
THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SESSION 1962

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 9th October, 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, Q.C., (*Speaker*); Mr. L. E. SMITH, J.P.; Mr. F. C. GODDARD; Mr. F. E. MILLER, Mr. E. St.A. HOLDER, J.P.; Hon. C. E. TALMA, (*Minister of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries*); Mr. J. W. CORBIN; Mr. S. E. SEALEY; Mr. R. St.C. WEEKES, J.P.; Mr. W. R. LOWE; His Honour E. L. CARMICHAEL, J.P.; (*Deputy Speaker*); Mr. L. A. LYNCH, J.P.; Mr. G. V. BATSON, (*Chairman of Committees*); Mr. J. B. YEARWOOD and Hon. A. Da.C. EDWARDS, (*Minister of Social Services*).

Prayers were read.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER: The Minutes of the meetings of the 5th, 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st July, 1962 have all been circulated, as well as the Minutes of the meetings of the 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th August, 1962, and unless there be any objection, each of these Minutes will be confirmed.

Apparently there is no objection, and each of these Minutes is accordingly confirmed.

I have to mention to the House that the Clerk, Mr. H. O. St.C. Cumberbatch has been on sick leave for the past week, and that leave is due to expire tomorrow. Arrangements had been made for Mr. Sylvester Hewitt, if the House sees fit, to carry on for Mr. Cumberbatch today, but I am advised that Mr. Hewitt has taken ill and Mr. Cumberbatch, on being informed of that, has said that despite his doctor's orders, he will make an effort and hopes to be able to be here with us this afternoon as from 4 o'clock.

PAPERS LAID

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Hon. Premier, I am commanded to lay the following:-

The Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) (No. 4) Order, 1962.

Statement showing net Customs and Excise receipts for five months ended 31st August, 1962.

Statement showing net Customs and Excise receipts for six months ended 30th September, 1962.

Barbados Statistical Service Quarterly Digest of Statistics, No. 22 - June, 1962.

On my own behalf, I am commanded to lay the following:-

The Customs Duties (Machinery, Equipment and Apparatus for the New General Hospital) (Exemption) Order, 1962.

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

Statement showing the sums advanced to the Postmaster 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 July, 1962.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Hon. Premier, I beg to give notice of the following:-

Resolution to place the sum of \$44,667 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. 19 which forms the Schedule to this Resolution.

Resolution to approve the Order entitled 'The Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) (No. 4) Order, 1962.

Resolution to authorise the Executive Committee to execute leases of certain properties in London and in Montreal for use by the Commissions set up in those countries by the Regional Council of Ministers.

A Bill to amend the Registration of Deaths Act, 1924.

A Bill to amend the Local Government Act, 1958, to exempt from the payment of rates certain institutions established for charitable, educational or scientific purposes of a public nature.

A Bill further to amend the Local Government Service Commission Act, 1959.

A Bill to amend and consolidate the laws of this Island relating to pensions of teachers in secondary schools.

A Bill to empower the Housing Authority to issue insurance policies in respect of loans secured by mortgages of dwelling houses and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' NOTICES

Mr. SMITH: To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:

Has Government's attention been drawn to the use of juke-boxes, radiograms and steel bands in residential areas, especially in the City, up to and after midnight?

2. Will Government try to curb this practice, so as to safeguard the peaceful rest of the island's inhabitants? 2.45 p.m.

Mr. SEALEY: To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:-

Will Government with all convenient despatch cause a public pay telephone to be installed at the Grazettes Housing Area for the convenience of the inhabitants thereof?

Also, will Government treat as an urgent priority the extension of a road known as Bridge Gap, Black Rock, so as to connect the said road with Goodland Main Road, St. Michael?

Also, is Government aware that there is a trench running alongside Bridge Gap, Black Rock and alongside the track leading therefrom to Goodland Main Road, St. Michael, which because of its insanitary condition breeds mosquitoes, and is a general menace to the health of the neighbourhood?

2. If the answer is in the affirmative, will Government take all steps necessary to remedy the situation?

REPLIES TO QUESTIONS

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice on behalf of the Hon. Minister of Education that the Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 60/1962 asked by the hon. junior member for St. Thomas on the 24th July, 1962 is now ready.

Also, on behalf of the same Hon. Minister, the Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 61/1962, asked by the hon. senior member for St. Thomas on 31st July, 1962 is now ready.

Also, on behalf of the same Hon. Minister, the Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 75/1962, asked by the hon. senior member for St. Thomas on 28th August, 1962, is now ready.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice that the Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 37/1962, asked by the hon. senior member for St. James, on 24th April, 1962, is now ready.

Also, the Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 42/1962, asked by the hon. senior member for St. Andrew on the 24th April, 1962, is now ready.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: On behalf of the Hon. Premier, I beg to give notice that the Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 51/1962, asked by the hon. junior member for St. Joseph on 5th June, 1962, is now ready.

Also,.....

Mr. SMITH: I cannot hear the hon. member.

Mr. SPEAKER: I would just say this. We have had the person from whom we purchased this amplifying equipment to do a thorough overhaul of it and at present it is being serviced too.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Is that the reason why the microphone in front of me is not working at all?

Mr. SPEAKER: I think the Hon. Minister might be somewhat tired after his holiday. (*Laughter*).

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Also, on behalf of the Hon. Premier, I beg to give notice that the Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question, No. 62/1962, asked by the hon. junior member for St. Joseph on the 31st July, 1962, is now ready.

RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY *re* THE PASSING OF VALENCE CHENERY GALE

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, before the business of this House is entered upon, I wish to move a Resolution of Sympathy on the passing of a former member of this Chamber to his immediate relatives, and as you know, Sir, this House traditionally goes on record in the paying of some tribute in this respect, especially in the case where the person has rendered great service to the community.

Sir, I should therefore like to place on record the tribute of this Chamber to the late Valence Chenery Gale who was not only a former member of this Chamber but a former member of the Vestry of St. Michael and in latter years a member of the Other Place.

The late Mr. V. C. Gale had a distinguished record of public service, and there is no doubt about it, that according to his likes, he made a fitting contribution to this community. Both as a private citizen and as a legislator he maintained certain standards of conduct which were a credit not only to him but to the community; and I am sure hon. members would like to join with me in expressing on behalf of this Chamber our sincere regret at his passing.

Sir, I therefore beg to move in this connection that the following Resolution be endorsed by the House:-

"BE IT RESOLVED that this House place on record its deep sympathy at the passing of the late Valence Chenery Gale, a former member of this House for the parish of St. Michael; and that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to his relatives."

Mr. SPEAKER: I take it, when the Hon. Minister says "be endorsed" that he means "be passed".

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Yes, Your Honour.

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Speaker, I rise to second this Resolution of sympathy to the late Mr. V. C. Gale whom I knew before I left school. The late Mr. V. C. Gale not only served in this House for many years, but the Vestry of St. Michael of which I was a member. When I first went into the St. Michael's Vestry, he was a seasoned politician. 2.55 p.m.

Mr. Gale has left his mark in Barbados from the public service which he has given not only to this House, to the Vestry of St. Michael and to the Other Place, but also to the many Committees on which he has served. Because of his nature, he was called upon to serve on many Committees; hon. members will probably best remember him as a member of the Barbados Turf Club. Of all things, Mr. Gale was a gentleman; he did not bear any malice and although he would oppose anyone or any Party because of his strong convictions of justice, when that opposition was over he would meet his opponent and shake his hand and be as great a friend then as he was before. Speaking for my Party, I support the Resolution which has been moved by the Hon. Minister of Trade.

Mr. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, we on this side of the Table, are in support of the Resolution which has been moved by the Hon. Leader of the House in connection with the passing of Mr. Valence Chenery Gale. The country has sustained a tremendous loss by the passing of this gentleman. He has made a wonderful contribution to this country a great part of which is in connection with racing in this island. Mr. Gale has given tremendous service to this community. As I say, we support this Resolution in connection with the passing of such an eminent person as Mr. Valence Chenery Gale.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I am asking leave to move the passing of the Resolution which I have already indicated to you. It has been drawn to my attention that an Officer of this House has suffered the loss of his mother. I therefore think it is only fitting in pursuance of what the Hon. Leader of the House has said, and as to customary practice on such an occasion like this, that we place on record our sympathy with the relatives of the deceased lady. This Resolution reads as follows:-

Be it resolved that this House notes with regret the bereavement suffered by the Deputy Clerk of this House, Mr. H. Lisle Thomas, in the recent death of his mother. The House extends its sympathy to this Officer and desires that a letter of condolence be sent to the members of the late Mrs. Thomas' family.

Mr. Speaker, if I do not enlarge upon this Resolution, it is because the Hon. Leader of the Opposition intends to second this motion and he will no doubt have something to

say about the lady with whom, I believe, he was more closely acquainted than I myself have been.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I have much pleasure in seconding the motion for the passing of the Resolution which has been moved by the Hon. Premier. Nothing that we can say or do here today can ever repair or replace the loss which has been sustained by the Deputy Clerk of this House. By the passing of this lady, we have lost one of the old-fashioned but reliable types of persons who have built up a sound foundation in this country. With regard to the deceased lady who has recently been called to the Great Beyond, she was, as we have heard, the mother of our Deputy Clerk. She had the good fortune of living long enough to rear a family and see it through and it was only quite recently that she had the good fortune of having a visit from her grandson who graduated from a University in the United States of America. I am sure that that must have been a pleasure to her. The loss sustained by the Deputy Clerk of this House is really a great one. The good lady reared what we today would run from, that is, a large family. I am sure that all of us will join the Hon. Premier in extending our condolence to the Deputy Clerk of this House and to the members of his family.

Mr. Speaker, I think I recall reading somewhere about some great poet who said that when you reach this stage, no painter's pen or no poet's pen can ever write that name of mother again; however, the Deputy Clerk of this House can take consolation in the fact that his mother had reached a ripe age and that he was able to be with her at her passing. With those remarks, Mr. Speaker, I have much pleasure in associating myself with the Resolution which has been moved by the Hon. Premier.

Mr. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, again I am supporting this Resolution which has been moved by the Hon. Premier in connection with the passing of the mother of the Deputy Clerk of this House. On this occasion, I can say quite a lot about this lady. As a matter of fact, as far back as I can remember, she brought up her family, and it is with some knowledge that I speak of this great soul who has been removed to the Great Beyond. It will bring some comfort to the members of the bereaved family to think that this lady was a great mother and, to some extent, she was an administrator.
3.05 p.m.

Again we have sustained the loss of a wonderful woman. I repeat, Sir, my support of the Resolution moved by the Hon. Premier on behalf of my friends, and hope that we would not have very many of these unfortunate incidents taking place from time to time. Quite recently in the last nine or ten months, we have had easily five or six. However, Sir, on behalf of my Party and friends and supporters of the Barbados Labour Party, I would like to convey our regrets shared by the members of the family of this lady.

Mr. SPEAKER: I beg to associate myself with the remarks from all sides in connection with a former member of this Chamber, the late Valence Chenery Gale, and in connection with the mother of Mr. Lisle Thomas, our present Deputy Clerk — Mr. Gale whom I knew personally and about whom I endorse everything that has been said, and Mrs. Thomas whom I did not have the privilege of knowing personally, but I can fully appreciate everything that has been said from all sides of this House indicative of the sympathy which we all feel for the relatives of the deceased, and if I may say so, in particular her son who is now with us in this Chamber. I will ask hon. members to rise for two minutes as an indication of our sympathy.

Hon. Members rose for two minutes.

Mr. SPEAKER: I shall direct that copies of these Resolutions be forwarded to the relatives in each case in accordance with the Resolutions which have been duly passed.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to give notice of a Resolution to authorise the Executive Committee to execute leases of properties in the United Kingdom and the Dominion of Canada for use by the Trade Commission Services.

I understand, Sir, that that has been included in the notices which have already been given, and I withdraw my application. But I have just caused the documents to be circulated, and having been handed them today, I was under the impression that notice may not have been given. May I proceed to ask for leave to move the passing of a Resolution in connection with the Independence of the Kingdom of Uganda?

Mr. SPEAKER: There are other matters to be called. Shall we complete them and then deal with the Resolution?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: I beg your pardon, Sir, I said the Kingdom of Uganda, but I want to extend that to the whole territory of Uganda.

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME

On the motion of Hon. E. W. BARROW, seconded by Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD, a Bill to amend the Registration of Deaths Act, 1924, was read a first time.

On the motion of Hon. E. W. BARROW, seconded by Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD, a Bill to amend the Local Government Act, 1958, to exempt from the payment of rates certain institutions established for charitable, educational or scientific purposes of a public nature, was read a first time.

On the motion of Hon. E. W. BARROW, seconded by Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD, a Bill further to amend the Local Government Service Commission Act, 1959, was read a first time.

On the motion of Hon. E. W. BARROW, seconded by Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD, a Bill to amend and consolidate the laws of this Island relating to pensions of teachers in secondary schools, was read a first time.

On the motion of Hon. E. W. BARROW, seconded by Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD, a Bill to empower the Housing Authority to issue insurance policies in respect of loans secured by mortgages of dwelling houses and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, was read a first time.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am about to call the first Order of the Day, but in view of the intimation of the Hon. Premier in connection with Uganda, I defer calling that Order as the First Order of the Day.

RESOLUTION re INDEPENDENCE OF UGANDA

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, before the House proceeds with the first Order of the Day, I am asking leave to introduce a Resolution in connection with the Independence of the territory of Uganda.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Premier is asking leave to proceed with a Resolution now in connection with the Independence of Uganda, and if there is no objection, leave will be granted.

There being no objection, the Hon. and Learned Premier may proceed with that Resolution.
3.15 p.m.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, what has happened years ago, in 1862, is this. A highly civilised gentleman by name of King Mutesa was the paramount ruler of the territory of Uganda in Africa. On the 1st March this year, the territory of Uganda which comprises the kingdom of Buganda and some other territories with which I am less familiar such as the Northern, Western and Eastern provinces, comprising a total population of 6 1/2 million people, were granted full internal self-government by Her Majesty the Queen.

At six o'clock yesterday, which was around midnight of their time, in the capital of that country and other places of those four provinces — the kingdom of Buganda and the three other provinces — the people began their celebrations and I think it is only fitting that on the same date, the House

of Assembly of Barbados which has full internal self-government should join with the people of Uganda on the occasion of their independence and extend our congratulations.

I said that 100 years ago, King Mutesa was the ruler of the Kingdom of Uganda. The celebrations and independence of this country are of double significance to me personally because the present Kabaka of Buganda happened to be a contemporary of mine when I had the good fortune to be a student in the United Kingdom. It is there that I have met and conversed with him on all the problems of that country at that stage as well as where he had personal problems; and the problems which I discussed with him cast a shadow upon and anticipated the developments which have subsequently taken place in Buganda.

We were also fortunate in having with us contemporaries of other African Federations who have become leaders of their countries and they too had gone through a period of travail before they achieved some measure of independence for their countries.

I say that this occasion of the independence of Uganda is of double significance to me because I consider the Kabaka a little more than a prince. He also joined with the Prime Minister in achieving independence for his country after he was pushed around so unmercifully in the Mother Country and then after he returned to his country.

Mr. Milton Obote, the Prime Minister, was not only present at the recent Prime Ministers' Conference but I had frequent occasions to discuss with him our problems and I found him to be a very good and understanding statesman.

We also attended together the Conference of the Socialist Nationalists. Hon. members on this side of the Table would appreciate more than hon. members on the other side when I say that Mr. Milton Obote sat at that conference on my left side and the Chief Minister of St. Kitts on my right side and we made a very valuable contribution to the cause of National Socialism.

Sir, as I have said, the population of Uganda is about 6 1/2 million but the country is larger in area than Great Britain, Northern Ireland and Wales. It is almost the same size as the neighbouring territory of British Guiana. The present King of Uganda has not achieved independence for his country without being exposed to the rigours of colonial repression; therefore, I think it is fitting for us to congratulate the people of Uganda today on their achievement of independence. It is fitting to observe that after winning the General Election this year, they have in such a short time convinced world opinion that they are ready and capable of taking their destinies in their own hands.

I beg to move that this House congratulate the people of the newly independent country of Uganda on the occasion of their independence celebrations and the achievement of full independence within the British Commonwealth of Nations and I am asking that a copy of the Resolution be conveyed to the Prime Minister, Mr. Milton Obote.

Mr. SPEAKER: Do you mean to say that His Excellency be asked to transmit to the Prime Minister of Uganda a copy of the Resolution?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Yes, Your Honour. Uganda is now an independent territory.
3.25 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: Are you asking His Excellency the Governor to transmit it?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Yes, Sir, I think that that would be the correct procedure since we do not any longer work through the Colonial Office.

Mr. LYNCH: Mr. Speaker, I rise to second the motion for the passing of this Resolution. It is always a very pleasant thing to see a nation, which, at one time had been backward, achieve full internal self-government. It is of particular interest to us because there are certain cultural ties

between the inhabitants of these islands of the West Indies and the inhabitants of certain African territories. We rejoice with them on the occasion of the declaration of independence, and we feel convinced that now they have been accorded the privilege of taking their destinies into their own hands, this huge land area of over 80,000 square miles, if I remember correctly, which is so sparsely populated, will go on from strength to strength. Some of us might perhaps wonder why it is that we are sending greetings as far away as Uganda our greetings whereas we forgot to send the same type of greetings to nearby Jamaica on the occasion of the celebration of their independence. However, Sir, it is with great pleasure that I second the motion for the passing of this Resolution and I feel sure that all the members of this House must rejoice with the people of Uganda at the attainment of their Independence.

Mr. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, like the hon. member who has just sat down and on behalf of the members of the Barbados Labour Party, I am also supporting the motion for the passing of this Resolution. Uganda, like all the African territories, has had its period of grief and misery. There is a period in the history of Uganda which can be likened to what took place in the Belgian Congo where several millions of the adult population have suffered misery. However, we share not only the happiness but the joy and feelings that independence has been brought to this country. Last night, two minutes after midnight, I was listening to the broadcast when the Union Jack was lowered and the Independent Flag, gold and black, was raised, which was a great sign to six and a half million people in the world indicating the happiness expressed by the independence of that territory. I hope, like you, Mr. Speaker, that we will be alive to see a flag of our own go up to the top of the mast. With those few remarks, on behalf of the Barbados Labour Party and the people of this country, I join with the Premier in the expression of our appreciation and thanks for the independence of Uganda.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that this Resolution do now pass. Hon. members in favour of that will please say "Aye", those against will please say "No". I think the "Ayes" have it.

I will see to it that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to His Excellency the Governor for transmission to the Prime Minister of the newly independent country.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Mr. SPEAKER: We will now revert to Private Members' Business. Replies were laid to Questions earlier this afternoon, but the time for dealing with Replies to Questions terminates at 3.15 p.m. of the clock, and it is now after that time. Consequently, we may only now proceed to deal with other matters under Private Members' Business.

RESOLUTION re PREMIER'S FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND BUDGETARY PROPOSALS

Mr. SPEAKER: Under Private Members' Business, the first Order of the Day is to resume debate on a Resolution re the Premier's Financial Statement and Budgetary Proposals. On 21st August, 1962, when we last dealt with this Resolution, the hon. junior member for St. George was addressing the House when Private Members' Business was declared to be at an end. On 28th August, when we last met, no Private Members' Business was proceeded with. The debate on this Resolution was on a motion standing in the name of the Hon. Leader of the Opposition. Do I understand that the hon. junior member for St. George is not disposed this afternoon, or that he is prepared, to continue his address on this subject?

Mr. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, as far as I can remember or recollect, I had completed my remarks on this matter. I have a recollection that the hon. senior member for St. Michael was about to speak. I think that I had said all that I had to say on this matter before the adjournment.

Mr. SPEAKER: I rely completely on the recollection of the hon. junior member for St. George when he assures this

Chamber that he has completed his speech. The hon. senior member for St. Michael may speak now.

Mr. SEALEY: Mr. Speaker, as far as I can remember, my debate was in connection with the White Paper and not in connection with the Premier's Financial Statement and Budgetary Proposals.

Mr. SPEAKER: Is there any other hon. member who has not yet spoken and who desires to make his contribution to this debate? If there is no other hon. member who desires to speak on this Resolution, I will ask the Hon. Leader of the Opposition — I observe that that hon. member is not now in his place.

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the hon. senior member for the City, I would ask leave to withdraw this Resolution.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am not so sure that I can hear the hon. junior member for Christ Church. However, the hon. member has only asked for leave, on behalf of his colleague, to withdraw this Resolution standing in the name of his colleague. If there is no objection, leave will be granted the hon. member to withdraw the Resolution. *(After a pause.)*

There being apparently no objection, leave is granted the hon. member.

This Resolution is accordingly withdrawn.
3.35 p.m.

The next Order of the Day is the third reading of a Bill to authorise the sale of certain lands at St. George's Rectory, St. George, and that Bill stands in the name of the hon. senior member for St. George who may proceed if he is ready.

Mr. LOWE: Mr. Speaker, I should like to inform this Honourable House that this Bill is still being considered by Select Committee; so I am not prepared to deal with it today.

Mr. SPEAKER: This Bill, I am assured by the hon. senior member for St. George, is yet before Select Committee of which both hon. members for St. George are members. One can quite appreciate that during a recess hon. members do not always meet in Select Committee.

The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the hon. senior member for St. Andrew, to move the passing of a Resolution relative to road construction in the parish of St. Andrew. Is the hon. member ready to proceed?

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Speaker, I am asking leave to withdraw this Resolution standing in my name.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am sorry I did not hear the hon. member. It is no fault of hon. members.

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Speaker, I am asking leave to withdraw that Resolution standing in my name.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. senior member for St. Andrew is craving the indulgence of this House to withdraw the Resolution which stands in his name, and unless there be any objection, I shall extend that indulgence.

There being apparently no objection, the hon. member may regard this Resolution as withdrawn.

The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Philip, whom I am sure the House would like me to say we are glad to see sufficiently recovered to resume his duties as a member of this House. This Resolution is relative to the enactment of legislation to provide pensions and gratuities to casual employees of the Local Government Councils.

Mr. WEEKES: Mr. Speaker, I am asking leave not to proceed with the Resolution today.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. junior member for St. Philip is asking leave not to proceed today with this Resolution standing in his name, and unless there be any objection, leave will be granted.

It appears there is no objection and leave is granted. Accordingly we will proceed to Order No. 5 standing in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Thomas, to move the passing of a Resolution *re* the installation of public telephones at Welchman Hall, St. Thomas.

RESOLUTION *re* INSTALLATION OF PUBLIC TELEPHONES AT ST. THOMAS

Mr. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, as you know, in this modern day, a telephone is a downright necessity. We have passed the day when such things as telephones, cars, radios and refrigerators are in the luxury group. It is a burning shame, Sir, that in a small island like Barbados where the Telephone Company has been operating for the past thirty years or more, a place like St. Thomas has only about five telephones in all. (Mr. SPEAKER: Let the hon. member continue to address the Chair.) I was only giving the other members a chance. Anyhow, Sir, it is long overdue.

Mr. SPEAKER: It is difficult to hear any hon. member today. I found it difficult even to hear the Hon. Leader of the Opposition when he was on his feet; so please co-operate with me.

Mr. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I should have read this Resolution first. In St. Thomas especially in Welchman Hall where a large section of the community lives and even congregate, it is very difficult if anybody takes ill at night or any time for that matter to get a telephone call. I stress the point about night mostly because there is a lady at Sturges who tries to accommodate the people by allowing them to use her telephone; but as you know, even your best friend can become a nuisance if you are sleeping and people have to come at 12 o'clock and wake you up to get a telephone message. I understand, however, that there are fairly big dogs in this yard.

Wherever you go nowadays in this modern age, you find public telephones along the way which people can use.

Mr. SPEAKER: That is outside St. Thomas.

Mr. BOXILL: I mean outside the island, because it is even difficult to find public telephones along the street in Bridgetown. It is true that people will give you a message, but to get away from people having to go and beg for something, people feel it would be a lot better if they could go and pay for something. If you have to beg for a telephone message, you have to hurry up because the owner may want to use it. It is difficult to wake up people at 12 o'clock to ask them to use their telephone; therefore the installation of public telephones is a necessity. The Resolution reads as follows:—

"WHEREAS the people of St. Thomas are without the service of public telephones, and in view of the fact that such is a dire necessity,

BE IT RESOLVED that this Government immediately undertake to instal at least two public telephone services in the said parish, one at Welchman Hall, and one at Hillaby."

You will notice, Sir, that I have mentioned Welchman Hall and Hillaby, and the reason for putting one at Hillaby is that it could also serve for the people at St. Andrew, because to get into Hillaby, St. Thomas, you must go through St. Andrew; therefore this telephone would accommodate the two parishes.
3.45 p.m.

It is true that I would like to see not only public telephones installed in St. Thomas, but I would like to see public baths erected all over the island; because if that is done, it will facilitate a lot of the hardships which the poor

people are undergoing right now. A telephone is as much a necessity today as a radio, iced water or anything else. The other day a person in the Welchman Hall area was taken ill and he managed to get a message to the doctor. When the doctor came, the first thing he asked was whether there was a public telephone installed. He was told "No" and the only way in which people could get a telephone message would be for them to go to Ashford or Sturges. Mr. Speaker, without any more ado, I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, it gives me much pleasure in seconding the motion for the passing of this Resolution. I think that the time has come when we should pay attention to public institutions; we should pay more attention to the erection of toilets and baths. I may say that Barbados is one of the few places where a man would urinate by the side of the road and nobody thinks that there is anything wrong about that. I am amazed when I see this public exposition of vulgarity.

A telephone for some people is a luxury but for others it is a necessity. The telephone is a necessity now because people are living in congested areas. One of the defects of the public telephone system here is that nobody can call you back when they do have these telephones like the one which has been installed at the Community Centre at Bathsheba. In the United States of America or in London you would never go to a telephone booth and not be able to have a return call made. At Bathsheba, where you have a public telephone installed, you can make a call and it is difficult to get a reply because there is no means of the person whom you have called sending back a call. Moreover, the hon. junior member for St. Thomas has made this motion from the point of view of his own constituency, but I think that he should have been more liberal than that. This is a question of a necessity for the island as a whole. One of the things about Barbados is that there are not enough public telephone services in this island, having regard to the economic growth of the community, and that is something which demands an investigation. We can all speak of our constituencies. In the City of Bridgetown there are more telephones installed because there are more businesses in the City, but there are occasions when you could have a public telephone installed in the City in order to avoid the inconvenience of people asking other people's permission to use their telephone. In a district in St. Peter the nearest telephone to anybody is at Nicholas. Thousands of people are living in places where they have to make the same type of pilgrimage as before the age of the motor car or the telephone. We want to embark on a policy of installing so many telephones annually. At Belleplaine you have to go to the Police Station in order to make a telephone call and at St. Lucy you have to go to the Crab Hill Police Station. However, if you are in Hope Road, where are you going to get the service of a telephone? In this age I think that something more should be done in this matter of installing telephones. I feel that the Telephone Company should be called upon — and there is nothing wrong even at this stage in calling upon them to do it — to install a certain number of public telephones for the franchise and the monopoly which they possess. As a matter of operation, that is the sort of contribution which this Company should make. What is the use of giving people these public utility rights and then they are operating as if they are in a vacuum? If that step is too revolutionary for certain members, then the Government has the responsibility to the community which should not be left without the proper communications. This telephonic communication is something which has grown up to be a necessity. There is no point in telling people that they can do without a telephone because if the telephone system is completely removed from Barbados you will then realise how important it is to the community. You save a lot of time and money by the use of the telephone and messages can be transmitted very quickly. This is one of the things which has escaped the attention of the Government in the past and I think that nobody should travel in any parish of Barbados without having the right and privilege of using a public telephone and getting public communication to any part of the island.

Mr. BATSON: Mr. Speaker, in supporting the motion for the passing of this Resolution, I do so because I per-

sonally have been approached by twelve parishioners and they have affixed their signatures to a document which I have passed on to the manager of the Telephone Company. (A MEMBER: I cannot hear the hon. member.).

Mr. SPEAKER: I am assured by the Marshal that the amplifying apparatus is not working at all.

Mr. BATSON: I was saying, Mr. Speaker, that I have been approached by twelve parishioners in the Welchman Hall area and they have signified their intention to request that a public telephone system be installed in that area. I have communicated the circular to the Manager of the Telephone Company and he has replied to me stating that at some time next year the Company intends to make certain telephone extensions along Sturges in their capital works programme. Since the hon. junior member for St. Thomas has tabled this Resolution negotiations were going on, but I did not think that this Resolution would have been dealt with today. However, the Manager of the Telephone Company shows some kind of willingness to have these telephones installed in the Welchman Hall area. I believe that the Government in their development programme has also made provision for that. However, I rise to support the motion for the passing of this Resolution, as has been moved by the hon. junior member for St. Thomas, my colleague; he, like myself, has been approached by several people, not only in the Welchman Hall area but in several other areas of St. Thomas, with regard to the installation of these public telephones.

3.55 p.m.

I feel it would be a fine idea if the Government would explore the possibility of having these public telephones installed so that these people will have the uses of them. Some time earlier this year a man in Welchman Hall lost his mother as a result of not being able to contact a doctor in time. On another occasion a lady lost almost all her belongings, because when the Fire Brigade got there it was just too late. It is a burning shame for so long a period to have the parish of St. Thomas so badly off as far as communications are concerned, and I think it would be in keeping with the policy of this Government to render some kind of assistance in that direction.

I think I have made my points, Mr. Speaker, and I have much pleasure in supporting the passing of this Resolution.

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Speaker, this Resolution seeks the installation of public telephones in residential areas throughout the Island. This particular Resolution refers to St. Thomas, but I am concerned with the whole Island of Barbados. I would like to see the Government take upon themselves the responsibility of approaching the Telephone Company and instructing them with a view to the proposals which they have in mind, and see that they get on with this job of installing public telephones in residential areas as soon as possible. We realise that the people are suffering for such facilities, and the only way the Telephone Company will speed up is when the Government approach them and have them make such installations.

I believe, Mr. Speaker, that every member of this Government knows that the Government had in its Manifesto the installation of telephones in these residential areas, and I am certain that it is going to be done in the year 1962-63 and up to 1964 or 1965. We must have these things, but it takes time. I am however glad to see this Resolution, because it is a whip which is going to cause Government to speed up and not be lying down on these things. I want to say that in these days of grace and in these enlightened times, we want to know that the poor people in this Island can share the benefits of such amenities. I see some of the big men today are sharing their facilities, and the poor man cannot obtain any; but I want to say that the light has come and we want it to shine. We do not want to be sleeping in darkness anymore, and I hope the time will come when such facilities as telephones and electricity will be installed throughout the Island. Barbados is only 21 miles by 14 miles, and it shocks me sometimes to think that this Island is still in darkness. What is the cause? Private people would be glad to instal a telephone, but the cost is so great for installation though you are only a few

yards from the main road, that they are unable to pay for it. The charge is sometimes \$600 or \$700. I do hope that the Government will in due season go into the working conditions of such companies like the Telephone Company and others and see if they can lower their rates.

There are several poor people who would be glad to instal these conveniences, but the cost is so steep that they cannot approach the company. It seems that the Telephone Company is more extravagant than any other company in the Island; but I hope the Government will go into the matter and try to have these rates reduced so that the poor people may enjoy some of the facilities which the big men in this country are enjoying.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, this telephone question is really one which the Government will have to examine, and instal more than one telephone in Hillaby or Welchman Hall. This is an Island-wide need. I do not know, Sir, if the hon. member will accept an amendment which I intend to move to the Resolution. I see that the hon. member is asking for a telephone at Welchman Hall and one at Hillaby, but I would not blame him; he must show to the people in St. Thomas that he has their interest at heart, but the other members and I will have to show to the Island that we have their interest at heart, because as the hon. junior member for St. Thomas has said, there is a lady in the parish of St. Thomas who is quite willing to allow a message to be passed on, but you cannot expect at midnight to go and wake her up to get a telephone call to a doctor. The hon. member said he knows of a person who lost his mother through not being able to get a telephone message to a doctor. These cases happen all over the Island and not in St. Thomas alone. I can say that this may have happened in St. Joseph, but we are more fortunate in that parish because we have a few more telephones, I believe, than St. Thomas although St. Joseph is a small parish. Yet you cannot expect after people have retired at night to call them up in order to get a telephone message.

Mr. Speaker, this is an Island-wide need and I am asking the hon. member to accept the amendment which would include all the parishes. The Resolution reads as follows:—

"BE IT RESOLVED that this Government immediately undertake to instal at least two public telephone services in the said parish, one at Welchman Hall, and one at Hillaby."

To that, I would like to add the words "and in all the parishes of this Island," and that would cover everything, leaving it to those who are responsible to do their utmost to satisfy all the parishes. I know it is a necessity because at night people call on me where I live to get telephone messages, and I am only too glad to help them. The calls are mostly requested at night for a doctor, or sometimes motor cars stick up in some part of the parish and the occupants would like to get another car, and it is very difficult to find somewhere to get a telephone message in the parish. You know, Sir, that a place like St. Lucy is very far, and as the hon. senior member for St. Peter has mentioned, there is Boscobelle, and when he spoke about "Nicholas", I do not think you would be able to get into Nicholas Yard too easily from what I see when I am passing, because there are some very large dogs in there.

4.05 p.m.

I do not think you would be able to get in there at night at all. We should make it as easy as possible for the people of this country to get easy access to a telephone. If it costs the Government some money to instal these telephones we would have to be satisfied about that, because these telephones are a necessity. Mr. Speaker, I do not know if the hon. junior member for St. Thomas will accept the amendment which I am going to move now but I will still move it. I beg to move that the words "and at other places throughout the island", be added at the end of the Resolution.

Mr. SPEAKER: Would the hon. member also insert after the words "St. Thomas" in the first line of the Resolution the words "as well as of other parishes."? Does the hon. member accept that amendment? He has not got to accept the amendment, but if he accepts it, then the amended Resolution will take the place of the original one.

Mr. COWARD: Mr. Speaker, I have great pleasure in speaking on the amendment moved by the hon. junior member for St. Joseph.

Mr. SPEAKER: Is the hon. member seconding the amendment?

Mr. COWARD: Yes, Sir. This is something which is a necessity and I do not feel that it should be restricted to the parish of St. Thomas; this is something which should be provided on an island-wide basis. In my area I do know, as the owner of a telephone, that people in the area are always in need of making a telephone call. Sometimes the making of a telephone call really clashes with my business or with business people because you cannot get on with your business when there is the use of the telephone by private people. This is a matter of necessity and the Government should go into it with a view of installing a public telephone in all the villages including the cane fields which, some hon. member said sometime ago, we, who are country politicians, represent. With those remarks, I am happy to second the amendment to this Resolution.

Mr. SEALEY: Mr. Speaker, I would like to associate myself with this Resolution which has been moved by the hon. junior member for St. Thomas and which has been supported by the hon. senior member for St. Peter, the hon. senior member for St. Thomas, the hon. senior member for St. Andrew and the hon. junior and senior members for St. Joseph. I am very happy in asking for a telephone for the Grazettes area. There is one telephone in that area and that telephone is owned by a shop-keeper called Mr. Roach. He is quite willing to allow people to have telephone messages during the day but at night they cannot get these messages. There are over three hundred houses in that area and in order to get a telephone message, sometimes they have to pay a boy to go to the Police Station. Before the workshop was erected they could get a telephone message, but today they have to walk to Black Rock in order to get that message. I would like to go a little further; I would like to suggest that, instead of a telephone being installed only at the Grazettes' area, a public telephone booth be also erected in the Pine Housing Area and in the Bay Housing Area. I would not like to call the telephone service a luxury because I can see that it is a necessity.

Mr. HUSBANDS: Mr. Speaker, by now it would have been obvious to all members of this Chamber that the question of installing public telephones for the use of residents in the country areas is more or less one of national importance. While I commend the hon. junior member for St. Thomas in bringing to the notice of this House or of the Government that there is a need for public telephones in the Welchman Hall area, yet it is obvious that there are certain rural areas in Barbados — and they are spread throughout the length and breadth of the country — where the residents of these areas are rather embarrassed in getting telephone messages which, in some instances, mean the summoning of a doctor and sometimes the summoning of an undertaker. Of course, that shows the necessity of having a widening of this telephone service in the rural areas of this island. I was a bit alarmed to hear how few telephones are operated in St. Thomas. The mover of the original motion has mentioned that there were about five and if he is right — and I have some idea that he is — then he must be very highly commended for presenting this Resolution before this Chamber.

I should like to say that I, too, have been interested in getting telephones installed in rural districts in St. Peter and I have had conversations with former Ministers of the Government on this subject. I was told that the cost to the Government of installing these telephones was alarming; that was the sort of excuse which was given to me at the time. As far as St. Peter is concerned, there are areas such as Boscobelle, Black Bess and Indian Ground; such are rural areas where the residents are very embarrassed in getting telephone messages sent through.

4.15 p.m.

To go back to what was put to me as an alarming figure of expenditure that was charged by the Telephone Company

to the Government as they proposed to have telephone booths around the Island, I would say that the Government is one of the biggest customers of the Barbados Telephone Company. The Government pays a colossal amount of money every year for the use of the telephone. I remember on one occasion while I was making observations on the Estimates that I made some mention about that. If the Government of Barbados is such a wonderful customer of the present company, I think that public telephones should be considered by the Telephone Company in such a way that Government ought to be able to benefit by reduced rates. I think when the Government is rendering or extending a service such as the one the hon. member for St. Thomas now proposes, the local company, the Barbados Telephone Company, should co-operate to that extent that Government would not be embarrassed in extending such a service throughout the country.

Mr. Speaker, in big countries and in large cities, there are many public telephone booths of which the populace may take advantage of course at a charge, and in this case a charge will be asked for and received too. If we look around the Island there are no telephone booths except somewhere in St. Joseph, I think in the Bathsheba area, and again in the constituency of St. James, I speak under correction, where there is a public telephone situated in or near a housing area. I have been informed it is the Thorpe's Housing Area. If this Government is given such a price by the Telephone Company that makes it almost prohibitive to extend such services, I think the Government should put it very clearly and forcibly that this is a public service — and after all the Telephone Company must operate by a public licence too — and they should make no bones about it. The time has now come when undoubtedly something has got to be done in this matter, and I do not think it is good enough in this day and age for Government to become embarrassed because the charges are prohibitive by the present company.

Mr. Speaker, I think that is as much as I should say on this Resolution. I commend the Mover and I also commend those members who have spoken in a more expansive way, because it is undoubtedly a social service and should be extended not only to the constituents in the parish of St. Thomas, but to every other country area, and I suppose even for the benefit of those in the City. We have got to think in terms of Barbados, Mr. Speaker, and I think that the Hon. Mover would be well advised to accept the proposed amendment moved by the hon. junior member for St. Joseph.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I have only a few minutes to speak but as far as I am concerned, I am essentially a free enterprise man; I shall always remain so and I hope I shall die that way. I am not supporting either of the motions moved, because with the greatest respect to hon. members I do not think either of them will actually go very far or will achieve what is necessary for the Island. I commend the hon. junior member for St. Thomas for having the courage to bring the Resolution, but we are not ambassadors for a particular parish in here, and as the hon. junior member for St. Joseph has rightly said, we must represent the Island.

We have a telephone service in Barbados, and before I go any further, let me say here and now that taking the Islands from St. Kitts right up to and including Trinidad, it is the best telephone service in these parts. Do not be afraid when I say I am not supporting any of the motions, I have never been against getting some improvement. The hon. member for St. Thomas thinks that we should have telephone services in Welchman Hall, and the hon. member for St. Joseph goes further and makes an amendment which I do not think really makes sense. We have a telephone service in this country which is a monopoly, and it is for us to urge the Government to cause a survey to be made, because it is a fact that the majority of inhabitants in this country are without public telephones. You can say you want one in Connell Town, in Boscobelle, at Grazettes or at the Crane. I am supporting the principle behind the motion, but I would prefer to see it worded so that the Government would be put on the spot to be called upon to make a survey or cause a survey to be made by the company which has a monopoly.

Mr. Speaker, my suggestion would be to have the Resolution read:— "WHEREAS the majority of inhabitants of

this Island are without the service of public telephones; and in view of the fact that such is a dire necessity;" because you should not think of Welchman Hall alone. If you go to Grazettes, or if someone takes ill in Bay Land which is quite near to the Hospital, by the time you telephone the Taxi Company to get a car to carry the person to the Hospital, he can die. The second paragraph of the Resolution should read as follows:—

"BE IT RESOLVED that this Government take immediate steps to have a survey made throughout the Island to ascertain the areas where public telephones can be installed for the use of the general public and have such telephones so installed."

You can either call upon the Public Utilities Board to have that survey made or upon the Housing Authority who have been establishing some of these conveniences. You should not think merely in terms of St. Thomas, St. Andrew or Grazettes. The matter is a very simple one and you do not have to go spending money, because the company has a monopoly, and public telephones mean that you put a nickel in to get a call. Anybody in Barbados can put in a nickel and get a call, and therefore you should ascertain the areas where public telephones are needed, and not let us think merely of having one at Grazettes, at Clifton Hall or at Bathsheba. That is not good enough for an Assembly like this. I am not belittling the hon. member's suggestion. I congratulate the hon. junior member for St. Thomas for having brought it, but it has taken a different flavour. As the hon. junior member for St. Joseph has rightly said, let us have them in places other than St. Thomas, though he was thinking in terms of St. Joseph.

The Resolution as amended, Mr. Speaker, is not worthy of this Chamber and would read like this:—

"WHEREAS the people of St. Thomas as well as other parishes are without the service of public telephones; and in view of the fact that such is a dire necessity;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Government immediately undertake to instal at least two public telephone services in the said parishes, one at Welchman Hall, one at Hillaby and at other places throughout the Island."

4.25 p.m.

This is not worthy of men who sit in an Assembly like this guided by you, Mr. Speaker. I am in agreement with the principle of the Resolution but I do not agree with the wording of it.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member's amendment is in order, but he should speak at dictation speed so that the Deputy Clerk can get it down.

Mr. MOTTLEY: My amendment reads as follows:—

"WHEREAS the majority of the inhabitants of this island are without the services of public telephones....."

That is a fact. The amendment goes on:

"BE IT RESOLVED that the Government take immediate steps to have a survey made throughout the Island in order to ascertain the areas where public telephones can be installed for the use of the general public and have such telephones so installed."

I maintain that the Telephone Company runs a good service, but if you have a monopoly you should give to the people the opportunity to have the service. I know exactly what I am talking about. If you give me a monopoly to run a bus service, for instance, you can say how it should be run. There is not every area in the island where a public telephone can be installed. The telephone service is not run in every area of the island at present, but there are areas where these telephones should be installed. I want the Government to ascertain where these telephones should be run now and later on you can say where they should be installed.

Mr. GODDARD: I beg to second that amendment.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member's amendment has

been seconded, but it is now 4.30 p.m. of the clock and therefore the hon. junior member for Christ Church may resume his speech when we come to deal with Private Members' Business on the next occasion. The House will now proceed with the consideration of Government Business.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

RESOLUTION re REPORT OF THE EAST CARIBBEAN FEDERATION CONFERENCE

Mr. SPEAKER: The first Order of the Day under Government Business is to resume debate on a Resolution relative to the Report of the East Caribbean Federation Conference. On the last occasion when this matter was being debated, the Hon. Minister of Education had completed his speech and, according to my recollection, the hon. senior member for St. Michael had risen to make his contribution to the debate. I promised the hon. member that if he were in his place when the debate was resumed, he would be entitled to make his speech. The hon. senior member for St. Michael may speak now.

Mr. SEALEY: Mr. Speaker, at the very outset of this contribution which I am making to this debate, which is in a West Indian context, I want to say that this is the most important matter which has come before this Honourable House for debate in a very long time. I should like to make it abundantly clear that I am in wholehearted agreement with the fundamental principle of Federation with the exception that there are a few paragraphs in this White Paper which need to be considered very carefully. I commend the Honourable Premier of this House and the Chief Minister of the Windward and Leeward Islands for their imagination and very good sense which they have shown in winding up the affairs of the West Indian people in order to preserve the identity of the West Indian people in the eyes of the world, following the announcement of the British Government's intention to wind up the affairs of the old Federation, changed as it was by the secession of its two leading units. Mr. Speaker, you will recall that these two leading units were no other than Trinidad and Jamaica. Jamaica did it by way of a Referendum and Trinidad has allowed it to be known plainly that they will see that none of the other territories will push its hands into her pockets. As far as Grenada is concerned, I think it is a bit too early to make any forecast, because I can see that in the very near future Grenada will be knocking at the backdoor of the "Eight." Every true West Indian must experience that the failure of the first experiment in not dwelling together in unity is somewhat cushioned by the new attempt to hold the people of the region together for their mutual good.

Mr. Speaker, it is even more than that; since the ultimate aim of the Conference held in London has been clearly the forging of solidarity among the units, it is essential for us to move forward in nationhood. There are a few Clauses in this White Paper which need to be considered very carefully and dispassionately. You will find that it will call for very clear thinking; you will have to think very clearly in an unbiased manner, very critically and even at the point of being considered to be insular. I regret that up to now there has been little or no public discussion of the Conference proposals as suggested in paragraph 61 of this White Paper. Is it due to the lack of enlightenment on the people's part? It would seem to be so. I say that it is the clear duty of the Government to begin a campaign of mass education and educate the people as to the definite issue of Federation. It is the duty of the Government to enlighten the people as to the financial and political implications of Federation.

4.35 p.m.

It is their duty to let the people know how much money we will have to pay towards this Federation, because I feel the consciousness of the people should be aroused. Mr. Speaker, you would be surprised to know that though we had a Federation which lasted for four years, 20% of the people of the Island of Barbados can tell you nothing much about Federation, and it is surprising to know how many people still feel that this new Federation is just another political quarrel, and just another holding of the people of the region together where one can step over the other's

head and come into prosperity, or where one can step off and go to wine and dine with King, Queen and Ambassador.

Mr. Speaker, I perused the White Paper not because I am a small businessman, but because I have the people of the Island at heart; but on perusal of this White Paper it is clearly indicated that the new Federation will be stronger and better off financially than the old one. I feel that this new union has a better chance of survival. Viability is what counts, and let us not forget that a chain is no stronger than its weakest link. It has been actually written in one of the newspapers of this territory, Mr. Speaker, that Barbados is heading into this new Federation without knowing how much money it will have to give to the other territories. I hope nothing is further from the truth. If that is so, we would just be taking a leap in the dark. I could not think of this present Government jumping into a commitment of such magnitude without first counting the cost. Let us not forget that both Jamaica and Trinidad with their vast amount of international and Local Government affairs saw fit to relieve themselves of the financial responsibilities of the smaller Islands. The people of Barbados have no desire to move themselves from the other territories, yet much caution must be taken.

There are a few loopholes in this White Paper which I feel we will have to check on most carefully and dispassionately, and by doing so it would be a means of raising ourselves from any squandermania or need for Commissions of Enquiry. Further, Sir, I feel that the White Paper has proved the remarkable construction and work which was put in at the London Conference. Indeed one can only hope that the leadership of the new Federation will be intelligent, inspired and full of that vigour which will permit all of these territories as a unit group being led successfully along the road to nationhood and self-Government.

Mr. COWARD: Mr. Speaker, as I represent the people in the parish of St. Joseph, I certainly welcome this opportunity of making a few observations on the Report of the East Caribbean Federation Conference of 1962. I feel, Mr. Speaker, that if we must have Federation, we must be realistic in our approach and not be like those former leaders who were responsible for the breaking up of the last Federation. It is therefore necessary for us to take time and approach this very important matter in calmness and clearness. I think this is an appropriate time for me to say that for many years in this colony we have been hearing that unity is strength and we must have Federation. As far back as the Thirties and before we reached the stage of talking Federation, there was much talk about a closer union, and on that occasion delegates from this Island — I think they were the late C. L. Elder and the late J. S. Sainsbury — went to Dominica as our representatives. You will see therefore, Sir, how long this Federation talk was in existence.

In recent years, there were quite a number of conferences held not only in the United Kingdom, but at Montego Bay where our leaders met and discussed Federation, and eventually Federation was thrown upon us without treating the people of this Island with the courtesy of meeting them and explaining to them the fundamental principles of Federation.

4.45 p.m.

That is why I feel, Mr. Speaker, that the people of this island should be kept informed of what is being done. It is true to say that the Federation is now defunct, but the Legislature of this island has been asked sometime during this year to find over \$1½ million for the services of the Federation. I make this point only to show how necessary it is to let the people know what we are doing. Not only in Barbados but all over the world, Federation was thrust upon the people and the leaders could not find it possible to explain it to the people; but when Jamaica wanted to assist in breaking up the Federation they then saw the necessity of going to the people. I feel that the time has come when we, in these parts, should federate: but the question is, what sort of Federation must we have? Should we have a strong Federation or should we have a feeble one? If we have a strong Federation it will, no doubt, be able to stand the test of the storm of political times; but if we have a weak Fed-

eration it will go down just as the last Federation went down. If we, as leaders of today, fail just as the leaders of the now defunct Federation failed, to appreciate the facts, we can wreck any form of federation which has been agreed upon.

Mr. Speaker, we must appreciate the fact that the children of today will be the leaders of tomorrow. I would like to put it as mildly as I can. The leaders of the defunct Federation were very inconsiderate: because how can one say that we have a Federation when a person from one corner of an island in the Federation cannot go into the other islands of the Federation unmolested? The fact that these islands are divided by water and they are not connected by roads, as some of the other federated islands are, make it all the more reason why we should have a strong Federation. Having regard to the length of time that we have been taking to debate this Report, coupled with the fact that the speeches of hon. members are being broadcast, the members of the general public will have a chance to know what is Federation. I must say that, as far as can be ascertained, the people of this island appear to appreciate the Federation. We, in these parts as West Indians, are all rejoicing at the independence of Jamaica and of Trinidad, but we must realise that that will be more expensive and the question is this: "Can we go it alone?" The obvious answer to that question is 'No'. That being the case, if we cannot go it individually then let us go it collectively. If we must have Federation, the leaders must be prepared to give and take. They must be prepared to sink all differences and not do like Jamaica, that is, to get up on some high hill and feel that we must have things in our own way. To the contrary, we must hold together and feel that we are all one, that there is no superior feeling among us and that we are brothers in common.

Mr. Speaker, if we must have Federation, the constitution must be firm and those who are entering Federation must remain in it. We are not at all forcing any one to join the Federation, but if and when he joins the Federation there should be some authority to see that the Federation is not easily or spitefully broken up. The time has come when no small business will be able to exist and so if these small territories, comparatively speaking are still deemed to be small, what do you think about an individual unit?
4.55 p.m.

With the rapid increase in the cost of living and the gradual rise in the standard of living, Federation is the answer to many of our problems; and so by having more space we will be able to turn around more freely and so set a standard for those who may come after us to follow. I would like to warn the leaders, Mr. Speaker, that if we must have Federation, it must not be top-heavy. We must look at the finances of each individual unit and not appoint Ministers without portfolios for the sake of appointing Ministers, because I look at Ministers without portfolios as Ministers without work. On the other hand we cannot make this Federation top-heavy, because how can one claim independence and still be dependent on others? If we must go to the Colonial Office and other places with our hats in our hands, we must expect that they will use very rigid control over us.

Mr. Speaker, I am one of those who are in favour of supporting Federation subject to any contrary feelings which I may have from the people of my constituency. Finally, I must say that I wish the Federation every success; I wish it God's guidance, and I hope that it may not in any way fall into the line as the last Federation. I thank you very much, Sir, and hon. members for hearing what I had to say.

Mr. CORBIN, Mr. Speaker, I have to make a small contribution to this debate on the Federation, and there are a few questions I would like to ask. Now, Mr. Speaker, I think it is for some good reason that we have to join together. The first thing we have to try and find out is whether we are willing to reason together. I never forget the words "Come, let us reason together"; and unless we have the spirit of reasoning, there would be no reason for us to federate. I remember that in the last Federation Trinidad and Jamaica were at the head; they were the two largest and richest countries of the ten, and they told themselves that the other eight countries would have to be nourished from their re-

sources; so they withdrew themselves from the other islands. Today I have to say that the "Seven" are still willing to continue in a Federation, and if they are willing to reason together, I will have to call them the "Lucky Seven".

Some years ago, Mr. Speaker, a lot of Barbadians went to St. Lucia to work for the Americans, but the wages were very small, and the only way we could send home a bulk of money to our parents was to join a meeting turn; we called it a "sou-sou". We worked and contributed \$5 per week and there were ten of us and I was the boss. I said: "Let us see who is mostly in need;" and we gave him the first \$50 because he had a wife and children who were in need. We followed up by the man who was next in need of help, until we came to the one who could wait until the last, and then he too received his \$50. It was because we had patience and were willing to reason together to help one another. I am certain that when the last man received his money he said "Praise God", and we continued that way and were able to send home money. We only needed patience and we learned to bear one another's needs; so the only possible means of a Federation existing is if we learn to bear one another's needs. When each of these islands contribute a certain amount of money, the Finance Minister has a right to know how much each country will contribute to the Federation, and from that we will try to help the weakest country and develop it by lending it money. If we are not in the process of time going to get back the money that we intend to pay to the Federation, then it would be better for us to stay alone. I am certain, Sir, that if we join together, we will be able to develop these countries by sharing with them our understanding, knowledge, education and thoughts, and the Federation is bound to be a success.

I can remember that Jamaica and Trinidad did not have any use for a Federation, but I believe myself that the Federation has now been purged since Jamaica and Trinidad have dropped out. We must now stand the test with the help of God. Every now and again we heard that Trinidad and Jamaica were going to drop out and the "Eight" would be trembling to know how they were going to get on. They have left and we are willing to survive without them. They thought they were the vine, but we know they are not the vine. God is the vine and we are the branches, and we will survive if we unite and reason together.
5.05 p.m.

We will have more facilities with the other countries than we will have if we remain single. England will have to respect us more and the Canadian Government will respect us more. America and Australia will respect us more because they will say that although the other countries have left us in the midst of the storm we are still willing to survive. I have the confidence that these big countries will contribute to us even better at this stage than before because they know that we are poor and we will still federate. We cannot have any say at this stage with the Commonwealth but we will send out delegates to consult with them to help us as to the future.

Sometime ago I stood in this House when the "Eight" met together and I heard Mr. Gairy speak. After hearing his view, he looked to me like a serpent upon the rock; I said then that I have no confidence to put in him; therefore if he drops out of the Federation now that will not be any surprise to me, because I know that he cannot be trusted in any capacity. That is why I am glad that the "Eight" have been purged and the "Seven" have been left and the "Seven" now remain on solid ground. I would like to know exactly from the "Seven" that we are carrying an international grievance where our burdens are concerned. If we can carry our burdens then I am sure that we will make a success of Federation. Some people say that Federation will put us in Chancery; well, if we do not reason together, we will go in Chancery; but if we reason together and share our unity and our fellowship one with another, then I am sure we will be pleased to see what the little West Indies have come to achieve. Why can we not reason together? I am praying that Almighty God will give this Federation the spirit of humility, of understanding and of wisdom that we may join together and make ourselves a good nation and be able to look forward to the Commonwealth just as any other person.

Mr. Speaker, I sat here and I listened to every speaker expressing his view and I think that the "Seven" will survive. We should never think of ourselves as being greater than one another. If we have that spirit then we will have a grievance, but let us reason together. There was a man in my parish who is now dead. He had married a wife; her first husband had died and left eight children and because that man was rich he refused to allow his food to be cooked with that of the children. He said that the children's food should not be cooked with the master's food and that those children would have to wait and allow the master's food to be cooked first. The children survived by the crumbs which fell from his table. Those children have grown up to be men and women and they went to the United States of America and made good. There were eight of them in the United States of America and they became a strong and illustrious family. If this Federation like those eight children — if the members of this Federation like those eight children were to join themselves together, I am quite sure that we will be successful and become a prosperous Federation. I am not saying anything evil about the Federation; as to those who will speak evil about the Federation, I think that they will have to withdraw those words. I hope that we will unite and develop ourselves and by so doing Almighty God will look into the hearts of men and give them according to the fruits of their doings. I am sure that Almighty God will send us the showers of blessing and help us in this Federation. I hope that we will make a success of this Federation. We can trust that Almighty God will give us all that will bind us together and make us a population in the West Indies.

Mr. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my Party, I may say that I tremble with anxiety to make a contribution to this debate relative to the Federation of the eight territories: but on this occasion it is unfortunate that I must ask for a postponement of this debate. A number of things have happened in the recent few weeks. I do not want what I am saying now to be treated as my speech on this important and vital issue of Federation, but when we were discussing the White Paper we were up against a number of decisions made in London. We were thinking of the financial structure of the population and the fiscal resources, to say nothing of the manpower resources of the eight territories which we were hoping to federate. In the interim, as I was saying, a number of things have happened and I am therefore asking for a postponement of the debate in order that I may have the opportunity of discussing this matter with the members of my Party.
5.15 p.m.

You will remember, Sir, that we had a number of Council meetings on this and we took very serious decisions with the eight units, the Leewards, the Windwards and Barbados. Now with the strange and unusual behaviour of the Government of Grenada, to say nothing of what has happened with the Administrator re the invitation of the Regional Council of Ministers to the territories to send a representative, if not the Premier, and with the leaders being somewhat afraid as to what the fate of the federating eight is going to be, and further to that the Regional Council of Ministers concluded its proceedings just one day ago, this is a matter we should discuss at our Party's Council and Executive before I make what could be regarded as my Party's contribution to this debate.

As a matter of fact, Sir, to be quite honest on all this, I do not know if we are thinking of a Federation of the "Eight" or if we are thinking in terms of "Seven". So many things have been said in the recent few days, that since I need no chains or shackles to remind me of my loyalty to the Party, I must ask this Parliament that I be given an opportunity in the light of all that has gone on in the recent two weeks to discuss this with my Party in order to present its point of view on such a vital and important issue as the Federation of the territories. Like you, Mr. Speaker, and like the other members, we all are thinking not only of the sovereign rights of human dignity. Only last night I was listening to a continental programme where the Union Jack had been lowered in Uganda, and it deepens one's desire and struggle to keep the eight units together in the hope that we too can take part in the formation of a nation.

I think with those few remarks and without being denied an opportunity to make a contribution to the debate after

we have been given time to debate it at our Council, I formally move that further discussion of this matter be postponed.

Mr. SPEAKER: I might remind the hon. member that he would lose his right to continue if this motion for postponement is not carried.

Mr. MILLER: If you would forgive me, Sir, it would appear more than unfortunate, because so many things have happened. For instance, we have just concluded the proceedings of the Regional Council of Ministers, and it was not only before this meeting in Barbados that we were shocked with the realisation that Grenada was really not interested in taking part in the Federation of the "Eight". You will want to remember that when we were discussing this White Paper, it was solemnly agreed by the eight territories in London, and I do not know that I should be denied on behalf of the country and of my Party an opportunity to debate it. It is only fair and reasonable and even proper that with the new things occurring in our history, I should be given an opportunity to discuss it with the Executive of the Party to which I belong.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am only reminding the hon. junior member for St. George before he resumes his seat that if he makes a motion — and I understand him to have made a motion that this debate be now postponed — and if the motion is seconded and the postponement is not carried, he will lose his right to continue his speech on a subsequent date. I do not know if it is outside the bounds of possibility for there to be some arrangement with the hon. member and the Government, but if there is none and this motion for postponement is lost, he is thereby deprived of the right to continue or resume or to make another speech on the substantive motion. It is up to the hon. member to discover whether there is any accommodation possible.

Mr. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, with unchanging and unswerving respect to the Chair, I do not know if this should be regarded as an appeal, but we can no longer discuss Federation of the "Eight" on the White Paper; and I do not know that it would not be regarded as un-Christian and even undemocratic if you think for any reason on earth that a Party with a sense of achievement and a sense of history was denied an opportunity to speak on so vital an issue. We are not federating the eight territories as was once believed.

Mr. HUSBANDS: Mr. Speaker, I am seconding the motion for the postponement. I know, Sir, that the words of warning that you have given the Mover of the motion for postponement are strictly in order according to the Standing Orders of this House, and as you have indicated you are, as it were, reminding the hon. mover of this postponement that if an amicable settlement is arranged with the hon. members in charge of the debate, the Hon. Premier and the Hon. Leader of the House, that there will be no danger of those of us who moved and seconded the motion for postponement losing our right to speak on a subsequent occasion. Personally, Sir, I am so positive on this occasion, that as far as losing the right to speak on a matter like this, on an occasion like this and in such a political setting as now obtains is concerned, it would not matter to me if I lost that right to speak; and I say so quite candidly and with the knowledge that what I am saying is going over the air and listeners in and around are hearing me. I know that I am still measuring up to my responsibility when I am conscious of what is immediately concerning us as citizens of Barbados *vis-a-vis* the pending Federation.

I know, Sir, that I am not prepared to give the best contribution that I could make in these circumstances, and if in making this motion and seconding it for the postponement what I say should fall on deaf ears on the Government benches, it does not matter to me, because on the last occasion when this matter was being raised, if I heard rightly because I was not in the Chamber at that particular time, I think the hon. junior member for St. George who made the motion for the postponement was most urgent in concluding it at that time and making his contribution then. Well there must have been some fairly good reasons why with six weeks or more having passed he is not in the mood to carry on immediately; and if what I heard and what I read is also

true, I remember hearing the Hon. Premier tell the House that there is no occasion for overdue haste. Again there is no occasion for too much haste. I hope I read what is true and again at this particular time there is no more reason for overdue haste as it was six weeks ago. As a matter of fact, things have transpired in the interim that tell us that obviously there is no reason to go too hastily. Mark you, Sir, we are here considering the Order to resume debate on a Resolution relative to the Report of the East Caribbean Federation Conference, 1962. That is all there is in it.

Mr. Speaker, many of the citizens of Barbados believe that right now we are really framing a Constitution for the proposed "Eight". That is not true. A lot has got to happen; and if hon. members refresh their memories by reading page seventeen of this Report, they would see that we do not have to be in a hurry at all. Chapter 13 is "Preparatory Steps For Setting Up of the Federation", and paragraph 60 reads as follows:-

"The Conference recognised that before the new Federation could be established, much preparatory work needed to be done, particularly in the financial and organisational fields and in regard to the establishment of the nucleus of a Federal civil service. Among other things, it would be necessary to allow time for detailed expert study of the problems relating to the allocation of revenues within the Federation and to the unification of the senior branches of the public services; and for agreed decisions to be reached by all the Governments concerned" — nobody now knows how many there will be — "and carried into effect on the basis of these expert studies."

5.25 p.m.

The Fiscal and Civil Service commissions would be set up as soon as practicable and invited to submit their findings at the earliest possible date. It was however, considered to be important, in the interests of building efficient machinery of government for the Federation, to allow a reasonable time for these expert commissions to study the problems and to formulate their conclusions, and for the Governments concerned to give due consideration to them."

Mr. Speaker, there is no more need of hurry on this occasion as there was some six or more weeks ago. I most seriously second the motion made by the hon. junior member for St. George. It is not always that I find myself in agreement with the hon. member, but on this occasion I am 100% in agreement with him, the same hon. member who was most urgent to make a contribution to this debate some six weeks ago. I would assure the Hon. Premier that there is no hurry over this matter. For those reasons which I have been given, I am seconding the motion made by the hon. member that the further debate on this motion be postponed. We are being asked to give our opinions as to what has resulted from the Report of a conference which had no signatories. Do not let us think that we are doing now what we may be asked to do in some months or years from now. We are now only being asked to debate this White Paper, to give our opinions and nothing more. Thank goodness that there is nothing more at this particular stage. I therefore hope to prevail, since I take my politics seriously and the proposed Federation seriously, on the Hon. Premier, the Hon. Leader of the House and the members of the majority Party to favour us with their votes for the postponement of this debate or to arrange amicably to have the further consideration of this debate postponed.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Speaking on the motion for the postponement of this debate, the question to be asked is this: what useful purpose will be served by a postponement of the debate at this stage? The hon. junior member for St. George has given two reasons for it. He has said in the first place that since we began the discussion of this matter, there has been a meeting of the Regional Council of Ministers. In actual fact, there have been several meetings of the Regional Council of Ministers since we began this debate. In the second place, the hon. member has said that we do not know whether we are having a Federation of the "Eight" or a Federation of the "Seven". Are we to understand, Mr. Speaker, that when we have a postponement of this debate for the hon. member to have a discussion with his Council or the Council of his Party, that will solve the question as to whether or not there is to be a Federation of

the "Eight" or a Federation of the "Seven"? If from the Olympian heights of the hon. member's super-knowledge of this question he can tell us that by postponing this discussion today in order that he might have a discussion with the Council of his Party, that will solve the \$64 million question as to whether or not there shall be a Federation of the "Eight" or a Federation of the "Seven", well, then, we will be happy to agree to the postponement of this debate. But the fact remains that all we are asking in this Resolution is for an expression of opinion by this Chamber on the Report of the East Caribbean Federation Conference of 1962. This discussion has centred around a Resolution of which notice was given in this House since the 12th June, 1962 — almost four months ago — and the priority which the Government now attaches to this matter is indicated in the fact that this matter appears as Order No. 1 under Government Business today.

I must confess, Mr. Speaker, that the attitude of the hon. junior member for St. George is more than passing strange today. The entire House will recall that on the last two occasions on which this House met, the Government benches were subjected to a most utter, absolute and berating attack on the part of the hon. junior member for St. George because he said that he or his Party was not being given proper time and latitude in order to make their contributions to this question. I want, Mr. Speaker, to submit that no discussion between himself and his Party Council at this stage or in the immediate future can resolve adequately any of the questions which he has posed here today. In other words, Mr. Speaker, we should have to wait for a very long time to intervene between now and the time when the hon. member will be ready to make his contribution to this debate. I think it is quite a simple matter for Barbados to do what some of the other unit territories have already done, that is, to ratify in principle as to whether or not this Chamber, representing the people of the island, intend to support a new federal entity in the Caribbean now that Jamaica and Trinidad have withdrawn from the old Federation. The question of the economics of the Federation of the "Seven", if Grenada withdraws and the question of the fiscal position of the "Seven" if Grenada withdraws are questions which are being considered by eminent authorities and we would not concern ourselves with them today. Certainly the hon. junior member for St. George could not be serious, or he could not today reconcile his stand with that which he took on two previous occasions in this House when he expressed the most hostile, and I almost said the most indecent, attitude of his Party through his not being allowed time to make his contribution to this debate. A discussion with his Party on this matter could not resolve the question as to whether or not there is to be a Federation of the "Eight" or a Federation of the "Seven". Nothing has transpired at the meeting of the recent Council of Ministers which could fundamentally alter the position of this colony with regard to its stand on this question of Federation.

5.35 p.m.

It is merely, Sir, begging the issue, and if it were parliamentary, I would say playing the fool to come in here today and on these flimsy pretexts ask the House to postpone consideration of this vital matter.

Mr. MILLER: On a point of order, if the hon. member would kindly give way, it could not be on any flimsy excuse. A number of things has happened. Six weeks ago when we were anxious to debate this matter, we were thinking in terms of eight units. Certainly, Mr. Speaker, this is not the position today. It is true that whatever happens with the Council of the Barbados Labour Party need have no effect whatever on the present Government and its ruling authority, but surely we represent a section of the community and we are entitled at least to that right. Am I to understand Mr. Speaker, that the Leader of the House would want to deny us that freedom and that right to decide whether or not we should have a further contribution to make just in case the new Federation should comprise seven units? How are we playing the fool on this matter? If he wants to use the force of his numbers and vote on it, let him do so; but, Mr. Speaker, we must be given an opportunity. We were quite anxious to discuss this matter six weeks ago, but with what has happened in the meantime, we are no longer discussing the White Paper of the eight units. Thank you, Sir.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: The hon. member, Mr. Speaker, has repeated exactly what I said. Grenada may or may not join the "Eight" and he wants his Council to discuss it. We do not pay any attention to that because any discussion by his Council can have absolutely no influence as to whether or not Grenada joins the "Eight." They can talk for months on end and that could not settle the question. If the hon. member is not prepared to talk today, let him say so; but it certainly counts with more than ill grace on his part to have been attacking the Government Party on the floor of the House in the most antagonistic terms for not giving him permission to make a contribution to this matter, and now he has the time today and now that we have placed the item as No. 1 on the Order Paper, he comes in here with the most shallow excuse and says that since nobody has shown whether it is a Federation of seven or eight, the debate must be postponed. In other words, Mr. Speaker, the hon. junior member for St. George has advanced no valid reasons for postponing the debate at this stage. All are shallow, and may I point out, Mr. Speaker, that even if according to the procedural methods of this Chamber the hon. member is denied an opportunity to speak in this debate through the failure of his motion to pass, there are other members of his Party in the Chamber who, when the time comes, can present the Party's view point?

I want to say, Sir, that if the Government resists the motion for postponement, it is purely because no logical reasons have been advanced for postponement at this stage, and we feel that the debate should continue now in order, at the very earliest possible time, to be able to present to the West Indies and to the world what is the stand of Barbados on this question.

Mr. GODDARD:- Mr. Speaker, I am speaking purely on the motion for postponement. I am glad to hear the last speaker say 'if the Government should allow the postponement,' because I do believe at this stage that it should be postponed. Let us put aside Party on this issue. Federation of the Little Eight is so important in the lives of all of us that everyone in this House and all Parties should be given every opportunity of expressing their views. If it is felt that a postponement is desired by a Party, I think the Government should give way and state quite plainly that they intend to proceed at a specified time. I know we have had a recess of six weeks and it is the first item on the Order Paper, and we would normally be expected to continue with it today. But so much has happened since and so many people have not yet made up their minds as to the entire implications of the White Paper, that I am appealing to Government to postpone further discussion on this occasion and make it clear if they so desire that it is their intention to proceed with it definitely and to complete it, maybe, in a given time.

I am making that appeal, but, Mr. Speaker, in doing so I am reserving my right to speak again if the motion is lost, because I have not yet spoken on the White Paper and I intend to speak on it.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD:- On a point of order, the hon. junior member for Christ Church seems to be of the opinion that refusal to postpone today means that we want to conclude the debate today. Not necessarily; Sir, we see no reason why the debate should be postponed at this stage today.

Mr. GODDARD: I understand that quite clearly, but I am saying that no Party or no member should be denied the right to say what his feeling is on the Federation. What I am making clear again is that at this moment I am only speaking on the postponement, and I reserve my right to speak on a later occasion.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, there are one or two things I should like to make clear at this stage. Soon after our return from the Marlborough House Conference in London, some time I believe in June this year, the Government under the Minister of Education introduced the debate on the Eastern Caribbean Federation Conference, called the Marlborough House Conference of 1962. At that time, Sir, the junior member for St. George and other members of this House as they are so fond of doing, taking up what

has been written in the editorial columns of the newspapers, protested that they were not being given enough time to discuss the details of the Marlborough House Conference White Paper because the Resolution had only been introduced some two weeks before. At that time it was pointed out that a member who wanted to express an opinion, the hon. senior member for St. Peter, was about to leave the Island, and the only purpose of initiating the debate at that stage was to afford this hon. member an opportunity to speak, just in case the debate was concluded before his returns from his travels.

The Government was accused, Mr. Speaker, of the foulest possible motives, of wanting to stampede the Resolution through and of trying to rush Barbados into Federation. We were even being accused almost of the worst of all crimes next to high treason, that is, of making the same mistakes as the Barbados Labour Party. I think there could be no more serious accusation than that in the history of mankind. To do what the Barbados Labour Party did, to me would be the most heinous of crimes imaginable against humanity and crimes against mankind.
5.45 p.m.

Six weeks ago, after the Official Reporters of this House had been sitting at their desks for twelve hours and ten minutes, three of them in spells and without interruption for that period of time, the hon. junior member for St. George, the same hon. member who is today asking for more time before he makes his contribution to this debate, accused the Hon. Leader of the House sometime around twenty minutes to one in the morning of breaking faith with the public by not allowing him to speak on this matter. I have his remarks before me now, remarks which were made at twenty minutes to one in the morning. They are blowing hot and cold; we were stampeding this matter through at first, and two months later we are not giving them time to speak on the Resolution and I pointed out at the time that the hiatus of six weeks would not only give the Legislative Reporters time to flex their fingers again after writing for twelve hours, but it would also give members of the Opposition Party an opportunity to flex their minds, *si quid est*, that is, if they possess any.

Mr. Speaker, today after we have been informed by the hon. junior member for St. George some weeks ago that he wanted an opportunity to speak on this matter, after he had accused the Hon. Leader of the House of denying him the opportunity to speak and he was prepared to speak like a toy gun ready to go off, now he says that something has happened and we should postpone the debate for a few weeks in order to allow the Council of the Barbados Labour Party to discuss this matter. I do not know whom they will discuss it with. The hon. junior member for Christ Church has said that many people have not made up their minds; but if this debate were to go on for another three years there is a large body of opinion in Barbados comprising persons whose minds will never be made up on an issue of this kind because it depends upon what newspaper they read from day to day and the information they may have from time to time. There are a large number of persons who follow the fortunes of some of the Parties in opposition, who have no minds which can be really made up; but this may be one of the by-products of age grouping. You will find that some of the political opinion of these people is not only coloured but guided by what they read in the columns of the Press from day to day and they have no independent opinion of their own. A Government cannot lead from behind; it must lead from in front. We went to the Marlborough House Conference and indulged in that exercise. The Prime Minister of Trinidad said that one from ten leaves nothing and I said that one from ten may leave nothing in his political arithmetic; but two from ten leaves eight and one from eight leaves seven, and if we got eight from ten we have two; but we have not got minus two or anything like that.

We have been asked to support the Resolution which we have introduced as to the principle of Federation; we have not been asked about how many people make a Federation or how many countries constitute the Federation; there is no such geographical or political formula which has been made up to the present date. The hon. junior member for St. Peter speaks in well-measured tones. When you listen to the hon.

member it sounds very impressive: but when you analyse what he says, if you are not enamoured by the suaveness of his delivery, you have to think twice before you accept the validity of his contentions. For the hon. member's benefit and for his benefit alone, we do not want to deny the hon. member the right to speak on a matter which so vitally affects this country.

At paragraph 63 of the White Paper this is what is stated:-

"Although it was not possible to fix precise dates, the Conference agreed on the following general programme -

- (i) This report, outlining the recommendations of the Conference for the establishment of the new Federation, would be published....."

That has been done. The Report goes on to say this:-

"These recommendations would be referred to the Unit Legislatures for discussion and approval, after allowing a reasonable interval for full public discussion in the territories concerned."

That is what we are doing now: and therefore the only consideration of Sub-Section 1 of Section 63 of the Report is whether there has been sufficient time for public discussion. It was urged when the Resolution was introduced, that there had only been an interval of two weeks. We not only accepted that but we supported it and said that, in our opinion, that was quite correct; but we wanted to allow one hon. member the opportunity to express his view and there would be an interval of time so that this matter would be canvassed by all members of the community. This paragraph of the Report continues as follows:-

- (ii) Fiscal and civil service commissions would be appointed as soon as possible to formulate recommendations on the lines indicated in the relevant paragraphs of this report.

- (iii) When these steps had been taken there would be a further Conference, which Opposition parties in the eight territories would be invited to attend, between the United Kingdom Government and the West Indian Governments concerned to reach final decisions about the form of the new Federation.

- (iv) Assuming that this further Conference reached a satisfactory conclusion, the necessary draft Orders in Council for establishing the new Federation would be prepared and laid before Parliament for affirmative Resolution.

- (v) The usual processes for setting up the new Federation could then be followed. The Regional Council of Ministers might become an Interim Federal Government in order to make preparations for the holding of Federal elections. These elections would be held as soon as practicable and the new Federal Government would take office.

- (vi) After the new Federation had been established and a new elected Federal Government was in office, the Secretary of State for the Colonies would be prepared to enter into discussions concerning independence for the Federation. These discussions would include a review of the provisions of the Federal Constitution."

5.55 p.m.

That therefore, Mr. Speaker, was the time-table which was sort of pre-ordained by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, the Right Honourable Reginald Maudling, who now of course is Chancellor of the Exchequer. The question, therefore, of the Fiscal and Civil Service Commissions is not a question of priority that we cannot have legislative discussions before these Commissions have published their Reports. As a matter of fact, if the Legislatures rejected the White Paper, the work of these two Commissions would really be unnecessary; so the setting-up of the Commissions is really in order to avoid any delays in the Time-Table. But the establishment of these Commissions was

never at any stage considered to be a prerequisite to discussion in the Legislature of the territories. Discussion in the Legislatures must be preceded only by an interval of time sufficient to allow the public to understand that we were not going into a new federal venture. That was the only purpose.

Now if matters of great pith and moment have arisen in the interval between the last meeting of the House - I believe it was on the 28th August - and our resumption after the summer recess, then one would have thought that the Leader of the Minority Opposition Party on the other side would have approached the Leader of the House together with the Leader of the Opposition and informed the Leader of the House that some calamity has overtaken the West Indies since we last saw each other which may cause the electorate to change their views; the linch-pin has been knocked out of the federal axle or some matter like that. No member of this Chamber at the time when we initiated discussion on the White Paper proposals had any illusion that if Grenada supported the Party which was then in Opposition there was a strong possibility that they may be disposed or might be disposed to approach the Government of the Independent Trinidad with a view to some kind of association with that territory.

Indeed and in fact, Sir, at the Marlborough House Conference the delegates from the other territories were well alive to the possibility of such an approach, even, I will go so far now as to say, by Mr. Gairy himself, because Mr. Gairy was a self-avowed adherent to the principle of unitarianism, and he had said in the Barbados House of Assembly on the occasion of the opening of a conference here in Barbados long before we even went to London that he had approached the Trinidad Government.

Now no West Indian who is aware of the economics of the territories has ever had any fear or any illusion about the possible secession of Grenada. I do not think that any of the leaders of the other territories, without presuming too much, would shed a tear, and if they shed any tears those tears would be more tears of relief than tears of sorrow. As far as the Government of Barbados is concerned, I think it is time that we made a declaration, if it is not self-evident, that we are supporting the principle of Federation with any one, two, three, four, five, six or seven of our neighbours in the Eastern Caribbean because we are satisfied that a federation of any group of territories comprising any number up to ten would be in the interest of this Island; and what we are discussing here is the principle of a federation as outlined in the White Paper.

I have tried to be restrained, Mr. Speaker, because I could say a lot of things, but I am often accused of being unkind. It is only that I like to speak plainly; but you will remember that the attitude at twenty minutes to one in the morning - and forgive me for being repetitive - of the hon. member was even abusive of the Government, so much so that the House broke up in disorder, because he insisted that after the Reporters had been writing for twelve hours and ten minutes the debate must go on.

Mr. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, if the Hon. Premier would be good enough to give way, it is unfortunate that the debate should take this turn. I am particularly unhappy and worried about the attitude of the House at the moment. Now for the Premier to say this, I think you will forgive me, Sir, if I did spend a little time on the history of what took place six weeks ago in this Chamber in replying to what the Premier said in connection with holding this House up until some time after midnight on a debate.

Mr. SPEAKER: Let us get beyond dispute. The hon. member has used an unfortunate phrase. There is no right of reply. The hon. member rose on a point of order; so let him make that point of order. I fully appreciate that some members are more concise with their points of order than are other members; but let it be a point of order.

Mr. MILLER: That is very kind of you. I should have asked to speak on a point of privilege as is so often used in this ancient Chamber in order to give an expression of what was said. I would simply like to say on this occasion that

six weeks ago when I was seeking an opportunity for my Party, it was because the Leader of the House came to this side of the House and requested me to give up Private Members' Business that day in order that they could continue with the Order Paper on Government Business, and in the afternoon or evening of that day we would be given an opportunity to discuss the White Paper. When we are talking about a session with three Reporters alternating every fifteen minutes, you will remember also, Mr. Speaker, that the House met that afternoon six weeks ago at 2.30 p.m., but you will remember also, Mr. Speaker, the occasion when the last Government met the next day after working for more than eighteen hours.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: On a point of order,.....

Mr. MILLER: I have not completed, Sir, I was making a point of order. Are you going to terminate my freedom on a point of order?

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member rose on a point of order and must not make a speech.

Mr. MILLER: I am not making a speech, but when things are said, I must say something in defence of my Party and of myself on this occasion.
6.05 p.m.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I would not worry to waste any further time in correcting the many misstatements made by the hon. member on the question of time.

Mr. MILLER: On a point of order. It is common place and undemocratic for the hon. member to say that what I said was a misstatement. There will be no misstatements made by me on the floor of this House.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am ruling and I think that the word "misstatement" is out of order.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: I was pointing out that the Reporters had put in twelve hours work because the time was 12.20 a.m. However, I suggest to the hon. member that he should withdraw his motion for postponement. At this stage, I am suggesting that Your Honour call another Order and give the hon. junior member for St. George and the Hon. Leader of the Opposition the opportunity to get together with the Hon. Leader of the House and make up their minds on this matter once and for all. Obviously, on an important issue like this, although we have some strong suspicion that some people have not got any minds that can be made up, I do not want to deprive posterity of the wisdom of the hon. junior member for St. George. We want to have the full benefit not only of the wisdom of the hon. member but that of any member of his Party who feels that he has a contribution to make to this debate. Therefore, if the hon. member will withdraw his motion for the postponement of the debate, I suggest that the three Leaders get together and discuss the time table for this important matter. I would like it to go on record that if we were to put forward this motion which has been made by the hon. junior member for St. George, they will lose it, but the hon. member will also lose his right to speak on the Resolution in support of the White Paper altogether and so will the hon. junior member for St. Peter, who seconded the motion, lose his right to speak. It is perhaps because some of us still like to hear the hon. junior member for St. Peter who, even if he is not speaking *ex cathedra*, still makes a good contribution to the debate that we are asking the hon. junior member for St. George to consider the suggestion which I have made.

Mr. MILLER and Mr. WALCOTT rose to speak.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. senior member for St. Peter caught my eye first, but before the hon. member begins to speak, I should like to say that not long ago reference was made to the fact that three stenographers had to operate from 12.00 o'clock (Noon) until twenty minutes to one a.m. on the last occasion. However, today, there are only two stenographers operating; one has been taken ill and has left and therefore we have only two operating tonight. Honourable members will bear that in mind and accord the customary charity.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, I am glad to hear that. The Reporters of this House should be so enlightened in a modern age that they should be in their proper Trade Union, and it is possible that the powers-that-be who run Parliament will be able to deal with the Trade Union. But if these Reporters want individualism to reign they must pay the penalty for such freedom. I am sorry, Sir, that these debates on Federation seem to escape me each time; that is to say, that when they are taking place I have just left the island or they take place on the eve of my departure. I am sorry that I am a Barbadian within the context of this slow moving. I was coming into this House a little while ago and I heard the Hon. Premier make the statement about what Barbadians read in the Press. Unfortunately, Barbadians depend too much on what they hear that someone says. It is not unusual for Barbadians to tell you absolutely nothing, but they begin to tell you that they have heard this from inside or from a good source; the average Barbadian gets no further than that he got something from somebody who is close to a source, and he cannot tell you. That is all right for the suspicious man. Unfortunately, the twenty-four of us seem not to be capable of making up our minds once and for all, as to where do we really want to take this country in an age like 1962. I am accustomed to getting this sort of thing in the Trade Union Circle; some people want to exchange fundamental integrity for cleverness and there is nothing at all in which you can lead people in this idea of playing smug. The whole aspect of Federation is a fable to Barbadian thinking which is no part of the aspirations in this Federation; but it is the type of thinking where a few businessmen want to hold on to a type of privilege which very few people enjoy, the type of privilege where nowhere else such a small minority could hold such power. A small group of Barbadians do not want Barbados to move from the position to which they want to hold on. The last vestige of power resides in the hands of a few people in Broad Street and at a few plantations. We have some people like ourselves who are aiding and abetting this situation on the ground that it will cost the Barbadian more. You had this stupid idea of the Opposition Party on one side without any idea of what can take place in this country; you want people to live in the dim and dark past but not in the future. Some people forget that we have passed the age of the donkey cart idea; some people are not aware that we have got past the stage of mediocrity; therefore let us break the sound barrier of mediocrity and go into the modern age.
6.15 p.m.

We do not want men who come to the House of Assembly and have not given thought to these problems. We want to remove completely from public life men who are not prepared to give serious consideration to all the problems of the day. What is it that Barbados has to wait for? Why is it that businessmen are not waiting to decide what is the next move they are going to make in so far as advancing their business is concerned? Why should we wait to decide what is the best move in advancing this country in the way in which it must advance with others? Do we want to be the last vestige of the peculiar mentality that Barbados wants to be one power to say we are going to resist all the demands of removing Colonialism from our door step? Why does Barbados want to be the last outpost of the Colonial Office and why we are resisting with all the power at our disposal the hopes of freedom? The Barbados Legislature today reminds me of the days of slavery when some of the slaves did not want freedom. They asked what they were going to do with it and where they were going to get wages from.

Mr. Speaker, we passed a Resolution in here today complimenting Uganda, and I agree with the hon. junior member for the City when he said that it was a bit ironic that we are complimenting Uganda and did not compliment Jamaica which is still one of our neighbours; but we get a situation like this in which we see territories in Africa becoming independent. I want to say, Mr. Speaker, that we live in a serious period; but the average Barbadian must be brought up to be thinking that the time has come when Barbadians cannot look upon Africa as they looked upon it before, because Barbadians were led to believe by those who travelled abroad that Africans were fundamentally inferior to West Indians. How do we really feel now to see all the States in Africa since the last War becoming independent?

You now have Uganda, then there will be Mozambique and Angola, the French territories, New Guinea and all the British territories becoming independent with the exception of Gambia because it is just like Barbados, a small place on the western sea-coast with a population of 270,000 people which will find it extremely difficult to have independence on its own, but not that the people in Gambia are not aspiring towards independence.

What we find here is a type of mental laziness on the part of Barbadian politicians in not getting up and forging the idea into the minds of the people whom they are leading that we cannot exist in an age like this with the other territories around us other than on the basis of existing with them in a Federation or association. There is no point in fooling ourselves. This is the nuclear age and we cannot look for Barbados to exist as an independent territory, Grenada as an independent territory and St. Vincent as an independent territory. These territories must come together, and commonsense has shown us that if we can do it, it is left for those who are willing to do it to come together.

Mr. Speaker, you will have to ask members on the other side to give me uninterrupted attention or otherwise depart.

Mr. SPEAKER: I was listening to the hon. member so carefully that I am afraid I heard no interruptions.

Mr. WALCOTT: I have been debating this question and if you can have these positive interruptions coming from the other side, to say the least it is bad manners. I do not see why some members if they expect us to listen to them in silence cannot accord the same privilege when someone else is speaking. I am not begging for a hearing; I am only asking to enjoy the fundamental rights I have in this Chamber.

I was reading last night the debate on this matter, and I feel very pleased indeed to see that what I said on that occasion has come true, and I will ask members to read it. I said that we were going to play the fool until disintegration stepped in, something which is nurtured and engendered 5,000 miles away. You have been playing up the idea of the typical average West Indian of wanting more time to debate something he has not studied, and today after nearly three months, members cannot say they have not had enough time. On that occasion they said they did not have enough time to deal with the question. Today they have plenty of time to deal with the issue.

Mr. Speaker, Grenada has had an election and the election has gone the opposite way. Now you are going to keep back and keep back and allow somebody else to have an election and see if the election goes another way until there is a complete disintegration of this system. You will remember, Mr. Speaker, the Montego Bay Conference in 1947; everybody agreed with Federation, and as far as I remember, Federation was not in dispute. After we left Montego Bay and the Standing Closer Association Committee was established, let us analyse the political situation and see the change in Governments which has taken place. In Jamaica a change of Government took place and in Trinidad the same thing happened, and again the ball started rolling on different concepts for a West Indian Federation. Tonight you have an independent Trinidad and an independent Jamaica.

I have before me, Sir, a paper published in Brussels by the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions which they put forward at the World Bank meeting on the World Monetary Fund held in Washington from 17th to 21st September last calling for more development aid. None of the big nations are looking about for colonial territories nowadays. If you want to remain a colony, you can remain under Great Britain and let Great Britain give you aid. The United States are not worrying themselves talking about colonials; if you want to be a colony, you can remain a colony and let your metropolitan masters support you. Where has Barbados gone since she was a colonial territory dominated by a minority all their lives? Barbados is the last place where you can see anybody rising in this community and in which you can say this is indicative of a community of the 20th Century, because the economy of

this country is dominated by the people belonging to the ethnic group, and the masses of people are as in the days of slavery. Today you have some of the black ones wearing ties, but in the old days all were barefooted. Barbadians are waiting to strengthen the situation in which the masses have no say in the economic formation of this country, and we are waiting not to join with others to put us on our feet; and you hear this stupidity that we cannot be independent and ask for aid too.

Mr. Speaker, do you realise that big international independent countries through the Trade Unions are asking that all the metropolitan Governments and big Governments should at least donate one percent of their national revenue in order to help development aid to give to countries that are in need of aid and not take it back from them? We are going to put up money every year representing one percent of our amount of money. That is what the big countries say. You see what the United States have done with tariff cuts. Why do you think they have done it? They have done it from the point of view of making the world so much better.

When I said in this Chamber on the last occasion that I knew the British Government was going to enter into the European Economic Community, I said it because I was dealing with people who knew that the British Government had every intention of doing so. (Mr. MOTTLEY: You got it from the inside.) I did not get anything from the inside. I am a member of an International Organisation....

Mr. SPEAKER: I will ask the hon. member not to pay attention to the asides.

Mr. WALCOTT: I am a member of an International Organisation and a member of the Executive Board with top class economic advisers who have to prepare documentation for all our meetings. We held a meeting in Berlin last November and passed a Resolution on this question of economic aid. We had advisers from the United Nations and we had an adviser from UNESCO, from the World Health Organisation and the International Agencies, and we had to prepare documentation on that. Our documentation was prepared over three years ago when Britain was making entry into the European Common Market.
6.25 p.m.

Britain did not have any referendum; Macmillan did not have any referendum to decide on entry into the Economic Common Market, and you will find that Labour has one view, and the Trade Union which supports the Socialist view carries a different view. In Barbados, when I asked: "What are we doing about the European Economic Community?" one businessman said: "Let us wait and see". Is that the kind of thinking which we are going to project? The kind of thinking is that you should be thinking of the problems and those are the issues before us; but nobody worried about the European Common Market; nobody thought it would affect Barbados. Even now if you were to ask some businessmen about the European Common Market they will tell you that we have some sugar to sell. There is no country in the world which has economic stability where the economic foundation is not secure. You must have your political advantages; otherwise you will have anarchy. You are not living in a cave; you are living in a country in which there is a Government.

The countries of Latin America should be an example to us. Latin America is not lacking in economic resources; if you were to read the Report of the Alliance for Progress Conference which took place in 1961, you will see that the Americans were not satisfied that the Latin American countries were spending money wisely. What are we waiting to see? Is this little outpost in the Atlantic waiting for you to make up your mind? You can see quite clearly that Jamaica and Trinidad have made a decision by themselves; you can quite see that Eric Williams is thinking ten times as fast as how you hear this Legislature is talking. You are talking about getting together and he is talking about reaching a mark. He is not talking by air. You will find yourself being swallowed up; you find St. Vincent going this way, you find St. Lucia going that way and very soon you will have to decide, whether you like it or not, whether you will go on with the others or sink alone. You are living in 1962 and

the acceleration for progress will be faster in this age than it was fifty years ago.

Mr. Speaker, what worries me is that I hear legislators in this debate say: "Let us have a postponement of this debate". But let us postpone the debate for what? What are your views? What do you think we should do? Why do you want to postpone this debate? What indications are you giving that you are so passive or vague that you say: "Let us postpone this debate?" You are saying: let us postpone the opportunity for bringing people together. Let us not be worried that our neighbours are poor because we are also poor; you had better say we are not living together in Barbados because we are poor. The fact that we are poor should make us dwell together in unity. There is a member in this Chamber whose family has been regarded as a classic example of unity; it is a classic example of unity within a family; but what do you think of an example of unity within a nation? Unfortunately, the leaders of today and the members of this Chamber are not yet ready for this responsibility because the statement asking for a postponement of this debate is a classic example of the fact that they are not yet ready to shoulder the responsibility and to accept the challenge which confronts them in their age at this time, and they are unable therefore to handle the complex problems which we have to handle. This is an exposition of inability to deal with the challenge which faces you. You are unprepared for the challenge of our time and that is a sad commentary on our age. We are living in an age where we wish to come together too easily. In East Africa and in New Zealand, for instance, they are thinking of forming a bloc; in East Africa they are welding themselves into an economic and political unit. A continent of different natures is seeking to do that.

Mr. Speaker, I should like to say that I do not want to have any debate for my convenience. I have said in a debate that some nonsense appeared in the newspaper about my being accommodated. I do not like the idea of your accommodating me because I feel that at some later stage you will tell me that you did something in order to accommodate me. That is something which is anathema to me. These communities cannot face the anxiety which is confronting them by their not coming together.
6.35 p.m.

There is no power that I require, I have all the power that I require and I have a lot of responsibility attached to the power I have; but nobody wants power for the sake of misuse. You want power to be able to utilise the power or authority you possess in translating it into practical terms so that the people you represent can have a better way of life, and I can only see a better way of life by accelerating the pace of thinking.

The Hon. Premier appealed to the hon. member to withdraw the motion. I do not know if it were a facetious remark or if he meant it seriously. In any case whether it was a facetious remark or whether he meant it seriously, what I would say is that I would not persuade anybody to withdraw a Resolution like this. I would not ask any member not to speak on the postponement, but what I would ask members to do is to examine their own statements, look at the position in this Island today, look at the world problems today, and ask themselves if this is the age and day for postponing something which has been before them and on which they must make a decision in order to face a reality. Barbados is 166 square miles and has a national income of \$100 million, with a *per capita* income of less than \$500 and with a number of economic problems facing it, and you are afraid of shaking off the shackles of colonialism and getting into the open air of independence. There is no Assembly in the world in which I have heard debates that are more depressing, when it comes to taking a decision, than the Barbados Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, the Premier and his Government must take the blame in that they were allowed to be influenced by public opinion. I laugh at the idea of people talking about public opinion. What do you mean by public opinion? A newspaper leader writer comes up with something and you call that public opinion. He is a man like you. Sometimes

I read the newspapers and laugh. I can go and bring newspapers prior to the election on 3rd December to show you what joy I get from reading some of the nonsense these newspapers write. They wrote on the eve of the election how the Barbados Labour Party was going to be returned with greater power, and so many of us would be out of the House of Assembly. For instance, Mr. Speaker, I was out of this House of Assembly since 1956 by the machinations of the Barbados Labour Party. As far as they were concerned, I was dead politically. They call this public opinion. Now they have finished up in here with three members, and are carrying on the opposition from outside with all the lowest type of methods they can use in order to usher themselves back into the House of Assembly, purely because the Leader of the Government has allowed this debate to drag on. When you are positive in some things in Barbados, people call you a dictator. If I am more sensible than somebody else, and I have to dictate to him what to do, you can call me a dictator. I would prefer to be a dictator in showing people the right way than to be a fool; and as the Hon. Premier has said, the Government must get in front if it wants to lead, and a Government that gets behind needs to be placed behind.

I consider that in this matter of Federation, Mr. Speaker, the members of this Assembly must regard themselves as leaders and not as followers, and they must be the ones to take the lead in positive thinking. Let us analyse the situation. When the Labour Party was in power, the hon. junior member for St. George supported all the tenets of Federation. Now that this Government is in power, he is asking for a postponement.

Mr. MILLER: On a point of order, I hate to interrupt the hon. member, but nothing I said will give an indication that I have changed my impressions about Federation, and if there is anyone alive and thinking today, I daresay there is no one in this living memory who feels a greater desire to see a Federation of the West Indies than your humble servant, Mr. Speaker, I appeal to the hon. senior member for St. Peter not to make these loose statements. I would hate to have anyone feel that anything on earth has happened to change my feeling. Nothing can compromise my feeling for nationhood. I hope the hon. member understands my feeling on this matter.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, I am extremely pleased to hear that remark; therefore, I say, harness all your mental faculties and come behind the courage of your own convictions, and if you feel that way, do not allow the other elements in your body to make you act otherwise. Harness all the mental resources you can possess and channel them along the line I advocate, so that we can go forward and see what we can do about it. Postponement and delay is the attitude of people who have not yet made up their minds. You have to postpone something on which you are not clear and on which you cannot give an answer until you have thought it over. If you come to me with a problem now and I cannot give you an answer, do not ask me to say "yes" or "no". By all means you must give people time to think things over. I feel, Mr. Speaker, that hon. members in this Chamber are not in doubt or should not be in doubt about where their minds should carry them. This is a mental exercise for the members of this Chamber, and we should be in complete possession of all our thinking on this subject. We should not now be in any doubt. The fact that Trinidad and Jamaica have gone out of the Federation does not mean that we can watch on like onlookers; we are not onlookers in this game going on in the West Indies. We are not onlookers in world politics; we are participants.

Mr. Speaker, I feel good to know that Mr. Hugh Shearer who sat with me at the first Trade Union course at the Y.M.C.A. is today representing Jamaica at the United Nations and speaking in the same Assembly as Adlai Stevenson. He is going to speak as an equal on the question of nuclear energy; but in 1948, fourteen years ago, we were sitting in a chair at the Y.M.C.A. having our induction into Trade Union training. Had Hugh Shearer been a Barbadian, the world would have lost his talent. What potential talent there is in Barbados for exemplifying itself and making manifestation where it should be seen is covered down in

166 square miles, because there is some peculiar mental approach about Barbadians that we are not fit or ready to take on the position. There are Barbadians in this community capable of taking on these positions as compared with some people I see occupying important public positions. I say we are participants and not onlookers, and I feel that every member of this Chamber should regard every aspect of public life, like the explosion of a fifty-ton megaton bomb in Nevada or some underground explosion, as part of his thinking.
6.45 p.m.

We cannot be only public men on the basis of being parish pump politicians wanting to know if a bath should be put at Indian Ground; we want to know that we are living in a world and that international trade will affect us. When President Kennedy would say that you should only spend \$100 instead of \$500, the businessmen would say: "That is something affecting us". It will take a man like Dr. Eric Williams to deal with these matters; the Americans were thinking more about sending up a man in space than you are thinking of these matters. Hon. members should be prepared to examine this question in the way in which it should be examined. I am extremely grieved to hear hon. members pleading for a postponement of this debate. What I would say is this; every political issue or every political programme cannot be made into an electioneering issue. Unfortunately, these debates are coming at a time — the hon. junior member for St. George would not like to hear this, but I think that the hon. member is so indelibly stricken with the words "My Party" that in any statement which he makes it is a question of "My Party". He has the idea that when he mentions the words "My Party" he creates an image to put it back somewhere. Normally when you are a heavyweight and you get knocked out, very rarely you fight to come down. I want to say that politicians must learn that every political programme cannot be made an electioneering platform, although your opponent may be one you want to strike out. Sometimes you read your own speech in a debate in order to see if it is right. I have said that the Hon. Leader of the Opposition is my closest friend in this House, but we are opposed politically; while that is so, it does not prevent us from meeting together; it shows that people can be friendly and I do not have to jibe at everything the hon. member says. Today the hon. member said that he is a free enterprise man: but he is not a free enterprise man in every sense because there are certain things which he wants put into the hands of the public so that he can criticise them. The hon. member is now doing a job which used to be done by the public.

I feel that the hon. junior member for St. George should be prepared to look at certain national issues in the context that they are national issues and not in the context of their being local, political, parish pump problems and you can bring back your Party.....

Mr. MILLER: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, the hon. member is worrying about my Party; I suppose he has in mind something about the next Election. Well, Sir, we are anxious for one. I hope the hon. member knows that. He is worrying and contemplating.....

Mr. SPEAKER: I should like to hear the hon. member's point of order.

Mr. MILLER: Seldom am I given the freedom to make such a point. However, I am asking the hon. member to refrain from leaning on me. He leans on me as having something to which to refer. We are particularly anxious to have an Election.

Mr. SPEAKER: No point of order is being evolved.

Mr. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, I would like you to ask the hon. member to leave me and the Barbados Labour Party alone and continue with the debate on Federation. (Laughter). I think that the hon. member knows very well that I do not like to interrupt him on a point of order.

Mr. SPEAKER: That is not a point of order. However, the hon. junior member for St. George has asked the hon. senior member for St. Peter to leave him alone.

Mr. WALCOTT: I would be glad to leave the hon. member alone, but he is a member of this Chamber who is participating in this debate.

Mr. SPEAKER: Perhaps you could ignore the hon. member.

Mr. WALCOTT: I cannot ignore the hon. member because he has made a very revealing statement. It is the type of thing which you get from him and his group. They are anxious to have an election; they are bound to be anxious to have an election. Some of them have been displaced and they want to have employment. (Laughter). But it looks to me that they have a long time to wait because they want rehabilitation. It is on the basis of political rehabilitation....

Mr. MILLER: On a point of order. The hon. member is thinking about people who have been displaced and about rehabilitation, but he knows very well that I cannot be displaced. (Laughter). If the hon. member wants to refer to another hon. member, well, let him do that. If the hon. member is worried about displacement and about displaced persons, well, that does not refer to me.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member cannot be displaced or replaced; did I understand that correctly?

Mr. MILLER: I thank you, Sir.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, you are a pleasant Speaker and your levity avoids tempers from rising. However, I think that the hon. junior member for St. George must be told quite bluntly that any issue such as this is beyond the narrow borders of parish pump politics. Therefore, if the hon. member is thinking within the terms of what people like to read on a local basis, another issue would be more appropriate; but this is one of those broad issues which, if the hon. junior member for Christ Church or the hon. senior member for the City says it — I make this statement that there have been and must be members of this Chamber whose minds must be like a flash of lightning that they must be able at all times to take up the big national problems and be capable of making decisions on them in the light of the circumstances. You cannot be postponing issues on which you have to make a decision. We are the accredited leaders of the people of our community and they expect to have a lead from us. It is a lack on our part to instil into the minds of people that we are allowing them to make up their minds, because we are lacking in giving them the lead.
6.55 p.m.

Public opinion is when you as a leader or as a person come out with a point of view and give it to a group of people, and from that point of view you get an assessment; but what else is public opinion or the average man? Show me a man tomorrow and tell me he is an average man. You may have a point of view that represents a point of view of a cross-section of opinion and say this is more representative of the community; but some people always use these loose phrases about the average man. I should like anybody in Barbados to point out to me the average man. We get accustomed to using these loose phrases that the average man or the average woman is doing so-and-so. There is no average woman doing anything that women do not do, and the same goes for men. You cannot say that the average man eats food and the man who is not average eats potatoes or stones, or that the average man drinks rum, and somebody who is not average does not drink rum.

What people call public opinion, Mr. Speaker, is sometimes no opinion at all, but is representative of a cross section of the public. Let us take the same issue of Federation with which we are dealing. Federation is not an issue in Barbados which any person can go on a platform and make a political issue within the context that it is a burning issue with the people, and you want to get them to come and vote one way or another. Twenty-four percent of the electorate in Barbados voted for Federation; but because 24% voted, it does not mean that the Legislature themselves must only represent a 24% opinion, because we know that the reason why certain issues would attract the public more than others is because the impact is greater on their

pockets. We can get a bigger attendance at any meeting we hold if we are going to discuss an issue which is going to have a vital effect immediately on people as distinct from an abstract issue. In some instances, people regard Federation as one of these abstract issues which we have to discuss.

I would appeal to hon. members who want a postponement. They should not at this stage be taking that attitude, and I would not like the Premier and his Government or anybody to give the image that if people want to form a Federation with Barbados that Barbados wants to be bossing over people. I will say to hon. members that one of the worst things you can do is to give that impression. The other West Indian leaders are more sensitive of this idea of what Barbadians say and do about them than Barbadians themselves are. Members of this Chamber should avoid giving that impression, and I am sure that there are other members of this Chamber who have met other West Indians who regard Barbadians as likely to be conceited, and now that Trinidad and Jamaica have gone, Barbados would like to take the place of these two islands and feel it is the big boss. I will ask hon. members not to give that impression, but to give the impression that we are willing and ready to co-operate with them and join with them, and that we can have unity within diversity and it is not our intention to dominate them, but our intention to live with them.

I counsel hon. members that we as legislators are the ones to take the lead in this matter and must show that we are ready for the challenge; and if we do that, I feel that none of us should have any fear that we are putting our territory and the territories surrounding us on the right footing for the challenge of the sixties.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Mr. SPEAKER: It now being 7.05 p.m. o'clock, this Sitting now stands suspended until 7.45 p.m. 7.05 p.m.

On re-assembling,

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: Mr. Speaker, I should like to draw to your attention that there is no quorum present and I am asking that the bell be rung.

Mr. SPEAKER: I thank the hon. member for drawing that to my attention. Let the bell be rung.

On the bell being rung, a quorum was obtained.

Mr. SPEAKER: Let me remind hon. members that there are no minutes' grace allowed in respect of the suspension of the sitting of the House. Let this not happen in the future; there are no five or fifteen minutes' grace allowed after a suspension of the sitting of the House.

RESOLUTION re REPORT OF EAST CARIBBEAN FEDERATION CONFERENCE

Mr. SPEAKER: When the sitting of the House was suspended for three quarters of an hour, the hon. senior member for St. Peter was addressing the Chair on a motion for the postponement of the debate on a Resolution relative to the Report of the East Caribbean Conference, 1962. Before the hon. member resumes his speech, if he so proposes to do, I would like to ask the hon. junior member for St. George in relation to the suggestion put to him by the Hon. Premier relative to withdrawing his motion for the postponement of the debate, if he would intimate to the Chair how he feels about that.

Mr. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, I am very happy for this opportunity to express myself on this matter. We have already had a postponement of this debate on two occasions. The Hon. Leader of the House has, however, given an undertaking that if I were to withdraw my motion for the postponement of the debate we would be able to continue the discussion. He is not anxious to continue the debate and I would be given an opportunity of discussing this matter with my Party Council.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. junior member for St. George is asking leave, in view of the assurance given to him by

the Hon. Leader of the House, to withdraw his motion for the postponement of the debate.

Mr. MILLER: I am following the Standing Orders of this House and I am asking leave of this ancient Body to withdraw my motion.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate your stand in this matter.

Mr. SPEAKER: If the hon. senior member for St. Peter who may be soon in the air, would like to conclude his remarks before the hon. junior member for St. George formally withdraws his motion, I take it that the House will permit him to do so. The hon. junior member for St. George is not making his request until the hon. senior member for St. Peter concludes his remarks.

Mr. MILLER: The hon. senior member for St. Peter was speaking on the motion for the postponement of the debate. I would like to be told.....

Mr. SPEAKER: A motion was made by the hon. junior member for St. George for the postponement of the debate. I was asking the hon. member whether, in view of the assurance which was given to him by the Government, he would be disposed to withdraw, with leave, his motion for the postponement and I understood the hon. member to say "Yes". On the assumption that the hon. member said "Yes", I asked him if he would defer making his request for leave until after the hon. senior member for St. Peter had concluded his speech. The hon. member can say now that he accepts the assurance given to him by the Government and ask leave to withdraw his motion.

Mr. MILLER: Lest we forget, it was intimated to me from the Chair that I should signify my intention to withdraw my motion, and that could only be done by a request from the Chair, which I did. I am not worried now as to whether the hon. senior member for St. Peter continues his debate or not, but it is necessary to remind the Chair that there is now no motion for postponement before the House.

Mr. SPEAKER: There would be a motion for postponement if the motion is not withdrawn.

Mr. MILLER: I think you had asked that that motion be withdrawn.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. senior member for St. Peter has not yet completed his address. Does the hon. senior member for St. Peter intend to resume his speech?

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, you were getting information from the hon. junior member for St. George as to whether he would be willing to accept an intimation made to him from the Government that he would be willing to withdraw his motion for the postponement of the debate after I had concluded my speech. Your Honour wanted to get some intimation of the hon. member's willingness to withdraw his motion, and it is on that ground that I did not rise to resume my speech. I intend to conclude my speech, which will not be very long from now. The reason for that is quite obvious. The debates on this matter coincide with my departure from the island and as I would not be able to take part in any further debate on this matter, I thought that I would conclude my remarks so that the hon. member would not be kept back for any longer than five minutes. The motion for the postponement of the debate is still before us. If you will permit me, Sir, I would just like to summarise what I said. My summary is that the hon. junior member for St. George is quite in order to have a postponement of the debate and if this postponement is for him to have an opportunity of debating this question further, nobody would deny him that opportunity. However, I do not think that it would be a moot point to make now for the hon. member to say or to suggest that when, on the 21st June, we discussed this matter, anybody four months after would not be in a position to know what his views are on such a debate which arises today or even at any short notice. 7.55 p.m.

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

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, with your permission at this stage, I should like to be granted the indulgence of the House in asking for one month's further leave of absence for the hon. junior member for St. Lucy from his duties as a member of this House as from today.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member is asking for one month's further leave of absence from his duties as a member of this House for the hon. junior member for St. Lucy, and unless there be any objection, leave will be granted.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, at that point, may I take this opportunity of asking for similar leave?

Mr. SPEAKER: Is the hon. senior member for St. Peter objecting to leave being granted?

As there appears to be no objection to leave being granted the hon. junior member for St. Lucy, that leave is granted.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, now that that has been completed, I would like to ask for a similar privilege for the hon. senior member for St. Peter of one month's leave of absence as from the next Sitting of this House.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. senior member for St. Peter is asking for one month's leave of absence as from the next Sitting of the House, and if there is no objection leave will be granted.

Mr. MOTTLEY: On a point of order.....

Mr. SPEAKER: Is the Hon. Leader of the Opposition objecting?

Mr. MOTTLEY: I am, because I do not understand that motion at all.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member has asked for leave.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I am standing and that is why I am objecting. The hon. member asked for leave as from the next Sitting of the House. Is that from this day year?

Mr. SPEAKER: Whenever that is.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I do not agree, Mr. Speaker. That is not in order.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. senior member for St. Peter has asked for leave from his duties as a member of this House as from the next Sitting of the House. Is there any objection to leave being granted? I hear none. Accordingly leave is granted.

Hon. members may recall that at a meeting of the two Chambers of this Legislature sitting as the Barbados Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, the hon. senior member for St. Peter was selected as their representative at a meeting of the C.P.A. which is taking place in Nigeria. We made the selection and we made certain financial provision in connection with such selection, and we are now granting the hon. member leave from his duties as a member of this House to represent this and the other branch of the Legislature of this Island in Nigeria.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I would like to get something cleared up.

Mr. SPEAKER: There has to be a motion.

Mr. MOTTLEY: If an hon. member may stay abroad for six months in the year, I am saying that this is not a proper method of granting leave.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member is completely out of order; he cannot be more out of order than he is.

The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. and Learned Premier.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I was about to move that Order No. 5 be the next Order of the Day.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Leader of the House is asking to take Order No. 5 as the next Order of the Day, and if there is no objection, leave will be granted.

There being no objection, leave was granted.

THE CUSTOMS (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1962

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, this Bill is merely an amendment to that large Customs Act which we passed earlier this year, the Customs Act, 1962. There were two printing errors in that omnibus Bill.

Mr. SPEAKER: I cannot hear the hon. member. It is not his fault. Hon. members do not realise that they are not yet in Nigeria and we can still hear them.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: There were two printing errors in that omnibus Customs Bill and they both occurred in the sub-paragraphs to paragraph 16 of the Fourth Schedule of the Act. The object of this Bill, Sir, is to correct these errors, and you will see from the amendments themselves that the Fourth Schedule deals with the provision relating to forfeiture, and it is proposed that this amending Bill will be brought into operation the same time as the Customs Act, 1962 which it amends.

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

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I beg to second that.
8.25 p.m.

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

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

Hon. C. E. TALMA: 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.

Clauses 1 to 3 inclusive were called and passed.

On the motion of Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, the CHAIRMAN reported the passing of the Bill in Committee.

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

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

MAGISTRATE'S JURISDICTION AND PROCEDURE (AMENDMENT) BILL

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Order No. 4 be taken as the next Order of the Day.

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

At this stage, it now being 8.30 p.m. of the clock,

Mr. SPEAKER: It is now 8.30 p.m. of the clock and in the event of this matter being a controversial one, the Moment of Interruption has arrived. If the matter is not a controversial one, it may be proceeded with. (A MEMBER: It is not controversial.)

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day therefore stands in the name of the Hon. Premier:- To move the second reading of a Bill to amend the Magistrates' Jurisdiction and Procedure Act, 1956.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, the Bill which we have before us now is one which seeks to amend Section 114 of the Magistrates' Jurisdiction and Procedure Act, 1956. The occasion of this amendment, Sir, is the result of a decision made in the Magistrates' Court. Section 41 of the Income Tax Act, 1921, the Seventh Schedule to the Local Government Act, 1958, Section 8 of the Motor Vehicles Tax Act, 1960, and certain other enactments provide for the recovery of unpaid income tax rates and trade tax and other forms of revenue on a complaint made on behalf of the taxing authority before a magistrate. However, by Sub-Section (1) of Section 114 of the Magistrates' Jurisdiction and Procedure Act, 1956, a magistrate cannot hear a complaint unless that complaint was laid six months from the time when the matter of complaint arose.

Now, Sir, certain difficulties have been experienced in laying complaints within the statutory period of six months and the purpose of the proposed amendment to Section 114 of the Magistrates' Jurisdiction and Procedure Act, 1956, which amendment we have before us now, is to allow the taxing authority, whether it be the Commissioner of Inland Revenue or one of the District or Municipal Local Government Authorities, to bring a complaint notwithstanding the fact that a period of six months may have elapsed. There was a decision in the Magistrates' Court, as I said before, which affected a member of this House. I am very happy to state that this matter was amicably settled, although the decision went in favour of that member of the House who is not a member of this Party but a member of an Opposition Party. (ASIDES).

Mr. SPEAKER: There are 24 honourable members of this House.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: However, Sir, the magistrate did not say that that hon. member was ambitious. Notwithstanding the decision, that hon. member managed to arrive at a satisfactory conclusion of these matters to the benefit of the revenue of this colony or of the territory. 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. E. W. BARROW, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the House went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. BATSON in the Chair. 8.35 p.m.

Clauses 1 and 2 were called and passed.

On the motion of Hon. E. W. BARROW, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported the passing of the Bill in Committee, and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On the motion of Hon. E. W. BARROW, seconded by Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS, the Bill was read a third time.

On the motion of Hon. E. W. BARROW, seconded by Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD, the Bill was passed.

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that I have received from the Other Place the Bill entitled "The Leeward Islands Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists (Change of Name) Act, 1962, which was passed with amendments. Likewise, I have the honour to inform this Chamber that I have received from the Other Place a Bill to provide for the establishment of a Boundaries Commission and for matters connected therewith and incidental to the same, which also has been passed with amendments by that Chamber.

ADJOURNMENT

The Order Paper having been fixed.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: I should like to inform the House that it is the intention of the Government at its next meeting to deal with, among other things, the Resolution to authorise the Executive Committee to execute leases of certain premises for the new Federation in Montreal and London, the Resolution for \$44,667, and the Bill on mortgage housing.

I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday, 16th October, 1962, at 2.30 p.m.

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

The question that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday, 16th October, 1962, at 2.30 p.m., was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER adjourned the House accordingly. 8.45 p.m.