risen to a great proportion. The prices are very exorbitant.

In my view, it is a question of if you are going to help those people or you are not going to help them. Your policy should be to acquire lots of land in various areas for Civil Servants and have the lots laid out in the various parishes and in various sections and districts. To ask the Civil Servant to acquire a lot of land as a prerequisite of his obtaining a loan is really killing the scheme before it gets underway. I want to know if the Minister has checked on that policy and will he find out for me how many Civil Servants have secured loans, how many houses have been built? Will he also tell me if the Civil Servants are taking full advantage of the scheme and what additional provision is being made in order to assist public officers, that is to say, if the ones in the lowest brackets are also being accommodated?

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Mr. Chairman, I do not know if the hon. member has had a copy of the Report of the Housing

Authority, but if he refers to the latest report, he will see a lot of the information which he wants. If the hon. member gets a copy and looks at Appendix "F", he would see the housing loans outstanding amount to \$1,357,090.88; and of that amount, the sum of \$339,929.49 was advanced at 3% and the sum of \$1,017,161.39 was advanced at 4 1/2%.

If he turns to Appendix "G" which deals with the income and expenditure account for the year ended 31st March, 1960, he would see that the interest receivable at 3% amounted to \$11,199.89 and the interest receivable at 4% amounted to \$22,704.67. The interest equalisation subsidy came to \$1,588.16 which made a total of \$35,492.72. The expenditure amounted to \$36,367.76 therefore, there was an excess expenditure over income of \$875.04.

The hon. member is asking for certain details which I would have to get for him, but the important details can be found in the Report. If he wants any other particulars which are not in the Report, I will have to get them for him from the Manager of the Scheme. I hope the hon. member has a copy of the Report; I think it only came out Monday or late last week. If he does not have a copy, he can obtain one. I think one will be sent to him.

Mr. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, before the hon. member moves on to something else, I would like him to tell the House if the policy of advancing loans to public officers has been changed or if the old policy has been insisted on whereby in order for one to be qualified and to be considered for a loan, he must have the land. That is the important thing which I want to know. He need not refer me to the pamphlet by the Housing Authority.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Mr. Chairman, I said that if the hon. member is asking for other details, I will have to get them for him. The answer to the question which he asked just now is "no". We have extended the Act to include chattel houses. That was passed by this House.

The question that the sum of \$63,563 under Head XXXV - Housing - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XXXVI - TRANSPORT SERVICES

Head XXXVI - Transport Services - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$150,000 under Head XXXVI - Transport Services - stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if up to now, the financial statement of the Transport Board has been laid in accordance with law. A question was put to the Minister about it by me sometime ago in the previous session and in this session, I was not here for certain reasons over which I had no control to know whether it was laid today, but up to the last meeting that statement had not been laid. 10.00 p.m.

We are asked to vote \$150,000 and we are told that approximately \$150,000 will be required to assist the Transport Board. Every now and then it is said in this House that the Transport Board is paying its way; that the bad old days are passed and the Transport Board has become a self-supporting unit. Why are we being invited to vote \$150,000 to assist the Transport Board if that Board is at long last paying its own way? I know that the particular Minister in charge of this portfolio is always the most reluctant of Ministers to give this House information, and one gets the impression that we are not entitled to so much information. That Minister is unlike the Minister of Trade or the Minister of Education who put their cards on the table, although we trump them! I invite the Minister to disclose, if he cares to disclose, what he regards as his private business.....

Hon. R. G. MAPP: On a point of order. It may be that the hon. member is light in his remarks, but what he has

just said is not a light remark. I think I should object to the hon. member saying that I regard this as my private business.

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, this is the first time that the hon. member has said that he does not regard it as his private business.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: It is not my private business, that is why this matter is being dealt with by a Statutory Board.

Mr. BRANCKER: It takes an election year for the Minister to say that he does not regard this as his private business! (*Laughter*) We know that the Election is three months off exactly; and we trust that it will not be delayed. However, it does not matter what changes may take place between now and then. There is provision for a nominated Speaker, but the nominated Speaker is not whom we intended to be Speaker. (*ASIDES*) I am sticking, Mr. Chairman, as you will direct that I stick, to the matter which is before us! (*Laughter*).

If the Hon. Minister would tell us the reason why this \$150,000 is required to assist the Board and for what reason or reasons and for what purpose or purposes it is required, that will assist us.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Mr. Chairman, the Report of the Board has only just reached the Government; I think it was delayed by the Auditors; I do not think it is before the Cabinet as yet. However, very soon it will be laid on the Table of this House.

In so far as the enquiry of the hon. junior member for St. Lucy about this \$150,000 is concerned, he will realise that the amount is \$30,000 less than last year. I do not think the hon. member could expect that as we have just capitalised the Transport Board to the extent we did, the depreciation would not be greatly in excess of that on the old units. The Board's operating efficiency has greatly improved; we hardly receive any complaints from the public. Everybody agrees that the new Managing Director knows his job. He has made great changes in the Board and it is being more smoothly run than it has ever been run before.

I see, for instance, that in October, November, December and January there was an operating surplus - there was the sum of \$11,000 in October, over \$11,000 in November, \$15,000 in December, \$10,000 in January; that has been kept up since February. You cannot expect a complete transformation to take place immediately as from the time that the new Managing Director came. The position for these months is as I have just mentioned. Up to the middle of the last year there was no plus at all; it was minus \$5,000, minus \$7,000 and so on. From the Report the hon. member will see the position as regards the last financial year. 10.20 p.m.

Mr. TUDOR: If the hon. member would give way, apart from the fact that we have not got a copy of the Report yet, and are not likely to get one for some time, could the Minister just say what was the overall operational deficiency in the Board's last financial year?

Hon. R. G. MAPP: I am afraid I have not got a copy of the Report with me. A copy of the Report along with the Auditor's Report will be laid on the Table of the House and the hon. member will see the deficiency. The depreciation on these new units is something like \$20,000 a month on all the units, and that is nothing to do with interest. As I said, depreciation is what you provide for the future in respect of replacements and so on; so that while we are operating at a surplus so far as the accounts and the balance sheet are concerned, we still have to put an amount in here as a deficiency on operation. We have to meet that depreciation.

Mr. Chairman, hon. members who are acquainted with business would know that although you have a cash surplus you still come out with an accounting balance after you take depreciation into consideration; but nevertheless the financial position has been much improved. We are taking further steps in the purchase of certain materials, oil and so on; we

are making different arrangements and reducing overhead expenditure. Steps are being taken to make the position even more secure for the future.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I had hoped to be able to spare the Committee a long debate, but I fear that it is going to be rather different because the Minister's reply is unsatisfactory. First of all we have here in the Estimates before us provision put in for \$150,000, and the explanatory note says it is estimated that approximately \$150,000 will be required to assist the Transport Board. Now I would have thought, Mr. Chairman, that since it is customary for the accounts of the Transport Board to be in at least a month or two after the close of the Board's financial year, the Minister would have been more than careful this year to let us have these accounts as quickly as possible. This is the year in which the House of Assembly underwrote an enormous loan for the Transport Board to give it additional capital to acquire buses. In that very year which is the current financial year, we have given the Transport Board apart from everything else \$180,000. Much, we take it, has been spent for the same purpose, that is, to cover estimated deficits. In other words, they have thrown away \$180,000, we have not heard to what benefit.

Mr. Chairman, the Minister merely says that the position is better especially since the new man has come, but we should be entitled to know what is the position; and I am surprised to think that even a simple bit of information like saying to us what the total operational deficit was last year is not forthcoming, while, here, hard on the heels of that, we are asked now to push in another \$150,000. How long is this going to go on?

The Government cannot say that we have kept on worrying them about the Transport Board. From the time this House of Assembly underwrote the loan and placed that large amount of money at the disposal of the Board, it made it possible for the Board to acquire that large amount of capital; and from that time we have kept scrupulously silent to give the Board a fair chance. But now the Minister cannot even tell us what has happened in a year except by saying that in two or three months there have been operational surpluses. What about the other nine months? Have the deficits for the other months been more than proportionate or disproportionate to the surpluses? It should have been possible to tell us.

You cannot expect and should not expect that we would just sit down and pass this Head without some searching examination. For instance, I would like to know from the Minister the total amount of interest charges which have been paid in this current year on the loan which has been raised, because we have had the new buses. I believe it is a terrific amount. It should be at least \$60,000 or \$70,000. All that we should know; and here the Minister promises to bring in a statement. That is not good enough. In fairness to us and the general public.....

Hon. R. G. MAPP: On a point of order. Under the Act, the Report has to be laid on the Table of this House. That Report for the last financial year can be debated at any time; it is not a matter of keeping back any information. Last year we voted so much and so much, and we did not come down for a supplementary vote; we have now come back for a supplementary, so everything the hon. member is asking for is in the Report.

I have written to the Board asking them for the Report to lay on the Table of the House; we are waiting on that, so what can we do? It is a Statutory Board set up by this House, and if you refer to May's, the Board has as much control as the Minister. Once we set up a Statutory Board we cannot go in and control it. If we want to do that, we would have to take it over as a Department of Government; so I do not have control over that. I have repeatedly asked for the Report, but every time they say they are waiting on the Auditors. I will lay it next week when it can be debated and the entire accounts can be examined by the House.

Mr. TUDOR: The Minister will appreciate that inasmuch as so much time has passed since the Annual Report

should have been brought before this House, we are quite justified in asking. Since we have not got that and it has been delayed for some time, the Minister seems to be asking us to believe that he cannot give us some rough estimate in round figures - we are not asking for accurate figures - of what last year's operational loss was like; that is relevant to this debate. If the loss last year has been so much less than the one the year before, we could probably be perfectly justified in passing this figure even without criticism, but if it is the same as it was the year before or even slightly more, we should have to ask why and cast about for means and suggestions for reducing it in the future. We cannot go on like this.
10.20 p.m.

It is all right to want to sit tight and to say as little as possible so as to prevent a debate on this matter, but it is not fair to us. To say that you came in the House and asked for \$180,000 for a deficiency in the transport service but you did not come back for more supplementaries does not affect the issue. We have to count that the \$180,000 which you had last year is gone and it does not make the position much better to argue that you ask for \$150,000 this year which is \$30,000 less than what you had last year. We are glad to know that it is less but we would prefer not to be voting anything at all.

The Hon. Minister should give us some idea of how much the Board has thrown away. Is it more or less? Is the position really better or are they worse off? In any case, I would like an answer to the question of the interest paid on the loan because that is an expense, and it is a big slice of the expenses too. If we know that, we would know what proportion of your operation deficit is justified by the large overhead expenditure.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Mr. Chairman, the hon. member thinks that I am playing tricks. I say again that a report on the position would be put before us early next week. We voted \$180,000 for deficiency on the operation of the transport services last year and we did not come for any supplementary votes. The hon. member said that this has gone but I do not look at it as gone. Trans-Canada got a profit for the last five years but last year they lost \$1 1/2 million. Is that gone? The Government does not regard this as gone. At some time in the future, we hope and believe that we will get back these amounts. It is not going down the drain.

If we do not have a public service that will provide transport where the people can get it, what service will it be? We do lose money on some routes, and very soon the House will know about it; certain things are happening which the public does not know about. I promise the hon. member that the Report will be laid next week; it has only been just laid before the Cabinet.

Mr. TUDOR: Sir, we do not want to make an issue of it. No debate need come about it, but inasmuch as we cannot debate this Head now properly, let us postpone it. If the Hon. Minister is going to lay the Report on Tuesday, we can postpone this Head but continue and finish the other Heads of the estimates tonight and leave this over until next Tuesday.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Let me again appeal to the hon. member. Apart from providing him with material which he can debate further, what purpose would that serve whether or not we are going to come down with the Report next Tuesday? Even if the Report is laid next Tuesday, we will still adhere to the decision which we have here. We are saying that this is our estimate which it would take to run the Board for next year.

We have discussed the matter with the Transport Board and they have told us what the position would be; and, as a result, we have come down and asked you for this amount. The hon. member must bear in mind that the Report of the Transport Board is to the end of September last year. The material which is contained in that Report is that which obtained before the present Manager came here; it deals more with the past regime. Apart from providing the hon. member with that material for criticising the Board, I fail to see

what would be gained by postponing this. It would not affect this amount.

If I bring down the Report saying that it is \$181,000 to \$120,000 or \$167,000, we are still going to say that we need \$150,000 for the Board, therefore I cannot see what can be gained by postponing this. It is not that I am against giving the hon. member the information; I am hoping to give him by next Tuesday. There is nothing to hide. The people are chartered accountants who look after the accounts of this Board; they go through the books and they send the accounts up to the Board. I asked the Board to forward the Report ever since; I have done it two or three times and they said that they were waiting on the auditors. What else can we do?

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, I do not understand the attitude of the Hon. Minister. There are more than one firm of chartered accountants here. He said that the Report has only just been submitted by the auditors. He used the words "only just". How long ago was that? Yesterday or last month?

Hon. R. G. MAPP: I said that the Report has only just been submitted by the Board to us; but their reply was that they were waiting on the auditor's report.

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, I am accustomed to quoting people correctly and I have quoted the Hon. Minister correctly; that is what I work by. This is what the Hon. Minister said: "The report has only just been laid by the Board. It was delayed by the auditors." If he is going to say that is not so, well then, let the Official Reporters say what he said.

10.30 p.m.

What I enquired of the Hon. Minister is what does he mean by the expression "only just"? What is the date of "only just"? "Just" means anything vague or ambiguous, but it does not help. I am sorry that the Hon. Minister who has just come back from Jamaica has returned without even a box of cigars for which that island is so famous. He did not meet his friend, Sir Alexander Bustamante, who would have treated him as he would have treated Sir Winston Churchill.

Hon. D. D. GARNER: On a point of order. I have never been a Conservative member in all my life in Barbados, and I never will be one.

Mr. BRANCKER: What then is the Hon. Minister doing on those benches tonight? That is the position. The Minister should realise that in Barbados today there are at least two firms of highly qualified Accountants. In the past Messrs Bovell & Skeete were highly respected, but they had on their staff no Chartered Accountants; today they have men whose evidence would be accepted in any Court.

I do not know who the Auditors are, but if these Auditors are not complying with the law, the work should be given to others. Any reputable Auditor always complies with the law and presents his report within the time that the law prescribes. In the days of the old Vestry, the Auditors had their report submitted within the time that the law says the report should be put in.

If these Auditors of the Transport Board are not prepared to take the Minister seriously and submit their report in time to comply with the law, then let the Minister take his courage in his hands and tell these Auditors: "If you are too busy to do the work, let us give the work to some other Auditors". I have no doubt that these Auditors are being properly paid; therefore do not let them get away with anything. Do not let them think that the figures were supplied to them too late for them to comply with the law.

It is not good enough for a public body to give a public display of the fact that it can flout the law. If there are no fewer than two Auditors and they are too busy to do the work then let the Minister inform them that if this particular firm cannot do the work, he will transfer this work to some other Auditor. Those who are responsible for the delay in handing in the information to the Auditors should be dealt with.

The Minister might well have let the cat out of the bag when he said that he had asked the Board for the Report repeatedly. If it is so, that he has asked the Board for the report repeatedly, it may well be that the Board is causing this abnormal delay and the Auditors are being kept back. It seems to me to be a question of serving an ultimatum on one or the other. When Auditors are appointed they should be told what the law is. If they are not told, then they should look up the law and see when their work is to be submitted. On the one hand we have the statement that the Report has only just been submitted and, on the other hand, that it will come to the House soon after the Cabinet has seen it. Soon after the Cabinet has seen it may be a month or a year or even six months after the next Government takes over. I doubt whether we will see this Report before then.

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, it is a question of principle involved. We do not know anything at all about this money which we are being called upon to vote. In other words, we are asked to give our blind assent and consent to the passing of this Head of the Estimates. If I were in the position of the Minister, I would have come to this House with the necessary information. The Minister cannot be excused for not having this Report; I really do not believe that the small things for which we are asking he cannot give us.

10.40 p.m.

It would be a simple thing for him to ask the Chairman or the Manager of the Board to give him some rough idea, since the Report is not ready, of their operational losses in the last financial year so that if he is asked in the House he would be able to tell hon. members. There is no need to wait for a special Cabinet meeting before giving us such information; he can turn to either side of him and ask his colleagues if he has their consent to disclose what information he has. He must and should have the Report with him, or if not the entire Report the relevant portion of it just to know how well or how badly they have done for the past year.

Mr. Chairman, the unfair thing is that the blame is being put on us for holding back the debate, because we are asking for something for which we are entitled to ask. (Hon. D. D. GARNER: You will get it next week.) I understand we will get it next week when this is all over, so therefore we genuinely believe that you are trying to trick us into voting this. (A VOICE: Oh, no!) That is the only possible interpretation that can be put on it. It does not matter as the hon. member has said that we have saved \$30,000. I am going to recommend to the Leader of my Party that we divide the House on this matter in protest.

The question that the sum of \$150,000 under Head XXXVI - Transport Services - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

AYES: Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS; Hon. M. E. COX; Hon. D. D. GARNER; Hon. R. G. MAPP; Hon. L. St. A. THORNE; Hon. F. E. MILLER; Mr. SEARLES; Mr. STRAUGHN and Mr. SMITH - 9.

NOES: Mr. CORBIN; Mr. TUDOR; Mr. TALMA and Mr. BRANCKER - 4.

HEAD XXXVII - PEASANTS' LOAN BANK

Head XXXVII - Peasants' Loan Bank - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$97,101 under Head XXXVII - Peasants' Loan Bank - stand part of the Schedule.

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

The question that the sum of \$97,101 under Head XXXVII - Peasants' Loan Bank - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XXXVIII - OLD AGE PENSIONS

Head XXXVIII - Old Age Pensions - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, before moving the passing of this Head, as you will remember, there was some strong criticism made by the Opposition last week on this Head. Last week when I said in my Budget Speech that we were very sorry we could not give a further sum for old age pensions, the Government was very much criticised. As a result, I got some figures as to what the Trinidad Government spends on old age pensions; the population in Trinidad is about 800,000 and of course they have much more money than we have; they have a Revenue of \$167,840,321 as against Barbados' \$24,795,780. We do not know the number of their old age pensioners; I am not saying this is logical, but suppose we say they have 3 1/2 times the population of Barbados and proportionately 3 1/2 times as many pensioners; they spend in old age pensions \$2,424,400 and we spend \$913,008.

The point I am making, Sir, is that Trinidad, with all its wealth and of course with greater numbers than we have, spend .014 percent of their revenue as against Barbados with our limited revenue which spends .036 percent of our revenue. I just mention those facts, Sir, to bring them to the attention of the Committee; and to show that this Government can say with some pride that we are doing far better towards old age pensioners than what Trinidad with all her wealth is doing for hers.

I beg to move that the sum of \$902,260 under Head XXXVIII - Old Age Pensions - stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, the hon. members opposite will probably not believe this, but I had no intention whatever of making a speech on this Head having already said my piece on it during the Budget Debate; I was looking forward to debating at fuller length a motion which stands in my name; but I could not remain quiet after the Premier's disclosure of the comparative figures of Trinidad. I rise principally to ask what is the figure paid to the Trinidad old age pensioners, and what they get per week. I would like if he is in a position to tell me.....
10.50 p.m.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I have not got, I must admit, the full details of the Means Test and all that sort of thing; but their minimum rate is \$5.00 a month. Having stated the minimum, I do not want to commit myself, but I think their maximum is \$10 per month. However, their system is somewhat different from ours. We pay \$7.20 a month flat to all old age pensioners.

I think in Trinidad the amount paid varies according to the Means Test; that is to say, if you do not fully measure up according to the Means Test, you get a proportion. I am not quite sure of all those figures, that is why I did not want to refer to them in the first instance. When I was down there last year, I talked with the officer concerned and I got some information but I mislaid it.

Mr. TUDOR: Sir, I believe the Hon. Premier would appreciate this: He, himself, said that this comparison is fallacious, but I think he would appreciate what would be to the point, would be to understand the respective standards of living in the two places and perhaps the respective costs of living. Sometimes one hears that it is harder to live in Trinidad than here but, on the other hand, you sometimes hear that it is less.

To say that the proportion we spend on old age pensions is slightly higher than in Trinidad and, therefore, there is justification for raising ours, is not true to the point of comparison. I want to draw to the hon. member's attention that it is very possible, generally speaking, that people in Trinidad are less needy than they are here. I say that it is quite possible. I am not arguing it but it is possible. The difference between the respective costs of living and standards of living may be very great.

Do not argue against increasing old age pensions on those grounds. The only ground on which you can argue that is if you are satisfied that the people here are doing well without it; but if you are not so satisfied, no argument is strong enough to counteract your increasing it.

The question that the sum of \$902,260 under Head XXXVIII - Old Age Pensions - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XXXIX - STATISTICAL SERVICES

Head XXXIX - Statistical Service - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I beg to move that the sum of \$25,806 under Head XXXIX - Statistical Service, stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, one very small point and it is with regard to Item 16, Rent of Machines. It is said here in the explanatory note that this amount is for the rental of accounting machines, punchers and verifiers; increased rent for a more modern machine. Would the Premier explain why this department has to rent rather than own its machines? If the expenditure on rent is \$10,000 you must consider carefully why you should rent instead of owning.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: The manufacturers do not sell these machines.

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, I could not hear what the Premier said because of a conversation between the Clerk and the Marshal.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I think the Clerk has every right to speak with the Marshal. The point is that these people do not sell these particular machines; they always rent them out.

Mr. TUDOR: Does the Hon. Premier mean that it will not pay Government to acquire any of these machines?

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: They just do not sell them; they rent them out to everybody.

The question that the sum of \$25,806 under Head XXXIX - Statistical Services - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XL - WATERWORKS

Head XL - Waterworks - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I beg to move that the sum of \$1,059,407 under Head XL - Waterworks - stand part of the Schedule.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: At this time in seconding the motion, I would like to draw the attention of hon. members to a notice which recently appeared in the Press requesting the cooperation of the public in avoiding wastage of water by refraining from watering gardens, etc.. The notice read:

"As a result of the drought over the last two years, the yield of water from underground sources has been considerably reduced. For the present the reduction will mainly affect consumers living in the area from Lodge Hill in St. Michael to the northern end of the Island."

"The inconvenience to these residents can be lessened if the watering of gardens etc., throughout the island is stopped. The public is accordingly asked to cooperate in this matter by refraining from watering their gardens and generally restricting the use of water to a minimum."

In May last year I spoke over Barbados Rediffusion about the seriousness of the water shortage which existed

at that time and pointed out that the drought which had been experienced during that year had considerably affected the yield from the springs which supplied St. Philip and part of Christ Church. I also spoke about the work which was being done at Hampton to increase the water supply in those areas. Unfortunately the drought has entered another year and while there had been no deterioration in the areas which suffered most last year the situation generally is the cause of some concern. In the area extending from Lodge Hill in St. Michael to the northern end of the Island the position has reached a critical stage. The Hayman's well which is the source supplying the area has fallen by 3/4 million gallons a day and it is possible that the output from this well will be further reduced. Efforts are being made to make temporary additional supplies available from private sources in the area to meet the immediate and sudden shortage but this will take a little time. In order to relieve the situation, the Government's tankers are taking supplies to the areas. In the meantime, if people in other parts of the Island which are not seriously affected at the moment will use water more economically and avoid wastage of any sort, the shortage in the Northern Area can be eased considerably.

As pointed out earlier, this serious shortage of water has resulted from two consecutive years of drought and it is to be hoped that this drought which has had so adverse an effect on this Island in other ways as well will soon come to an end. The Government has for some time been negotiating with the United Nations for the services of a geologist to carry out the necessary research with a view to finding new sources of supply in order that an adequate amount of water will be available for some years to come. It is expected that someone will be made available to the Island within the near future.

The Government is keeping a close watch on this very critical situation and it will use such emergency powers as are at its disposal to ensure a continued supply of water to the public for essential purposes if the response of the public to this appeal not to use water for irrigation purposes should prove unsatisfactory. However, I am confident that the good sense of all Barbadians and that of others present in the Island can be relied upon in this matter.

11.00 p.m.

Mr. BRANCKER: I got the impression that the appeal to refrain from watering gardens has fallen on deaf ears; I had no doubt about that at all. I must confess that the case which I have seen as to the watering of gardens has been going on after the Minister's appeal as it has been going on before the appeal. The position is exactly the same as if certain people come within the category of "all other persons". I suggested privately to the Premier that there is no point in continuing to issue the ultimatum to stop people from watering their gardens. There are certain people, who have not been born in this island and who are more concerned with their gardens than they are concerned with the island as a whole and the people in it. There are those who not only water their gardens but they invite the public to pay to see their gardens. This watering of gardens should be stopped until the water supply has considerably been improved.

Mr. Chairman, I am speaking now particularly in connection with Item 34, "Delivery of water by lorry." I would like to impress upon the Minister the necessity for giving instructions that when anything goes wrong with a standpipe, they should notify people over Rediffusion that they are going to lock off the water. They should say "We are going to lock off the water; you collect all the water you need for cooking purposes because the source of supply in the district will be locked off." That used to be done some time ago; it was much appreciated but now they have ceased to do it any more. The water has been locked off without that forewarning given to people. I do not know if it is too expensive to the Government to allow the lorry to go through the village and by the use of a siren tell people that the water would be locked off very soon from now. You should not let people suffer from the lack of water because it has been locked off without any

previous warning having been given.

Those people who have motor cars can hurry somewhere else where there is water. I understand that there was a lack of water here before this House met today and that a water transport went and secured fifty gallons for us. However, the water was back on before the water transport returned. I would suggest that they revert to the practice of putting a notice over Rediffusion to the effect that the water will be locked off at such and such a time and let people get a supply of water before it is shut off.

Another matter is this: After the water has been shut off, proper arrangements should be made for the delivery of water by lorry. It seems to take a very long time to find the driver to get the key to get the engine of the lorry switched on before the lorry can be started off. The length of time that these lorries take before they can get to the scene where there is a lack of water is one which you cannot just imagine. There should be a lorry driver or lorry drivers instantly as soon as there is an emergency, almost just as it happens in the case of a fire alarm. As soon as there is a fire alarm, we all know, the driver of the fire tender jumps on it along with others and they are all off to the scene. In the same way, whenever there is a water shortage, the driver of the lorry should be on hand with the key in the lorry so that it can be carried off to the scene without any delay. The length of time which it takes for the lorry to arrive in a district where the water had been shut off is much too long. Water is indispensable and if there were reasonable organisation and intelligence displayed, the inconvenience and hardship to which people are compelled to submit because of the delays in the arrival of the water lorries on the scene and because of the lack of information as to when the water will be shut off, would be offset if there were proper instructions issued and these instructions were properly carried out.

11.10 p.m.

Hon. R. G. MAPP: Mr. Chairman, I think I will have to reply to that. I cannot say, Sir, that this Department does not move with the times so far as public spiritedness is concerned; or shows any unwillingness not to make the public suffer as much as possible when they have work in progress. I believe that this morning there were two big breaks: one in Roebuck Street and one further up by the Belle Gully end. I know that at least one of the breaks affected my area because I could not get a supply of water. This break affected people all along Station Hill and I believe people in Barbarees Hill. I know that break occurred after Rediffusion went off last night, so the hon. member can see the difficulty there.

So far as the other matter about foreigners is concerned, we will not hesitate to use stringent measures against anybody, not only foreigners but other people as well, especially where they use water indiscriminately.

Mr. BRANCKER: I am only saying that I have not noticed any case since the Minister made his broadcast of a Barbadian using water for gardening purposes, but I have noticed instances of non-Barbadians using water as though the broadcast had not been made and as though they do not take the Minister or his broadcast very seriously.

With respect to the delivery and the notification of water being shut off, I had myself, some time ago when a certain water supply had been shut off, to dial and remonstrate with the Manager of the Department to put it over Rediffusion or by any other means let the people in the district know that water was about to be turned off; and up to the time when I spoke to him - and the water had been locked off for some time then - a lorry had not arrived on the scene with water.

The Minister should bear this in mind and issue instructions accordingly which we hope will be carried out and will be taken seriously. A lorry should be kept in readiness with a driver or drivers handy to move out as soon as such a situation arises, even if it means that a

driver has to be kept continuously on duty - not one driver, but somebody to drive the lorry. He should be there on duty waiting for a call; he would wait for so many hours and go off and then somebody else would come and take over from him.

Th Hon. Minister seems very happy about it, but he lives in St. Michael. Mr. Chairman, they can always get water to your constituents because they are as near to you as they are to the constituents of the Minister of Trade; but the cases in which the lorries have to travel are in the country districts.

Mr. Chairman, when a report goes through that water is going to be switched off, it is generally the case that they have to hunt around for the driver, and not expecting a call he might not be nearby with the result that the poor people in the outlying districts have to wait so long. You know the time it takes a lorry to travel to Belleplaine or to Pie Corner, plus the length of time it takes to find the lorry driver to go and start up the motor. I think it is false economy. If it is a fact that they do not keep a lorry waiting and ready for such calls and there is no driver available or handy, that is to be deprecated. That would be one case of expenditure which would be a 100 percent justified, particularly for the poorest type of people who have no transport and cannot drive to another district in order to get water.

The question that the sum of \$1,059,407 under Head XL - Waterworks - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XLI - SOCIAL WELFARE

Head XLI - Social Welfare - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$20,390 under Head XLI - Social Welfare stand part of the Schedule.

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

The question that the sum of \$29,390 under Head XLI - Social Welfare - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XLII - CONTROLS, SUBSIDIES ETC.

Head XLII - Controls; Subsidies etc. - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$295,806 under Head XLII - Controls, Subsidies etc. - stand part of the Schedule.

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

The question that the sum of \$295,806 under Head XLII - Controls, Subsidies Etc., - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XLIV - CROWN SOLICITOR

Head XLIV - Crown Solicitor - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$1,832 under Head XLII - Crown Solicitor - stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. BRANCKER: Mr. Chairman, under Item 9, we are told by the Note that the sum of \$100 for law books is to purchase, not text books but periodicals and digests. Of course, such works are of value and are useful for the office of the Crown Solicitor. The individual who happens to be the present Crown Solicitor is a very intelligent and promising young lawyer, and it is good that he should have these books available, and I know he will use them.

When it comes to Law Periodicals and Digests, these are things to which one refers off and on, but one does not need them in one's office every day. My suggestion is that these Law Periodicals and Digests would be better placed in the Law Library where they would be available to the entire Legal Profession, from the Chief Justice down, than to be put away in the Library of the Crown Solicitor. If it happens that the same periodicals and digests which the Crown Solicitor wants and proposes to buy out of this \$100

a year are supplied in the Law Library, it would not make any difference if there are two copies, because on any contentious matter as you will realise, Mr. Chairman, there are only two sides; do if there are only two copies of the same periodicals and digests in the Law Library, that would do no harm and constitute no superfluity and redundancy.

My only reason for referring to this vote is to suggest that these Law Periodicals and Digests as they appear under the Head of the expenditure are not Law Books, because the Law Book is referred to much more often than the Digest.
11.20 p.m.

The question that the sum of \$1,832 under Head XLIV - Crown Solicitor - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XLV - TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING

Head XLV - Town and Country Planning - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I beg to move that the sum of \$25,645 under Head XLV - Town and Country Planning - stand part of the Schedule.

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

The question that the sum of \$25,645 under Head XLV - Town and Country Planning - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XLVI - LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Head XLVI - Local Government - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I beg to move that the sum of \$30,528 under Head XLVI - Local Government - stand part of the Schedule.

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

The question that the sum of \$30,528 under Head XLVI - Local Government - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD XLVII - PUBLIC ASSISTANCE BOARD

Head XLVII - Public Assistance Board was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I beg to move that the sum of \$3,845 under Head XLVII - Public Assistance Board - stand part of the Schedule.

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

The question that the sum of \$3,845 under Head XLVII - Public Assistance Board - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

1. ANNEXED ESTIMATES - POST OFFICE

1. Annexed Estimates - Post Office - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I beg to move that the sum of \$377,644 under 1. Annexed Estimates - Post Office - stand part of the Schedule.

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

The question that the sum of \$377,644 under 1. Annexed Estimates - Post Office - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

PART II - CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

1. DEEP WATER HARBOUR

There was no quorum and the Bell was rung. A quorum was obtained.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: We now come to part II - Capital Expenditure. The total expenditure under each Head appears on pages 166 to 169 of the Estimates and on page 164 hon. members will find the amounts to be met from Loan Funds. The difference between these amounts has to be appropriated.

Under Head I, hon. members will see that the total under Deep Water Harbour is \$1,800,292. I am asking leave to move in two items. Item 3 - Buildings is to be increased by a revote of \$22,000, and a new item - Item 5 (New) - Drainage to be inserted in the sum of \$108,135 (being the revote of \$68,135 and new provision of \$40,000.) This will bring the total expenditure under Deep Water Harbour (as amended) to \$1,930,427.

If hon. members will turn to page 164 they will find there that expenditure under Deep Water Harbour to be met from the Loan Funds is \$1,752,292. Of this amount item 3 - Buildings has to be changed from \$102,000 to \$124,000, an increase of \$22,000 which I just mentioned as a move in and which will be met exclusively from Loan Funds under Deep Water Harbour to \$1,774,292. The difference between this total and the amended total which I have already mentioned from page 166 is the amount to be appropriated - \$156,145.

I beg to move that this sum be voted under Head I - Deep Water Harbour.

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

The question that the sum of \$156,135 under Head I, Deep Water Harbour, stand part of the Schedule, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD II - HOUSING

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Hon. members will find that the total under this Head on page 166 is \$350,000. On page 164 we find that this complete amount of expenditure is to be met from Loan Funds and therefore no money is to be appropriated.

III. DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Similarly, in the case of III, Development Board, the total expenditure for the year is \$1 million, and if hon. members refer to page 164 they will find the total amount is to be met from Loan Funds; hence no money to be appropriated.

IV. WATER SUPPLIES

The same thing applies with Water Supplies. There is no money to be appropriated as all the expenditure will be met from Loan Funds.

V. MEDICAL SERVICES

Under Medical Services the total expenditure appearing on page 166 is \$1,849,982. Members will see on page 164 that none of this expenditure will be met from Loan Funds, and therefore this whole amount will have to be appropriated. I beg to move that the sum of \$1,849,982 be voted under this Head.

I beg to move that Head II, Housing stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, there is just one brief enquiry which I would like to make of the Hon. Premier, I notice in the explanatory note to item 2 "District Hospital", this is what is stated: "For the establishment of a District Hospital and an Outpatients Clinic in the Northern area". Is the Hon. Premier in a position to say just where that District Hospital will be established?

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I cannot say, Mr. Chairman, if the actual site has been decided upon; I do not know if the hon. junior member for St. James could assist us in this matter.

Mr. SEARLES: Mr. Chairman, I think that the idea is to change the Almshouse in St. Peter into a Hospital. In

St. James we are using the spot at the dispensary as a clinic. The clinic will be in St. James and the District Hospital will be established in St. Peter.

The question that the sum of \$1,849,982 under Head V - Medical Services - stand part of the Schedule, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD VI - EDUCATION

Head VI - Education - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, the total appearing on page 167 of the Capital Estimates under this Head is \$507,425. I am asking leave to amend this Head as follows:-

Item 2 - Combermere School to be reduced by \$6,000. Note to read: 'For re-surfacing of yard and converting open portico to Lunch Room' - this replaces the present Note;

Item 12 - Loans for Higher Education reduced by \$15,000;

Item 15 (New) - Queen's College, \$38,000 to be inserted.

This brings the total expenditure under this Head to \$524,425.

Under "Education" in the Resolution for Loan Funds on page 164, hon. members will see a sum of \$30,000 appearing under loans for Higher Education. As we have reduced this amount by \$15,000, as I have just said, only the sum of \$15,000 will be met from Loan Funds and so the balance of the vote of \$524,425 will have to be appropriated.

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

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I beg to move therefore that the sum of \$509,425 under Head VI 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 VII - AGRICULTURE

Head VII - Agriculture - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, under this Head the total Capital Expenditure appearing on page 168 is \$1,515,066. Of this amount, the sum of \$1,416,224 is to be met from Loan Funds. I beg to move therefore that the sum of \$98,842, being the difference between these two amounts under this Head, stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, in connection with this Head, I am drawing to the attention of the Hon. Minister the deplorable conditions in the St. Bernard's Village area; I am asking him to speed up as fast as he possibly can and as soon as he gets this money, the conserving of the soil in the St. Bernard's area.

The question that the sum of \$98,842 under Head VII stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD VIII - COMMUNICATIONS

Head VIII - Communications - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, under this Head the whole amount will have to be voted, as no provision has been made under loan funds. I beg to move that the sum of \$2,066,600 under Head VIII 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 IX - MISCELLANEOUS

Head IX - Miscellaneous - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Under this Head, Mr. Chairman, I am asking leave to move in an increase of \$61,150 under Item 1 - Government Offices. Also a reduction under Item 4, Police Stations, of \$30,000. This brings the total of Capital Expenditure under this Head to \$333,250.

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

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: As none of this amount is to be met from loan funds, I beg to move that the sum of \$333,250 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 - ROAD TRANSPORT

Head X - Road Transport - was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, as this amount of \$242,362 will be met from loan funds, no amount under this Head need be appropriated.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I now beg to move that the Estimates be the Schedule to the Appropriation Bill.

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

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

Clause 1 of the Bill was called and passed.

Clause 2 was called.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I am asking leave that the words "twenty-three million seven hundred and ninety thousand nine hundred and two" occurring in the last two lines of this Clause be deleted and that the words "twenty-three million eight hundred and fifty seven thousand and thirty-one" be substituted therefor.

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

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: I beg to move that Clause 2 as amended stand part of the Bill.

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

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

Clauses 3 to 5 were called and passed.

11.40 p.m.

Clause 6 was called and passed.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Your Honour do now report the passing of one Bill with amendment in Committee.

Hon. M. E. COX: 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.

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

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Mr. SPEAKER: Order No. 2 stands in the name of the Hon. Leader of the House: to move the House into 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 of Supply.

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

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

the House went into Committee of Supply, Mr. BRYAN being in the Chair.

RESOLUTION re ISSUES OF ADVANCES FOR CAPITAL WORKS

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Chairman, this Resolution as the Addendum sets out deals with certain items which we have already considered in the Estimates, Deep Water Harbour, Housing, Development Board, Water Supplies, Education, Agriculture and Road Transport.

I beg to move that this Resolution for the sum of \$5,273,878 do now pass.

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

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

On the motion of Hon. M. E. COX, seconded by Hon. D. D. GARNER, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported the passing of the Resolution in Committee and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On the separate motions of Hon. M. E. COX, seconded in each case by Hon. D. D. GARNER, the Resolution was read a first and second time and agreed to.

RESOLUTION re PORT ESTIMATES

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker, this is a Resolution in connection with the Port Department which gives approval of the estimates of the Port Department for 1961-62. The total revenue is \$1,578,100. The Addendum also sets out the total Operating Expenditure, the total Capital Charges, Contribution to Renewals Fund for Wasting Assets, Replacement Fund for Static Facilities, Betterment Fund and Reserve Fund. I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

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

THE EXPIRING LAWS CONTINUANCE ACT, 1961

Mr. SPEAKER: Order No. 3 stands in the name of the Hon. Premier: to move the second reading of a Bill to continue various expiring Laws.

Hon. Dr. H. G. H. CUMMINS: Mr. Speaker, this is a hardy annual. We are all acquainted with this Bill to continue expiring Laws. This Bill must be passed so that these laws may continue next year. The laws are all set out in the Schedule and we are quite familiar with them.

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

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

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

On the motion of Hon. M. E. COX, seconded by Hon. F. E. MILLER, Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the House went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. BRYAN being in the Chair.

The Preamble was postponed.

Clauses 1 and 2 were called and passed.

The Schedule was passed.

The Preamble was passed.

On the motion of Hon. M. E. COX, seconded by Hon. D. D. GARNER, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported the passing of

the Bill in Committee, and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

11.50 p.m.

On separate motions of Hon. M. E. COX, seconded by Hon. D. D. GARNER, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

THE ADJOURNMENT

Hon. M. E. COX: I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday, 21st March, 1961 at 12 o'clock noon.

Mr. SPEAKER: That motion need not be made. This House now stands adjourned.
11.53 p.m.