THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SESSION 1962

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Friday, 9th August, 1963.

Pursuant to the adjournment, the House of Assembly met at 4.00 o'clock p m. today.

PRESENT

His Honour J. E. T. BRANCKER, Q.C., *(Speaker);* Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD, *(Minister of Development, Trade, Industry, Labour and Tourism);* Mr. L. E. SMITH, J.P.; Mr. E. ST.A. HOLDER, J.P.; Hon. C. E. TALMA, *(Minister of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries);* Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON, *(Minister of Communications, Works and Housing);* Mr. R. ST.C. WEEKES, J.P.; Mr. L. A. LYNCH, J.P.; Mr. G. V. BATSON, *(Chairman of Committees);* Mr. N. W. BOXILL and Mr. J. B. YEARWOOD.

Prayers were read.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that the Minutes of the meeting which was held on the 6th August, 1963, have been printed and circulated amongst hon. members and unless there by any objection, those Minutes will be taken as read and confirmed. *(After a pause).* There being no objection, those Minutes are now taken as read and confirmed.

Mr. WALCOTT entered the House and took his seat.

PAPERS LAID

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

Statement showing the amounts advanced by the Government of Barbados, and other amounts received from Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom under the provision of the Colonial and Development Welfare Acts, for the period ended on the 31st December, 1962 in respect of schemes sanctioned by the Legislature.

Statement showing Net Customs and Excise Receipts for the four months ended 31st July, 1963.

Hon G. G. FERGUSSON: Mr. Speaker, I beg to lay the following:-

Report of the Public Works Department for the year 1961-62.

Report of the Public Works Department for the year 1962-63.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' NOTICES

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

WHEREAS on different occasions the Honourable House of Assembly has heard allegations of corruption on the part of members of the previous Government and members of the Civil Service, made by the Honourable Premier;

AND WHEREAS more recent allegations — involving a milk contract for certain schools; involving Government employees doing work for private persons on Government's time and being paid for same from Government's funds — have led to grave public concern and disgust;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House requests the Government to institute a public and impartially conducted enquiry into these allegations.

STATEMENT *re* ESTABLISHMENT OF A DEVELOPMENT BANK

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I am asking leave to lay a Statement in connection with the establishment of a Development Bank

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Leader of the House is asking leave to lay a Statement, and unless there be any objection, leave will be granted. *(Pause).* There being no objection, leave is granted the Hon. Leader of the House. The hon. member may proceed.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr Speaker, I beg to lay the following statement:

"In the Development Plan 1962-63 the Government has expressed its intention of remodelling the Barbados Development Board to enable it to concentrate on promotional work and of establishing a Development Finance Corporation (or Bank) to take over the present loan functions of the Board.

2. The Government proposes, therefore, to introduce in the near future legislation-

(i) to amend the Barbados Development Act, 1955; and

(ii) to establish a Development Bank.

3. The legislation to amend the Barbados Development Act, 1955 will provide for the Barbados Development Board to be renamed the Barbados Industrial Development Corporation and for the removal of the existing powers and functions of the Board in regard to the making of loans.

4. The duties of the Development Bank will be -

(a) to facilitate and encourage savings and investment, and to assist persons in establishing, carrying on or expanding development enterprises by granting loans and other forms of financial assistance to such persons;

(b) to assist persons in carrying on small retail businesses by granting loans or other forms of financial assistance to such persons.

5. The powers of the Development Bank will include the power -

(a) to provide financial assistance to persons wishing to establish, extend or modernise industrial or agricultural undertakings, hotels or any other class of enterprise approved as a development enterprise by the Government; and

(b) to guarantee issues of shares or debentures made for development enterprises.

The Bank will also be empowered to act as a stock exchange.

6. The authorised capital of the Bank will be fixed at $3 million to be divided into shares of $1 each. The Bank will also have power to issue debentures or debenture stock or bonds not exceeding $4 million with the approval of the Government. Provision will be made for a guarantee by the Government to repayment of borrowings by the bank and payment of interest thereon.

7. The Bank will be empowered to grant loans to small manufacturers not exceeding $2,500 in any one case and will be required to create a separate fund from which such loans shall be made.

8. The Bank will also have power to grant loans to Co-operative Societies and persons carrying on small retail businesses for the purpose of -

(i) purchasing equipment, plant, tools and other articles necessary for carrying on such businesses;

(ii) improving the premises in which such businesses are being carried on.

A separate fund is to be created for this purpose and the maximum loan in respect of any one business will not exceed $1,500."

4.25 p.m.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Standing Orders Nos 5, 14, 16 and 18 be suspended for the remainder of this Sitting.

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

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

QUESTION TIME

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Question Time be now taken.

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

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

Mr. SPEAKER: There is one question only to which the answer has been laid and which I undertook to allow the hon. senior member for St. Peter to deal with at this day's meeting, and that is No. 122 standing in the name of the hon. member.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, the Question reads as follows:- To enquire of the Minister of Communications Works and Housing:

1. Is it a fact that residents in the areas of Ashton Hall, the Whim and White Hall, St. Peter, have been restricted in the installation of domestic water services from the Waterworks Department?

2. Will the Minister state what is the reason for this restriction and whether it applies to all types of domestic water services including services for taps only?

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: Mr. Speaker; the Reply is as follows:-

"Yes, Sir.

2. The areas Ashton Hall, the Whim and White Hall in the parish of St. Peter fall within the Zone I area of the Water Protection Map, and on the advice of the Water Board and in accordance with a statement made by me in this Honourable House on the 4th December, 1962, on the Water Protection Policy, no new connections have been carried out in these areas.

3. This decision has bow been reviewed by Dr. Tullstrom, United Nations Hydrogeologist and the Water Board and certain proposals to provide for the installation of water in these areas, subject to certain controls, will be submitted by the Board and considered by the Government shortly."

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, as a supplementary, can the Hon. Minister give any indication as to the time factor in the review of this matter and if the residents can have any assurance that they will get these services for which they have already made preparation, say, before Christmas, 1963?

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: Mr. Speaker, for the information of the hon. senior member for St. Peter, I think I can safely say that those residents in these areas who have been restricted can now be assured that by December there will be water for domestic supply, but not for the purpose of sewerage, because whether these residents had water installed in their houses or transported from the nearest tap the domestic waste would still be underground; so personally I do not see anything to prevent them from having water, since the greatest contamination of the water would be through the sewerage system. As water is very essential to the human race all over the world, it would be foolhardy to take chances of pollution by the sewerage system when a hydro-geologist sent by the United Kingdom carried out experiments. I must say, Sir, that the daily wastage of water, whether it was installed in a home or transported from the nearest tap and disposed of, would still go on, and I do not think we would save anything much in this Island by depriving these people of their domestic supply.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Government Business be now taken.

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

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

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Your Honour do now leave the Chair and the House go into Committee of Supply.

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

The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the House went into Committee of Supply, Mr. BATSON in the Chair.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES, 1963-64, No. 14

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, this is a very small Resolution for the sum of $500 for the purpose of increasing the amount available for *ex gratia* payments for the remainder of the financial year. As the Addendum points out, Sir, these payments are only made on the approval of the Cabinet.

In previous years, it became necessary to supplement the amount voted by much more than the original provision in order to meet claims which were approved during those years, but for which the vote was inadequate. The vote has again become inadequate this year, and therefore the further provision of $500 is required to meet further

claims that might be approved during the remainder of the financial year. As a matter of fact, Sir, this is the third year in succession that the vote has proved inadequate, and I think provision will be sought in next year's Estimates for a larger amount to be included for this purpose.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

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

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

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

RESOLUTION *re* EAST CARIBBEAN FEDERATION CONFERENCE

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Education.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Order No. 2, standing in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Lucy be the next Order of the Day.

Mr. SPEAKER: That is the Order which I was putting to the House.

That Order is to resume debate on the Resolution to support the proposals contained in the statement made by the Honourable Premier in the Honourable House on 11th June, 1963, on the character of the proposed Federation of the Seven British Caribbean Territories and particularly to approve, amend and endorse the proposal that the new Federation should be independent from the establishment of the first elected Federal Government.

When the debate was adjourned on the 9th July, of this year, the hon. senior member for St. Joseph had completed his speech. The hon. junior member for the City of Bridgetown has indicated to me that he wishes to speak.

Mr. LYNCH: Mr. Speaker, I regret that I did not have the opportunity to make my contribution to this debate before, but it was due to the fact that when the debate took place on the last occasion, I was out of the Island.

I have a few comments to make on the subject, especially in regard to the Report of the Fiscal Commissioner. I will begin with quoting from Chapter 1, paragraph 5, where the Commissioner notes, and I quote:

"Though the islands" — he is referring to what is facetiously called 'the Seven' — "have become politically more conscious of their own identity and of the restrictions on their freedom which are implied by Federation....."

It would appear from what one has been hearing recently in more than one of the territories referred to that there is to be little or no restrictions on their freedom which are implied by Federation. One hears comments made by leaders in the various territories that there would be no whittling away of their powers, not even with respect to this ancient and honourable House. That was stated in an address given to the Local Chamber of Commerce. The assurance was given that none of the powers of this House would be given away in favour of any Federation.

One also hears from the territory of Antigua that the Chief Minister assured members of that Legislature that none of their powers would be given away either; therefore, one is bound to wonder where this Federation is to get its powers from. It is envisaged that either the Unit Government or the Federal Government would batten upon the increased powers of one to the expense of the other. If ever the Federation comes into being, with the expression by the Chief Minister in more than one territory that there will be no whittling away of the powers of that territory, it would seem as if the death knell of the Federation would be struck before it comes into being.

Those are the considerations which we must take earnestly to heart.

Paragraph 7 of the same Chapter reads, and I quote:

"J. S. Mill has sensed in the mid-nineteenth century that a Federation in which one state was much bigger and wealthier than the others was unlikely to survive. Either it would pass over to a unitary constitution or the outsize unit would cut adrift."

In the first ill-fated Federation we had a population of approximately three million, 1 1/2 million of which was contributed by the territory of Jamaica. When Jamaica left, the Federation was left with a population of 1 1/2 million of whom some 817,000 were Trinidadians. After that, Trinidad also decided to go away, leaving us with a population — not considering Grenada whose plans are not yet known but whose indications are clear as to where her alliance is likely to be cast — of 580,919 people of whom some 242,000 are Barbadians. It would not be necessary for me to point out to you how outsized this unit is in this case, nor what is likely to happen following the pattern of what has happened in the past. We had 50% Jamaicans in the first Federation, and after they left, we had 58% Trinidadians, and now we have 41% of the proposed Federation as Barbadians.

Let us consider only the population increase. We must bear in mind the financial figures also in Barbados. We have *per capita* an income of $421 as the next Island to that, Antigua, has a *per capita* income of $368 and the smallest, of course, Montserrat, has $258. There is a great deal of disparity in this conformity as evidenced by these figures. Not only do we find that the *per capita* income of Barbados is very much higher than the other units in respect to Barbados, but we also have a revenue of some $33 million and the latest figures which can be found of Antigua reveal a revenue of some $7 million. In the other territories you will find small scale diseconomies added to rumours — and, perhaps, well founded rumours — of peculation in more than one of the other territories.
4.45 p.m.

These are things which we must examine and bear in mind. Those who are postulating the idea of Federation are inclined to base their remarks on what is *in posse* rather than *in esse* while we who are going into it and who would be commiting the future of this Island and that of our children to this Federation, must examine these things most carefully. In paragraph eight, the Fiscal Commissioner goes on to say this:

".....although the Federation did not live long enough to attain independence, it was given from the first very wide powers and responsibilities. It took the place of the Colonial Office almost completely in administering grants-in-aid and in checking island budgets....."

I am sure that this checking of island budgets is not very popular with certain of the territories with which we are proposing to ally ourselves. The grants-in-aid are very often, if not misappropriated, spent in fields other than those for which they were in the first instance granted. It will be difficult for us to see a change in the personnel of those who run these Governments because, as it is said in paragraph 10 of Chapter 1, " the rewards of office are great." That may be an understatement when you think of certain of the Ministers responsible for the administration of these islands. In the same paragraph the Commissioner says this:

"There is an endemic tendency to increase the number of Ministers to something like the number of functional

Departments of government, irrespective of the size of the community to be served. Ministers with their supporting establishment multiply the costs of administration out of proportion to the services rendered in a small community.'

This top-heavy administration of which we hear in some of the other territories with which we are proposing to tie ourselves, must give rise to rumours of peculation and self confessed mal-administration All of these things must cause us to think. Paragraph 12 of the Report says this:-

"The Federation had to be given as full powers as the Units would permit, if it was ever to develop into an effective organisation..... "

That is in reference to the previous Federation and the emphasis is on the words: "Full powers as the Units would permit."

If it is felt that a part of the cause of the failure of the last Federation was that the Units were jealous of their powers and did not feel that the Federation should appoint more and more power to itself, and before the beginning of this Federation we hear the Chief Ministers airing the view that they will not be frittering away all their powers, then the picture is indeed a very gloomy one. Paragraph 19 of this Chapter says this:

". ....important services are transferred from control of the units to control of the Federal Government, in particular the key financial Departments of Customs & Excise and Inland Revenue and Audit. Moreover, the audit of the Unit accounts will become the responsibility of the Federal Audit Department. This should make it possible for all the islands (for the first time) to share the benefit of efficient administration."

One hears rumours of the surprise which has been expressed by certain of the Chief Ministers at the fact that in Barbados you have to come to this House for money for expenditure. They are alarmed and they ask how is it that you have to come back to the House for money. We have a certain discipline here in financial matters which is unknown to them, but there are six of them to one of us. We have five votes and they have thirteen and that is a case of six to one.

We find in paragraph 25 that the Commissioner refers to the fact that the Federal Government is empowered to legislate on a wide range of relevant subjects, including banking, central banking being on the Exclusive List and commercial banking on the Concurrent List, and insurance. The paragraph goes on to state this:

.."It also has powers in respect of education — except primary education — agriculture, development of industry — including tourism — and shipping."

Now these powers in respect of Education, a subject in which I am not uninterested, move us to wonder what will become of the grandiose plans which we have for the improvement of education in Barbados. Is there to be more education in Barbados and less in Dominica? It is impossible to obtain the figures for literacy in some of these territories for understandable reasons, but I think it is fair to say that they are not in any way comparable with ours. What is to happen with some of our pet schemes when it is necessary to bring some of these territories near to our own standards? Paragraph 26 states:

"In all these ways the new Federation should start off from a firmer foundation than the old. In other ways, too, the omens are more favourable. The new Federation is much more compact than the old. There is less difference in incomes between one Unit and the others. The physical distances to be covered are much smaller. Although the paucity of mineral resources will inevitably slow down the rates of growth as compared with Jamaica or Trinidad, development is now taking place quite rapidly in most parts of the area. And with development comes increased diversity and complementarity between the economies of the islands. Nevertheless, the basic problem of the area remains, as it was, the uncontrolled expansion of population. Migration continues to be a palliative, but it can be no more."

At the time when this was written emigration might still have been a palliative but since the passing of the Commonwealth Immigration Bill, people cannot go abroad in the numbers in which they went, and we are wondering what is to become of the thousands who leave school every year, unless there is going to be some bold and imaginative plan for their employment.
4.55 p.m.

Barbadians are unlikely to emigrate to Montserrat, St. Vincent or places of that kind. You will remember the unhappy excursion of Barbadians who went to Vieux Fort in St. Lucia. Rather you will find people from the smaller territories coming here and swelling our own unemployment figures.

It is true that we are making an effort to improve our own economy. At the last check there were some 71 local manufacturers. How many are to be found in the other territories put together? During the past three years, more than 20 local industries have been established, others have been given pioneer status but have not yet commenced operations. We are making a positive effort in this Island. What is being done in the other Islands with whom we will align ourselves? Already we hear tales of the clash of personalities at meetings. Of course the usual smoke screen is put up. It is said everything is going well; synthetic rage is expressed at the British Government — a pure smoke-screen for the internal dissentions — and very soon we will hear that the fault lies with the lack of cooperation of the leaders of the other Six. But some of us are not fooled by these things.

The cost of Federation, Chapter II — this is of the highest importance. The Commissioner says that the Federal form of Government inevitably implies a certain duplication of personnel services as compared with a unitary state serving the same community. It is consequently more expensive. Further, a number of important Federal Services cannot be run effectively below a basic, minimum strength, so that the smaller the community to be served, the more expensive to the Units will be a Federation providing given standards of service.

It is an open secret that in Trinidad which has just established its own embassies etc. abroad, there is a great deal of heartburn already at the cost of the embassies. The salaries of foreign embassies which we will have to pay will grind the taxpayers further and further into the dust. One hears rumours coming from Trinidad of the chauffeur in Washington himself having a chauffeur, and we know that the High Commission in England established there by Trinidad is costing them a great deal of money. We are most unlikely to wish to fall anywhere behind the Trinidad expenditure, because then we will not be expected to sit around the Council Table of the Nations.

Paragraph 32 of Chapter II says: "the best way of achieving the aims of Federation is not to give the Federal Government control over large unallocated funds, in order to give it flexibility, but rather to ensure that it undertakes, or has executive responsibilities in, services where efficiency imperatively demands inter-island operation."

The lack of efficiency in the public services of certain other Islands is only too well known. In Antigua, to mention one, where there was a great deal of smuggling going on from Montserrat into Antigua, how did the Government go about solving this? In a very remarkable and unique manner; by lowering tariffs so that smuggling was no longer profitable. That is not the type of thinking to which we in Barbados are accustomed; but it is the type of thinking we should have to consider more seriously when we come into equal status with the other territories. It is also well known that in certain other territories, when it is found that there is some difficulty in working out customs dues, a firm deposits a certain amount of money with the Customs authorities, and as goods come in to them a deduction is made from this deposit, and then somebody gets on the phone and

says "It is all gone; please send some more money." That is another indisputable fact. We in Barbados are not accustomed to that type of public financing.

It is also a well-known fact that certain of the Governments of these other territories, when they cannot pay their bills to local firms, — and when I say local firms, firms in Barbados which deal with them, — these amounts have to be written off as bad debts. It is inconceivable, Mr. Speaker, to anyone living in a civilised territory that when a Government owes a sum of money to a private firm, that sum of money should have to be written off as a bad debt; yet that is a pattern of conduct that is followed in certain of these islands.

In paragraph 34 the Commissioner says: "From every point of view, however, it is advisable that the Federation should start modestly and expand gradually as confidence in its usefulness grows and a greater amount of give and take among the Islands becomes apparent."

The Commissioner in his innocence apparently did not know that where there will be a considerable amount of take, there might be very little give in some of the islands that I am thinking of.

Paragraph 38 deals with financial matters: the establishment of a Currency Board and the establishment of a Development Bank for the area. It is to be carefully considered to what the money which we are going to use shall be tied, whether to sterling as it has been in the past or whether it is going to be tied to dollars. The wheel has now come full circle. There was a time when each territory had its own currency; then we moved on to the point where we in the East Caribbean had a common currency, and now we come back to the point where we will each again have a separate currency. On the raising of loans, great pride has been expressed in the past by the present Government in the fact that loans could be raised on the London Market with a few minutes' notice. No mention was made of the fact that such financial stability was the responsibility of previous Governments which had been conservative in their outlook, because at the time the present Government came into power, it was not nationally known and any money which it raised would have to be raised on the reputation of Governments which had preceded it. We do hope that some effort is being made to see to it that that financial stability and that reputation remain intact.

I have been told — unfortunately I was absent when the debate was initiated — that it is proposed that Federation should be declared a *fait accompli* in the morning and in the evening Independence. That is to say, we will have Federation breakfast and Independence for lunch.
5.05 p.m.

Has any consideration been given to the fact that in the midst of all that flag waving and calypso singing you may well develop financial dyspepsia — being short of money? Those, Mr. Speaker, are considerations which are well worthy of our notice.

At paragraph 44, the Commissioner says:

"Once the Federation is established, routine visits to island branches of federal departments will need to be made regularly. Too often in the past, experts have been called in and effected a satisfactory re-organisation, but once the expert leaves the island, the position deteriorates rapidly."

Only too often we are told in many of the other six territories that financial experts have been called in and have made grave accusations and serious recommendations as to the mis-spending and misappropriation of funds, yet nothing was ever done about it. If these grant-aided territories do not even heed the advice of the British Government are they likely to heed the advice of Barbados who in a short time would be the senior partner? How short the time? The position of five votes out of eighteen will give you an idea.

In Barbados, we find when surveys are made and reports do not fall in with the opinion of those who asked for them, that the reports have been shelved, yet we are told that the growth rate of three percent in our gross product is to be embarked upon. If we are opening in Barbados a new way to improve our own finances and attempting to set our own house in order, what formula has been used to convince these people in the other islands that they too should do the same?

On the attainment of Federation, whenever that may occur, the Commissioner says in paragraph 46 that the cost of Federation for the first formal year of its operation will hence be substantially higher than at the moment of the "take over." Mrs. Hicks was not aware at the time that it was post-dated only by a few hours.

There are, of course, further expenses to be faced, especially in respect of overseas commitments. What are we to do about overseas representations and the establishment of embassies, High Commissioners and representatives in various countries and yet others? Where is the money coming from? The Commissioner does not make a suggestion as to where the money would come from, but that I fear, Mr. Speaker, would not be a popular one in so far as Barbados is concerned.

Mrs. Ursula Hicks says in paragraph 104 that Barbados is also becoming the important educational centre and as development progresses, she will need to raise more taxes and this should be well within her competence.

I do not think this idea will meet with popular acclaim here. Even now, wherever one turns, one hears about the present existing tax structure, much less when the Commissioner should add that more taxes would still be within the competence of Barbados. However, we will face that hurdle when we come to it.

Paragraph 67 states that labour troubles are endemic in the other islands. I, myself, would not agree to that pronouncement because it is fair to say that Barbados is singularly free of labour troubles. But what do we find in the other territories? In two of them, we find that the head of the Trade Union is also head of the Government, and it is not strange that labour troubles should be endemic in those other territories because not only are their leaders the heads of the various Trade Unions but they are also heads of the Governments and they do not have any intention of giving up one or the other. That does not savour well for the future.

The Commissioner suggests in paragraph 69 that it would save the federal budget if the salaries of some of these officers can be augmented from outside funds, for instance, the labour, housing and educational officers; but so far as C.D. & W. or equivalent funds are used, it must be remembered that there are many important classes on a strictly limited total.

She says that she does not know if the salary structure which is not a considerable amount will bear the total cost after they have been paid. It is suggested that they come from an outside agency. If that is so, what then is to become of some of our pet projects in Barbados, things like the School Meals programme which would cost a minimum of some six million dollars to launch plus the normal recurrent expenditure if it should ever become island-wide. Are all these schemes to go through the window? These things must be considered before we come to a final decision.

The question of income tax is referred to in paragraph 97. Mrs. Hicks says:-

"Income tax collections in the smaller islands are notoriously inefficient; it will take some time to reform departments thoroughly, but even in the first few years considerable additional revenue should be available ..." — note that she says "should be available" — "especially in view of the changeover to PAYE recommended in Chapter

V. As a result of this recommendation I estimate that it should be possible to increase income from personal income tax by 30 percent in the deficit islands."

The question of 30 percent has obviously been arrived at because the Commissioner started at the answer and then worked backward. She found out that she was 30 percent short in making the proposed budget balance; therefore, she stuck this 30 percent on to the smaller islands. As a friend of mine told me, this is just like a game of cricket and you have 500 runs to make to win the match. Six wickets are down, so you consider the highest runs that Nos, 7, 8, 9, and 10 batsmen have ever made and you write them down in the Score Book as their having made those runs. It is obvious that this was the Commissioner's approach because of the fact, I presume, that she found herself in a cricket playing territory. But it is not good financing. Imagine that 30 percent needed to balance this proposed budget would come from these deficit islands which have always been deaf to the voice of the charmer, charming ever so wisely, that they should increase their efficiency! It is almost laughable.

The Commissioner says in paragraph 94 that Barbados is to have no part of the general grant. No one would be in disagreement with that because Barbados is regarded as the norm: and an allowance to be made for smallness and another allowance to be made for population to the other territories vis-a-vis Barbados show that Barbados should not have any grant-in-aid, Montserrat should receive a grant smaller than the others, but not proportionately smaller. This suggests that the "small population" element in the grant might be distributed: $600,000 each to Antigua, Dominica, St. Kitts, St. Lucia and St. Vincent, and $400,000 to Montserrat.

You know, Mr. Speaker, only too well from whom this general grant would be coming in the main. Then, Mr. Speaker, there is the question of the establishment of industries and where they are likely to be established. The average industrialist who comes out to the West Indies is going to put his industry in that island where there is the largest market. That island, it cannot be denied, is Barbados. Now, when we move into a federal field, the other units of the federation are not going to be satisfied as to the industries established in Barbados. Why should they? What inducement is going to be offered to them to put industries other than Barbados except, of course, casino gambling which Antigua has already taken upon herself to establish? However, we are speaking of industries which contribute to the welfare of the colonies in which they are established, and it would seem to anyone that Barbados would be the focal point for the establishment of industries.
5.15 p.m.

Other than that, industries will have to be established so as to keep the other units of the Federation happy, perhaps in rotation, whether it be in alphabetical order or not. I do not know whether the Units will gang up and add their votes against Barbados and decide whether the industries will be in Antigua, St. Vincent, St. Kitts, St. Lucia etc.. Then there is the question of the Prime Minister of the new Federation. Are we expected to have any Prime Minister other than the first? Perhaps they may be put in alphabetical order and we can look forward to the day when Mr. Bramble takes over from Mr. Barrow.

Mr. SPEAKER: That 'Mr. Barrow' could not be the Hon. and Learned Premier!

Mr. LYNCH: I beg your pardon, Sir; I mean the Hon. and Learned Premier. It is a very alluring prospect to Barbados being the senior partner at the head of this incipient Federation. Someone has said *Barbadoe duce et auspice duce:* Barbados being the leader and under the aegis of Barbados. It is a very alluring prospect, but what are we going to get out of it? If we attempt to go it alone, to use a popular phraseology, will we be able to afford it? It is true that there are places which are even poorer than Barbados, Malta for example, who have in mind to get their own independence; but can we afford the heavy public expenditure which would be necessary to carry the other people or the other territories along with us, who are so deficient in essential services, education, health, etc.? Or can we all attempt to place ourselves under the umbrella of the United States of America? That would not be particularly popular when we remember the sad experience of Liberia where American industrialists have gone in with the results which are known to all of us. Will we be able to place ourselves under the aegis and shield of Canada, a Dominion which is geographically near to us and to which many of our young people on leaving school want to go? With the establishment of technical schools in which our young people are trained, taking place alongside those who have higher ideas of technical training than what we have at present, will it be possible for our young people to go to the Great Dominion of Canada and find work there? All of these are facets of the problem which we must state with the greatest care. To take one more subject — the subject of education — I find that the last available figures in so far as other territories are concerned, the figures for 1960, reveal that for 247,000 people in these territories, they have spent some $4,396,000. We, in Barbados, with 242,000 people, spend $4 1/4 million, just a few dollars less than are spent in all of the other six territories under consideration. Mr. Speaker, are we to jettison all our plans for the improvement of education in Barbados in favour of bringing the other territories a little nearer to our own standards? These glaring disconformities must give us some concern when we are thinking of this problem, when we are thinking of going into this problem of Federation. Hon. members must not think that I am being unduly insular or critical, but both sides of the problem have to be presented.

As to the question of the constitutional structure of the proposed Federation, we will find a set of non-legal rules of usage and convention in Barbados more so than in any of the other territories under consideration. These non-legal rules plus the strict legal rules, will make up our constitutional structure, although the strict legal rules will not be the same from territory to territory; you will find a great deal of alteration in the usages and conventions in Barbados with those which are to be found in any of the other territories. These are things which we have to consider all this time. We are supposed to enter this Federation on the basis of equal status, but I do not think that the most deluded amongst us will say that the status is in any way equal.

In one territory you will find that there is illicit rum distilling which is being dogged by the Police, but you will find that in Barbados, although we have a few hills, none of our hills at the moment is harbouring any illicit stills. For every gallon of rum sold in Barbados, the Government receives a certain amount of excise duty, and in the other islands people might feel it strange that their activities should be restricted and circumscribed by those who have disciplinary ideas in these things. We must be concerned with what will be the prerogative of the Federal Government. We must all come together, but how are we to come together when we have such differing standards at the moment? It must be borne in mind that there is not one solution to this problem with which every one will agree. There are those who will say that we are committed to joining the proposed Federation. Perhaps it might be the least of our several interests, but it does not mean that we should not examine the whole position clearly and give our thoughts on it so that when some of these developments which I fear do come to pass, it cannot be said that they have never been envisaged or mentioned.

In paragraph 77 of this Report speaking of fiscal relations between the Federation and the Units, this is what the Commissioner says:-

"In the last resort residual powers remain with the Units."

This question of residual powers remaining with the Units has been the cause of the failure of more than one Federation. Any residual powers in successful Federations have generally remained with the Federal power which, as I said previously, batten upon and draw its strength from the Units which become weaker and weaker as they hand over most of their strength to the Federal Government.

Mr. Speaker, it is not my intention to weary the House with a recital of all the points which have been raised by the Fiscal Commissioner in this Report, but it is necessary that certain points should be high-lighted and given considerable study.
5.25 p.m.

In paragraph 108, the Commissioner remarks: "However, every island possesses unexploited tax resources, most obviously in the field of consumption and sales taxes." I do not know if the consideration of that sentence in that paragraph might have launched the Local Government in their last excursion, in the field of consumption taxes, which has proved so very unpopular with the electorate. This question of unexploited tax resources might be true for many of the other islands, but the average Barbadian who is now tax ridden in a country where taxes are as high as they are in almost any other territory of which I can think, I hardly think would be in agreement with this untapped tax resources well from which the Governement will hope to draw oil later on to burn the Federal lamp. "The cost of the Federal Government," as the Commissioner remarks, "is inevitably higher in an island with a small and scattered population than in one like Barbados, which is very convenient to administer. At the same time the percentages of expenditure to gross domestic product which we find in some of the islands (for instance Montserrat 21%, St. Vincent 18%, Dominica 17%) seem unwarrantably high compared with Barbados' 9.4 percent. A reduction in the number or establishment of Ministers could bring immediate relief." Which of these Ministers, Mr. Speaker, is likely to prostrate himself on the altar of Independence and say that he will withdraw from collecting that salary which is at the moment his portion in favour of improving the economy of a particular island which has elected him to this high and distinguished office? Which of them, I would inquire, Mr. Speaker, is likely to do that? They are much more likely to increase the number of Ministers and go on increasing and increasing the number of Ministers in this top-heavy administration from which we in this area suffer. It is a very difficult decision to make as to what we ought to do at this time; how to steer our ship of State between the Scylla of isolation and the Charybdis of Federation.

If, however, it is decided, as it seems likely to be, that we must go into this Federation, let us go into it with our eyes open and taking into it all the best advice which is available from every quarter. Let us not deny, Mr. Speaker, that type of thinking which resists the idea of members of the Opposition being included in any delegation which goes to study the problem of Federation as was done recently in Trinidad, although much praise is due the Premier of Trinidad for declaring himself in favour of having representation by the Opposition in the person of Dr. Capildeo. Let us rather adopt a more sane attitude, and when we go back to London next to consider the question of Federation, it is my strong suggestion that not only should a member of the Opposition accompany the Government delegation, but also a Trade Union leader so that this epidemic labour unrest which one hears of in the other islands might be got rid of, and also someone from the business or commercial field, because the wreckage of the Federation will depend in great measure upon the ignorance of financial and business matters.

We have in this island, Mr. Speaker, men who are able and are willing to offer sound and sage advice to the Government when they sit down to discuss the problems of Federation in London. The ability and intelligence of these people ought to be taken advantage of, and we ought to go into Federation, as go into it apparently we must, propelled by the best thinking available, and taking with us all the best advice which can be garnered from other territories in the area about to federate.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, I am speaking on the amendment, because you will remember that I made a contribution to this debate earlier, but since then so much time has passed and an important amendment was made by the Hon. Leader of the Opposition to paragraph 4 which reads: "WHEREAS these views are embodied in a Statement made before this Honourable House by the Honourable Premier on Tuesday, 11th June, 1963 and are set out as Appendix "A" of the said Statement." The Hon. Leader of the Opposition moved that the words "with the exception of those contained in paragraphs 2 and 7 (4) of Appendix "A" be inserted at the end of paragraph 4.

Mr. Speaker, when you read the exception which the Hon. Leader of the Opposition has made — and he is not now in his seat, — Appendix "A" paragraph 2 reads as follows:-

"The Federal Government when established and the Unit Governments accept the arrangement that the Unit Governments will continue to administer the departments responsible for the collection of Income Tax, the provision of Postal Services and the Local Police Forces for a period of five years from the inception of the Federation at the end of which period the position will be reviewed by the Federal and Unit Governments, subject to the proviso by the Government of Antigua that any Unit Government not agreeing to transfer any of these services to the Federal Government should have the right to continue to administer such services."

And then paragraph 7 (4) deals with the "appointment of Governor-General and creation of Federal Council of Ministers into a body corporate with power to legislate by Regulations made by the Governor-General on the advice of the Federal Council limited to a number of subjects, such steps as are necessary for the launching of the Federation."
5. 35 p.m.

Well, Mr. Speaker, what I see really distressing about this matter is that this debate, as you have indicated, Sir, started with what I would consider an apparent rush of blood on the 18th June, 1963, and today is the 9th August, 1963, and it would appear to be an anticlimax when it is considered that there was so much enthusiasm when the Hon. Minister of Education came down here with this Resolution and the statement which was made on the previous Tuesday and the House made arrangements to have this matter broadcast. Today, all that enthusiasm has been lost because the House is just having a funeral oration; and far from bringing into being a new Federation, it would appear, from the speech of the hon. junior member for the City of Bridgetown, as if they want to bury the Federation. I do not think with all that took place before and with all the enthusiasm shown by the Government for Federation that this debate is heartwarming even by those of us who are protagonists for Federation. I heard the speech of the hon. junior member for the City of Bridgetown, and I do not know if it is the same atmosphere which has led him to make the speech which he made today, because listening to him one would conclude that he is not in favour of Federation because he has drawn many conclusions to show that it is not the right thing which we are entering in at this stage.

Mr. Speaker, if you may allow me to deal with a few remarks on the amendment which was raised by the Hon. Leader of the Opposition, I would just say that even today you find the Hon. Leader of the Opposition is not in his seat, as well as the Hon. Premier is not in his seat, therefore, if you take parliamentary procedure and practice to be anything, do you think that in a debate of this nature if there were not lukewarmness, you would find the Hon. Leader of the Opposition and the Hon. Leader of the Government absent?

Mr. LYNCH: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I cannot have it to be said that I am not in agreement with this issue, but where there is a shot gun awaiting the bride I must point to it. I am well aware of the bride, but the gun is at her side.

Mr. WALCOTT: Despite the fact that the gun is at her back, I say that sometimes the gun can be at your back but you can speak what you mean. The hon. junior member for the City of Bridgetown spoke in such terms about the matter that I concluded from what he read of the Report by Mrs. Ursula Hicks, that not only must we be cautious but we have to be aware of our entering a Federation with the other six.

Let us examine what he said. One cannot agree with him because we have to look at it as unity in adversity. We are not agreeing to enter Federation because we are to be in comparable standards, but we are approaching Federation with the object that with unity we can correct a lot of ills that are apparent.

Mr. Speaker, I am sorry that the Resolution proposed by the Government endorses all of the statements in the Appendix. This note on paragraph 2 is a very serious one because those of us who are really firmly behing Federation, do not like this reservation which is stated in this paragraph. For example, it is pointless for one to say at this stage that with these general reservations to all of the Unit Governments and then the special reservation to Antigua that any Unit Government not agreeing to transfer any of the services mentioned to the Federal Government should have the right to continue to administer such services. You put that in: but for how long should they continue to do that? You are going to have a Federation; and the important services which you regard as federal services, at the beginning, you are having a proviso which gives any unit territory the right to administer its services, but you have not stated for how long. That is a point which I regard as very distressing to any of us who look upon Federation as the right thing to do.

Sir, I have already touched on the debate in dealing with this matter and the atmosphere of lukewarmness which prevails and which is not going to inspire the people here, and more so when one has heard the speech made just now by the hon. junior member for the City of Bridgetown, and after all this delay and fooling around with this Federation, the people of this Island can only feel that this Federation is only a lot of talk, but politically nothing has been put across to them to make them feel that it is something worthwhile.

Unfortunately, the hon. junior member for the City of Bridgetown today has taken the same road that Jamaica and Trinidad took when they were in the Federation. They regarded themselves as the basic members and, therefore, by the time lag, they allowed people in the territories to think that they contributed too much. Similarly, I do not know if the Government of Barbados is in favour of the Resolution proposed here because what the hon. junior member for the City of Bridgetown has said is something which percolates in Barbados, and I believe at this stage that even if those who are protagonists of Federation were to start to go to this country on this Resolution and on the basis of what the hon. senior member for the City of Bridgetown has said, he would get more support for his views than those of us who are protagonists because the very atmosphere of this Chamber and what I see prevailing now show that this idea of federating is not as enthusiastic as before and it is not what one would like it to be.

This is not a subject on which you can look out through the window and feel out what the general public would like it to be. It is my candid belief that democracy cannot be translated by your making a determination on every single issue because there are issues on which you speak on behalf of the masses, but there must be decisions which the leaders must take themselves as to the road they are taking acting on behalf of those whom they represent. Federation is a subject that has many sides about it, and it is very difficult to put over to the masses and to ask them to make decisions on those involved issues. If you take the different parts of it, you will find that they will be unable to come to decisions on some of them; it would be just the same thing as if the U.S. A. Government want to dictate to the British Government what road it should take on the Eurpoean Common Market. These are not issues on which you should ask a nation to make decisions.

I would like the hon. junior member for the City of Bridgetown to bear in mind that although we have these apparent obstacles, although we have these difficulties to overcome, what must be remembered above all other things is that we are living in a world of change and, therefore, no longer is there any respecter of persons nor of any of these microscopic units which we have in the West Indies. Do not let us think that any of them can get along by themselves. Sooner or later, we have to come to grips with reality and consolidate the forces which exist in this area and do not allow unenlightened thinking to predominate the thinking of people in this age; we must get out in the open atmosphere and break the barrier of political ignorance. 5.45 p.m.

I do not believe that we can go to the country and ask the people to make up their minds on issues like these. The leaders have to be capable of making up their minds and of putting something before the people. I have visited all of these countries which are to be federated, and all of them have possibilities. Barbados has a large population, a population of 240,000 people for whom you will find it difficult to create all the industrial life to absorb, to say nothing of the growth of the population itself. We need outlets; the economic position will reveal that when there is an unemployment figure of 25% to 30% and a natural increase in population at the rate of 2%, the economic growth would have to be increased. Even with an increase of 3% in the economic growth, that will not take up the slack which you have. Even if you have your economic growth as fast as the population growth, you will still have the reserve of unemployment which you have not broken through.

No economist, no matter how brilliant he may be, can make any accurate prognostications about the future, because it is something which has confounded economists all over the world, as to how it is that some countries have been able to evolve their economy when some people thought that they could not do it. Let us be quite frank; the number of Barbadians who are outside of Barbados are greater than the number of Barbadians who are inside Barbados. As to the total number of Barbadians who are outside Barbados, when they multiply, they constitute another Barbados; and if other countries were to decide to send back Barbadians to us, what would happen? I am submitting that we should be the last people to make any efforts to get strangers out of Barbados because there is a higher percentage of Barbadians residing in other territories than the reverse. There is no large scope in this island for any heavy intake of people. The substance of our economy in Barbados is not conducive to any large intake because the substance of our economy is sugar; and the few cane-cutters from St. Lucia are infinitesimal when you think of the labour force which is required in the sugar industry. However, that is an aspect of the matter which will settle itself. People drift from one part of the United States of America to another, and also from one part of the United Kingdom to another. I am sure that the hon. junior member for the City will bear in mind that a certain part of the United States has worried about shifting trade.

The hon. junior member for the City made reference to embassies and what they cost Trinidad. I do not regard embassies to be burdensome because you can see that with people. However, the hon. member was a little facetious on that point, What is very important is that Trinidad will need assistance from the other territories. At the present time, Barbados does a very prosperous trade with the other territories; and the area itself would have been a bigger area if we had a federated area because when we talk about people from outside Barbados, with a population of 240,000 people, there is a very attractive climate for industries to be brought in. I say that, bearing in mind that our domestic market can determine certain industries. Our Customs facilities would offer a better arrangement for people, but I am not in any way despondent about that aspect of the matter. It is not the economic nature of the community itself which would make one despondent; it may be the leadership; it may be that the leadership which is now existing is not geared to meet the challenge of Federation in the 1960's. It may not be geared with the strain of all the mental forces of our leaders.

We are looking through the window of the next Election and we want to be very careful not to be dispossessed; therefore we look for the easiest things with which to deal. Because we have taxation imposed this year, that will not make people believe that we have reached the stage where the imposition of taxation is at the maximum. I do not

subscribe to the view that we have reached the limit of our taxation; it may be that we have reached the limit of taxation as regards certain things, but it could not be thought that there is not going to be any more taxation imposed in Barbados. In that case, you will have a number of people in the schools, you will have people at work and taxation would have to be frozen. You will have to bear in mind that if your population has grown, then automatically your expenses will go up, because you will have to find more room for your increased population.

Having regard to what I have said therefore, I do not subscribe to the idea that there will not be the imposition of any more taxation: I am submitting that the taxation should be reviewed in the light of the whole economic services of the island.

5.55 p.m.

We have here Barclays Bank, the Royal Bank of Canada, and now the Canadian Bank of Commerce is buying out a block in Broad Street; that is an indication that this is not a poverty-stricken territory, because banks form the sinews of your investment, and they have a very good method of determining if it is an area with any economic viability; therefore on these grounds we do not have the indication that we are poverty-stricken. Moreover, the hon. junior member for Bridgetown spoke about gambling. We do not have casinos, but the Barbadian population is not bereft of gamblers. There are the pools which we tax, and there is the Barbados Turf Club from which we get taxes, and it shows that the spirit of gambler is not too far away in Barbados; but then, if you can have a community of gamblers, you have to wonder how much money your community can gamble before you can determine you are not going to tax that community any more. You do not gamble when you buy rice or other commodity items; you gamble when you buy a sweepstake ticket hoping to win the first prize, and I am numbered among some of those fools. I take my chance and throw my lot in just to be in it. As the phrase goes, "To win it you must be in it".

Mr. Speaker, sometimes people quarrel about the taxable rate that is put on certain items, but I have not met anybody in any part of the world who would not complain about taxes. If you go to the United States of America people complain; if you go to England, they complain; if you go to Australia they complain; but what I believe is important is not the tax, but how you utilise the money from the tax. If you can show the relative results in the community, then you have satisfied a need. For example Barbados is well served in roads. For a place of 166 square miles and 700 miles of road, one can say that the roads in Barbados are well kept, and Barbados motor car owners and users have nothing to complain about, because you can run a car for 100,000 miles. We have a motor car in our organisation that has done 100,000 miles, but if we were in Grenada or Dominica that would have meant five motor cars. I would say, therefore, that we should look at this matter in a wider sense.

I agree with the hon. junior member for Bridgetown that if you attempt to go into Federation without this exercise of examining the situation, you might be presenting a false picture, and that is why I agree with him that Federation is so national in character that it should transcend the narrow confines of a popitical party, because we are not going in for a programme of negotiating with another Government. You are negotiating on a complete national change where independence for all of us is involved, because independence means self-respect and self-determination for us as citizens, and I feel that anything that can give us independence, self-respect and self-determination should be looked at very closely. We should not regard ourselves as colonial appendages of the British Government for the balance of our life-time, but should strive to get out into the open atmosphere from where we can determine things for ourselves. I believe that if we adopt the right spirit and attitude, there would be no difficulty whatsoever in making these territories in the West Indies better than what they are; but if we go on stating how poor they are, they will continue to be poor unless those of us who are better off can help.

Mr. Speaker, I feel that Barbados has something to offer the smaller territories. I do not subscribe to the view of the hon. junior member for Bridgetown about the Premier and the number of votes we have. I work in a Federation of a different character from the one with which we are dealing. I work in an industrial Federation with colleagues from all over the territories including Trinidad and Tobago, and what I have found is that by example and by co-operation and the right spirit we have been able to a large extent to create an atmosphere of solidarity within the Trade Union all these years, and now we have a situation in which we go to Jamaica next month, and there is no question that a Jamaican or a Trinidadian or a British Guianese is to be President. We approach it on the basis that this is a matter in which those of us who are involved in it will be making a decision not based on territorial position. I feel that the fact that a Barbadian may be Premier or Prime Minister for the first five years does not matter. Let us remember that if the Federation is established, it is established for all time, and I doubt very much that if you have the quality of leadership in a man or woman, that is going to transcend to the narrow boundaries of territory. I think that Barbados would have an excellent opportunity, with its advantages in having more educational facilities than some of the sister territories, that more leadership would evolve out of Barbados at many levels in order to create an atmosphere in the other territories which at present they do not have.

I know there is the difficulty in the other territories of speaking about their own people, because we have been colonial territories, and the whole background of colonial legislation and administration have made each territory in the West Indies a Government and an independent territory in itself, so to speak; so a Trinidadian regards himself as different from a Barbadian and a Barbadian from a St. Lucian, because there is the distinct administration which has created that. It is a challenge to those of us who are alive at this time not to shirk the problems which we have, but to face them.

I believe the hon. junior member for Bridgetown was introducing a little bit of local politics when he said that people here are groaning under taxation. I would say that whenever you impose taxation, people are going to groan; but do not let us associate that with Federation. Mrs. Hicks said that Federation is going to cost us more. That is axiomatic. As soon as you build a super structure on something you already possess, it is going to cost you more, but the cost of that must be balanced by the services it can provide, because it is not a unitary state. It costs the United States Government more money to run a Federation than it costs to run a unitary state; it costs the Canadian Government more to run a Confederation than a unitary state; but it is one of the corollaries of our political existence that we live in independent territories. There are some of my friends who believe in the unitary method as an orthodox and theoretical system of Government and that it is a stronger Government than a Federal Government, but we must face reality. If it is difficult to get a Federal structure operating, it is more difficult to create a unitary state, because you can only create a unitary state from the territories themselves that are independent and have a right to decide that; but all these reservations would make it absolutely impossible. The same persons now who are advocating a Federal State know how difficult it is to establish, and that is what I have said to my colleagues and friends who have been pressing on me that we should go for a unitary state, which is the most idealistic form that one can have.

6.05 p.m.

I would say that the hon. junior member for the City of Bridgetown spoke about the cost of administration. We have cost of administration here, too. The hon. member was the Mayor of the City of Bridgetown and he knows that the City Council spends about $2 million in just an area like ours. Broadly speaking, you may say why should you have in a small place like Barbados a Legislative Council, a House of Assembly, a City Council, a District Council and all these things because when you add up the administrative

cost of them, you will find that you have more persons per head of the population doing the work of administration than in some other territories. You have all these bodies doing what? In bigger countries where you will have an area of representation greater than this, you do not have all these people doing administration. All of us have our little disabilities in our administration of Government, but I would not regard that as a serious threat: what I would regard as a serious threat in this matter is the lack of demonstration now by the leaders of the territories not projecting this matter now it appears to be reaching a stage of finality. For that reason, I would hate to think that these leaders would project a Federation of these territories to find themselves in a situation like the East African Federation which was put over by the British Government. You find that the leaders of these territories are projecting a Federation and the respective Governments at this time have been very indifferent to the matter, and there is a lack of knowledge of what they are doing on behalf of the people of those territories; therefore, when something new springs up, you may find the very opposite happening; may be, a civil war existing among people who were living in peace. If no Government is enthusiastic about it now, the leaders should be bold enough to come out now and say so now.

I have been worried, Mr. Speaker, about some of the pronouncements which I have heard on this matter. For example, recently, there was a conference of Chief Ministers in Trinidad and the four heads of the Governments who attended that conference made certain statements which are not clear to me. It was stated that the other six territories were not invited to that meeting in Trinidad and the Premier of Barbados said that he was not speaking on behalf of those territories, and the reservation which some of those gentlemen in the smaller territories have is that the Hon. Premier should not have gone to Trinidad to that conference because Trinidad and Jamaica are independent countries. That is childish. Those people have to bear in mind that you have to live with that which exists. The fact is that Trinidad is an independent territory now: so you will have to live with that country. The other great powers in the world have demonstrated that with all the differences that they talk about with Russia and about the East and West Cold War, they can come to terms on things that are vital for world peace, and you find that they are not harping about their having to live with Russia as a world power. That is something which small territories must learn. We must learn the art of political diplomacy and living with people, and when a decision is taken to do something, that is a decision which that territory has taken. You have to learn that if you want to live with them, you have to conform with them.

Mr. Speaker, I am glad the Hon. Premier had accepted the invitation and was not childish. A Caribbean community has to be developed. Apart from the British territories in the Eastern Caribbean, we have the Dutch and French territories just next door to us, and we have to realise what is the population of those territories; therefore, you cannot sneeze when you are in an orbit in which 200 million people exist. Mr. Speaker, for that reason, I feel the point which the hon. junior member for the City of Bridgetown made about taxation was besides the point. Raising capital on the London Market is not the problem which it used to be. Dominica, St. Vincent obtained a loan sometime ago on the London Market and they had their loan over-subscribed in a matter of minutes. The political leaders of these territories make a big thing out of it when they have their loan over-subscribed in a matter of minutes and say that it is due to the stability of the country under their leadership. We have some assistance from the British Government, the financial climate is fairly good and Great Britain is going to underwrite some of your loans; therefore, there is no problem of raising loans. What the hon. junior member for the City of Bridgetown must bear in mind is that if territories were so poverty stricken and bankrupt or regarded as mal-administered, you would not have raised a loan so quickly: and if these territories join together and Barbados has a better reputation than the others, Barbados would be in a better position to help its colleagues. Do not let us think that Barbados is the salt of the earth and is going to stand up in this big world alone without its getting assistance from other territories. This does not apply to the hon. junior member for the City of Bridgetown, but I heard some of my Barbadian friends talking about the people of St. Lucia and they think of the people of St Lucia as those whom they see here in Jessamy Lane selling mangoes. Their conception of St. Lucia is that of a mango-selling country, and, on the whole, Barbadians talk of the people of those six other territories in that line. That is why I said some time ago that a Jamaican in conversation with me asked me how it comes that Professor Arthur Lewis was born in St. Lucia. He asked that question because the people of Jamaica and himself could not understand how it is that the brains of such a man like Professor Arthur Lewis could be developed in St. Lucia. However, Professor Arthur Lewis was born in St. Lucia, and today he is regarded as one of five men in the world. It does not matter the area where a man first saw the light of day.

I feel one of our advantages is that we have a plural society in which many people are living and we have evolved a pattern in which we do not have these serious racial differences which are insuperable. That is one advantage which we have: and when people from foreign countries come to these parts, they can see a combination of people living in a territory together and you can teach some of them who live in a country of separatism that that is something which can be removed if the right approach is made.
6.15 p.m.

That is a contribution which we, in the West Indies, have to make. I feel that anything which can induce the area to make a contribution to this aspect of life is something which we should encourage. I would join the hon. junior member for the City and say that we would have to have strictures and control; we have to live with some of the things which we have. I do not subscribe to the view, as I have already said, that the Secretary of a trade union should simultaneously hold responsible Ministerial office in a government; I do not think that a person should hold responsible office in a government and at the same time hold a post in a trade union. I would say that that sort of thing comes from people who suffer from an overdose of fright and conceit. In the same way that I do not agree that a trade unionist should hold ministerial office in a government, I do not agree that a person should be a member of the Federal Government and a member of the Unit Government as well. I do not believe in this double-headed idea: if it was meant that one man should deal with all of these things, then he would have been given more than one head. *(Laughter).* Wherever you find that a double-headed monster is appearing on the scene, the surgeons always try to separate the heads. Naturally, these double-headed monsters will be here, there and everywhere, and they will appear under the guise that there are not enough people who are available or who are coming in to subscribe to the leadership.

My colleagues do not favour that sort of thing and I may say that I do not go in for any expediency. You will find that some people will sell principle for expediency; or, if I may use a colloquial or vulgar phrase, "If you scratch my back, I will scratch yours." That is where you get this idea of the sacrifice of principle on the altar of expediency. However, that is a dangerous thing because, in an area where you have an industrial dispute, nobody will have any confidence in the trade union which would write a letter with the right hand saying that it will cause a strike, and then use its left hand to do otherwise. There are things which you will get from young communities and people find it very difficult to dispossess them. As the saying goes: "power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely."

As to what the hon. junior member for the City has said, nobody could get up in Antigua and say what I have said. But some people say: "If the people vote for us and give us the right to be both ways, why say anything about that?" There are those who can have, on the basis of a vote, corruption underwritten, because somebody will say that everybody is doing it and therefore he can do it too. Therefore you can see that you will get a community underwriting a corrupt dealing.

I share the views of the hon. junior member for the City as to the possibilities in the other countries; but with

all of these possibilities, where are we going if we stand in the ocean alone? I think that we should embrace every opportunity, and if we have something to offer, let us offer it now. I want to say this: this debate was proposed by the Government and it is now getting like a cold-pone meeting rather than an enthusiastic debate in which we are dealing with something of an international character. It is my opinion that the leaders are not as enthusiastic about Federation as they were about eighteen months ago. If we are going to have these expensive excursions to London, then I say that we should make up our minds as to whether we are really going to federate in these territories or not.

I must say that I support the amendment, not on the basis that we are against Federation, but the amendment is a very important one. I have not heard it explained either by the Hon. Premier or by any member of the Government as to why it is that this Clause 2 of Appendix "A" should be written in. Why is it that the provision for taxation should have the proviso that any Unit Government which is not agreeing to transfer any of its services to the Federal Government should have the right to administer such services? What do we mean by that? Do you want to put up a facet to a Federation? You have the Unit Government responsible for the collection of Income tax, the provision of Postal Services and the Local Police Forces for a period of five years from the inception of the Federation.

Everybody likes to hold on to the purse strings: but if you are going to have a strong Federation, do not let us spend too much time in saying that we are nice fellows, but we are not really administering any Government. We are representing the biggest unit, and we would feel very concerned about taking our money and giving it to somebody to administer, somebody who does not care how the money comes out of the Treasury. That is something which we will have to tell some of these people. I agree that our representation should be international in character: it sometimes happens that members of a non-party government are in a stronger position to talk to people at a conference than other members. I can say to any of these political leaders what I feel like saying to them, because I do not have to ask them to vote for me. If the Government want to have the Premier as the first Premier — I may say that they always put plums so as to catch Barbadians in the same way as if you want to catch a wood dove, you pile up all the corn in trying to catch that wood dove which you never catch. *(Laughter).*
6.25 p.m.

Now they are always saying that they will make a Barbadian the first of something, and I do not know how to regard a Barbadian who can catch at these phrases that you will make a Barbadian the first Prime Minister, the first Bishop or the first Lord Mayor, and he thinks he can pawn out all his clothes, house and land, and when he finishes he has to go and beg. It seems that the idea of saying that a Barbadian is going to be the first Prime Minister means that something is going to happen. We had a first Prime Minister already. I do not like this idea of throwing plums at me. There can only be one Prime Minister at a time, and I am not concerned with who is going to be first Prime Minister; I am concerned with the structure. The reason why I say that is that when you send a national delegation, people are not interested in the Prime Ministership. I can say to Mr. Bird that I do not agree with a man being Prime Minister if he is a member of a Trade Union, but I do not want Mr. Bird to vote for me, or Mr. Bradshaw. I do not know if the hon. junior member for Bridgetown was facetious when he said you may have Mr. Bramble. I may tell you that Mr. Bramble is nobody's fool because he is from Montserrat. I have dealt with him and I know him.

Mr. LYNCH: On a point of elucidation, in strict alphabetical order, Mr. Bramble comes next to the Hon. and gallant Premier of this House.

Mr. SPEAKER: This House really has no Premier, but the Government has.

Mr. WALCOTT: I can assure the hon. junior member for Bridgetown that whether or not Mr. Bramble comes in alphabetical order, sometimes Barbadians must be told that Barbadians can dress more elegantly than some of the people in the other territories, but some of the people in the other territories, though inelegantly dressed — their policy of administering the territory is extremely sound, like Mr. Southwell. He is a man who finds it very difficult to get any kind of hat whatsoever to get over what God has given him as a head in the manner that a hat should fit a man's head, and anyone approaching Mr. Southwell at any point would want to know if he is a fisherman who was a survivor and got away with that hat. He has been blessed with an abnormal head but not for wearing a hat only, because those of us who have heard him know that he is a man who as a politician is in the forefront. I say that because it is general for you to look at people and say: "Is he the man?" If you look on my immediate left at the hon. member, sometimes from the description being made you would look for a big man. These things never apply to you, Sir, because people who have been blessed with what you have been blessed with, and know the things that nature provides, never wonder about that.

Mr. SPEAKER: It is possible that the hon. senior member for St. Peter is suggesting that I am blessed with patience, but I have not until now reminded the hon. member that he is certainly departing from his speech on the amendment. He has already made his first speech on the complete matter.

Mr. WALCOTT: That is what I was just concluding on. I had no intention of going into the original point, and that is where the amendment deals mainly with this question of the proviso that was made in paragraph 2 in moving these things from the Federal structure. You will admit, however, that I could not deal with this amendment adequately unless I made some reference to the whole picture because these are only amendments dealing with extracting from the Federal Government income tax, postal services and the local Police Force, and if you take them out for an indefinite period, the whole exercise of Federation is lost, because you would have no Federal income. On the other matter, we could never agree with the appointment of Governor-General and creation of Federal Council into a body corporate with power to legislate by regulations made by the Governor General on the advice of the Federal Council limited to a number of subjects. We could not agree to that at a stage when you want these powers to deal with these things, and the very things we would like to see you have powers to do, you want reservations for the Units. As you can very well see, yourself, Sir, the Hon. Leader of the Opposition who moved the amendment is not even here to vote for it. As I said, I am very distressed indeed at the turn that the debate has taken, because it has made one feel that we are not really now very enthusiastic about Federation.

Mr. YEARWOOD: Mr. Speaker, speaking on the Resolution to support the proposals contained in the Statement laid on this Table on 11th June, I had no intention of speaking on this Resolution owing to the fact that I had spoken on the White Paper, but after hearing so many speeches made by members of this House, I decided in my mind that I would be very brief on what I have to say. I have therefore decided Mr. Speaker, to quote Thomas Jefferson at the beginning when he said, "Men achieve greatness for what they do; others are remembered for what they have talked and said. Their words have destroyed empires and built new nations."

After reading what Thomas Jefferson said, I was at pains to wonder whether the words of hon. members in this Chamber would not be trying to destroy empires and build a nation or trying otherwise to destroy a nation which we are now trying to build and help to restore an empire.
6.35 p.m.

I believe, Sir, that Mr. Nigel Fisher's statement must have been a bit misleading when it was stated that the conference held here by the Regional Council of Ministers revealed a significant divergence of opinion between the Governments concerned. I believe that Mr. Nigel Fisher was the wrong man to have come to Barbados because he came to Barbados and then went to British Guiana, in my opinion, to settle the recent disturbances there. What has

happened after Mr. Nigel Fisher left? The trouble in British Guiana went from bad to worse. You can see from his statement that the Regional Council of Ministers would have had a very hard time to come to a decision although we were told that a democratic decision had been made. We have had many meetings of this House at which they were significant divergences of opinion between members; but whenever a decision has been reached after those divergences of opinion, we would have to abide by that decision and that is because we are living in a democratic area.

Sir, I have listened to all members who have spoken on this matter, especially to the hon. junior member for St. Joseph who was at pains to say in his speech on this matter: "For Heaven's sake, do not offend the Colonial Office." It is my opinion, Sir, that some of our hon. members are living in the sixteenth or seventeenth century and that they are not yet ready to represent people living in the twentieth century. If we are living in the twentieth century, we must be prepared to accept the responsibility, whether the responsibility which we accept causes a great man to sacrifice himself or not. I am prepared to say that most of our people in Barbados are not willing to sacrifice themselves for a cause and no country in this world which intends to progress can progress without someone making a sacrifice.

Sir, when one gets in this day of grace and believes that we in the Eastern Caribbean are somewhat inferior to those people who lived in other big countries, I think, Mr. Speaker, that those people are not fit to represent the people of today. The hon. junior member for St. Joseph asked that we do not offend the Colonial Office. I believe that the hon. member has a very good memory because all that he said on the occasion he made his speech on this matter were truly the ambitions of his Party. He has been his Party's spokesman in this House, and he really and truly tried to put their points of view and honestly he has collected and given out all that his leaders have given him. However, had they given him the opportunity that this Government has given to its members to express themselves, even some of what had been told to him 17 years ago, I believe he would definitely have been a wise politician because he would have something to offer to the people today. But when one cannot think for himself and has to wait on some person else to give him some idea, it is a bad thing.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. The hon. junior member for St. John is accusing me of coming in here without anything prepared of my own and that I have said only what was said to me Now, I am objecting to those remarks because the hon. junior member for St. John is accusing me of not having as much ability as to say something in this honourable House off my own back. That is not fair. He is saying that I had nothing to say.

I also heard him to say something about somebody helped me. I did not intend to say anything to him; I was allowing him to go further ahead so as to get himself tangled up. However, Mr. Speaker, I am sure that the hon. junior member for St. John will never be able to make on the floor of this House the kind of speech which I have made on this matter of Federation.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am afraid that that is not a point of order because nothing has been submitted to me for my decision, but so far as the hon. junior member for St. John is concerned, whatever he may think of the hon. junior member for St. Joseph, although what he has said is not unparliamentary, let him refrain from referring to the hon. junior member for St. Joseph and continue to deal directly with the subject matter of the debate.

Mr. YEARWOOD: Mr. Speaker, the West Indies have been trying to federate for quite a long time. As far as I can remember, I think it was in 1947 when they first met on a closer association because they realised that it was useless for any one of them trying to go it alone.
6.45 p.m.

They had a meeting in 1947 because they realised that it was useless for any one of the Eastern Caribbean Colonies to try to go it alone. I have heard the hon. junior member for St. Joseph say that Barbados certainly cannot go it alone: that is about the only bit of contribution which he has made, or it is the only bit of sensible contribution which he has made to the debate during the whole of his speech. All of us who have really put our country first of all will realise that Barbados cannot go it alone, and today we know that the United Kingdom is quite prepared to give us our independence. The United Kindom is quite prepared to help us to federate, but the position is that our financial position today does not at all give to every politician who desires to see the West Indies or the territories of the Eastern Caribbean come together that bright future, unless these territories are well backed financially by the United Kingdom.

It is true, Mr. Speaker, that in the days when sugar was being sold at a penny a pound, the labour costs were so low that the benefits of this island undoubtedly went to the United Kingdom. I should expect that honourable members would be so strong in their remarks towards a Resolution like this, that this Resolution would have been endorsed; the Government stand would have been noted and the United Kingdom would realise that the people of the Eastern Caribbean are quite prepared to federate and that the British Government merely owes a debt to these countries to see that they are put on their proper foundation financially and to assist them in every way in making a strong nation. Rather than that, all that we have been hearing for a very long time in respect of this Resolution are the obstacles which will prevent us from coming together. I should like to say that if people are studying the obstacles, then they should also study the advantages. As we know, Barbados will not be helped or none of the Eastern Caribbean Territories will be helped by any progressive countries as long as these territories are tied to the United Kingdom.

Mr. SPEAKER: I observe that there are only eight hon. members present. I will ask that the bell be rung so that we may have a quorum.

On the bell being rung, a quorum was obtained.

Mr. YEARWOOD: I was saying, Sir, that what we can observe is our financial difficulty and it is, in my opinion, a moral obligation on the part of the British Government to make sure that this proposed nation is put on a firm footing, financially and otherwise. Mr. Speaker, when I last spoke on the White Paper, I suggested that following the formation or the work which was being done by the Regional Council of Ministers, if this Federation had got under way, Trinidad, Jamaica and even British Guiana would have joined us. Although we had the Federation on its way, I have seen some kind of co-operation among the three countries which I have mentioned. Although we realise how difficult it is financially to get the Federation going, we should be inclined to agree and show our willingness to federate.

Mr. Speaker, I am supporting the Statement which was made in connection with the federation of the Eastern Caribbean Territories. I not only support the Statement, but I commend it to all members and I hope that they will see fit to put aside those things which they now term as being obstacles in the way of Federation and think about the advantages which we, in Barbados, can achieve as a result of having a strong Federation.
6.55 p.m.

Mr. WEEKES: Mr. Speaker, I did not intend to speak on this Resolution, but after sitting here and listening attentively to the shrewd comments made by the hon. senior member for St. Peter a few weeks ago, I feel it is my duty, Sir, to let the people of Barbados, and especially those in my constituency, hear my views on Federation. When I mention the people in my constituency, Sir, I do not want hon. members of this House to feel that I am being insular or that I am a parish pump, but I must remind this Honourable House that if you do not satisfy the people of your constituency, you have no seat in here and you would be outside looking in.

Now, Sir, the Hon. Minister of Education in introducing this Resolution quoted Plato; the Hon. Premier quoted

Aristotle, and the hon. senior member for St. Peter quoted an American writer I am very pleased, Sir, that the Government has given us an opportunity to discuss the results of the Conference held by the several leaders in Barbados. It makes me believe that this Government is a true form of democracy, and has caused me to remember the definition given by Abraham Lincoln of democracy, that is "government of the people, by the people, and for the people." As you know, Sir, I have been sent here by the people, and I feel it is my duty to speak for the people. Some people are against Federation, but it is my opinion that they are in the minority. I feel that the majority will support Federation when the time comes, and we as politicians will have to explain the matter to them. The reason why some people are against Federation, Mr. Speaker, and as I have aforesaid in my opinion you will find them in the minority, is because they consider it a very costly venture, but in considering the cost of Federation, we must consider the benefits which we will derive from this new nation.

I will give a few reasons, Sir, why we should federate. Barbados is a very thickly populated country, but some of these islands in the Caribbean have space enough to accomodate a greater number of inhabitants. If we federate, people from the thickly populated islands would be able to go to these places which can accomodate a greater number of people, and when I mention people, I am not thinking only of those who are in the lower brackets, but I am thinking about doctors, lawyers, teachers, artisans and labourers.

I remember that some time ago someone took ill in one of the smaller islands, and I think that a specialist had to be sent from Jamaica to the hospital in that island to attend the patient. I feel, Sir, that with a Federation we would have people of that calibre on the spot to attend to people who become ill. We are blessed in these islands with a healthy climate, but because we are not federated, Sir, people have to leave this warm climate and go to places with a cold climate to earn a livelihood.
7.05 p.m.

In a Federation, Mr. Speaker, it is my opinion that we would have room enough and space enough for all the people in this Caribbean area. This is not the time for us to be insular; it is time for us to unite. Unity is strength. It is my opinion that while it may take a reasonable number of years, if these islands are developed, the standard of living within a certain period will be the same regardless of where you live. Therefore, we should do all in our power to encourage the leaders of the Seven to go forward and do something not only for the people who are now living in the area but for their future generations.

Now, Mr. Speaker, let us deal with industries. If we were to federate, it is quite possible that the various Governments would get together and reason out things. It would be different from what happens at present, such as, St. Lucia putting up a shoe factory in that country and next week you hear that Antigua is putting one there too and the next week you may hear that Barbados is going to have one. It is my opinion that in a Federation you must have a market for your goods over the whole area; therefore, the leaders in a Federation would be able to sit together and discuss matters together and would be able to say to one another, "You have this; I am going to take that." Under the present circumstances, we are all heading in one direction regardless of what we do, and if we do not come together, the area will not be improved.

Sir, in conclusion, I wish to quote from the Report of the Civil Service Commission of the Federation of the East Caribbean territories which was presented to Parliament by the Secretary of State for the Colonies by Command of Her Majesty in April, 1963. I shall refer this Honourable House to page 125. While I am in favour of a Federation of these Eastern Caribbean Territories, I must point you to this Chapter on the "Summary of Conclusions and Recommendations" and in Paragraph 21 it is stated:

"Collapse of the Federation set up in 1958 makes it essential that plans for a new Federation be prepared with utmost care and explained in full detail to civil servants."

Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the leaders of the Seven for trying to bring us together regardless of those who are not in favour of Federation. I feel, Sir, that the time will come, and must come, when we must federate. I will now call on the people of Barbados to give Federation their wholehearted support and I assure them that not only would it be to their benefit but to the benefit of the future generations of this country.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, speaking on the amendment,.....

Mr. SPEAKER: May I remind the hon. junior member for St. Joseph that he spoke after the amendment was moved according to my record. The amendment was moved by the Hon. Leader of the Opposition on the 25th June, 1963. On the 18th June, the hon. junior member for St. Lucy moved, seconded by the Hon. Premier, that the Resolution do now pass. The hon. junior member for Christ Church, the hon. senior member for St. Peter and the hon. junior member for St. George spoke, and then on the motion of the Hon. Leader of the Opposition seconded by yourself, further consideration was postponed.

On the 25th June, the Hon. Leader of the Opposition spoke and moved an amendment which was seconded by the hon. senior member for St. Michael and after that, the hon. junior member for St. Joseph spoke. On the 9th July, the hon. junior member for St. Joseph continued to speak; therefore, I regret very much that the hon. junior member for St. Joseph will not be able to speak again on this subject.

Mr. SMITH: When I spoke, I spoke on the motion for the passing of the Resolution.

Mr. SPEAKER: But the hon. member had the opportunity of speaking on the amendment also. However, the hon. junior member for St. James has not spoken, and no doubt, being a member of the minority Party, he may speak if he feels so disposed. The hon. junior member for St. George may also speak again because he spoke previous to the amendment being made.
7.15 p.m.

Those hon. members who are entitled to speak are the hon. junior member for St. James, the hon. junior member for St. Thomas, the hon. senior member for Christ Church and the hon. senior member for St. Thomas, all of whom are, of course, in their places. The Hon. Leader of the House has not yet spoken at all. If no other hon. member desires to speak.....

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I think that owing to the paucity of hon. members present in the House, - - we barely have a quorum - - and the fact that one or two other hon. members who are now present have signified that they have other commitments and therefore they will not be able to remain here for very much longer, at this stage it seems to me that we will have to take the adjournment and return here on Tuesday next, I hope, in order to finalise this debate. Sir, the Government had hoped to finalise this debate this afternoon, and, as a matter of fact, we came prepared to do so. The number of additional speeches - and they were lengthy - have upset the calculations of the Government and, as I have just said, there is a bare quorum present and even among this quorum there are those who will be leaving shortly. I therefore beg to move that this House do now adjourn.....

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Leader of the House should first move that the further consideration of this Resolution be postponed.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Very well, Mr. Speaker. I beg to move that the further consideration of this Resolution be postponed.

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

The question that the further consideration of this Resolution be postponed was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, we should like to give the intimation that when we resume on Tuesday next, the Government proposes that only the matter of Federation should be dealt with. As a matter of fact, it was our intention to move for a long adjournment this evening if the Federation debate had been finalised. However, I will make the motion for the adjournment until Tuesday next in the belief that we will bring this matter of Federation to a conclusion. I should like to intimate that, in so far as the Government is concerned, we propose to deal solely with this issue of Federation when we meet on Tuesday next. I therefore beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday next, 13th instant, at 3. o'clock p.m.

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

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, speaking on the motion for the adjournment, I want to say this; I was not here when the House was adjourned last Tuesday, but I understood afterwards that the House had been adjourned until today specially for the Premier to reply to the speeches which have been made on this Resolution. I understood that that was to be done this afternoon.

Mr. SPEAKER: I should like to inform the hon. member that that has never been said in this Chamber. That was put over the air and in certain sections of the Press.

Mr. SMITH: Very well, Sir. Our days for meetings of this House are on Tuesdays and we only come back here on any other day during the week if we have special business with which to deal. We were summoned to meet here this afternoon; as you have said, Sir, it was put over the air that today's meeting would be for allowing the Hon. Premier to reply to the various speeches which were made on this Resolution. An amendment to the Resolution was moved by the hon. senior member for the City who is the Leader of the Opposition; the mover of the original motion and the Hon. Premier who was supposed to reply this afternoon — not one of them has seen fit to appear here this afternoon. No excuse was made for any one of them.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: On a point of order.

Mr. SPEAKER: Before the Hon. Leader of the House makes that point of Order, may I say this? No statement was made in this House as to who would reply or when he would reply to the speeches of hon. members. I counted that there were fifteen members who, before this meeting started, would have been entitled to speak. I may say that these irresponsible statements which are made to suggest that hon. members are not entitled to have the audience of this Chamber when they rise are very misleading. I do not like to think that hon. members of this House take these statements seriously. An hon. member of this House telephoned me enquiring as to whether he had the right to speak or not although he had not spoken, just because it came over the air that the final speech was to be made. I am sorry to keep the Hon. Leader of the House waiting to make his point of order, but I wanted to make that point. Let the Hon. Leader of the House proceed to make his point of order.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: The hon. junior member for St. Joseph said that we would be winding up this debate this afternoon, but I should like to say that nobody has any control over what the radio or what the press says. The Government has not made any such announcement, no such announcement was made that the Hon. Premier would be winding up this debate. Before the Summit Conference which was held in Trinidad, it was decided by the Ministers that I would be winding up the debate on behalf of the Government; therefore it cannot be said that the Hon. Premier would have been replying. I had proposed to make that announcement when the time came.

So long as hon. members of this House have not already spoken on this Resolution or on the amendment, they are entitled to speak in the debate. The hon. junior member for St. Joseph is therefore presuming too much when he said on this occasion that it was announced that the debate would be wound up by the Hon. Premier and that neither the Hon. Premier nor the Hon. Leader of the Opposition is present this afternoon.
7.25 p.m.

I am not concerned with the absence of the Hon. Leader of the Opposition, but he has spoken already. The hon. member knows the Rules of the House on Resolutions, and since there were other members to speak who have not spoken yet, the debate could not have been wound up this evening. As far as the Premier is concerned, no member of the Opposition or member of the House can dare to say when in his opinion he should be here or not. He comes when it is convenient for him; and so long as he makes the necessary arrangements for the debate to be conducted, it is absolute presumption for any member of the House to ask why he is not here. He is absent on even more important State business.

Mr. SPEAKER: The point of order has been made, but the hon. member will have the right to reply.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I am coming to the point now. This House is not accustomed to meeting twice a week except on special occasions. We met here last Tuesday, and the House adjourned to meet today to do one Resolution for $500. The recording equipment and an operator from Rediffusion are here to record the Federation debate. The members of the Government, Mr. Speaker, are adequately paid for what they are doing, so they can come here every day; but what about other members who have their business to do? You have summoned a member from his business place to come here only to do one Resolution. It is not fair to hon. members of this House, and it is a fact that this debate.....

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: On a point of order, the hon. member is deliberately trying to mislead the House.

Mr. SPEAKER: I will ask the Leader of the House to use a different phrase, as the one he has used is unparliamentary. I know when we have a long continous session such as we have had today without a break, tempers tend to be frayed.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Your Honour is fully aware of the fact that my temper is completely unfrayed.

Mr. SPEAKER: I said "tend to be".

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mine is not, Sir. The hon. member said we have come here today to do one Resolution. That is not true. When the House was adjourned last Tuesday, an intimation was given that we would come to do Committee of Supply and to endeavour to finalise the Federation debate which we were attempting to do. We had the money Resolution and then we went on to the Federation debate. We had several speeches today, and even the hon. junior member for St. Joseph who spoke already attempted to speak again, quite contrary to the Rules. If he had his way, we would be here until 9 o'clock listening to Federation, and if the Rules permitted, anybody could talk. It is not fair to say that we did not come to do Federation. We have been doing it, and if the verbosity of some members had not prevented us from finalising it, we would have done so, and nobody, not even you yourself, can or would try to control that.

Mr. SPEAKER: It may be that the patience of the Chair tends to be at fault at times; I trust it will not be regarded as inexhaustible.

Mr. SMITH: It is all right for the Hon. Leader of the House to get up and put things his way. What have you summoned two meetings in one week to do? The hon. member said we came to do Committee of Supply, which would mean to pass the Resolution for $500, and to finalise the debate on Federation. I was not here, and that is why I believe it came over the air that the Premier would be replying, because if the debate was to come to finalisation, why has it not been finalised? It is because the people who are to finalise it are not in their seats.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: On a point of order, I object to those misleading statements. The hon. member deliberately is not hearing what we are saying or deliberately tries not to understand. I distinctly said that I am going to finalise the debate on behalf of the Government, but I have been asked by some of the members present not to continue any longer. I am prepared to remain; I can stay until midnight.

Mr. SPEAKER: So am I prepared.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: But several hon. members asked me not to remain; so it is not true for the hon. member to say that nobody is here to finalise the debate. We are here for that express purpose, and he knows that.

Mr. SPEAKER: I would point out that certain arrangements which would normally have been made if it had been anticipated that this meeting would have lasted so long, have not been made.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member is supposed to finalise this debate. He is not finalising it because they have the authority and power to adjourn this House whenever they like and to summon it whenever they like. We still have a quorum and I am willing to sit here until morning. Members have asked him not to go on any longer, though he called us out from doing something this evening..

Mr. SPEAKER: I am afraid there is no quorum.

The bell was rung, but no quorum was obtained.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. SPEAKER: There not being a quorum of nine hon. members present, the Bell having been rung for 120 seconds, I declare this meeting stands adjourned until Tuesday, 13th August, 1963, at 12 o'clock noon.

7.35 p.m.