

THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SESSION 1962

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 24th July, 1962.

Pursuant to the adjournment, the House of Assembly met at 2.30 p.m. o'clock today.

PRESENT

His Honour J. E. T. BRANCKER, O.C., (*Speaker*); Mr. L. E. SMITH, J.P.; Mr. F. C. GODDARD; Hon. C. E. TALMA, (*Minister of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries*); Mr. J. W. CORBIN; Hon. G. G. FERGUSON, (*Minister of Communications, Works, Housing and Tourism*); Mr. W. R. COWARD; Mr. W. R. LOWE; His Honour E. L. CAR-MICHAEL, J.P. (*Deputy Speaker*); Mr. L. A. LYNCH, J.P.; Mr. G. V. BATSON, (*Chairman of Committees*); Mr. N. W. BOXILL; Mr. J. B. YEARWOOD and Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS, (*Minister of Social Services*).

Prayers were read.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to report to the House in respect of Minutes that although none are ready at this meeting, yet I am assured that there are Minutes of ten meetings in the hands of the Government Printer and eight sets in respect of eight meetings subsequent to the last of these meetings which the Clerk has for completion. I hope by next meeting we will have the majority of these Minutes available for confirmation. I know how concerned members are when the Minutes are not up to date, but I am advised this was due to the number of meetings which took place a few weeks ago, and that is why the Minutes are not as up to date as would normally be expected.

I have the honour to inform the House that I have received from the Secretary of the Judicial Advisory Council a copy of the Scale of Fees fixed by the Judicial Advisory Council in the exercise of the powers conferred upon that Council for laying on the Table of this Chamber.

PAPERS LAID

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Premier and Hon. Minister of Finance, I am commanded to lay the following:-

Statement showing the amounts advanced by the Government of Barbados and the amounts received from Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom under the provisions of the Colonial Development and Welfare Acts, for the period ended on the 31st December, 1961 in respect of schemes sanctioned by the Legislature.

The Annual Report of the Barbados Fire Service for the year 1961.

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

Statement showing the sums advanced to the Post Master General for the payment of Money Orders, the amounts repaid to the Accountant General, and the amounts due by the various Post Offices to 31st May, 1962.

PETITION

Mr. SPEAKER: Mr. Clerk has enquired of Petitions. There is on my file for presentation a Petition from the Right Reverend Lewis Evans, B.D., M.Th. to myself and other members of this House in connection with the Rectory of St. George. Is any hon. member sponsoring this Petition?

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Hon. Premier and Minister of Finance, I beg to give notice of the following:-

Resolution to place the sum of \$2,254 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to supplement the estimates 1962-63, Part I - Current as shown in the Supplementary Estimate 1962-63, No. 14, which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

A Bill further to amend the Pensions Act, 1947.

A Bill further to amend the Commissions of Enquiry Act, 1908.

On my own behalf, I beg to give notice of the following:-

A Bill further to amend the Co-operative Societies Act, 1949.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of my intention to move the House into Committee of Supply at its next meeting to consider the money Resolution of which notice has just been given.

QUESTIONS

Mr. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, to enquire of the Appropriate Minister:-

Can the Minister state whether the funds for the erection of a wing at Queens College have been exhausted?

2. If the answer to above is 'yes', will the Minister state whether Public Works Department employees are being paid for work on the said project from any other sources, or at all?

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME

On the motion of Hon. C. E. TALMA, seconded by Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS, a Bill further to amend the Pensions Act, 1947, was read a first time.

On the motion of Hon. C. E. TALMA, seconded by Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS, a Bill further to amend the Commissions of Enquiry Act, 1908, was read a first time.

On the motion of Hon. C. E. TALMA, seconded by Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS, a Bill further to amend the Co-operative Societies Act, 1949, was read a first time. 2.45 p.m.

RESOLUTION re PREMIER'S FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND BUDGETARY PROPOSALS

Mr. SPEAKER: When the House adjourned on Tuesday last, debate was continuing on the Resolution re the Premier's Financial Statement and Budgetary Proposals. The hon. junior member for St. Joseph was speaking and at 4.30 o'clock he had not yet apparently concluded his address. He may now resume his address, if he so desires.

Mr. SMITH: On the last occasion when I was speaking on the Budgetary Proposals of the Hon. Premier I was trying to compare the tax between motor cars and poultry. I said that rather than having to levy a tax on poultry, you should levy it on motor cars purchased above \$5,000. I use the word, poultry, because if I use fowl backs, wings and necks I may be told that such things are not poultry. Any small man or big man who is in a position to pay more than \$5,000 for a motor car, or as soon as anyone begins to talk about buying a \$6,000 or \$7,000 car, such person is able to pay more taxes because he is holding a piece of change. Therefore, when you put an additional tax upon a man who is buying such a car, you will be able to relieve the poor man of the additional tax on his poultry. Believe me, Sir, there are people who are not able to pay this tax, but they have to pay because it is the law. As a matter of fact, I can only make my point now, but these taxation proposals have gone into force already.

Surely, if the Hon. Premier had taken time off to go into these figures or if he knew what these people have to buy by way of fowl backs, wings and bones, he would not have put on this tax on poultry. I am sure he knows nothing about fowl backs because he does not have to buy them. I am sure if his mistress were to put anything like that before him, he would want to know from her whether she brought the dog food to the table. The person who is able to eat poultry is going to buy the legs. The people who do business in poultry know what they are doing. Rather than sending poultry down whole so that when you buy it, you get everything, they put the legs together in one parcel, the wings in another, and the backs in another and they fix the prices to suit and, of course, the poorest persons have to buy the cheapest. Now, you have hit very hard the poor man's poultry. I will still maintain that instead of calling it poultry you should call it bones. I repeat, in your taxation on motor cars, any person who wants one for over \$5,000, you should add another 10% tax to that car: and if you had done that you could have afforded to leave out the tax on the poor man's bones. I do not know what the Hon. Premier was thinking of at the time: I believe he does not know what he was taxing. As a matter of fact, as he said, these things should be given away; but if you can get something sold, you are not going to give it away.

The Hon. Premier went on to say:-

"In a full year the measures which I am introducing would balance the Budget and provide money to meet additional debt charges. You will remember I said that the deficit was \$2,352,189 and the amount of revenue in a full year which would be derived from the proposals which I have just made would be \$2,958,178 or nearly \$3 million. In a full year this would more than balance the Budget and provide us with money to meet additional debt charges; so, in my humble opinion, even if I say so myself, I have now placed the finances of the Island on a firm footing."

Now, Sir, the Hon. Premier has placed the financial position of the Island on a firm footing by taxing things which should not be taxed and leaving out things which should be taxed. It is his aim and object to put the Island's finances on a firm footing and it is his intention to do so regardless of how he puts it. All of these Budget proposals

have gone into action already, but I still maintain that while he is putting the Island's finances on a firm footing, he is putting the poor people to stand on their heads and not on their feet. As a matter of fact, he is not even putting them to stand on their heads; he is putting them crossways because whenever a man dies he lays down. I can say that it was the clear intention of the Hon. Premier to kill these poor people because there are other things which should be taxed but which are not taxed. I feel that it is not fair to the people who are responsible for the present Government being in power today.

The Hon. Premier goes on to say in his speech:

"In the current financial year, however, already three months have gone. The additional revenue which will be collected by 31st March, 1963 is estimated at \$2,218,600. This leaves a gap of \$133,589 as compared with the \$2.3 million which I first started out with when I became Minister of Finance. Some of the Income Tax arrears which I have mentioned are probably uncollectible and the Departmental Estimates of Revenue for the current year already includes part of the arrears. However, the charging of interest and prosecution for non-payment will lead to the recovery of more than the balance required."

"Sir, I sincerely hope that the proposals which I have made would take us out of the wood and help us to balance our Budget to the end of the financial year, 1962-63."

I am very glad to know that these proposals would take us out of the wood, but I am sure that many people would be hard hit while we are travelling out of the wood. Some people would be crying and some would be laughing. I still maintain that it is not right to levy taxation in this direction.

Mr. Speaker, just one more point. I notice something has been left out. No provision has been made for the Government Pensioners. Surely those people should have been given some kind of consideration because the present Government made the necessary promises. They went as far as to put it into their Manifesto; therefore, this is nothing which I am trying to make out; I would not try to make out a bad case for them. They said in their Manifesto that the present Government - which meant the last Government - has completely ignored the claim of Government pensioners for an increase to cope with the steady and relentless cost of living which we have experienced during the last ten years. 2.55 p.m.

This is what is stated in the Manifesto of the present Government. "The Party will therefore set up a Committee to recommend a scale of increases for this deserving group of Government Pensioners." Before the present Government was elected to power, they knew that the Government pensioners wanted help, but since the same pensioners have assisted in electing them to power, they have forgotten these pensioners. What I have just read out is in their Manifesto. It is not fair, after making these promises - I almost said wild promises and I may have to call them wild promises before I am finished - after making such promises.....

Hon. C. E. TALMA: On a point of order. The hon. member is attempting to accuse this Government of letting down the Government pensioners. Little does he know that the present Government, having been left with a deficit of \$3 million in respect of Civil Servants, half a million dollars for displaced workers and \$45,000 to pay the transport workers - having been left with an empty Treasury to do all of these things, one can well understand that the present Government cannot yet get around to the Government pensioners because the Government is finding difficulty in paying the commitments which were left by the last Government. To suggest that everything can be done within a year shows how preposterous the hon. member's argument is.

Mr. SMITH: This paragraph in their Manifesto did not say: "Provided that the money is there to be spent"; it did not even make any promises. It says that: "The Party will therefore set up a Committee to recommend a scale of increases for this deserving group of Government pension-

ers." Where is the Committee? Has this Committee been set up? I would be prepared to go along with the Minister if the Committee had been set up and if that Committee had found that these things were impossible to be done because of an empty Treasury. From the way in which the promise was made by the promisers, nobody would expect to find an empty Treasury. They were talking as if the Treasury was full to the top and running over; the promises were made in such a way as to capture these people and get their votes regardless of the wherewithal. Now they are blaming an empty Treasury! How could the Treasury be an empty one?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: The Hon. Minister of Agriculture omitted to point out to the hon. junior member for St. Joseph that presently.....

Mr. SPEAKER: I do not think that it is a point of order to refer to what another hon. member did not say.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: What I am trying to say is this: because of what the Hon. Minister of Agriculture omitted to say, the hon. junior member for St. Joseph is going on to accuse the Government of something which is actually engaging the attention of the present Government, that is, the setting up of a Committee. I am saying that at present a Committee is working on this matter. We were only in here for six months and Rome was not built in a day.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member has made his point of order; a Committee is working on this matter.

Mr. SMITH: I had to say last Tuesday that it appears to me that members on the other side do not hear what is said by the Premier. I cannot see that they should be trying to defend the Premier when they did not have the chance to say anything about the proposals. I believe that I have had more chance than they. An hour before one comes in here, one knows or hears something; that is very nearly the same time that I had the information too. Taking it from the hon. member, it would appear that the hardest thing for the Government to do now is to set up a Committee, but taking it from a Press Conference, the Premier has said that nothing can be done before next year for these pensioners. The Premier did not say that the question of going into this matter is engaging the attention of the Government; he said that nothing will be done for these people before next year. Whom are we to believe? - The Premier or the Minister?

Mr. SPEAKER: There is also the question of the accuracy of the newspaper report.

Mr. SMITH: I believe that the newspaper report is accurate this time. If the Premier did not say that, he had all the chances of calling upon the particular newspaper and asking it to make a correction. Since the Premier has not done so, what he has said is correct for me and for the public. These poor people have to buy the same commodities as other people. These pensioners have to buy the poultry; they have to buy the "groggs". I suppose they may have had a drink already, but these are old people with whom you are dealing. The Premier says that these Civil Servants have emptied the Treasury, but they have to eat and drink. It is true that the majority of these pensioners might soon pass to the Great Beyond, but you should still try and remember them because they have given this island proper service. These pensioners should therefore be considered in the same light as the present Civil Servants are considered. I am warning now that these old people say prayers and their prayers will be heard because they will be honest and true. It is said that you should not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn, but this Government is doing more than muzzling the ox, because of the way in which they are going about these proposals. I believe that they mean well, but the way of approach is just like when you have a child who is ill and you call in the Doctor. The Doctor prescribes medicine for this child. The first dose you give the child causes it to show signs of improvement. You cannot wait; you want the child to be up and running off again. You may measure the next dose too heavy because you want the child to be up and running about again.

3.05 p.m.

At the first dose you give it, it may improve, but the next dose that is too heavy is given to the child and the child goes for good. That is how I term this Government. It means well because they remember the promises made and are trying their utmost to carry them out, but they must fail because they are moving in the wrong direction. Whenever you speak to a certain friend of mine, he says "take it easy". I wonder if he ever warns his Government to take it easy, because he is a member of the Party. You promised hot meals and free secondary education which are going to take a lot of money to carry out. You promised also to set up a Committee to consider pensioners. Why have you not carried that out? You have left out the one that could be done with the snap of a finger, and are carrying out the ones which will cost a great amount of money. You are carrying out these proposals feeling that you will be O.K. within the next three years, but I am sure that whilst you are doing that there are lots of people who are dissatisfied, and there are a lot of parents who still have to pay for their children's education, lunch and so on, and these will be more than those who have not got to pay.

Mr. Speaker, a Government cannot be a Government unless they get the majority of votes, and the majority of people are dissatisfied with the way in which this Government is carrying out their proposals. They have failed to carry out the promise made to Government pensioners, which means that they do not intend to help these people at all. Here it is: you have an easy thing to do and a hard thing to do; what are you going to do? You should take the easier first; but if they care to take the harder first, they will pay for it. The Government, Sir, is taxing these people to carry out these proposals. The Minister might not have been there that night, but it was some time in December that the Hon. Premier said that if by such a date - I do not remember the date - in January or February, the hon. junior member for St. Lucy did not put free secondary education into effect, he would have to go and look for something else to do. They were not in the Government yet, and I take it that they did not know the financial position, but they cannot say that because statements are circularised to hon. members. The hon. member told people who were listening to him that by such a date in January this would be done; he knew well that the hon. member would win a seat and would be Minister of Education, and the people voted for him on that promise. That is how the Hon. Premier managed to sweep out the old Government and the people swept in the new one; but I am sure by the end of this term it will be on the reverse, and the broom will sweep them out and sweep in somebody else on these same educational proposals.

Mr. Speaker, there are about 40,000 children going to school, and you are providing for about 10,000. What about the other 30,000? Imagine you are going to establish a pilot scheme for free meals, one in the North, one in the City and one in the South. Do you mean to say that there are no other schools in St. Lucy? Suppose the scheme is at Selah, what about the other school further out? Will the children have to walk from that school to get a free meal? Do you mean to say that at one school children will be getting something free while the other children have to buy? It is true it is a pilot scheme, but whilst that is being carried out, some are dying. I heard the Principal of a private school say on the floor of this House that the majority of private schools want closing down because they are robbing the people and it is a real racket. I would have to believe that gentleman, because he is in the same business. Here you have a Government, Sir, hearing and knowing what is being done to the parents and children of this country, and rather than take the \$258,000 and build more schools, or rent the same buildings from the private people and control these schools, they are using that money for a pilot scheme.

3.15 p.m.

You will not be throwing away the money; but in this case you will be throwing it away because no parent has ever complained that they cannot give their children a lunch; they have complained that they are not able to pay the fees and in some cases they are not able to get their children into a school. If this Government wants to do something, let them take all these children first out of the

hands of these robbers, and put them into proper schools, pay the masters and control them. You know, Sir what a particular person said some of the Principals of these schools were, I would say the same thing too. I term them this way. These private schools - the one which the member referred to and the others - are like a dance house. It is just as if you are going to have a dance and you get at the door and collect the money and then you do not care what happens after that. You do not care if the people who have paid their money dance the "faciole" or if they dance the twist; you just want to draw money at the door. I am going to take the time from one of those Principals because he said that they are rogues and their schools should be closed down. I repeat, they are like your keeping a dancehouse. So long as you draw money at the door, you do not mind whether they twist in or twist out and they do twist out because sometimes they have to jump through the windows. They do that to save their lives.

I will not call anybody's name, but I have seen it and it may sound harsh when I say it: but when you have to represent people, you should represent them and I am going to do my utmost to show the people in St. Joseph at least, if not the people of the Island that I intend to represent them as honestly as I can, and fearlessly too. I am not going to draw back anything. I am saying that a lot of wrong things go on at some of these private secondary schools. At some of these schools, the girls leave school and stop at some place, and then some of the same masters take them up from there and drive them out and drive them in'. After members of this Government have heard about this, if they did not know and hear such things were carried on and now hear about it for the first time, are they going to spend so much money on these three schools just to give a hot meal? In other words, are they going to help just a comparatively few children while the majority of other children will not be getting something wet or something dry? In other words, are you going to throw away all this money on this school-meal project or are you going to take those children in private secondary schools into your own schools?

I say that this Government should view this matter seriously. I am in favour of your making a levy on things in order to raise revenue, but I am not in favour of your hitting one side too hard and the other going free. After the Government has heard of what goes on at these private schools, I am sure that they will do something about them. I think it is one of the members of this House who said that some of the children taught in these schools cannot spell "the" or cannot write their name. The majority of parents of these children have never had secondary education; therefore, the child is left up to its own ability to learn because the parent is not in a position to question it on any languages or subjects which he or she is taught. The parent does not know anything about it: so you have to go by what the child tells you or what is stated in the report. You have as much sense to read the report which would state sometimes "good", "very fair", "very good" and such things; but you do not have the ability to find out if what is stated is true or not because it was said in here that false reports are being sent out to these parents. You cannot blame the parents: you will have to blame the Government if it continues to let such things be carried on. I repeat, stop the free meal project. I will not call it free because too many people have to pay for it. Spend that money in the right direction. If it will take too long to build a school or two, rent the present buildings at which these people are carrying on these private schools. They want controlling and they want a little help.

I cannot see how some of them want help by the way which I see some of the Principals are living, because everyone of them is fighting to get the same thing. As soon as one gets a new car, you find the other one gets one too. I really cannot say that they are suffering. The children who are attending those schools are suffering. Parents of those children are responsible for the present Government being in power or, as a matter of fact, they are responsible for any Government being in power; therefore, if you

want to keep this Government, you will do something about this matter and reconsider your plans as far as this side of education is concerned. If you reconsider it, you will be doing a good job. Try and get these children from out of the hands of these racketeers. That is what a member said in here. Do not think of subsidising one or two of these schools and at the same time allow the majority to carry on. The boys and girls of today will be the men and women of tomorrow, and if we show to them now that we are responsible for helping them to receive a good secondary education, they will always bless us. When we die and go to our graves, they will say who were responsible for helping them.

Some people do not want free secondary education for their children. A man was talking to me - or I was talking to him - and he said to me: "I am not in favour of my child getting its education free." I asked: "Why?" He said: "I am not a pauper: I intend to send him out and let him learn a profession. When he returns and he becomes great, it can be hurled at him that he is so great now and we had to pay taxes to give him free education." This man feels within himself that it will not be anything nice to him or his son when he hears such remarks being passed.
3.25 p.m.

He said: "Suppose I am learning to be a doctor and, you know, it is not always that you can attend to one person as you would attend to the other. Suppose I said: 'I have stopped examining people today'; that same person can say that if we did not help you to get your education free you could not tell us so today".

Mr. MOTTLEY: That is so with every Barbados Scholar.

Mr. SPEAKER: May I remind hon. members of Standing Order No. 29 - Behaviour of Members not speaking?

Mr. SMITH: The Barbados Scholar did not get his education free as children are getting their education free now. The Barbados Scholar got a scholarship. It is not fair that if you have 100 children going to school, ten of them should be getting their education free and the other 90 have to pay for their education. Could that be fair? I would like somebody to show me how that could be fair. Some people are getting off and those who have to send their children to the private secondary schools have to pay for their education. I had to pay school fees at one time; I used to pay \$24.00 a term for one boy at Harrison College; but there are some parents whose children are attending private schools and they have to pay \$24.00 a term. You have a home with three or four children going to a private school and the parents are paying \$24.00 a term for each child; that would be \$96.00 per term for four children and next door to that home there is a person who has one child who is getting its education free. The very poorest people are paying through their noses for the education of their children and now they have to contribute to the upkeep of the schools by way of taxation. You have to pay for education and you are not getting any freedom; you have to pay for the education of my child and you have to pay for the education of yours as well. That is just like the Church. There are those who are asked to contribute to a Church which they do not attend and they also have to contribute to their own Church; therefore they are contributing both ways. When it comes to the schools, I say that that is not fair. First things should be dealt with first. While you are paying this money, you are not getting 100% service because we are told that some parents are being robbed; therefore you are paying something for nothing.

I want to know, Sir, if the present Government, after hearing these remarks are still going to continue to carry on even with the pilot scheme. The Minister of Education would know how much it would take to feed a child, and I am sure that before bringing this scheme into operation he should at least know what it would cost to carry this scheme into effect. I think Your Honour will probably remember that the Hon. Minister brought a very nice basket with some supplies in here and I thought that he was going away; he was telling this House how much it would take to keep a labourer. The Minister must have drawn the matter to the

attention of the Hon. Premier because he had everything in that basket on the table - the sugar bowl, the lard oil bottle and so forth.

Mr. SPEAKER: I think that at that time the hon. member was pointing out how far the amount of old age pension then paid out would go.

Mr. SMITH: All right, Sir, but how far will it go with the Government pensioners now? They are not even getting what the hon. member had in the basket, I can understand that the present Government means well, but the way of approach is such that they are trying to bite off more than they can chew. That is a serious thing. There is the possibility that you are liable to choke yourself, or if they bite off such a portion, the children of the private schools might get choked. Anybody will have to agree with me; those parents who have children and those who do not have any children will also agree with me because what I am saying is a commonsense thing. Those who have no children will say that it is not fair for John to have to pay for all six of his children at the private secondary schools while his neighbour has his children attending the Government schools free. You should try to rope in all the children because what is going on outside does not smell so well. The Government means to help everybody, but they are trying to help in one way and they may kill people in another way.

When you come to the health resort houses, that is a first-class thing on paper. When this bait is thrown out at election time, you would have to be a very good fish not to get hooked. You will have to be accustomed to biting off all of this bait and just leave the hook; but if you do not know that a hook is there, then you will swallow the whole thing, the cord and all.
3.35 p.m.

Mr. Speaker, health resort houses are very good, but not every worker would be able to utilise these facilities, because you would have to build houses along the whole seaside to get the workers there. You may get a few going there with their children for a month or two, but they still have to pay, and when they leave they do not have anywhere to live. There are people who have no place to live and some still live at their father-in-law or mother-in-law; so what is the good of spending all that money in health resort houses while people are outside and the wind can blow on them? You should help these people to get houses first. It is true you should own the land because it is your intention to build resort houses; but after you have helped these people to own their own homes and be able to live and sleep in happiness, then you can build the resort houses. As I said, it is very good bait, but it is not working so well with the intelligent people who can think.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, I have sat down here for the last half an hour wondering which of the panegyrics the hon. member was indulging in. I understand that he is dealing with the Order under Private Members' Business and replying to the Financial Statement. Your Honour did not have the opportunity to be in the House when the Financial Statement was debated, but it has now been printed and I assume quite safely that Your Honour has given it careful consideration; but I honestly do not think that the time of the House ought to be wasted in this way. We have heard dissertations on secondary education, we have heard a farrago of nonsense on other matters in which the hon. member is evidently unskilled, and we have heard nothing about the Financial Statement.

I do not think, Mr. Speaker, that he should be allowed to wander around like that. If he does not understand a Financial Statement, he should sit down and say nothing. I have a lot of work which I can do otherwise than sit down here, and I am sure hon. members are equally well employed. If the hon. member wants to say something intelligent - and I underline the word "intelligent" - about the Financial Statement, I will be glad to listen; but how can I reply to this kind of business about free secondary education and somebody not wanting his son to be berated, that he wants him to play poor-great and that kind of nonsense? Are you honestly asking grown-up people to sit down in

here and listen to that kind of nonsense week after week? The hon. member talked right through Private Members' Business last week, and from the reports he said absolutely nothing about the Financial Statement; and if you allow the hon. member to continue like this, it means that other people are going to think this is the pattern which they can follow.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member did not talk through Private Members' Business last week, because we began with Prayers, Notices and the other formalities which precede a sitting of the House; but in respect of his present comment which is in the nature of a Budgetary Speech, he is speaking on the debate initiated by the Hon. Leader of the Opposition that this House view with anxiety the Financial Statement and Budgetary Proposals for the fiscal year, 1962-63 contained in a Statement laid in this Honourable House on Tuesday, 26th June, 1962, by the Hon. Premier. The hon. member is, in my view, in order in expressing his point of view on the Budget, and what he would do and what he would not do with the increased revenue derived from the taxation which is proposed, as well as expressing his view whether he views with favour or disfavour the proposals for taxation. It is well known that a Speech on the Budget or on the Financial Statement is regarded as the occasion when hon. members may be allowed even greater latitude than normally is the case, and that does not apply to the hon. member alone, but to any other hon. member.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, with all due respect, Sir, a speech on the Appropriation Bill is an entirely different matter from a Financial Statement dealing exclusively with taxation proposals. What I said I mean. I do not intend to sit down here, if Your Honour is going to allow the hon. member to persist, and listen to that kind of foolishness when people's lives are drifting away in the Hospital, people are being born and waiting for food and everything else, Civil Servants are watching the clock for 4 o'clock to see when they can get home, and all life is going on, and he is here with hon. members' lives ticking away talking about education and all that. There was absolutely nothing in the Statement about education; it dealt with taxation and taxation alone. The hon. member obviously is not in a position to understand what is going on, and he is being allowed to drift all over the place. I do not intend to sit here, and I am a free person; so if Your Honour is going to sit down and suffer under that kind of indignity, I do not intend to do it. I am a dictator for myself; I can leave here when I want to; but I do not think, Sir, that you are correct in saying that hon. members are allowed latitude in a Budget Speech. For the twenty-five years you have been in here, you have not had a Budget Speech; so you cannot be talking from experience.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am talking of my knowledge of Hansard and Parliamentary procedure in Great Britain which is always accepted as a guide for this Parliament, and will be so long as I am in the Chair until I am aware of anything better than that. In respect of the language the hon. member is using, he is reviewing the taxation and showing what he would do or what he would not do in respect of the increased revenue which is expected to be derived from the Budgetary Proposals, which in my view he is entitled to do.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, since I have been in here, the hon. member has said nothing about increased revenue. He is absolutely against increased revenue; so for you to suggest that he is talking of what he would do with the increased revenue is pure, unadulterated nonsense, with all due respect. That is what I say; it is untrue; and I do not like people to be dissembling on a matter of this kind. You have a public duty to perform, to represent people and to express your opinion, to come here and go back home to your family and eat dinner. To sit here Tuesday after Tuesday with this kind of low standard of public talk is not something which I am prepared to tolerate.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I am not taking anything which the hon. member says seriously. He would do anything now to see if he can get me to stop talking. Why doesn't he come across with a pack needle and try to sew up my mouth? I have the same right inside here as he, because the same votes that put him in here also put me in here. As far as the Premier is concerned, it is only a mere accident with him. That is what I want to let him know. I do not care how much intelligence I have, I do not care what he is saying, but I know I am pointing out to him the mistakes he has made and he has to pay for them. He cannot get me out of here though he would like to.
3.45 p.m.

That is in the Financial Statement and Budgetary Proposals of the Hon. Premier. What is the meaning of that? I would say that finance is money. I do not know how he would put it. I put it in my foolish way. What is the Hon. Premier budgeting for? In his own words in his speech, he has said:-

"In a full year the measures which I am introducing would balance the Budget and provide money to meet additional debt charges. You will remember that I said that the deficit was \$2,352,189 and the amount of revenue in a full year which would be derived from the proposals which I have just made would be \$2,958,178 or nearly \$3 million. In a full year this would more than balance the Budget and provide us with money to meet additional debt charges, so, in my humble opinion, even if I say so myself, I have now placed the finances of the Island on a firm footing."

What I am saying is nothing to do with it? I am speaking on the Financial Statement and Budgetary Proposals, and these are the statements which the Hon. Premier has made.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. May I ask you or the hon. junior member for St. Joseph, exactly what part of the Financial Statement has he referred to in the last half hour? I cannot agree with you that you will find in any part of May's Parliamentary Procedure anything which tells you on a Finance Bill that apart from the Appropriation aspect which is not before the House, you have the right to wander all around Boscobelle, Dark Hole or Chimborazo. These are purely taxation measures in order to balance the budget. The hon. member thinks that I am afraid to listen to him; but when I listen to him I begin to doubt my sanity because you cannot go on to hear this kind of thing week after week. He just read out part of the Speech that in a full year this would more than balance the budget and provide us with money to meet additional debt charges. Has he spoken anything about debt charges? He probably thinks it is depth charges of a submarine. All that he is saying should be expunged from the records.

Mr. SPEAKER: I would not have anything expunged.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member cannot do any better. He believes in going down there; he cannot get up from down there. Since he was Premier, he should be able to get up a little higher.

Mr. SPEAKER: If that is referring to any hon. member in this Chamber, the hon. member cannot say "he".

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, when the Hon. Premier tries to get on and tries to talk what he likes and he disagrees with you, it is not that he disagrees with the Chair alone. He disagrees with the Chief Justice and the Magistrates. He disagrees with everybody he has to work under.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I have never worked under a Chief Justice or a Magistrate. Thank God, I have never worked under anybody. I have always worked by myself. The nature of my calling is one that I am entitled to disagree with everybody. If I agree with everybody, I would be selling out my clients.

Mr. SPEAKER: I was to point out to the hon. junior member for St. Joseph what he was then saying had no bearing or relevance to the Budgetary Proposals and I

will ask the hon. member to revert to the subject matter of the Resolution before the Chamber.

Mr. SMITH: Sir, I will deal with that. I see that the Hon. Premier wants me to stop speaking but he cannot get me to stop. He cannot tell me anything which would make me stop because he knows that I am right. The Hon. Premier can put it his way, but I am right, and the people will know it too. The Hon. Premier will soon know who is right.

This is the Financial Statement and Budgetary Proposals of the Hon. Premier and he wants to say that I am rambling, and I am not saying anything. Everything which I say hinges upon this Statement. I am talking to please myself and somebody else besides me. I know the Hon. Premier only too well: so I want him to start and I would go for him.

Now, Sir, I was making the point that this is money to help build resort houses.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. What part of this Financial Statement deals with resort houses? I would like the hon. member to tell the Chair. The hon. member is going in for personalities. He says that he would do this. Are you going to seriously entertain that? I only want to know. Every time the hon. member makes a statement, I would want to relate it to the Financial Statement. Your Honour has not had the advantage of being in here when the Financial Statement and Budgetary Proposals were laid, but you had a printed copy of it. Hon. members here with the exception of the Barbados Labour Party members are businessmen or are engaged with the people's business. They are not idlers. This whole proceedings should be directed like a Directors' meeting. I am glad to have criticism if it is criticism germane to the Budget.

Mr. SPEAKER: I deprecate personalities and I hope all hon. members will not only pay lip service to that, but bear it in mind when they are speaking. Personalities are entirely unnecessary or any remark which is derogatory; but the point which I gathered which the hon. junior member for St. Joseph is making.....

(A VOICE: You are paraphrasing it for him now.)

I trust hon. members will not interrupt and will set an example. I was saying that the point which I gathered the hon. junior member for St. Joseph was making was that in respect of additional revenue which will result from these budgetary proposals, he disagrees that some of this additional revenue should be spent on resort houses, and what was recommended could be spent on certain private secondary schools.

Mr. SMITH: The hon. member asked where would you find resort houses in this Financial Statement, but it is contained in these Budgetary Proposals. It is proposed to do that and it is inside the Financial Statement and Budgetary Proposals.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. That is not in the Financial Statement or in the Budgetary Proposals. What the hon. member is talking about has been concluded. He spoke exhaustively about this question when we were dealing with the Development Plan. He is so hopelessly mixed up. Anyhow, it is nowhere in this Financial Statement. It is not something which I am imagining. This copy of the Financial Statement and Budgetary Proposals is something which is printed — non-cyclostyled or typewritten. I repeat there is absolutely nothing in it about resort houses.
3.55 p.m.

He is getting the Development Plan mixed up with the Budget Proposals; they have absolutely nothing to do one with the other except that we are all living in Barbados and we are all taxpayers.

Mr. SPEAKER: Perhaps the hon. junior member for St. Joseph would refer to the particular aspect of the Financial Statement to which he is referring in order to make it easier for hon. members who are not finding it so easy to follow him as other hon. members, and he would make his comments on that particular aspect of the Statement as it appears before him. That will help us to make some headway.

Mr. SMITH: This is the Financial Statement and Budget Proposals and it is as wide as anything. This is money which is going to be spent. If the hon. member is referring to the Development Plan for three years, this is money to be spent regardless of how you spend it. What therefore is the Premier talking about? This is a question of budget proposals. He cannot spend the money until he comes in here and asks for it and are we to pass the money without saying anything about it at all? The Development Plan, I repeat, is money which is going to be spent, and the Premier has said that these things will come into effect from today or tomorrow, which leaves us without any chance of saying anything. With all I am saying now, the people will still have to pay their taxation; therefore to be talking is nothing now because the Premier is doing things on his own back. That being the case, I do not see that the Premier should get annoyed if people say something about his action, whether it is good, bad or indifferent. It is time that the Premier should set an example and do not get on in the same spirit as when he was in the Opposition. I do not know when he will ever understand that.

Mr. SPEAKER: Will the hon. member steer clear of personalities?

Mr. SMITH: I will do that. I do not think that all I have said has fallen to the ground. With all that the Premier has done, he has left only one hope, and that is the hope that after these three years have come to an end, through the ballot box the people will vote to help him to correct the mistake which he has made. (Cheers)

Mr. COWARD and Mr. CORBIN rose to speak.

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Speaker, I have seen the plan which has been put forward by this Government.

Mr. COWARD: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I think you will agree with me that the first member who rises to speak always has the opportunity to do so.

Mr. SPEAKER: It is the hon. member who has first caught the eye of the Speaker; that is in accordance with the Standing Order. It was the hon. senior member for St. Andrew, who on this occasion, caught my eye first. I do not suggest that my eye was guided by my ear. Anyhow, the hon. senior member for St. Joseph will speak next provided that he is in his seat.

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Speaker, I have seen that our Government has drawn up a plan for development for three years. I have heard so much criticism of this Plan that it has shocked my modesty. We have made plans which have not yet gone into effect and there is so much criticism that I want to know if the promises which have been made are being criticised. I know that we must have time so as to develop. When I hear hon. members criticising this Government, knowing the good work which we have begun, I go back to the Good Book which shows that when they had Jesus Christ before Pilate, Pilate asked if they had condemned this Man for his work. They said that they were not condemning him for his work but for his policies. He said: "Pull down this temple and in three days I will build it up." Are you criticising us for our good work which we have to do in three years? I think that the hon. junior member for St. Joseph should be glad that this Government has come into power because it has loosed his stammering tongue.

Mr. SPEAKER: It has loosed his what? I did not hear what the hon. member said.

Mr. CORBIN: I have said that the hon. junior member for St. Joseph should be glad that this Government has been

changed, because in the former Government he was sitting as a member and his tongue was tied. Now that the Government has been changed, it has changed his stammering tongue. (Laughter). I have heard a lot of criticism about rum, but does the hon. member know that rum is not nourishing but only stimulating? (Laughter) I have heard a man say: "If I could get a rum I would come back and cut off your head." I have heard housewives say that they are glad that the tax was put on the rum and not on the rice or the corn meal. When I hear the hon. member criticising so much in relation to the schools, I must say that for fifteen years the Barbados Labour Party was in power and that Party could not see that the children of the poor people were suffering.

4.05 p.m.

The last Government did not see that the poor children were suffering. Had it not been for the private schools, we would have about twelve thousand living in ignorance. There are about 4,000 children in the Government-aided secondary schools who are getting free secondary education, but the children at the private schools will have to pay as they were doing before this Government took over. This Government promised free secondary education in Government-aided schools, and they have done that, and I am certain that throughout the Island of Barbados they are being commended very highly for what they have done.

When the hon. junior member for St. Joseph speaks about roads, the Government has all these things under consideration, and in due course, they will be done, but we must have a little patience. The hon. junior member for St. Joseph and the hon. junior member for St. George remind me of two men in the Scriptures, Sanballat and Tobiah, who were hindrances against good works. When Nehemiah was repairing the wall that was broken down, Sanballat and Tobiah spoke evil against those who were working and told them that even if a fox ran over the wall it would break down, but Nehemiah told them to continue with the work they were doing and God would stand by their side from the beginning to the end. This Government stands for justice and we mean to give justice though the heavens may fall. When this Government refuses to give justice, I will withdraw from its company and stand alone, but I know they are going to give satisfaction. They are going to give water, free education, hot meals, tenantry roads and other roads for the poor people to get out their canes.

From the time I was a boy, Mr. Speaker, the East Coast Road was talked about, and even the hon. junior member for St. Joseph knows that. Money was granted years ago for that particular road but nothing was done and now that this Government has come into power, they have it in their Plan to build the East Coast Road which will be a boon to this country. I am sure that thousands of tons of canes will be planted, and many a bay-house and hotel will go up along the coast, and many people will get work from this project. We have just set up the workbench and have driven the first nail. They have seen prosperity in our direction and are trying to resist it; but if they had done the things that we have begun to do, we would not have to do them. The hon. junior member for St. Joseph sat in this House and heard when "Homie" Corbin came in here for the first time he asked for tenantry roads for the poor people to get out their canes. He himself said that the poor people had to pay away all they got for their canes in labour. The reason for that is that the canes have to be headed for gullies where there should be roads to relieve the workers, so that when the canes are cut, the owners could still make a dollar or two.

Anyone who has read the Budget Speech and Financial Statement knows that there are several things to be done. We needed ammunition which I believe we will soon get and then the work will be completed in due season. When this work is completed, I know that the same tongue which is cursing the Government today will praise it. It is only for those who are criticising to give the Government a chance, and wait and see the salvation of their God. (Cheers).

Mr. COWARD: Mr. Speaker, as an Independent member in this House, I certainly welcome the opportunity to

make a few comments on the Financial Statement and Budgetary Proposals under discussion. Hon. members will remember that they had this document in their possession for a few weeks, and I myself have had a chance to do a little night work, and I must say that I am in complete agreement with some of the proposals in this document. I think I can appreciate the fact that here in Barbados we cannot afford to behave as if Barbados is a little Island in the middle of nowhere. Our own economic life, internal and external, must bear marks of what is going on in the outside world. As the Hon. Premier has pointed out, Britain's decision to join the European Common Market and our precarious position as regards our own sugar must be reflected in a tightening up of our Budget, and as far as this is concerned, Mr. Speaker, I agree with the policy adopted by the Hon. Minister of Finance. But let me say this: the present Government is a Socialist Government. It came into power on a Socialist Manifesto, and therefore the Government has no apology to make if in making any decisions they discriminated in favour of the poor man, the man in the street. If I have any criticisms to make it is because this discrimination is not even more pronounced.

I, Sir, want to register my protest against the increase in the price of rum. I have no quarrel to make on any increase on Vodka or any foreign drinks which are bought by people who are best able to buy them, but I am saying this: the rum that is bought over the country by the poor man when he is going home from work and gets wet, the rum which is bought when he has to go in the rain and collect fodder for his stock, should be exempt from tax. As you know, Sir, regardless of what work a man does and regardless of his financial position, there are times when two men become one.
4.15 p.m.

They show their appreciation by giving or accepting a drink. I have the same criticism when it comes to the price of pitch pine. I have read where some of the merchants have said that the tax is too small to pass on to the customer, and I hope they will not pass it on and other merchants will follow your advice. As you know, today pitch pine is bought by the poor class of people because for the most part they live on rented spots and therefore they use wooden houses. They have to go to the lumber stores year after year to keep their houses in condition from the rain and wind, and not only from rain and wind but because we have a pest by the name of termites which although you may put up a new building, you find that termites would come and eat it down; so you also have that trouble.

The promise was made by the Hon. Premier that he would look into the matter of pool betting and raise the tax. When it comes to pool betting, you only have to pass Marlhill Street or Spry Street and see the business which is done in that sphere. I can further say that I do not think in the history of Barbados we have ever had so much money being spent on entertainment by the population of this Island than is the case today. During the past six months we have had Land Carnival, Sea Carnival; we have had Circus and Coney Island; we have had Johnny Nash, Chubby Checker and Brook Benton. What I am worried about is that all of these shows were put on by visitors from outside and therefore, all the money is going out of the Island. Shows by local artists have been looked at in a different light. I am appealing to the Hon. Premier to increase taxation on these sports.

Mr. Speaker, those are my observations on this Financial Statement and Budgetary Proposals and I hope that what I have said will not be too late to be taken into consideration.

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Speaker, as you will know, I have been on vacation these last six weeks and what has taken place in the interval I knew would have to happen some time before the end of June. Therefore, it was no shock to me when I learnt that the Hon. Premier had introduced his Budgetary Proposals at that time.

I have only got a sketchy view of the matter since my return from America, but anyone who has been following

the finances of this Island would know it. Let us go back to last year when the White Paper was presented to us some time in October. We realised that the gross national product had been static for three years; therefore something would have to happen if we were to go forward.

We have by our own efforts to play a greater part if we are to keep up the present standard of living, let alone to go forward. We have seen territories around the West Indies emerging into independent territories. Jamaica, next month, will get her independence and soon after that Trinidad will follow suit. Those are the two larger territories and we also are aspiring to independence some day. We cannot go it alone, but if we have to join into a greater unit and if we are to lead the others territories into independence - and when I say we, I mean Barbados - we must have our finances in a sound manner.

Sir, we have enjoyed large revenue balances over a period of ten years when we were blessed with good weather and good crops. Then came the embarkation of the last Government on the project of the Deep Water Harbour. It was estimated to cost \$20 million but it ended up at a cost of \$31 million. This is the background and this is from where I wish to pick up. The financing of that harbour was such a sad picture that it became a sad blot on the last Government. As I have said, it ended up at a cost of \$31 million and they could only raise, although they had the opportunity of raising more, \$12 million on the London money market. That left a very wide gap and besides that, they embarked on the building of a new hospital. It was at first expected to cost \$4 million, but it has now crept up to \$8 million and this is bound to affect the finances of the Island.

No matter what complexion the Government in the saddle is today, they will have to do an awful lot of thought to take this Island from that picture and land it into the prosperity which everyone of us is looking for and it is going to take drastic measures to do that. We all would have to pull our belts and work harder if we are to go forward. We cannot hope with our little sugar industry, developed as it is, to provide ourselves with the standard of living for the children who are coming out of school today. We must look to other things for our help. That is why I commend the present Government for setting our finances right at the beginning. We cannot afford to budget for deficits because it would be only a matter of time before you run into fresh trouble and then it would be more difficult to go forward.
4.25 p.m.

Our revenues have been going down, our expenditure has been climbing and although we have already offered criticism we must do it again. How Mr. Jacobs could have come to this Island and told the past Government that it was financially possible for us to increase the salaries of the Civil Servants by \$3 million is beyond me and beyond anybody else who has looked at these figures. He has helped to put the Government and all of us in the plight in which we find ourselves at the turning of the year. We have to work ourselves out of this. If we are called upon to pull our belts and to work harder and balance our budget, we must do that because it is only by balancing our budget that we can hope to go into the world market and try to get loans. It is the loans which we will need for the development of this island and for the attraction of capital to this territory. People will not bring money into this country if the Government finances are weak because they will realise that it will only be a matter of time before taxes go up. There are many countries throughout the world which are in the same position as ourselves and they are making greater inducements than we are able to give.

There are many advantages which we have in Barbados for attracting capital and industries. We have a stable people; the people of Barbados are deserving of a great future because there is a stability which we have in Barbados which you do not see around the West Indies. That stability is lacking in the other territories, even those which are so close to us; but we have this stability of which we should be proud and it is something which we should treasure and develop. I have had visits from industrialists and after a short while they have looked around and re-

marked on that feature of Barbadian life. It is a home life which we have developed over these generations but we must make the most of that and go forward.....

At this stage, it being now 4.30 p.m. of the clock,

Mr. SPEAKER: I should like to draw to the attention of this Hon. Chamber that the time is now 4.30 p.m., of the clock, the time when the consideration of Private Members' Business automatically ceases and the House reverts to Government Business.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Mr. SPEAKER: The first Order of the Day under Government Business stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Development, Trade, Industry and Labour:—To move the House into Committee of Supply to consider the grant of money for the service of the island.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I am asking leave to take charge of this Order standing in the name of the Hon. Minister.

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

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that you do now leave the Chair, and the House go into Committee of Supply.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I beg to second that.

The question was put and agreed to.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1962 - 63 No. 13

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Chairman, this Resolution is a Resolution for the sum of \$4,033 under two Heads of the Estimates. These Heads will be taken separately.

HEAD 7 - REGISTRATION

Head 7 - Registration - was called.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Chairman, the amount in respect of this Item, "Registration of Births and Deaths", is \$2,558. As you will see from the Note, Sir, the holder of the office of Registrar of Births and Deaths at District "A" was entitled to retain certain fees received in respect of his official duties. It has been decided that, with effect from the 1st April, 1961, the above system of remuneration should be revised so that the officer will be receiving a fixed salary of \$1,488 per annum and all fees accruing to the office will be paid into the Treasury. The payment of a Cost of Living Allowance will cease with effect from the above date.

The amount which we are asking for is \$2,558; there is a mistake in the explanatory Note where the figures "\$2,598" appear. However, this amount of \$2,558 is required to cover the period from the 1st April, 1961, to the 31st March, 1963. In other words, it will be back-dated from the 1st April, 1961, and the rest of the amount will be required to cover the officer's salary for the current financial year. I beg to move that Head 7 stand part of the Schedule.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I beg to second that.

The question that Head 7 stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 18 - POLICE

Head 18 - Police - was called.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Chairman, it is regrettable that we have to come to this House for a provision of this nature. The amount of \$1,000 was provided in the current

Estimates to enable the Chief Immigration Officer to carry out his duties under Section 29 of the Immigration Act 1952. To date, approximately \$252 has been spent, but recently a commitment of approximately \$1,475 has been entered into arising out of a Deportation Order by the Courts. That money has now been spent in respect of the passages of two prohibited immigrants. As to the balance of money left over, in fact, we would be something like \$700 short when these bills are paid, and we are asking for the additional sum of \$1,475 which will leave a balance of \$748 which will meet any similar requirements. I should like to inform the Committee that we are investigating the possibility of getting a refund of this money from the country of origin of the person or persons who have had to be deported. I beg to move that Head 18 stand part of the Schedule.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I beg to second that.

The question that Head 18 stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

4.35 p.m.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the Resolution for \$4,033 do now pass.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I beg to second that.

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

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Your Honour do now report the passing of one Resolution in Committee.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I beg to second that.

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

On the separate motions of Hon. E. W. BARROW, seconded in each case by Hon. C. E. TALMA, the Resolution was read a first and second time and agreed to.

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the hon. senior member for St. Lucy, the Minister of Education; to resume debate on a Resolution relative to the Report of the East Caribbean Federation Conference, 1962. When this Resolution was last before this Chamber, the debate thereon was postponed, and a motion that the Hon. Leader of the Opposition moved was seconded by the hon. senior member for St. Michael. Neither of those hon. members is presently in his place.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I am asking leave that Order No. 4 be taken as the next Order of the Day, and that consideration of Orders Nos. 2 and 3 be postponed.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. and Learned Premier is asking leave of this House that the next Order of the Day be Order No. 4 which stands in his name, in other words, that we omit for the present Orders Nos. 2 and 3. If there is no objection, leave will be granted. Apparently there is no objection, and leave is therefore granted the Hon. Premier to proceed with Order No. 4, which is to move the passing of a Resolution to approve the Order entitled "The Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) (No. 3) Order, 1962" made by the Governor-in-Executive Committee on the sixth day of July, 1962, under the provisions of section 3 of the Civil Establishment Act, 1949.

THE CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT (GENERAL) (AMENDMENT) (No. 3) ORDER, 1962.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, this Resolution is an amendment to the Civil Establishment Order to provide for the following adjustments in the Civil Service of this Island. At the Police Department, it is proposed to provide for one post of Secretary at a salary scale of \$2,016 - \$2,832 per annum and one post of Stenographer at a scale of \$1,260 - \$2,352, and also to reduce the number of Constables by one.

The position, Sir, is that uniformed officers and regular members of the Constabulary performed secretarial duties in the Police Department hitherto, and it has been found as a matter of experience that as soon as these uniformed officers get proficient at their jobs as stenographers, typists and clerical officers, they are offered employment elsewhere outside the Service, and as is only natural when people are ambitious and want to improve themselves, they do not want to stagnate in a uniformed Service, and are often induced to seek better monetary conditions outside. It is therefore very difficult to retain members of the Force to do these secretarial duties. The purpose of this Civil Establishment Order is to provide secretarial and stenographic staff for the Police Department, and by reducing the number of Constables in the Establishment by one, an economy will be effected. These clerical and stenographic officers will be subject to transfer to any other Government Department; so there is no question of anyone getting either bored or stale on the job.

As far as the second part of the Order is concerned, it has been found that due to the exigencies of the development programme, the volume of work coming up in the Ministry of Communications, Works and Housing is more than the inadequate staff can now support, and it is proposed to have two posts of Administrative Assistant at a salary scale of \$4,128 - \$5,136, and one post of Long Grade Clerk from \$1,200 - \$2,832 per annum.

We have had in the Ministry temporary assistance from time to time, but this is an unsatisfactory arrangement, and as I said, if the Development Plan is to go forward, we will have to do something about stabilising the normal staff of the Department. The conception has grown up that a Ministry is a kind of Post Office with a Postmaster who is Minister and usually two or three Assistant Postmasters to sort out the volume of complaints and recommendations coming from the public and other Departments or Departments under the control of that Ministry.

4.45 p.m.

The Ministry, in our conception and the conception of other countries even in the Caribbean, is a place which should be the chief executive instrument for carrying out the programme of the Government. Some Ministries of Works in the Caribbean Islands carry staffs of well over one hundred and I doubt whether we can, with ten people, with a programme of \$50.2 million carry it out. It is going to be virtually impossible, even with the necessary co-ordination, to be done if the Ministry is not going to be increased.

His Excellency the Governor pointed out at the beginning of the Legislative Session that it is also proposed that a Parliamentary Secretary who would be a kind of co-ordinator to the Ministry of Works will be shortly appointed.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I beg to second that.

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

THE PUBLIC OFFICES (CONSTRUCTION OF REFERENCES) BILL

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Premier: To move the second reading of a Bill to provide for the construction of references to certain public offices as a result of the re-organization of certain branches of the public service and for other matter incidental thereto.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, you will see from the Objects and Reasons of this Bill that there are at present several references in Acts and Subsidiary Legislation to the offices of Director of Agriculture, Director of Education, but from 16th November, 1961, these offices were replaced by offices differently styled in the Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) (No. 4) Order, 1961. We are therefore rationalising the position now to provide in any Act or Subsidiary Legislation that these offices should be

referred to and construed in the manner set out in the First Schedule.

Although the offices of Director and Deputy Director of Agriculture were replaced by offices styled respectively Chief Technical Officer and Technical Officer, it is felt that the use of those titles would not clearly identify the offices intended to be referred to, unless some reference is made to the Ministry of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries. Consequently provision has been made for the offices to be referred to as Chief Agricultural Officer and Deputy Chief Agricultural Officer respectively.

Clause 3 of the Bill merely deals with the question of consequential amendments.

There are some Caribbean territories which have changed the nomenclature of certain offices just as we are doing, but my feelings are not disposed in any one way or the other. A rose by another name smells as sweet. Whether we call the office Director of Agriculture, Director of Education or Deputy Director of Education or Chief Agricultural Officer or Deputy Chief Agricultural Officer is purely a matter of style, but I am very happy to say that we are satisfied with the type of work which we get from these Technical officers. I know we had various changes in the neighbouring West Indian Islands and the popular designation nowadays is Chief Technical Officer. We are living in such an age, but we feel from the point of view of the public that when you say Chief Technical Officer you may mean somebody working in the Hospital Laboratory or someone working in the Public Works Department or the Waterworks Department and we want to particularise more clearly on the work which they do.

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

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I beg to second that.

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

On motion of Hon. C. E. TALMA, seconded by Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON, Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the House went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. BATSON in the Chair.

Clauses 1, 2, and 3 were called separately and passed.

The First Schedule was called and passed.

The Second Schedule was called and passed.

On motion of Hon. C. E. TALMA, seconded by Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported the passing of one Bill in Committee.

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

4.55 p.m.

On motions of Hon. C. E. TALMA, seconded by Hon. J. C. TUDOR in each case, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

PUBLIC WHARVES (CONTROL) (REPEAL) BILL

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Communications, Works, Housing and Tourism:- to move the second reading of a Bill to repeal the Public Wharves (Control) Act, 1954.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: Mr. Speaker, prior to the operation of the Deep Water Harbour while most of the cargo came ashore in lighters and was landed at warehouses alongside the wharves of Barbados in the Careenage, there was legislation passed giving authority to close portions of the public wharves and streets adjacent thereto for the purpose of facilitating the landing of cargo and the preventing of pilferage. The Act also provides that such persons or vehicles who or which are found in any prohibited area and unable to account for being there, were guilty of an offence, and also prohibited the searching of a female except by another female. The Act made it an offence for a person to be found in any prohibited area and unable to give a satisfactory account for being there, whilst constables

or officers of customs may arrest persons without warrant if there were reasonable grounds for suspecting persons of such offences. With the coming into operation of the Deep Water Harbour, these warehouses are no longer used and it is necessary to repeal this Act as there is no necessity to utilise these facilities. With those remarks, Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: I beg to second that.

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

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: I beg to move, Mr. Speaker, that you do now leave the Chair and the House go into Committee on this Bill.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: I beg to second that.

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

Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair, and the House went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. BATSON in the Chair.

The two Clauses of the Bill were called and passed.

On the motion of Hon. G. G. FERGUSON, seconded by Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS, the CHAIRMAN reported the passing of the Bill in Committee.

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On motions of Hon. G. G. FERGUSON, seconded by Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS in each case, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS CONCLUDED

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, the consideration of that Bill concludes Government Business for the day.

THE ADJOURNMENT

The Order Paper having been fixed,

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday next, 31st July, 1962, at 2.30 o'clock p.m.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I beg to second that.

The question that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday next, 31st July, 1962, at 2.30 o'clock p.m. was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER adjourned the House accordingly.

5.05 p.m.