THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SESSION 1962

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 10th December, 1963.

Pursuant to the adjournment, the House of Assembly met at 12.00 o'clock (noon) today.

PRESENT

His Honour J. E. T. *BRANCKER*, Q.C., *(Speaker)*; Mr. L. E. SMITH, J.P.; Mr. F. L. *WALCOTT*, O.B.E. 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. G. V. BATSON, *(Chairman of Committees)*; Mr. N. W. BOXILL and Hon. A. DaC. *EDWARDS, (Minister of Social Services)*.

Prayers were read.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER: The Minutes of the meeting of the 3rd December, 1963, have been circulated and if there is no objection, they will be confirmed. *(A Pause)*

Hearing no objection, I declare these Minutes to be confirmed.

PAPERS LAID

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Hon. Minister of Development, Trade, Industry, Labour and Tourism, I beg to lay a Statement showing Revenue and Expenditure for the Barbados Government Savings Bank for the half year ended 30th June, 1963;

Also, on behalf of the same Hon. Minister, who is deputising for the Hon. Premier and Minister of Finance, I beg to lay a Statement showing Net Customs Excise receipts for the eight months ended 30th November, 1963;

And again, on behalf of the Hon. Premier and Minister of Finance, I beg to lay the Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) (No. 12) Order, 1963;

Also, Statement showing allocation of funds available on the Commonwealth Development Act, 1963.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Government Notices were given as follows:–

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: Resolution to approve, under Section 10 of the Barbados Harbours Act, 1960, the expenditure required to supplement the Estimates of the Port Department for the year 1963-64 as shown in the Schedule to the Resolution.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: On behalf of the Hon. Premier: Resolution to place the sum of $3,075 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to supplement the Estimates 1963-64, Part I, Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimate 1963-64, No. 32 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Resolution to place the sum of $12,800 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to supplement the Estimates 1963-64, Part I, Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimate 1963-64, No. 33, which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Resolution to place the sum of $3,690 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to supplement the Estimates 1963-64, Part II, Capital, as shown in the Supplementary Estimate 1963-64, No. 34, which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: Resolution to approve under Section 10 of the Barbados Harbours Act, 1960, the expenditure required to supplement the Estimates of the Port Department for the year 1963-64 as shown in the Schedule to the Resolution.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: On behalf of the Hon. Leader of the House, who is deputising for the Hon. Premier and Minister of Finance, I beg to give notice of a Bill to amend the Barbados Fire Service Act, 1960.

Also, a Bill to authorise the Governor-in-Executive Committee to borrow a sum not exceeding $422,625 and other matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of my intention to move the House into Committee of Supply at its next meeting to deal with the Money Resolutions of which notice was given today.

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME

On motion of Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, the Bill to amend the Fire Service Act, 1960, was read a first time.

On motion of Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, the Bill to authorise the Governor-in-Executive Committee to borrow a sum not exceeding $422,625 and other matters connected therewith and incidental thereto was read a first time.

DOCUMENTS

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that I have received a copy of the Financial Report of the Accountant General for the months of August and September, 1963.

BILL RETURNED FROM OTHER PLACE

Mr. SPEAKER: I also have the honour to inform the House that I have received from the Other Place a copy of the Bill to amend the Workmen's Compensation Act, with amendments made by that Chamber to the Bill which was previously passed by this House.
12.30 p.m.

LETTER OF THANKS *re* DEATH OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY

Mr. SPEAKER: I also have the honour to inform the House that I have received a communication from the American Consulate General. It reads as follows:-

"Dear Mr. Speaker,

On behalf of the official family of the American Consulate General, and all Americans residing in Barbados, I wish to express my sincere appreciation for the action taken by the House of Assembly in honouring our late President, John Fitzgerald Kennedy.

The tributes voiced in the House in support of the Resolution of Sympathy obviously stemmed from the hearts and minds of the speakers and were echoed throughout the world.

Very truly yours,
FRANK J. WALTERS,
American Consul."

Mr. MOTTLEY entered the House and took his seat.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Mr. SPEAKER: The first Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Leader of the House:- To move the House into Committee of Supply to consider the grant of sums of money for the service of the colony.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that you do now leave the Chair and the House go into Committee of Supply, and that it be an instruction of the House when in Committee to deal with the Resolution of which notice was given earlier today by the Hon. Minister of Social Services, copies of which are about to be circulated amongst hon. members.

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

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE 1963-64 No. 31
HURRICANE RELIEF

A Resolution for the sum of $88,000 was called.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: On the last occasion when we were in Committee of Supply, we were considering a Resolution to place the sum of $88,000 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to supplement the Estimates 1963-64, Part I, Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimate 1963-64 No. 31, which forms the Schedule to the Resolution. The hon. junior member for St. George was speaking. I observe that the hon. member is not in his place.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE 1963-64 No. 30
PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: Mr. Chairman, the next Resolution is a Resolution that the sum of $766 be advanced from the Public Treasury to be defrayed from Loan Funds and placed at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to supplement the Estimates, 1963-64, Part II — Capital, as shown in the Supplementary Estimate, 1963-1964 No. 30 which forms the Schedule to this Resolution.

The Addendum to the Resolution sets out the position as follows:-

Under Head 8 — Communications, of the Capital Estimates 1962-63, Item 13 — Plant and Equipment, the sum of $37,300 was provided to meet the cost of plant and equipment for Seawell Airport. This equipment included three (3) runway sweepers estimated to cost $9,000. The actual cost of the sweepers, inclusive of freight and incidental charges was $9,765.80.

Part payment in the sum of $9,000 was made from available funds during the financial year 1962-63, and it is proposed to provide for the outstanding balance by a Supplementary Vote of $766.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE 1963-64 No. 29

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: The next Resolution, Mr. Chairman, is a Resolution to place the sum of $100,211 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to supplement the Estimates 1963-64, Part I, Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimate 1963-64 No. 29, which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

This Resolution deals with several Heads of the Estimates and it is proposed to take these Heads separately.

HEAD 2 — SERVICE COMMISSIONS

Head 2 – Service Commissions – was called.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, under this Head there are three Items:- Item 11 — Acting Allowances, Payment of Substitutes; Item 13 — Leave Passages — and Item 14 Public Service Commission. As regards Item 11 — Acting Allowances, Payment of Substitutes — the sum of $15,000 is required. According to the Note, this provision of $15,000 is required to meet arrears of salary for Head Teachers in Primary and Secondary Modern Schools, in respect of the period 1st April, 1961 to 31st March, 1963, due entirely to the regrading of salaries and over expenditure during the period 1961 to 1963 as has already been mentioned.
12.40 p.m.

As to Item 13 — Leave Passages, Mr. Chairman, again the sum of $50,000 is required to meet the excess expenditure, and under Item 14 — Public Service Commission, the sum of $1,500 is required to meet the cost of a special enquiry, the cost of examining entrants into the Service, remuneration to members of the Commission and of the Public Service (Appointments and Discipline) (Junior Officers) Committee.

I beg to move that Head 2 — Service Commissions — stand part.

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

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

Head 14 - Inland Revenue - was called.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, under Item 24 — Travelling, the sum of $1,000 is required, and the note points out that in order that the valuation of the City

area could be completed within the restricted time, two temporary additional Valuation Officers were appointed to assist with the work. The sum of $3,000 provided in the Estimates to meet travelling expenses has consequently proved inadequate and we now need $1,000 for the remainder of the financial year.

I beg to move that Head 14 — Inland Revenue — stand part.

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

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

Head 21 — Prisons — was called.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, Item 21 relates to Incidentals, and you will see in the note that expenditure under this Item has been greater than anticipated on account of the payment for extensive repairs to the Church organ at Glendairy and the unusually high expenditure on repairs to recording clocks, and an increase in the expenditure on toilet requisites due mainly to an increase in the number of prisoners. We are therefore asking for the sum of $160 to supplement the incidental expenditure incurred under this Head during the year.

I beg to move that Head 21 — Prisons — stand part.

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

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

Head 28 — Printing Office — was called.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, Head 28 is for extra work done at the Printery. The last publication of the Laws of Barbados was in respect of the year 1958. We want to bring the printing of laws up to date, and the Printery was required to give priority to the printing and publication of laws for 1959-1962. Furthermore, on account of the pressure of other work, it was agreed that printing and binding of the laws should be undertaken outside of normal working hours. On this basis the laws for 1959-1961 inclusive have been published, and those for 1962 are nearly finished, and in consequence of both these circumstances, Sir, the vote is almost exhausted for overtime, and the sum of $2,400 is required to supplement it.

I beg to move that Head 28 — Printing Office — stand part.

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

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

Head 32 — Highways and Transport — was called.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: This Head is for new Traffic Signs and Lights, plants, tools, spares and equipment. We had the sum of $13,303 provided in the Estimates, 1962-63 for this item — New Traffic Signs and Lights. By 31st March, $10,000 odd had been expended, leaving a balance of $2,000 odd and we now require $2,000 odd to complete payment for equipment which has been received.

Furthermore, under Item 61 — Plant, tools, spares and equipment, the sum of $151,300 was provided of which $71,700 was released for the purchase of certain equipment, but three of the items ordered were received after the close of the financial year and could not be paid for by 31st March, 1963. The amount earmarked lapsed on that date, and the total cost of these three items is $25,000, and insurance, freight, inspection and commission charges amount to $2,785. The sum of $27,785 is therefore required to pay for these three items.

I beg to move that Head 32 — Highways and Transport — stand part.

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

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

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the Resolution for the sum of $100,211 do now pass.

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

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

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, the Committee will recall that at Notice Time we said there were certain Resolutions to be circulated for which we wanted to ask leave to deal with at today's sitting. The first one we are asking to deal with is the one in connection with the Supplementary Estimate for the Port Department which has been circulated. It is quite a straightforward one, to provide additional funds for certain expenditure in connection with the Port Department, and I hope the Committee will agree to deal with it now as we are actually in Committee at this stage. I am asking leave to deal with this Resolution.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The Hon. Leader of the House is asking leave to deal with the Resolution of which notice was given earlier today, and unless there is any objection, leave will be granted.

There being no objection, leave is granted the Hon. Minister.
12.50 p.m.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE, 1963-64 No. 36

ANNEXED ESTIMATES — PORT DEPARTMENT

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: Mr. Chairman, this Resolution seeks to supplement the Estimates 1963-64 under the Annexed Estimates — Port Department by the sum of $145,454

Under the first Item, Item 32, Light and Power, the sum of $8,684 is required.

This sum is required because the average monthly cost of providing Light and Power has increased from $1,900 to $2,300. This is due partly to increased consumption of electricity as a result of a good sugar crop and partly to the restoration of the original light service along the Access roads to the Port. It should be noted that the sum of approximately $1,800 is recoverable monthly from consumers.

The next Item is Item 34, Marine Services, for which the sum of $14,000 is required.

During the Financial year 1962-63 Emergency Repairs to the Hopper Barge exceeded the amount provided under this item by $14,000. This sum was met from the current year's provision. A supplementary provision of $14,000 will therefore now be required to finance anticipated normal commitments for the remainder of the current financial year.

The next Item is Item 52, Audit Services, for which the sum of $3,000 is required.

The Port Department is required to pay into General Revenue the sum of $4,000 annually as fees for Audit Services performed by the Auditor General's Department. The current year's provision is $1,000. A supplementary provision of $3,000 is therefore now required.

The next Item is Item 58, Static Facilities, for which the sum of $119,770 is required.

In consequence of damage to the Bridgetown Harbour by high seas in January of this year, it was necessary to carry out temporary repair work which, it was agreed, should be financed from the Harbour Fund.

The provision of $32,498 in the 1962-63 Estimates of the Port Department was insufficient to meet the total cost of this temporary repair work and, in consequence, the sum of $47,700 represents the cost of completed work for which no provision was made in the current year's estimates. In addition, in order to carry out permanent repair work for the further protection of the Harbour installations against high seas, it is necessary to provide now for sheet piling and other accessories which is estimated to cost $72,000. The sum of $119,770 will therefore be required to meet expenditure on Static Facilities during the remainder of the current financial year.

I beg to move that the Resolution for the sum of $145,454 do now pass.

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE, 1963-64, No. 33

HEAD 39 — MEDICAL — GENERAL HOSPITAL

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, there is one final Resolution which we are asking the co-operation of hon. members to deal with now and this one is in connection with the maintenance staff of the New Hospital. Some of this staff have to be actually appointed before the Hospital is finished in order to accustom themselves to the equipment while the experts are there.

It is therefore necessary to appoint this staff by the 1st January, next year. They are all technicians and maintenance people, and the urgency for dealing with this Resolution today centres around the reasons for which I have just given.

I am therefore asking leave to deal with this Resolution as the next Order of the Day.

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

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Chairman, the New Hospital is expected to be opened in May, 1964. There is quite a set of expensive machinery which necessitates the employment of skilled men to look after the maintenance of that equipment.

Sir, from the Resolution, you can see that there is a necessity for a Resident Engineer and an Assistant to the Resident Engineer. Three Artisans Grade A. (Electricians) are also required as well as the following: three Electricians' Mates, three Artisans, Grade A (Fitters), three Fitters' Mates, one Plant Attendant, one Senior Stoker, three Stokers, one Sewer Attendant, one skilled Artisan Grade B (Mason), one Attendant (Health), and two Labourers.

Mr. Chairman, this staff, as I have said before, is necessary for the proper running of the new Hospital, and we cannot allow the services there to break down due to the lack of skilled men to look after the electrical and mechanical equipment.

It is the duty of the Resident Engineer to look after the entire maintenance of the Hospital, with the exception of the exterior of the buildings which will be taken care of by the Public Works Department. The Resident Engineer should be a qualified mechanical and electrical engineer and it is preferred that he is experienced in hospital maintenance.

Why we have not brought in a Civil Establishment Order is because we feel that people appointed to posts like these should be appointed on contract, say, for a period of three or six years, in order that we would be able in our teething stages to see what is absolutely necessary from what is not necessary.

1.00 p.m.

Another point in question is that we are not sure whether the new Hospital will be run by a Board or not. If you are appointing personnel to the Hospital and you have the intention of running the Hospital by a Board, there is no point in placing this vast number of staff on the Establishment when you would have problems created in the event of the Board having complete autonomy. The Assistant to the Resident Engineer should be a man who is capable of acting for the Resident Engineer in his absence, and this Assistant should always be available.

You may wonder for what reason we would want electricians; well, Sir, their functions include the maintenance of stand-by generator plants. You will note that this is a very expensive undertaking and we have got to provide a stand-by generator plant at the Hospital in the event that there is a cut in power from the Barbados Light and Power Co. Ltd. This stand-by generator plant will automatically cut in and the services of the Hospital will be continued. Let us take, for instance, that there is an operation going on and there is a cut in electricity from the Barbados Light and Power Co., Ltd! What will happen? Mr. Chairman, we have made provision there for a stand-by generator plant and it works automatically with the cutting off of power from the Barbados Light and Power Company Ltd. This Assistant to the Resident Engineer should also look after such things like electric motors, lifts, refrigerators, lighting of operating theatres, electrical equipment, vacuum cleaners, insurance inspection and so on. You can therefore see that the three electricians who will be appointed there will have their hands full.

The duties of the Fitters will include the maintenance of the plant, the mechanical equipment, the boilers, laundry, kitchen plant and compressors. As to the sterilizing equipment, I may point out that there will be a central sterilizing Department in the new Hospital and these Fitters will have to be checking on this sterilizing equipment from time to time. They must also look after the general mechanical maintenance, the gas equipment and electrical equipment. The Plant Attendant will attend to the machinery in the Laundry. There will be three Stokers; the Senior Stoker will be responsible for the care of the boilers. As this will be a 24-hour-a-day service, three shifts will be required and this service will involve no fewer than four people. The Sewer Attendant will be looking after the drains, manholes, kitchen drains and so on. The Resident Engineer will be responsible for all the interior work of the Hospital and the services of a mason will be required. Mr. Chairman, we can foresee the time when some internal repairs will have to be done to the Hospital and it will be necessary to have a mason on the Staff. The Resident Engineer is responsible for all the maintenance except the exterior which is looked after by the Public Works Department; hence, we will have to have a mason on the Staff.

It is to be noted that we have at present at the Hospital carpenters and plumbers, and that is why we are not asking for these people now. Presently, the major repairs which are done to the old Hospital buildings are done by the Public Works Department, but the minor repairs are done by the carpenters and the plumbers which we have there. The making of splints, and so on, is done now by the carpenters which we have presently on the staff of the Hospital. I heard an hon. member refer to the carpenters; we have not omitted them because we have them already. It is also necessary, Mr. Chairman, to have the services of a Public Health Inspector or a Public Health Inspectress so that the rats will not go into the Hospital and eat the people's children. We, on this side, feel that the rats should eat, but we do not feel that they should eat the people's children. We must get rid of the rats and we must keep the Hospital in a very sanitary condition.

In collaboration with the Enmore Health Centre, we will have Public Health Inspectors visiting the General Hospital every day in order to see that the sanitary standards are high. You will notice that we have made provision for another Attendant. This Attendant will be the person who would look after the mixing of the rat poison, and so on, under the supervision of a Public Health Inspector, and he

would also look after the setting of bait. Two Labourers are necessary to be added to the pool of Labourers which we have at the Hospital at the present time. We have Labourers in various categories; we have them as gardeners, sweepers, and so forth. In order to get efficient management and organization running at the Hospital, it is necessary to add two more labourers because of the size of the Hospital.

I do not know if there is any other information which hon. members would like to have. Sir, I omitted to mention that there is an amount of $470 in this Resolution for the provision of Furniture. I know that the hon. junior member for St. Joseph always likes to have a breakdown of figures and before he asks the question, I shall give him the breakdown. It is as follows:- Two desks, $150.00; two swivel chairs, $80.00; six chairs, $72.00, two cushions, $17.00; one filing cabinet, $110.00; two table trays, $12.00; two stapling machines, $24.00; two wastepaper baskets $5.00; making a total of $470.00.
1.10 p.m.

I may point out here, Mr. Chairman, that the total annual recurrent expenditure for the maintenance staff of the hospital will be $45,000. That does not include quarters which may have to be provided for the resident architect.

I beg to move, Mr. Chairman, that this Resolution do now pass.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: I beg to second that.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, the Hon. Minister has been at pains to do his best in pointing out exactly what the Resolution says, and he went somewhat further to show that he had studied it, and gave what I consider to be a proper and comprehensive breakdown of the necessity for having these people in opening the new Hospital. I am sure that we are all very glad to hear that this Hospital will be opened in 1964. Although I have not myself made any particular inspection of the Hospital outside of going there when there was another office there, I have been given to understand by one who has had the opportunity of travelling and seeing hospitals in metropolitan countries in the world that our new Hospital will compare with the best hospitals, and if it must be operated efficiently, it is going to take a staff which is going to entail great expenditure. I have looked through this Resolution very carefully, and I agree with the Minister that you cannot wait until your opening date to have this staff; but I have a few criticisms to make on this Resolution and other aspects of the hospital administration.

I hope that I did hear the Minister correctly when he said that there will be one Resident Engineer at a salary of $8,160 plus gratuity of 20% of salary. That is one point the Minister did not make clear. What is the meaning of 20% gratuity of salary? I agree with the Minister and his Government, in taking on new staff, that it is better to have them on contract rather than come down with a Civil Establishment Order, because you want to be able to know what you want, and it is easier to get rid of people you do not want and get more people than merely to have more people than you actually want. Would the Minister note that we would like to know what is this 20% of salary as gratuity? The Minister was also at pains to say that the person holding this job must be a qualified electrical and mechanical engineer. By that does he mean that this person must be a graduate or does he mean this person must be a person with a diploma? There is a difference between a graduate of a University holding a degree in electrical engineering and mechanical engineering as against one with a diploma from a technological institute. It is true, Mr. Chairman, that some of those from a technological institute, especially those institutes ranking in the category of California or Massachusetts type, would be superior to some who are graduates from some of the Universities in parts of Europe, even England or the United States. That is a point which I want made clear. I want to draw to the Hon. Minister's attention that graduates might be people with degrees or with diplomas.

I commend the Minister for his presentation not only in reading the Addendum, but in explaining thoroughly the reasons for having them. If he will follow me carefully, I will show him some of what I consider the errors, and I am sure he will be courteous enough to give us the answers in this House. If you look at the salaries, you will realise that they are comparable to high ranking Civil Servants and highly qualified people. With regard to the Assistant, I wonder if he is going to be of the same class or category or is going to be a person with a diploma from a technological institute.

While on this point, I should like to pause here for a moment to say that nothing would please me better than for the Minister to take seriously into consideration entering into negotiations abroad in the United States and in England so as to have West Indians, preferably Barbadians, who have left these shores and have qualified themselves along these lines, and are willing to come back here and serve, because those of us who have travelled know well enough that due to the weather it is preferable for the Barbadian to come home, and he prefers to come home even for a little less than he would be getting abroad since he is coming back to his climate to which he is accustomed. I hope the Minister will take that into consideration.

With respect to Artisans, Grade A (Electricians) with salary scale 70 - 74¢ an hour, I am sorry the Trade Union Leader is not here, but I have for the last two weeks been having a tremendous job in getting any firm in Bridgetown to do wiring for me. I do not know if the Minister is wiring for lights this year, but I believe he is having the same trouble.
1.20 p.m.

The difficulty is that you cannot obtain a sufficient number of these people because, wherever I have turned, I have found that the youngsters have all left in order to get out of Barbados. They learn a little wiring here, but this is not enough: so they go outside so as to learn a little more of electricity.

It will be a 24-hour day at the new Hospital: so this means that there will be three shifts; and if you are going to take these rates of pay — 46 1/2 - 50 1/2¢ an hour at eight hours a day, — there are no two ways about it, you are not going to get qualified technically trained men at those wages to work with your multi-million equipment at that Hospital. You have to pay proper wages to people of technical ability, people who are skilled to handle this equipment.

I do not know, Sir, if this is because they have been following the last scale of wages laid down by the last person who revised the salaries and wages of Government Servants. I am going to say that unless you recruit men of calibre and ability and pay them a proper salary, your equipment there will not be properly serviced. You must remember that you are paying these artisans and other people less than $200 a month.

What I do not understand is this. You are asking for a salary of $8,160 per annum plus a gratuity of 20% of salary for the Resident Engineer. I have no grudge about your paying him that. To a man who has burned the midnight oil and who can come and put his hand on something which is wrong, it is alright that you pay him such a salary. But, if you look at it, you are only paying Grade A Artisans on a salary scale of 70 - 74 cents an hour.

Let us face facts, and I hope the Hon. Minister is listening to me on this important matter. These artisans are called upon to perform their duties under, possibly, the guidance of the Resident Engineer and you are not going to get a proper Grade A Electician to remain with you when he has to deal with electricity for your X-ray equipment and all sorts of apparatus, the names of some of which are unknown to us. Some of them, too, are now in the experimental stages in big hospitals. Sir, I cannot see your getting a proper Grade A man at that salary. You are dealing with a Hospital where you are having the most technical equipment. I have spoken to some of the technicians who are working there putting up the equipment there and they have been doing the manual work because

some of the things cannot be entrusted to a man just because he can run a wire.

Sir, I think the salaries to be paid to these Grade A artisans should be more, especially when you take into consideration that you are paying the top men a salary of $8,160 per annum and you come down to paying these men salaries of less than $2,000 per annum.

In so far as the local men who are going to do the work are concerned, these are the men who can cause you to have a breakdown, or not to have a breakdown, and I counsel the Government to be more than cautious in recruiting Grade A men. I well remember that we had a man at the former Electric Company and they found out that he was getting just a pittance while they referred to him as the heart and core of the Electric Company. He was a man by the name of Holford. He was a very skilled man but unfortunately for him, he met with an untimely death and that was his end. However, this man was very skilled; but what was he getting for a salary? You have some very skilled men here in electricity and who do a tremendous lot of reading on the subject. On the other hand, you have some who may be able to do a tremendous lot of wiring but that is not all that you want. I repeat, the jump in salary between your Grade A electricians and the salary of your two top men is absolutely too wide.

There are one or two other things which I want to bring to your notice. You talk of three Electrician's mates. We know exactly what you mean by that. Perhaps, the hon. junior member for St. Joseph may not exactly know, although he is very well acquainted with mechanics at his garage.

I appreciate what the Minister has done. Along with that, he has treated this House with the utmost courtesy by letting us know about everything about this matter. We come from three Electricians' mates, three Artisans, Grade A Fitters, three Fitters' mates, one Plant Attendant, one senior Stoker, three Stokers to one Sewer Attendant. This is one job which I am going to criticise. While you have not brought down a Civil Establishment Order for the establishment of these posts, it is important at the new Hospital that its operation must be run efficiently and that its sewerage disposal system is working efficiently. You have a long sewerage disposal system there running down the whole of Jemmotts Lane and from there into the sea. This is not going to be a clean job for your Sewerage Attendant, and if you are going to pay him 50 cents an hour, and I take it that he will be called on to work eight hours a day, for six days a week, it would mean a salary of $24 a week. This Hospital is built to take care of 650 people, and in your lavatory system, I take it that water will be flushed every five seconds and going through your sewerage system: therefore, that is going to call for very strick, strick service and attention. As the Hon. Minister said, this is a dirty job for that man. You are paying a man to do this job 50 cents an hour. I know of all sorts of things. Let us think of a doctor performing a tremendous lot of operations in respect of tumours. Where do you think they are going to send these tumours? What do you think happens with them? I want to let the Hon. Minister know that we have a similar system running at the St. Michael's Infirmary and there are times when the whole system gets flooded and the disposal is flooded right back into the institution. I have been faced with being called out very early to get people to do this job of work, and this is a job of work which people will tell you to do yourself. You are going to pay this man 50 cents an hour, working eight hours a day. You are paying him less than what scavengers are getting. You are going to get somebody to do the job; but as soon as he accepts the job, you are going to find out what is going to happen. This is an important job and it is a system which runs from your surgery, from everyone of your toilets in the Hospital, and possibly all your waste water from your kitchen and other places. This is a very important job and I do not think that when you state that you are going to give 50 cents an hour to your Sewer Attendant, that you have given that matter serious consideration. 1.30 p.m.

The worst of all is what the Minister has said. I hope that I do not misquote him. He said that an attendant will be paid 46 1/2 cents an hour. The Minister said that we should have a person trained as a Public Health Inspector in order to avoid the rats biting the people's children. I quite agree with the Hon. Minister; I quite agree that the Government does not want to see this sort of thing happen at the Hospital. I am happy to hear that the Government is so interested. However, Sir, may I ask the hon. member this question? He said that they will have a Sanitary Inspector to do this job. What Sanitary Inspector.....

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: On a point of order. I did not say that we are going to appoint a Health Inspector as an Attendant. This Attendant is an attendant to the Public Health Inspector. I specifically point out that the Public Health Inspector would be visiting the Hospital daily from the Enmore Health Centre.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I apologise to the hon. member. I might not have heard him quite well. What the Hon. Minister has said answers the question very well indeed. I misunderstood the hon. member; when he mentioned the Public Health Inspector he meant that the Inspector has to attend the Hospital from Enmore and the Attendant is paid at the rate of 46 1/2 cents an hour.

Mr. Chairman, I should like to digress here for a moment. I am dealing with a Money Resolution brought down by the Government and it is entirely in connection with the Hospital. I take it, Sir, that you will be granting me no favour if I deal with the Hospital. All of this as set out here, is all well and good; I believe in the Government's sincerity in this matter. However, Sir, I will deal with the Nurses and it may be that when I am finished here, I will be cursed around some dinner table; but that does not matter to me. I ask: What is wrong at the Hospital where the Nurses are concerned? A few days ago I spoke to a girl who has just returned from Canada. She attended just an Elementary School and went to England where she got her S.R.N. Certificate; then she went to Canada and got through her examination there. She did not have any School Certificate in Barbados, but abroad she got through and was registered and was able to help her family. But, Mr. Chairman, something has gone wrong and I want the Hon. Minister to go into the matter. Question No. 1 is this: How are nurses taken on at the Hospital? That question has to be investigated here or I will speak in the Lower Green about it. How are the examinations carried on? Why have some people failed? Why is it that some girls fail to get through an entrance examination here, but they get into the big Hospitals in England? What has gone wrong? Somebody must talk for these people. You, Mr. Chairman, are the Headmaster of a school, and the Hon. Minister of Social Services is also the Headmaster of a School and we know the number of young girls between the ages of 17 years and 18 years who come to him as those who want to go and be trained in nursing. Of course, these girls have no certificates, but they have a smattering of education above the ordinary elementary education. For some reason unknown to some of us — I do not know if it is known to the Minister and he is not telling us; but one day I got a telephone message asking me if I would accept girls who had been up for training and who, after two years, had failed.

It was a most humiliating thing when they were kicked out. Looking around this table I say that many of us who are sitting around here have failed; everybody knows the sweets of passing and the bitterness of failure and you, as a Headmaster, know. I have got this from none other than the ex-Director of Medical Services who said to me that he has often seen in this country and in other West Indian countries as well but primarily in Barbados, that by five or six marks in some subject a girl fails; but having had to work with him, she is superior as a Nurse to those who had passed the examination by five marks. You have a hospital to staff; are you continuing with this barrier or blank wall against those girls who go out of school, who have failed, but they have been accepted in England? They have this barrier or wall put up against them here. You have a shortage of nurses at the Hospital; you are employ-

ing persons who go to the Midwifery Hospital and pass. A girl can put in two years and fail in one subject and you do not give her another chance? Mr. Chairman, the Minister has been a teacher.....

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. That is not so; these girls are given chances. Some of them are even given more than one chance; it all depends upon the subject in which they have failed and how miserably they have failed; but these girls are given chances.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, the Hon. Minister has answered me, but that is not so. Do not take that out of the context; if I did say that, I would be right. The hon. member says that it is dependent on what the subject is and how miserably these people fail.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: I said that they are given a chance or chances as a result of what the subject is or how miserably these people fail; but anybody who fails for the first time gets a chance.

Mr. MOTTLEY: May I draw this to the hon. member's attention? You have a doctor practising at the Hospital who failed his final examination three times. To whom are you talking? I look at the geological background of the people you have; don't talk that nonsense to me.
1.40 p.m.

Are you telling me that you cannot give a girl another chance? This same girl's father will swap a cow or sell a jackass and send her to England, and you will next see her picture in the paper a year after that she has graduated as an S.R.N. I accept the hon. member's word that they are given a chance as truthful, but I will tell you something now. Little do you know that you are the youngest Minister, but through you your Government can fall. You have the most responsible portfolio, that of Social Services, and that is where you have personal contact and show human sympathy. Ask any of the backbenchers if what I am saying is true. We must learn that backbenchers ought to be able to get up and say something, though not vote against the Government. I am not voting against this Resolution, but it is time that these things are brought out. I accept what the Minister said as true, though he said it depends on how they fail. I have known a doctor who failed his examination, but was allowed to come here and practise and told to go to the University of the West Indies and take the two subjects. You can write that down, and if you ask me the name, I will call the name too.

Mr. Chairman, the hon. member used to have the second biggest school in this Island and he knows what I am saying is true. He should tell us on the floor of this House for the benefit of the public and for the benefit of the people who put him there what is the standard of entrance to become a Nurse at this Hospital. Let us hope it is not political affiliation, not necessarily with this Party, but with other Parties, even my Party, because this is a public institution. You are responsible to tell the public of Barbados, Mr. Jones from Top Rock, Mr. Brown from St. Andrew, Mr. Austin from Lakes in St. Andrew, what are the qualifications necessary for a child to apply at the Hospital, because they are worried when they see the next door neighbour's daughter who went possibly to sixth standard being taken on when they sent their daughter to your school, Mr. Chairman, or to some other secondary school; and though she has not got any certificates, that particular girl gets in, and the girl who has a better education does not get in. I have been reliably informed that it is not necessary for a girl to possess a School Certificate to become a Nurse; and if you have a standard which you have set for girls to become Nurses you should let it be known so that when people come to us and ask, we will be able to tell them.

There are some people in office, Mr. Chairman — it is unfortunate that I must say they are people looking like me — who feel that people must bow down when they come to ask for a job or to be trained in something. That is not right. You should let the standard be known so that when anybody approaches the Chairman of the Northern District Council or your colleague, he will be able to give them the information. You cannot deny that there is a shortage of qualified Nurses, and I am going to show you the stupidity in what you are doing. You take on a girl to become a Nurse at $80.00 a month; but let me tell you here and now that if you went to a big hospital in Brooklyn, you will find that the girls are fed and taught but they do not get a salary. You keep a girl for two years at $80 a month and then she fails the examination. You will then tell her to go home, and with the height of humiliation tell her to come back next morning and work as an Assistant Nurse for less money.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, I should like to say that that is not strictly correct. An Assistant Nurse or Nurse's Aide today gets a better salary than a trainee nurse. On the other hand, a trainee nurse does not receive $80 a month; I think the salary is $105 a month. The hon. member has just made the point about a Sewerage Attendant at the hospital; the Nursing Attendant or Nurse's Aide has all the dirty work to do; hence she is paid for the dirty work.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Has the hon. member heard me suggest that the Nursing Attendant should not be paid?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: The hon. member said that after two years' training, they are brought back in and paid less; but she is not paid less, she is paid more.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I am always glad to hear these things, because I am not finished. You think this Resolution will pass easily; it will pass, but I will have my say on it. I have never suggested that your Nursing Attendant or Auxiliary Nurse or whatever you call her should be paid less. I am saying that it is humiliating to offer her less after she has worked for some time. If the hon. member is saying that they are offered $105 when they apply for the first time fresh from school, will you tell this House what they get when they have qualified after three or four years?
1.50 p.m.

There is another thing too. Why is it that you have made your course longer than the English course? Is not it a year longer? What I want to know is this. If in England which is the Mother Country and the country where the S.R.N. is recognised, they make it three years for you to qualify, why is it that you have to make if four years? I do not understand.

Sir, the Hon. Minister has to answer these questions now. This is not election time. At election time I do not deal with such matters so mildly. Let the friends of the Hon. Minister tell him when I start to deal with the Hospital at election time how I get Ministers and other people trembling. However, I will be very nice in here. I feel deep down in my heart when you come to deal with poor people that but for the Grace of God, there would I be. Therefore, somebody would have to represent me.

As I have said, I fully commend you for the stand which you took quite recently in so far as the case which I brought to your notice is concerned; but I am not going to commend you very much longer for the racket which is now going on at the Hospital. I commended you then and I would have commended you to the Queen or in the Market Square and elsewhere: but not for this matter, if it goes on very much longer. It is the agricultural labourers whose blood and sweat in this country has caused us to be where we are: and if he is not entitled to something free at the Hospital, then who else is? As I have said, were it not for the Grace of God, there I would be. If Mr. Leacock charges me $100 for an operation, that is all right; but there goes my brother and sister. I am not a Socialist.

I call on the Minister to take a serious view of recent happenings at the Hospital. I call upon him to have a thorough investigation although I appreciate all that you have done recently. As regards the last case which I sent to you, your Secretary took the letter and opened it. I maintain that I am Leader of the Opposition — but let us forget that. I am an elected member; therefore, when I write a letter

to a Minister and I mark it "personal", I do not care what kind of Secretary you have in your office, that Secretary has no right opening that letter. No one has any right opening any letter which I send to a Minister marked "personal".

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to point out to the hon. senior member for the City of Bridgetown as regards that letter to which he is referring that before it was opened, the Permanent Secretary got in touch with me and I told him to open it and read it back to me. He did it with my permission.

Mr. MOTTLEY: The Hon. Minister is getting a lot of ring tactics. However, are you suggesting that you are subjecting me to the position where when you hear that a letter has come from me that you just get your Permanent Secretary to open it and read it to you?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Chairman, the hon. senior member for the City of Bridgetown spoke with me on the telephone previously and he told me what was the contents of the letter. He said that he was doing such and such a thing and I anticipated what was in the letter. I could not be at the office at the time when he sent the letter to me. As a matter of fact, when the person came she was three hours late and I could not attend to her on that day, and when she came back the next day, it was not convenient for me to be at the office and I asked the Permanent Secretary to let me have the contents of the letter over the telephone.

Mr. MOTTLEY: They are not serious. You get some people over there who think that these small things do not count. Let me tell you, Mr. Chairman, You are wise enough to know that you can call me a parish pump politician or a stand-pipe politician, it does not matter; I am going to hold this seat and a lot more too. As I was saying, these are the things which count. The Hon. Minister of Social Services should listen very carefully to me because these are cases which I commended you for already. For years now, I have had to criticise the specialists at the Hospital in this House. I have a high regard for education and there is no man in here who has a higher regard for education than I; but I do not believe that all educated people have sense. I believe that a lot of people with commonsense can run rings around people with education.

Mr. Chairman, if I could not go away for treatment, I would have faith in Mr. Leacock. I say so because I read your background. I said to Mr. Leacock that you needed more than two Surgeon Specialists at the Hospital. I sit back sometimes and take the Civil List and my Estimates and go through them. The last Minister of Social Services got up in here and told me that the Ear, Nose and Throat man was not a Specialist. I am not speaking of Dr. St. John, I am speaking of Dr. Trieloff. I am speaking of the man to whom they gave a road. They took off piece of the Bay Street Esplanade and gave it to him to build a hospital I spoke to Dr. Byer about the matter, but it is difficult to get one doctor to criticise another.

Mr. Chairman, schoolmasters and schoolmistresses from every school in this country have been sending children to me. People from the Northern and Southern Districts have been coming to me because they said that they could not get satisfaction anywhere else. I cannot do anything but see the Minister of Social Services when they come to me about these matters, and the Minister has done, at least up to now, something. Sir, you can imagine how I felt when a woman walked into my office and made a complaint to me. I am not telling you where she lives, because you may say that I had no right to have heard what she had to say. She told me: "I am an agricultural labourer. I have been carrying this child to the doctor on many occasions and the schoolmistress of the school to which she goes says that she cannot hear anything." I told the Minister everything about the case at the same time, and when he had finished investigating, he told me that everything I told him was true. She said that her husband is blind and that she was an agricultural labourer.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

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

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

On re-assembling,

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: Mr. Speaker, there is no quorum present and I ask that the bell be rung.

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

On the Bell being rung, a quorum was obtained.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, there are no Replies to Questions ready. I am therefore moving for the suspension of the Standing Orders for the remainder of the sitting in order that we may get through the remaining items on the Order Paper under Government Business. I am quite sure that hon. members would like to have an early break this afternoon. There are not many additional items to be dealt with and the earlier we get through with them, the earlier we will be able to get away. I therefore beg to move the suspension of Standing Orders 5, 14, 16 and 18 for the remainder of the day's sitting.

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

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Leader of the House is seeking to have a motion put for the suspension of certain Standing Orders in order that Government Business may be proceeded with. Standing Order 62, in respect of the suspension of Standing Orders, reads as follows:-

"A question the object or effect of which may be to suspend any Standing Order of the House shall be proposed only with the consent of the Speaker, either after notice given or after the expression of the general assent of the House."

That motion accordingly may be made valid only with my consent, but after notice has been given or after the expression of the general assent of the House. Inasmuch as this is Private Members' Time, I propose to seek an expression of the General assent of the House. Looking around I see the Hon. Leader of the Opposition in his place, and if the hon. member dissents I will ask the Hon. Leader of the Opposition to indicate his dissent. I see the Hon. Deputy Leader of the Minority Party in Opposition in his place and if he indicates his dissent, I will conclude that I did not have the general assent of the House. There is also present the Senior Independent who, I observe, is smiling and I presume he does not dissent. The Hon. Leader of the House may therefore assume that he has the general assent of the House. I ascertain that the spirit of Christmas is prevailing.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I have already made the motion.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Leader of the House now has permission to make the motion.

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

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

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

GOVERNMENT NOTICE

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask for leave to give notice of a Resolution to approve an Order of which notice was already given today.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member is seeking the leave of the House to give notice of a Resolution to approve an Order which was laid in this Chamber earlier today. If there is no objection, leave will be granted the Hon. Leader of the House. *(After a pause).* No objection being audible, leave is granted the Hon. Leader of the House.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to approve the Order entitled the "Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) (No. 12) Order 1963".

RESUMPTION OF COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

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

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

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE 1963-64 No. 33

MAINTENANCE — STAFF EQUIPMENT AND FURNITURE FOR THE NEW HOSPITAL

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Prior to the suspension of the sitting, the Hon. Leader of the Opposition was addressing the Chair on a Resolution to place the sum of $12,800 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to supplement the Estimates, 1963-64 Part 1 - Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimate No. 33 which forms the Schedule to this Resolution.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, I do not intend to push an open door nor do I believe in attempting to paint the lily. I am more than satisfied that the Hon. Minister of Social Services is doing his best to satisfy the general public on this matter of this throat butcher, or whatever you like to call him, at the Hospital. I am more than satisfied that the Hon. Minister is doing his best. *(ASIDES).* (A MEMBER: What is his name?) I say that he is a throat butcher or an ear butcher, and whoever likes to defend him can do so and I will be speaking until 2 o'clock in the morning. I say that, as far as I am concerned, I am even more than satisfied that, despite the loyalty of the backbenchers of the Government Party, they all know in their consciences that what I say is correct. They have all had experiences in this matter. However, Mr. Chairman, I have covered the ground as clearly as I possibly can. I want to say that I have no personal animosity, dislike or hatred for anybody. As I have always said, if it had not been for the grace of God, where would I be? If I had a sister who was an agricultural labourer and her husband was blind and she had seven children and she was told that, in a Hospital where a man could use our instruments and our everything, she must pay for a bed, I would not feel happy. This is a question of what has happened to a poor agricultural labourer of this colony. As I said, the Hon. Minister.....

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: On a point of order. Mr. Chairman, the hon. member has referred to the fact that if he had a sister who was an agricultural labourer and she was told that she must pay so much for an operation, he would not feel happy. I would like to correct the hon. member and to say that the lady in question was not told that she would have to pay for the operation. We provide these services for such people free of cost.

2.50 p.m.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Do not split hairs. If you want to split hairs, I can split them thinner than you. Have you ever looked at the thickness of a thin goat's hair? We of the Legislature provide an amount for services for adenoids or throat operations, and the person acting in the capacity of Specialist gets a proportion of the money for the operations. This woman was sent by a doctor to the Hospital, and after investigation, it was found that hers was a chronic case. The woman's husband is blind and they have all these children, and she is told to come back and make an appointment with the doctor. Do you want me to call the doctor's name? I have done so already. If I do not have the privilege in here to do this, where would I have it? The woman was told to meet him at his office at the bottom of Beckles Road - I am talking about Dr. Trieloff. You were not here when I gave the last Government all they wanted about Dr. Trieloff. I am no social climber, never was, and never will be. I do not know if you believe Dr. Trieloff, but I believe the woman, because this is about the fiftieth case I have had. The last man who cursed me on a platform said he knew where Bryden and Bowring got their money, but he did not know where I got mine; it therefore meant I was carrying away Vestry money; but they paid a lot for that, and somebody will be paying a lot in the not too distant future. I have time to sit down and listen to people. The woman was told that if she went to the doctor's hospital, he would do the operation for $30 with an extra $20 for the bed.

Everyone of us in here, Mr. Chairman, has sprung from agricultural labourers. That is nothing to be ashamed of, and the man who impressed this in my head most is the father of the now Minister of Education in this country. We know people of this type who went to work in the fields, at 8, 10 and 12 years, and if they are not entitled to free services which you provide at the Hospital, who is entitled to them? Don't you see then that you have a swindler, and Al Capone? Don't you see what kind of person you have at the Hospital? If you want to get up and defend somebody, do so, because I will bring chapter and verse for more cases. These are things on which I tried my best to get satisfaction from the last Government. As a matter of fact, people were not allowed to see the Ministers. When I write a letter to a Minister and write "personal" on it, I am elected here and I think I should be treated with courtesy and respect. It does not matter who wins the Government, as soon as a member becomes a Minister, outside his office, it is all right, but in his office he is Minister. This is something, Mr. Chairman, which has been going on for too long, and we have got to do something about it now. I am going to support the Resolution, but I could not help taking this opportunity of speaking on the matter. I do hope that when this new Hospital comes into operation, this Government will take the opportunity - as I have heard the Minister of Education say on more than one occasion - of giving scholarships or opportunity to young graduates to specialise because our own graduates who specialise in Canada, the United States of America or England much prefer to live here. I hope we will not adopt the attitude which was adopted when the last Government advertised for someone to do a specialist course, and the young doctor who was a Gold Medallist has not yet had the courtesy of a reply from the former Minister of Social Services, never mind the Government. However, after listening to an address by the Minister, one of the big professors of London University offered the young doctor a scholarship. I suggest therefore that when your new Hospital comes into operation, you should look out not only for your staff in this direction, but on this whole question of staffing I beseech the Minister to make it abundantly clear for the benefit of the public and that of parents, more especially the parents of those young girls who would like to do nursing either as a vocation, as a calling or because there is nothing else to do, what are the necessary qualifications. I would also suggest to the Minister that whatever those qualifications are, he should make comparison with what happens in England and ask himself how it is that they will turn down certain applicants, but they are subsequently accepted in England and pass their examinations or go to Canada and get through. I would say that something is wrong and this thing needs revising.

You, Sir, were at one time headmaster of a school and you know better than anybody else the number of young

girls who used to come to you for letters of recommendation to apply to the Hospital. I do not agree - and never will - that because a girl has not got subjects in the G.C.E. that she will not make a good nurse. I have gone to the Hospital and asked several of the nurses there from which school did they come, and I found that several of them came from elementary schools, but they had a love for nursing, and though they never had any certificates they got down to studying nursing. What I am proposing in this matter is that if a person fails a second time there should be no reason why she should not be given another opportunity, because we have had in this country medical practitioners who failed their examinations three times; they were not kicked out and eventually they became good doctors. I am glad you have cleared up in the Addendum, the two points about the nurses and what is in the Estimates for the man who must interfere with people's throats and so on. I have no objection to the man making money, but he should not do it that way. It looks to me as if only a German could have that kind of heart to make money out of people that way. With a woman standing up with her bare feet on the ground, with tears coming from her eyes, with an eleven year old child looking at her, and after she has told you that she heads canes and her husband is blind, you can only have the heart of a beast to tell her she must pay $30 for an operation and $20 for a bed. Do you not think that that man should be shipped out of this country? 3.00 p.m.

Let me tell you something. Nobody is going to tell me what I have to say. Do you think it is fair and right? You can have your cocktail parties and your rum parties; I am not interested in that; I am interested in how that type of man treats the people, and I say for that matter he should be shipped out of this country or you should remove him from office. He is speculating at that Hospital. I can call names. As I have said, I know that you have been investigating and I have come to the conclusion that you were investigating. I have confidence that you will do the right thing in this matter.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Chairman, the hon. senior member for the City of Bridgetown has mentioned quite a number of things and has asked quite a few questions and I am prepared to answer him.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order. It would appear as if the Hon. Minister is going to reply now, but I want to speak on this matter. If the Hon. Minister is going to reply, I am asking him before he does so, to give me a chance to speak.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Chairman, the House is in Committee and it is not a question of wanting to speak before the hon. member. He has a right to speak after I am finished speaking. However, if he wants to speak now, I am willing to sit and wait until he is finished. *(A Pause)*.

It seems as if the hon. member is not willing to speak now; therefore, I will proceed to answer the questions asked by the hon. senior member for the City of Bridgetown.

The hon. member has asked the question about the 20% gratuity of the salary of the Resident Engineer. I would like the hon. member to listen to me because I do not like to flog a dead horse. I would also like to speak with as little interruption as possible. I think what the hon. member is getting at was that there is some sort of typographical error on the script. It is not 20% of the salary; it is 20% of what he gets during his contractual period. I hope that will satisfy the hon. member.

Now, the next point was with regard to whether the Resident Engineer would be a graduate or a man with a diploma. That person has got to be a qualified person in mechanical and electrical engineering; hence we expect that he would be a graduate with the necessary qualifications in these two things, and not a man with a diploma.

The hon. member has also referred to the Assistant Resident Engineer. He would like to find out whether this person would be of the same class as the Resident Engineer. My reply to that is "No". This person would not be a person of the same class and, as hon. members can see, there is a vast gulf between the type of salary the man at the top is getting and the man below him. We feel that a good electrician or a man with mechanical experience, preferably a Barbadian, can fit in here quite comfortably. We feel that there are many Barbadians who have the basic knowledge and who can do this job of Assistant to the Resident Engineer. They may not have had University training, but they might have studied by correspondence courses, and might have received diplomas in the various branches; and we feel that with guidance from this qualified man who has got to be a qualified mechanical and electrical engineer, a local man would be quite competent to do the job of Assistant to the Resident Engineer. We feel that in the not too distant future a local man would be quite competent to do the job of Resident Engineer. As you know, Sir, we are all for pushing Barbadians where we can get them pushed. That is why we do not think of having another top man. If we thought of having another top man, probably we would not find a Barbadian to do the job. We have here quite a number of Barbadians and we Barbadians are not nitwits. Perhaps, I may qualify that statement by saying not all of us. There are a lot of us who can learn something in a short space of time; therefore, we have made it possible for one of our local men to hold this position of Assistant to the Resident Engineer so that in due course, he will be able to take care of the equipment at the Hospital.

I will tell you, Sir, that he will be given the necessary incentive to improve his technical knowledge, and he may be given a course at some technical college or University where he can become as qualified an engineer as the one with whom we are now starting. I hope, Mr. Chairman, that that satisfies the hon. senior member for the City.

The hon. member has also referred to the question of the payment of wages for the Grade A electrician. Now, there is a basic salary and wage structure in the Government. Until that salary and wage scale is reviewed, I cannot come here and make recommendations for more than the highest rate of pay for any particular workman in his category. The wage structure is the standard wage structure recognised by the Government, and, as I have said, until there is a revision of that, we will have to do just what that says.

As regards the question concerning the Sewer Attendant and doctors performing operations, I think the hon. senior member for the City of Bridgetown lost sight of the fact that he said that a doctor might be performing the operation and there may be something to go through the sewerage disposal pipes. The hon. member knows as well as I know that these solid pieces of matter which he talked about are got rid of through the incinerator and there would hardly be any opportunity for the tumours of which he spoke to be going through the line of the sewerage disposal unit. 3.10 p.m.

Then the hon. senior member for the City referred to the question of the Nurses; he has pointed out that there is a shortage of Nurses at the Hospital. (Mr. MOTTLEY: Is that true or not?) I will answer every question. The hon. member has pointed out further that there was a shortage of qualified nurses. I was going to point out that there was no shortage of trainee nurses according to what number permission is given to the Hospital to recruit, but there is a slight shortage of qualified nurses at the Hospital. Perhaps we may have room for about eight more to be added to the Establishment. I would like to point out to the hon. member that, for the first time in many years in Barbados, we went to the full Establishment of qualified nurses last year. It is only that we have added an additional 22 qualified Nurses to the Establishment of the Hospital, and that caused us to be about eight nurses short; but up to last year, before we came in with a Civil Establishment Order, we had all the qualified nurses on the staff for which the Establishment provided. There are about eight nurses short now, and this is as the result of the fact that the number of qualified nurses was increased by a Civil Establishment Order last year.

It is true perhaps that we could do with more nurses. We can only employ, however, the number of nurses which this Legislature has given us approval by a Civil Establishment Order to employ. We can only employ as many nurses or as many Civil Servants as the economy of the island can afford us to employ. Therefore, there is not this great dearth of nurses. With one hundred on the Establishment, we are only about eight short now; that is nothing to shout about.

Mr. MOTTLEY: On a point of order. I raised the question about the staffing of the Hospital and I know that the Hospital would take about two and a half times the number of nurses which you have there. This will be a 650 bed hospital.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I am also cognizant of the fact that we will want more nurses, but this Resolution is only dealing with the staff. I may point out to the hon. member that when I come in here in about two months' time with proposals for the Hospital, his head will grow indeed because we are asking to spend over 60% more money, in order to carry on the expenditure on the Hospital, than we are spending at the present time. We will be employing additional nurses; we have to increase the number of doctors and all that will cost us anything over $1 million to run the Hospital. We are only now dealing with the staffing today inasmuch as these people have got to be appointed to the Hospital Staff before the opening date, which is supposed to be the 1st May, 1964. We are hoping that the first bed from the old Hospital will be removed over to the new Hospital on the 1st May, 1964, and by that time we must have more Doctors, more Dispensers, more Nurses and more of everybody. As the position is now, we are dealing with the maintenance Staff. We shall be dealing with the Nurses in about two months' time. I do not think that the hon. member can tell me anything about the Hospital that I do not know. It is a headache to me, I will confess, but I face it with everything with which you can face a severe situation.

The hon. member referred to the question of trainee nurses. I know that the hon. member has in mind, when he referred to the matter of qualified nurses, that we should step up on our training programme; but we can only step up on our training programme at the Hospital if we can find the necessary amount of Tutors. Mr. Chairman, we have been trying for over a year now in order to get an additional Tutor for the Hospital and we cannot find one. If that had been done, we would have been able to step up our training programme at the Hospital and many of the people who apply for the position of trainee Nurses would have been in the Hospital already. In these circumstances, we have to deal with equipment by way of priority.

This is how it is done; as to a girl or boy who has got the minimum qualifications of at least two subjects in the G.C.E., when such a person applies, he or she is given priority to one who does not have any certificate at all. He or she also has to write an examination in spelling, the sort of words which would be used in the Medical Terms; he also has to write an examination in arithmetic because he or she must be able to handle figures so as to be a Nurse and he must also have general intelligence. Those are the three subjects; he must be able to satisfy the examiners, those who are responsible for setting the examination. A man might have given service in the Hospital but he might hardly be able to write his name, and it may happen that in the subject in which he is tested he fails. I would like hon. members to know that when these complaints are brought to me about people experiencing difficulty in being appointed to the Staff of the General Hospital, I take up the matters in the right quarters. I went to the Tutor myself on an occasion and I saw the examination papers and there were failures. I have seen the papers myself and I may say that I am quite capable of correcting papers in spelling, general intelligence and arithmetic.
3.20 p.m.

Mr. Chairman, the hon. junior member for Bridgetown will tell you that some eight or nine years ago, they used to call me Mr. Arithmetic at the Modern High School, and therefore I think I was quite capable of correcting what was set there. I took a day off and went to the Hospital and asked to see the papers, because I wanted to satisfy myself that these people were failing, and to my great disappointment they did fail. Some of them got 100% in English, but only 18% in Arithmetic; some failed in all three papers. You do not want a person who can excel in arithmetic and cannot spell his name. You do not want a person who can write a good essay and cannot calculate figures. Those are the things that happened. If you do not pass in the three subjects they give you for entrance, you are not taken in. I do not have any axe to grind, but I am just trying to point out what is the position where recruitment of nurses at the Hospital is concerned.

Now there is another category of girls or boys who did attend secondary schools, who reached the fourth or fifth form but did not write the School Certificate examination. They are given second preference at the Hospital. Then there is the other group which did not attend a secondary school at all, and they are given the third and last preference. Now it is very difficult to please everybody. We have three classes a year at the Hospital for nurses, and we recruit about 22 people to put on each class; therefore we train an additional 66 every year. Perhaps the hon. senior member for Bridgetown does not know this, and I should like him to listen. There are over 500 boys and girls who have sent in applications to the Hospital now to be trained as nurses. The greatest number which you take in a class is 22, and you look for the best 22. Of course, you examine more than 22, and after they are examined you bring them in for an interview which is not conducted by one person, but by a minimum of three people; so there is no question of partiality; it is a question of whether you can impress the three examiners that you are the material for nursing. We have got to be very careful, because the hon. senior member for Bridgetown should know it takes no less than $7,000 to train a nurse in Barbados. Now if at the end of the year when you have two examinations and a trainee fails miserably, are you going to tell me when you have just spent over $7,000 on this trainee and you have hundreds outside who can benefit that you are going to continue to spend $7,000 on her?

Mr. MOTTLEY: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, I am always willing to learn. I should like to know how it will take $7,000 to train a nurse in Barbados. We do not get any work from them at all. Is that what the hon. member means? The hon. member said perhaps I do not know, and I am asking him to help me.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Let us take, Mr. Chairman, the amount of money spent on your tutors, the amount spent on the nursing school, the amount spent on the maintenance of nurses, the amount spent in equipment and the amount paid in salaries and let us add them all up; and after assessing the work which each nurse does on the ward, and you subtract what you assess as the value of that work from the amount of money spent, it is about $7,000. This money is spent in the course of four years in the training of a nurse. These figures have been carefully gone into.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: There is too much interruption and I should like to hear the Hon. Minister.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Chairman, the hon. senior member for Bridgetown made a point which I should like to clear up. Tomorrow I may read in some section of the Press.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN: When the Hon. Leader of the Opposition was addressing the Chair, there was silence, and I think it is fair to the Minister that he should be given the same accommodation.

Mr. MOTTLEY: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, I apologise to you. I know there is really a certain amount of affiliation between yourself and the Minister, but I have not interrupted him on purpose at all. I have listened to him as carefully as I could. There is no row going on, but if I do not accept something, I can discuss it with my colleague here who is a schoolmaster and I was asking how it could take that amount.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Chairman, the hon. member made another point which I think could be misunderstood, and I think it is my duty to clear it up, and this is when he mentioned that a woman with seven children should not be told at the Hospital that she has got to pay for an operation.

Mr. MOTTLEY: He must not do that. On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, if a member gets up and says something and it was corrected, there is no point in raising it. I say that she was not told this at the Hospital but by a man who was working there. I corrected myself when it was drawn to my attention; so there is no point in raising it that way.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: I think there might still have been a misunderstanding somewhere, and I wanted to straighten out that point in that this woman in question is entitled to free services at the Barbados General Hospital. I am not concerned with what she is told elsewhere; I am concerned with what she is told at the Hospital; and if any poor person or any rich person in Barbados is not treated at the Barbados General Hospital as he or she should be treated, I will investigate the matter. I made it clear to the hon. member that I am investigating those cases which he drew to my attention, and some of which he mentioned this afternoon, and he can rest assured that he is going to have satisfaction.
3.30 p.m.

I will not sit here and permit wrong doings at the Barbados General Hospital or any of the Departments under my charge. I will see to it that the community of Barbados is served - and ably served, and - that there is nothing underhand done, whether it be at the Hospital or anywhere for which I am responsible. I just want to make that point clear to the hon. senior member for the City of Bridgetown.

Mr. Chairman, I think that I have answered all the questions asked by the hon. member. I did try to satisfy him, and if there is any other question which I did not answer, he can say.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE, 1963-64, No. 32

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, there is another Resolution which was circulated today for the sum of $3,075. It is in connection with additional estimates for the Legislature and for the Government Hospitality Vote.

Sir, hon. members have had copies of this Resolution.

The position with this is that expenditure amounting to $993.14 under Item 23 has been unusually heavy during this financial year due mainly to the illness of the Clerk of the House of Assembly which necessitated the appointment of an acting Deputy Clerk. There is at present a balance of $6.86 under this Item, while an outstanding commitment of $50 is due, and there are still four months to go to the end of the financial year.

On the occasion when the victorious West Indian team returned here, there was an official welcome, as hon. members are aware, and we would not have envisaged the expenditure under this Item when the Estimates were laid. The cost was paid from the Government Hospitality Vote and we are now suggesting that the vote be reimbursed by the appropriate amount expended on this occasion. This amount is $2,575.

I, therefore, beg to move that the sum of $3,075 be voted under this Head.

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

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, in the Addendum it is stated that the expenditure of $2,575 was incurred under Item 31 on the occasion of the official welcome for the victorious West Indies Cricket Team. The sum of $2,575 sounds a lot of money to me and I am wondering what that was spent on. I do not know what they bought with this money. I suppose that every member must have had two bottles of brandy and a bottle of whiskey for himself. This amount sounds too much money to me. I do not know. It sounds too much money to be asking us to vote for it without a breakdown. I am not against our having a good spree for the victorious cricket team, but do you mean you spent $2,575 and there is nothing at all to show for this? There is not a breakdown given us of this amount and it has created a doubt in my mind. You should be told how it was spent. We do not know if it was spent on motor cars. I suppose that they must have had a whole night and a day of eating and drinking. I suppose after some of them returned to their homes they must have been still drinking or were still boozed.

I will be glad if the Hon. Minister would give me a breakdown of this amount, because I am not satisfied about it at all. The sum of $2,575 of the taxpayers' money has been spent on this, and you are treating this Committee with the discourtesy of not even giving us a breakdown. This can be a typographical error. The adding machine must have struck the wrong figures. I cannot on earth believe that $2,575 could be spent, not with the present Government which went all over the country and said that the last Government went on a spending spree when there were so many hungry people. This Government has said that the members of the last Government frittered away the money of the taxpayers in all these sort of things. Sir, I do not have to mind the elections; the people will have to know what to do. If the Hon. Minister will give me a breakdown so that I can know what has happened, it will be all right; but he has asked me to say "yes" to this Resolution when I do not know how this money was spent. It is too much money as far as I am concerned.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, as hon. members are aware, it is rather unusual for these Resolutions to come down with a breakdown of expenditure of this sort. It is customary for hon. members, if they want a breakdown of any amount, to ask for it in Committee and, in so far as we are concerned, we always give it.

I cannot say that when they were in power they always did it. They used to come in here with Resolutions for all sorts of extravagant things. This is merely child's play, and when we asked them for a breakdown, they usually used to ignore us completely. So far as we are concerned, we have on every single occasion given the Committee an explanation on matters of this sort. I am amazed to think that the hon. junior member for St. Joseph, himself a commercial magnet to some extent, should be enquiring the sum of $2,575 spent in commemoration not only of the victory by the West Indies Cricket Team but also as an indication of the national appreciation of what the West Indies Cricket Team had done in England on the last tour.
3.40 p.m.

The entire team came here and not only were they entertained, but each and every individual member of the team was given an inscribed souvenir on behalf of the people of this country. I really doubt that the hon. junior member for St. Joseph, who has himself sat here on numerour occasions and seen enormous sums of money being frittered away on things of far less significance, could really quibble about the amount of this Resolution. If the hon. member recalls the vast sums of money which were spent in entertaining Princess Margaret and the sums spent on things which were of far less significance, he would have to start very early to indulge in the Christmas spirit to chastise us for the amount which was spent on this occasion.

As I said, Sir, we have made a gift of a mahogany cigarette box with a proper inscription inlaid in the box. When the hon. member talks about the team drinking and they are still drinking now, he would not have expected that all we would have done is what they would have done, that is, to offer the cricketers drinks. We knew that the last Government could offer drinks, but we did not offer drinks alone. We offered each member of the team a

mahogany box inlaid with silver and we entertained the entire team at Seawell Airport. We had over 400 persons at the Cocktail Party at Seawell and those persons included the Cricketers and their family. It is well known that the average cost of a Cocktail Party even in the humble home of a Minister of the Government is in the vicinity of $300. You go to a hotel and have an entertainment of this sort and you will find that the Bill is no less than $5 per person. Normally, a Cocktail Party would have consumed the entire amount asked for in this vote.

There was no prodigality; this amount included entertainment, a souvenir gift and refreshment for policemen and recruits at the Training School who had to perform extra duties all along the route of welcome when the Cricket Team was here. We had the recruits who are in training at the Training School and extra policemen on point duty all along the routes of welcome when the team made its triumphant tour through the city and the suburban areas. We had to entertain the team, and I am sure that the hon. junior member for St. Joseph does not begrudge these policemen and trainees to whom we gave normal refreshment having regard to the extra duties entailed. We did all of this for $2,575, and on the next occasion we shall be pleased to hand over the entire entertainment to the hon. member, and when he submits the bill, we shall be pleased to pay it. I am sure that no taxpayer would cavil at this amount because it could not have been done at a cheaper rate.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, you will note, Sir, that the Hon. Minister had done more now than he did when he introduced the Resolution.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: On a point of order. I said that normally the Resolution merely summarised the expenditure, but if hon. members think that the Government is capable of extravagance, they are quite in order to ask for a breakdown of the amount. Normally, we never give these things in a breakdown, and I may say that the last Government never did it either. Now that the explanation has been given to the hon. member, he will realise that there has not been any extravagance at all.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, the hon. member could have said that he gave this mahogany box inlaid with silver to each cricketer. The hon. member should know how many cricketers they were, how many boxes there were inlaid with silver and the cost of all that. That could have been done so as to convince me about it. Time and time again I have to ask the Ministers when they bring down Resolutions asking us to o-kay them, to see to it that they satisfy us. You cannot expect to ask a man to sign a cheque, when you put figures on the cheque and ask him merely to sign it; you have to let the person know what he is signing for. They could go ahead and spend the money, but now they are asking us to vote money for a reimbursement. We cannot do that in that manner; we are the people's representatives and we must satisfy the people. It seems to me, Mr. Chairman, that as soon as you become a Minister, the people's money is yours to be spent as you like. But you are only a Minister for a time, and the time will come when the only way in which they will know what is happening in this House of Assembly is when they take up a newspaper and read it. Mr. Chairman, that time is coming and it is coming fast. As powerful as they are now, the time will come when they will have to take up a newspaper so as to find out what is happening in this House.
3.50 p.m.

You must spend the taxpayers' money in the right way; otherwise you will find yourself wrong. Now I should like to know from the Minister what that box or whatever he calls it, cost. I am not against giving it to the people; they merit it. I did not know that they treated other people and did these things. Can he blame me for querying it? I do not think their backbenchers knew about it until now I have asked so that if their electors ask them something they can now reply; but if I did not get up and say something, they would not know a box was given or that the policemen got a "berry" too, because it looked as if everything went to the cricketers.

Here again, Sir, I must say that Tuesday after Tuesday they are bringing in Resolutions which are not on the Order Paper. An Order Paper is posted to you that you can study what is coming before you, and after you come here you are presented with about six more Resolutions which are not on the Order Paper and you are asked to do them. Is that fair to the members of the House? I do not know why this Government wastes time in printing and sending out Order Papers, because we have been asked to deal with about five Resolutions which we knew nothing about until we took our seats today. What kind of business are we doing like this? Ministers may have had a chance to study these for two or three months, but we know we knew nothing about them.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: On what is the hon. junior member for St. Joseph speaking?

Mr. SMITH: I am speaking on these hot and sweaty Resolutions and the way they were presented to me about an hour ago. This Government is doing its business by a trick; they are tricking us into these things, because if they give us time enough to study them, they feel they would not be able to get away with them. They throw them at us haphazardly and expect us to do justice to the taxpayers of this country. What is the good of despatching an Order Paper at all? Do not print them; let us come here and sit and then push whatever you like in front of us on Tuesdays.

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

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that you do now report the passing in Committee of Supply of nine Resolutions.

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

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

On the separate motions of Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD seconded in each case by Hon. C. E. TALMA, the Resolutions were read a first and second time and agreed to.

THE BARBADOS MARKETING CORPORATION (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1963

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I am asking leave to deal with Order No. 7 standing in my name as the next Order of the Day, which is to move the second reading of a Bill to amend the Marketing Corporation Act, 1961.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. senior member for Christ Church and Minister of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries has asked for leave to proceed next with Order No. 7 under Government Business standing in his name, and if there is no objection, leave will be granted the Hon. Minister.

I hear no objection, and accordingly I grant the leave to proceed with the second reading of a Bill to amend the Barbados Marketing Corporation Act, 1961.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, as the Objects and Reasons clearly define, the object of the proposed amendment to this Act proposes that the definition of the expression "produce" in and for the purposes of the Barbados Marketing Corporation Act, 1961-40 should be revised having regard to the activities of the Barbados Marketing Corporation pursuant to the same Act.
4.00 p.m.

It is also proposed that the Corporation should be given power to store not only produce as defined in section 2 of the said Act but, also such other matter or things as the Corporation may think fit. It is further proposed that provision should be made whereby it would be quite clear that the powers and activities of the Corporation do not extend to the export of sugar and fancy molasses.

This Bill seeks to amend the Barbados Marketing Corporation Act, 1961 to such extent as is necessary to give effect to the foregoing proposals.

I may mention that the Barbados Marketing Corporation is still going through its teething stages owing to the fact that we were unable to secure the services of an experienced manager. We only have someone who is seconded there and who is perhaps trying his best, but who has not the knowledge and experience of such matters. We expect to remedy the situation shortly and, as hon. members will remember, we are functioning under the Report of Major Biggs who is now Consultant to the Ministry of Technical Corporation in the United Kingdom. Major Biggs normally should have been the Manager of this Board and should have been assigned to us for the first two or three years in order to set the Marketing Corporation on a proper footing, but fortunately for Major Biggs and unfortunately for this Island, Major Biggs secured a higher job.

He, however, is now here again and I may mention that I had the good fortune during my visit to Malaysia to have met the Rt. Hon. Robert Carr, the Minister for Technical Corporation, and I explained to him our difficulties and I asked that the services of Major Biggs be released to us for a brief period in order to remedy the situation which exists at our Marketing Corporation.

Hon. members should realise that the Government and I fully realise the state of affairs down there. Major Biggs is here for four or five weeks and he is revising the whole situation. Along with him, we have other experts from the American Mission, and so on, going into the question. We have held meetings over the last two days and I can give the House the assurance that in due course, the matters will be remedied. I can also give the House the assurance that we hope to secure the services of a proper manager in the foreseeable future.

I am saying, again, that all might not be quite well down there but we are still in our teething stages. We have been unsuccessful in securing the services from the beginning of Major Biggs on whose recommendations the Marketing Corporation was established and who normally should have been the first Manager to set the ball rolling and putting the Marketing Corporation on a proper footing.

We have a meat and fish expert and a cold storage expert. We also have the services of Major Biggs from time to time to see that the Marketing Corporation is put on a proper footing.

Sir, the amendments are not amendments of a major kind. They are merely to bring into line certain definitions of the Act. In other words, they are to regularise the Act and the Regulations to the Act.

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

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: I beg to second that.

Mr. LYNCH: Mr. Speaker, it would appear from all that one hears that not only everything is not well with the Marketing Corporation but everything is far from being well. One hears rumours which the Minister is at liberty to deny that orders to the tune of $7,000 in cases were being made and then these orders were subsequently countermanded. Orders made *ultra vires* with the taxpayers' money began to be filled in so much so that some cases for the export of yams, potatoes, and so on, did arrive to the tune of $1,000. These cases are now attracting wood ants in some part of our state for which we pay $300 a month for storage. An amount of $50,000 of produce is now lying rotten on the wharves in Miami. When they are sold, if they are sold, it will be a loss to the Marketing Corporation to the sum of $11,000. If my figures are in any way wrong, the Minister can correct me.

Let us think for a moment what this amount of stock plus this $11,000 can provide. You may ask what is $11,000 when we are considering a matter of over one million dollars. Again, Mr. Speaker, let us consider that Jamaica and certain parts of the African Continent have already got on to the English market and are selling ground provisions of various kinds. I myself had the pleasure of seeing that in Brixton and what is called Bayswater; and, Mr. Speaker, are we to assume that whenever people from tropical lands find that ground provisions to which they are accustomed are available that they will make their way to the market and buy them? We saw when we were in New York where there are always a large number of West Indians over the bridge buying yams, potatoes and so on, and you saw the same thing in London where you found West Indians in Brixton and Bayswater buying these things.

Yams are now sold at 1/6 per pound outside of Barbados. The price here varies between four and five cents per pound. It is traditional that war time controls remained in force long after they should be rescinded, but should it not be that the play of supply and demand should be allowed to equate the price of goods? Governments in all parts of the world held on to price control for many years long after the war is over.

Now, Mr. Speaker, there is a local firm which despite the marketing price of five cents per pound for yams bought 300,000 pounds of provisions and sent them back to England during last year. They bought yams at seven cents per pound and they made a considerable profit.
4.10 p.m.

They made considerable profits; if they had not done so, they would never set about buying again during the current financial year. It is true that the Government buy yams at a higher price than the scheduled price because the Government has to set an example in not breaking the law. However, Sir, there is no time for the Government to be pigheaded because of the proximity of the butcher's stall next door. It is high time that this matter should engage the attention of the Minister in charge, that all is not well with the Marketing Corporation which seems to be doomed to ignominious failure.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, my colleague should not be thought to be signing any solo in this matter. I think the hon. member agrees with me that any new venture, such as this Marketing Board, should be given the opportunity to settle in, and we of the Opposition are always willing to give any new venture the opportunity to settle in. I think that this is a very good venture, but something is wrong somewhere. I am going to say something now and I am sure that the particular Minister will not take any umbrage at what I say. As far as I am concerned, I believe that this Board wants reorganising. All that my colleague has said about these orders are correct, but I venture to say this.

I know the capabilities of the present Chairman of that Board. If he were in his prime or if he still had his ability for business which we know he has had throughout the years, this thing could not have happened. I am absolutely certain about that. I think the Minister himself will agree that I have always argued that the present Chairman of this Board has been such a successful businessman in this country that he was a most suitable person to be Chairman of this Board; but you know Sir, age withers and customs fail. This gentleman, I believe, is now reaching his allotted span; if he has not reached it yet, he is nearly there and none us us can think as quickly as we could hope to think when we are getting around 70 years as when we were around 50 years.

Mr. SPEAKER: Does the hon. member not share the view that a good brain matures with age?

Mr. MOTTLEY: I heard a very good brain mixing up what was a windfall with Social Security; and while Your Honour is correct, I am sure that that brain would not have done that 35 years ago. A mixture of age and youth is always necessary for the administration of any business or of any Government.

Like my colleague, Mr. Speaker, I am somewhat worried; I hope the Hon. Minister will pay great attention to this matter. We know of economists who may be first-

class or second class; that is all well and good, but when it comes to hard business you have to get down to it. You have to get down to the type of person who understands the question of handling business. If you had someone here who had been accustomed to work or who had got down to work from licking stamps and had gone all the way up, this mistake could not have been made. Nobody in business in this country would make this mistake. I do not think that the Hon. Minister would attempt to defend this position. He will realise that this is an error and we did not want to lend an ear to rumour which is not true. I have made my enquiries and I have heard that the rumour is not a lying jade on this occasion.

Mr. Speaker, this thing has taken place; but if the present Chairman were in his vigour it would not have happened. We are wondering, however, if it is not time to reorganise the Board. I have the greatest respect for the Chairman of this Board and I do not say this with any hope of gain. I have the greatest respect for this gentleman's ability. Those of us who had the opportunity of wining and dining with people in great Universities may have greater book knowledge, but not greater ability. This terrible error has been made and it is time for them to look for a much younger man to put in charge of this Board and let these people go out. We will give the Board a chance for now, but any mistake which is made in the future will bring down the wrath of the Opposition on the Head of the Department in respect of what we consider to be an error.

When you are looking for people to put in charge of a business you must have somebody with a B.Sc. and the like; that is what is thought, but some of these people who have done business from the bottom rung of the ladder will be willing to come in and give assistance to the Government. Despite their political persuasion or their political affiliation, as long as they are willing to serve this country, they will come in and give assistance to the Government. When you throw away money you are throwing away everybody's money. You are not throwing away the Minister's money, but you are throwing away the people's money; you are throwing away your own money.
4.20 p.m.

I say, Sir, that people with experience should be asked to take on more responsibility and handle this matter. This is really a commercial matter coupled with an agricultural matter where you need planters, merchants, businessmen and so on to handle it; this is not a Civil Service matter and will never be. This is not a wheel-chair matter. It might be all right to have someone typing letters that are dictated, but this calls for more than that. The present Chairman, when he was in his prime would have been able to run it, but I think it is time to re-organise the situation and give it a chance.

Mr. SPEAKER: Is there any other hon. member who desires to contribute to this debate before the Hon. Mover exercises his right to final reply. Let the Hon. Minister exercise his right of reply.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, as I said in the first instance, the Barbados Marketing Corporation is still going through its teething stages, and we have not been successful in securing the services of an experienced and knowledgeable manager. The person who is there acting is merely an Assistant Secretary to the Ministry who has been seconded to the post. The question of a person with a degree necessarily fulfilling that office does not really occur to my mind, because this is a matter which calls for experience and knowledge of business; so this is merely a temporary expedient, but the temporary expedient has not been successful, and urgent attention is being given to remedy that situation. As the hon. member will remember, I said that a savingram to secure the services of a proper manager was dispatched only today. It shows that the matter is being worked on.

In so far as these orders for crates and so on and reckless expenditure which has been undertaken are concerned, I must say that this has been done without the knowledge or consent of the Board or of the Ministry. It has been done by one individual acting on his own, and I am sorry that I cannot really defend him, and I do not intend to. He acted on his own without consulting the Chairman, or any member of the Board and without any reference to the Ministry at all. It is a public dictatorship that is going on down there, and something drastic has to be done and done quickly. As a result of the reckless order which had been placed of crates, there will be a little less entailed, but not to the extent of the amount which the hon. junior member for Bridgetown has stated. It is probably more in the light of half, and as far as the necessary.....

Mr. LYNCH: On a point of order, if the Hon. Minister would give way.....

Mr. SPEAKER: There is no point of order if the hon. member gives way.

Mr. LYNCH: That is why I prefaced my remarks by saying "if the Minister would give way". I will point out to the hon. member that I referred to B.W.I. currency and the amount would be about $11,000.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: If the hon. member happens to be more seised of the facts and figures than the Ministry, it means that he is running the Ministry and not I; but be that as it may, the manager was induced into this state of affairs through the exporters acting as agents to place this large order through them, and now that the first consignment of this large order came for which there was no storage accommodation at the Deep Water Harbour, the second order has been cancelled. It is only now for the first time that the same agent here who deals with exporting yams, vegetables and things of that sort and who knew of the order for this large number of crates has agreed to purchase or at least to help with the re-sale of some. It is a long story and probably the hon. member knows the story as well as I do. Anyhow, I will not go into that story any longer, but the loss will be more in the area of $7,000 B.W.I. and not $11,000.

As far as the Chairman is concerned, Mr. Speaker, he has done his best, but he is more at the retiring stage; and though he might be a useful member of the Board generally, we need a more active, virile and alert person in order to keep up with those young ones who believe they must grab all power in their hands without consulting the Chairman or the Board; so that the necessary arrangements have to be made for adjusting the situation. The Chairman means well, but he has not got the energy to really perform an exacting job in the manner which the duties demand. I must say that the hon. member has touched a good note, and hon. members must be performing their parliamentary duties very creditably and have their ears to the ground in representing their constituencies.

I hope, Sir, to make a better report by the time the Estimates come up, because I feel very dissatisfied and very apologetic on this occasion. As far as the proposed amendments to the Act itself are concerned, that is of an entirely different nature, as the proposed amendments are to regularise the Acts and bring them in line with the proposed regulations in order to facilitate the entire working of the Marketing Corporation.

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

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

Clause 1 was called and passed.
4.30 p.m.

Clause 2 was called. It Reads as follows:-

2. Section 2 of the Barbados Marketing Corporation Act, 1961, which Act is hereinafter referred to as the principal Act, is amended by substituting the following definition for the definition of the expression "produce" occurring herein —

" "produce" includes fruit, vegetables or other praedial produce, whether in the natural state or not, meat and fish in all forms, milk and milk products, livestock and livestock products, cooking fats, cooking oils, and crustaceans;"

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Clause 2 stand part.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: I beg to second that.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, I enter this debate only because of what the Minister said in his reply during the second reading of this Bill. I did not know how correct were the statements made by the hon. junior member for the City of Bridgetown when he spoke. Now that the Hon. Minister of Agriculture has replied, I think that our parliamentary duties are quite clear. The Hon. Minister said he could not defend the situation.

Sir, I cannot support the amendment to this Barbados Marketing Corporation Act because of what the Hon. Minister has said. This matter requires a better investigation before I can approve of this. You have heard a very strong statement made by the hon. junior member for the City and the Minister in reply said that he could not defend a situation as serious as this. I, therefore, think it is asking the Chamber today too much to approve of these amendments. The Hon. Minister cannot defend it and we are asked to underwrite it. The very consideration of the continuation of a matter which would create public dissatisfaction and distaste would be asking Parliament to underwrite something today that would be saying that something is wrong.

This Board is not functioning as it should be. Excuses are made for persons. I cannot agree to the passing of this Bill today because it continues the functioning of this organisation tomorrow as it is, and I cannot see — and no one can see — why should the Minister agree that the administration of a statutory body is something which he cannot defend and expect me to vote for it.

Sir, I do not know all of this matter. The Minister said that someone on the Board was doing something which he could not defend. This Marketing Corporation is not a Department of Government which is run by the Ministry of Agriculture; it is a statutory board set up with powers and with power to borrow money to utilise. The Minister can only do one or two things. If it is something which comes under his jurisdiction, he is responsible. If it is something which does not come within his jurisdiction you will have to do like the B.O.A.C. The Minister of Transport in the British Government last week had to relieve the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the B.O.A.C. of their duties because the Minister was not satisfied, nor were the persons satisfied, and the Minister could not agree on the policy which should be carried out for the British Overseas Airways Company. As I have said, he called upon them to resign.

The Minister of Agriculture has said that it is not the Chairman's fault and it is not the Board's fault. Well then, whose fault is it? How can a Clerk or Acting Manager act other than by the authority delegated to him by the Board?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order. It would have been better if the hon. member was in his seat to hear what I said or if he wants further information. Only yesterday, we had two meetings of the Marketing Corporation at which meeting these facts which were disclosed by the hon. junior member for the City of Bridgetown were disclosed and the various figures presented.

Mr. WALCOTT: Sir, that is not a point of order. I am making a speech; I am expressing my opinion. The Hon. Minister can reply. I have the right to express my view uninterruptedly. This is my opinion and I go on to state what it is.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I am saying this for the hon. member's benefit. I want to make it clear that although the Board was appointed by me and I had a big hand in that, the Manager of that Board was put there despite my wishes.

Mr. WALCOTT: Sir, I hope that I conduct myself in this matter within all the tenets of proper parliamentary procedure. Notwithstanding the fact that the Board had a meeting yesterday, you must bear in mind that this is Parliament: and with what we have heard today, I am saying that we should not — and I am not — vote for the passing of this Bill because the whole conduct of the Marketing Corporation is before us now and it is a conduct of which we do not approve. If that is the situation, then there is no justification for continuing to pass this Bill until the Minister is in a position to report back to this Chamber and let us know more of the matter. Why should I or members of this Chamber agree to pass today the amendment to the Marketing Corporation Act when such serious allegations are being made by the hon. junior member for the City of Bridgetown and when the Hon. Minister of Agriculture himself is saying that he cannot defend the Board? There is no element of truth in so far as squandering is concerned; but in so far as mismanagement, the hon. junior member for the City of Bridgetown made a charge of mismanagement. He did not make any charge based on sentimentality or emotion. The hon. junior member for the City of Bridgetown, himself, would look very peculiar making a statement.....

Hon. A DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order. Is the hon. member making a second reading speech? I think that we are discussing Clause 2 of the Bill.

Mr. WALCOTT: Sometimes your kindness and politeness put you in this position. I could have asked His Honour the Speaker when he was in the Chair after the Hon. Minister had replied to speak on the matter. That is on the second reading of the Bill but I did not want to utilise that time then. This Clause amends the Marketing Corporation Bill by substitution of a different meaning for the word "produce" which they will now handle, and we are now giving them the authority to do something for which they do not have the authority of doing before, and if we do not amend this Clause it would not do what is proposed to be done.

I am making a second reading speech, but there is no question of your making a second reading speech: there is the question that with these serious allegations which have been made by the hon. junior member for the City of Bridgetown, should they go unnoticed and you pass the Bill as if nothing happened? I am saying that this House deserves a statement from the Hon. Minister of Agriculture on the whole matter. The hon. junior member for the City of Bridgetown had brought to the attention of this House that there is mismanagement in the Marketing Corporation and that mismanagement has been substantiated by the Hon. Minister of Agriculture. The Minister said that he cannot defend the manager. It is not the ministerial portfolio of the Minister in the narrow and restricted sense that it is a Department of the Government. The Marketing Corporation is a Statutory Board; but it is a Statutory Board for whose actions the Minister is answerable to Parliament because the constitution of the Board is a constitution which comes from the portfolio of the Minister. The Board is appointed by the Minister as well as the Chairman of it, and the law affecting the Corporation comes from the Minister; therefore, the whole policy of the Marketing Corporation has to be the policy of the Government in power.

4.40 p.m.

We cannot reduce public life in Barbados to such a low ebb that a member of Parliament can make a serious allegation on the floor of the Chamber, the allegation is substantiated and then it is slanted away as an ordinary statement which is made.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: On a point of Order. I should just like to draw your attention Mr. Chairman, to the fact that the hon. member is now making a Second Reading speech on Clause 2 of this Bill which merely deals with the insertion of a word in the Clause. We have already

agreed to the Second reading of the Bill and that has been passed. I do not think, therefore, that the hon. member should be permitted to make a second reading speech. The hon. member has had an opportunity to speak on the second reading of this Bill and he should have made his speech then.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, I do not know if dark shades being worn in a dark place affects people's mentality.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: On a point of order.

Mr. WALCOTT: I am not giving way for the hon. member to get up and ask you, Mr. Chairman, to rule.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: On a point of order. I would just like to point out that dark shades being worn do not permit an hon. member not to know when another hon. member is going wrong.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, I would like to save you from this total embarrassment. Your own members are subjecting you to this sort of conduct and it is coming from a Minister. If the Minister has any strong sense of propriety, he would not rise to object to what I am saying on this occasion; because no person with any high sense of propriety could hear in this Chamber a remark like that which has been made by the hon. junior member for the City, and try to have it hushed up. If you are imbued with a high sense of propriety — I may say that this is Parliament and we are not under any tamarind tree. This is a question of a comment made by a legislator who states something publicly and an hon. member is rising on a point of order. I could make a substantive motion calling for an immediate investigation into the conduct of the Marketing Corporation; I do not feel that I should do that, but I am saying that this is a matter of extreme public importance. You hear an hon. member make a statement like that which has been made, the Hon. Minister replies and then you get this nonsensible, low, public life behaviour. You find that there are too many people who want, ostrich-like, to bury their heads in the sand and expose the community to this sort of behaviour which is not commensurate with a country....

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: On a point of order. Mr. Chairman, I do not think that the hon. member's comments are fair. Nothing that was said by the Hon. Minister of Social Services could be taken to impute that he has supported the mismanagement or lack of proper behaviour.

Mr. WALCOTT: That is not a point of order; that is the hon. member's comment., that is his point of view.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I will hear the Hon. Minister's point of order and then I will permit the hon. member to continue his speech.

Mr. WALCOTT: I am speaking, Mr. Chairman, and the hon. member is interrupting me by speaking on a point of order — something which does not exist.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: I am interrupting the hon. member because of his imputation of the remarks of the Hon. Minister of Social Services as low public behaviour. All the Hon. Minister has said is that we are now in Committee on the Bill; the House having accepted the principle of the Bill, this is not the time for the hon. member to make the comment which he is making. Everybody agrees that the hon. member can....

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, that is not a point of order. The hon. member can reply to me because we are in Committee. Why has he got to jump up on a point of order when we are in Committee? I say that this is a matter of public propriety and it is the last time that the hon. member should get up.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I will listen to the Hon. Minister's point of order, and then the hon. senior member for St. Peter can continue to speak afterwards.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: The hon. senior member for St. Peter knows quite well that he has the authority to introduce a substantive motion calling for an enquiry into the operation of the Board; but the hon. member cannot do that now. I quite agree with the Hon. Minister of Social Services that this is not the time to criticise the principle of the Bill; the hon. member has to stick to the section of the Bill and the Hon. Minister should not be characterised as having low public morals.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, I do not want to retract anything I have said, but the Hon. Minister should be the last person to impute to me things which I did not say. I have never said that the Hon. Minister did not have any public morals. For any Minister of any Government to hear the statement which was made by the hon. junior member for the City, it would be the most stupid thing for that Minister not to rise and say something after the words which came out of the hon. member's mouth. What did the Minister say? This is what he said: "I am not defending this; this is something with which I do not agree completely." Something has been substantiated, the Chairman does not know anything about it and the Board does not know anything about it; but somebody is acting like a dictator. All of that came from the mouth of the Hon. Minister and I think that it would be in the public interest to have this matter investigated and let the Hon. Minister state what is happening with the Marketing Corporation. This amendment is not the life and death of the Marketing Corporation, and so I feel that the Minister should have the opportunity to state what is taking place with the Marketing Corporation. Some Minister will smile, but nothing comes through smugness. This will undermine the real character of public life.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, the principle of the Bill has already been agreed to and this Bill is merely an amendment to bring a certain definition in the Act in line with the proposed regulations.
4.50 p.m.

The question of produce is defined one way in the Act and another way in the Regulations, and this is merely to make the entire matter viable and also make the organisation a practical thing. None of us here happens to be an expert on marketing, and this the first time in the history of Barbados that we have had a Barbados Marketing Corporation set up with the intention of trying to reduce the cost of living and to encourage the production of more locally grown food and vegetables and to export flying fish. Already we are doing something with shrimps, and we are trying to avoid exporting millions of dollars out of Barbados each year by purchasing essential commodities which can be grown locally. I refer to carrots and the finer vegetables. Due to the fact that Major Biggs who is a consultant and on whose recommendations we are acting is here at present, we are bringing in line these amendments which are minor and which do not involve the points which the hon. senior member for St. Peter has in mind. This is not doing anything to harm anybody; it is really doing something to bring the Regulations into effect more quickly and have the definition in the Regulations agree with the definition in the Act. All we are doing, therefore, is regularising the Act and the Regulations. The Act is being amended because experience has taught us that certain definitions in the Act are not flexible enough; so it is not a question of not agreeing to the principles of the proposed amendments. This is a means of getting the Marketing Corporation on a better footing and getting the Regulations into force while Major Biggs who is Adviser to the Ministry on Technical Corporations in the United Kingdom is here, and who should be here normally as Manager of the Marketing Board. It is for that reason, Mr. Chairman, that I am anxious to see this Act passed by both Chambers as it should have been passed since last Tuesday.

To suggest, Mr. Chairman, any postponement on this now is doing nothing to help; it is merely hurting the chances of the Marketing Corporation from ever succeeding, and losing the assistance of Major Biggs who is here just for a limited time. It is for that purpose that I am asking the Committee to agree to these proposed amendments

which are of a minor nature. The proposed amendment in clause 2 for instance reads as follows:

2. Section 2 of the Barbados Marketing Corporation Act, 1961, which Act is hereinafter referred to as the principal Act, is amended by substituting the following definition of the expression "produce" occurring therein —

" "produce" includes fruit, vegetables or other praedial produce, whether in the natural state or not, meat and fish in all forms, milk and milk products, livestock and livestock products, cooking fats, cooking oils, and crustaceans;".

It is only therefore, Sir, a question of change of definition, but the hon. senior member for St. Peter took this opportunity to make his second reading speech after he heard the reply.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, it looks as if we will have to have an adult education class in Parliamentary procedure, so that members will understand what is vital in a debate and what is not important. I do not go in for this sentimental and emotional hash of doing something to help people, because so far as the Marketing Corporation is concerned, I supported the idea long before there was a Marketing Corporation Bill in this House. I never talked about the principle of the Bill, and I would never have spoken on the Bill at all, but the hon. junior member for Bridgetown did not deal with the amendments. You are passing a Bill to amend another Bill, but there is no principle involved in so far as the Marketing Corporation is concerned. The hon. junior member for Bridgetown took the opportunity now that you are dealing with the Marketing Corporation to mention a matter, but he did not deal with the Clause you are amending, because all we are doing is amending an Act, and you can only amend an Act by presenting a Bill. The hon. member took the opportunity to speak on something at the Marketing Corporation, but I did not enter the debate because I was not sure. None of the facts were at my disposal, but hearing for the first time in the Chamber today that the Minister admits that something is wrong, are you asking me to keep my mouth closed because this is not the second reading of a Bill? What stupidity is that? We are not now dealing with whether you are going to give the Marketing Corporation limes, okras, berries or the like, but the hon. member has shown to the public a gross mismanagement, and that mismanagement came out in the debate. In other circumstances, had it been a Department of Government, the Minister would have been called upon or expected to resign. If the members of this House want to follow the United Kingdom and use their parliamentary processes, they cannot have them in one part and not in another.

Mr. Chairman, what has been revealed today is a very gross mismanagement of a public organisation, and this idea of not ventilating it to the full after it has come out in public is stupid. I do not like this cleverness with some Ministers. I do not mean this to the Minister of Agriculture because he is less likely to fall into that, but I should like to say more so to the Leader of the House that this unnecessary cleverness does not pay. Any blind man on a trotting horse can see that something has gone wrong; so what is the point of trying to stulify something or use Parliamentary niceties or technicalities? I am not going to say that anybody is talking correct or technically wrong. What I am saying is that I was not interested in the debate because I did not regard an amendment to the Act as anything to warrant any discussion from me. But after such a serious allegation has been made on the floor of the Chamber and the Minister has replied, do not ask me not to take the opportunity to say something on it, because the hon. junior member for Bridgetown never dealt with the amendments which you have brought.
5.00 p.m.

He was dealing with the conduct of the people at the Marketing Corporation. The hon. junior member for the City of Bridgetown, the Hon. Leader of the Opposition and the Hon. Minister himself did not deal with any amendment. The hon. junior member for the City spent the whole time in his speech in dealing with the Marketing Corporation and calling on the Minister to rectify things there. We were not talking about the principle of the Bill; we were dealing with the Marketing Corporation in principle and His Honour the Speaker did not tell anybody that you should not do this but only deal with the sections of the Bill. The Speaker realised that if an hon. member could make such serious allegations about an organisation like that, in the public interest he would not stop a debate like that.

This is only a consequential amendment, so far as I am concerned. It does not make any difference if this goes through or not. However, I see a reason why the Minister should stop consideration of this Bill and do not force to put it through because so serious an allegation has been made about the Marketing Corporation to which the Hon. Minister has agreed, that he should not underwrite the Board before he makes a public statement. I contend that it is in the best interest of public conduct that we postpone consideration until such time. If this thing had taken place in the United Kingdom, the debate might have been postponed in order that the Minister and persons concerned would be able to defend themselves. We have this idea of just getting things through. The highest standard of public conduct is what we owe to the country. The Minister knows it, but he is looking for ways for ignoring things. Here it is that something has taken place and you do not know of it. Surely, there is nothing wrong in the public interest that the Hon. Minister make a statement on the matter because it is too serious a charge made against a public body. You get this idea from the Minister that you are now making a second reading speech. You have such a serious charge being made against the Corporation and you asking to palm it off.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: The hon. senior member for St. Peter has intimated that I tried to stop him from speaking on this Bill. I did not try to stop the hon. member. I have sat in my seat on more than one occasion and heard the same hon. member trying to draw to your attention the fact that some hon. member or another member was going off on a tangent in some sort of debate. I have heard this time and time again. When the hon. member began to speak, he pointed out that he did not have the opportunity of speaking on the second reading and said — words to this effect — that he was going to make his second reading speech. I said and I maintain....

Mr. WALCOTT: The Hon. member is so wrong. I said that I had no intention of entering into the debate but that it was the reply by the Hon. Minister which I could not have answered then because that was the end of the debate, and so I was taking opportunity to speak on the Clause. That was what any sensible person would do; you do not need to be a Euclid to have that sort of analysis. I could not reply to the Hon. Minister then because he closed the debate. Had it been a different statement, I would not have entered the debate; but the Minister gave a reply which showed the seriousness of the matter. I do not have any excuse to make for doing that. The whole substance of the debate today on this Bill did not take place on the proposed amendments at all; it took place on this matter concerning the mismanagement of the Corporation.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: I was saying, Mr. Chairman, that the hon. member has accused me of trying to stop him from speaking. I was trying to point out that we were dealing with Clause 2 which was substituting a new definition for the word "produce" and we were not dealing with the principle of the Bill.

Now, the hon. member has taken upon himself to refer to my dark glasses and he has made all sort of funny remarks about Ministers of the Government. I do not wear dark glasses; I wear tinted glasses. It is not the only time that I have heard the remark about dark glasses. If anybody begrudges a Minister for wearing tinted glasses, he can get them too.

Mr. WALCOTT: Sir, you will not expect me to answer that because that is a most peurile and childish remark. When I was sitting in my seat, I was wondering whether

Ministerial offices affected people mentally. You do not expect Ministers to be involved in something which is so patently clear. The hon. member is talking about speaking on Clause 2 as if you were talking about sinking a well. If you were in the United Kingdom and a debate like this cropped up on a Bill, or something comes up about the security of the country, or somebody comes up with a charge — just as with the Christine matter — it started on a matter just like this. How did you think the matter started? It started because they were dealing with something on security and a member of the Labour Party said something was going wrong and he asked that a serious investigation be made into the matter of the Christine affair. In the end she got nine months' imprisonment.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, I intervened after the Hon. Minister of Social Services had spoken to support his contention that nobody in this Chamber, not even the most obtuse person, could interpret his remarks as designed to stultify the debate or to prevent any allegations by any hon. member on any Marketing Board or any support for the condemnation which is going on down there. As a matter of fact, the Hon. Minister of Agriculture himself said that these allegations were somewhat justified and that his Ministry was investigating them and had held two meetings. I was at one of the meetings yesterday. The Minister said that every step was being taken to correct the mismanagement complained of and in the foreseeable future the situation would be remedied.

Nobody on this side can be accused of supporting mismanagement or dictatorship on behalf of any part of the staff or any desire to have this mismanagement permitted in this Chamber. It is stupid to suggest that at any time in this debate anybody on the Government benches refused to have this matter aired or tried to stultify any debate. The hon. junior member for the City said what they had heard and what was reported to him and the Hon. Minister of Agriculture said that he was aware of it to some extent. The Hon. Minister of Social Services merely said to the hon. senior member for St. Peter: "I do not think you are taking the correct procedure." That is all. All that he meant to say was that the time for this was during the second reading or when the Bill comes out of Committee and comes before the House and the Speaker is in the Chair. Then, the hon. member could get up and say that he was not supporting the Bill and he did not support the second reading because the reason was only made clear to him after the Minister had replied; and that he therefore took that chance on the third reading to oppose the Bill in principle and to say what he thought about the allegations in the debate. 5.10 p.m.

Even then, Mr. Chairman, what brought me to my feet is this; the hon. senior member for St. Peter has said that in view of the allegations which have been made by the Opposition and supported by the Hon. Minister, he did not think that we should pass this Bill which is now before us. That is what really brought me to my feet. The Bill before us merely seeks to define the words "produce" and other minor amendments like that. I do not want this statement by the hon. senior member for St. Peter to bear on the Committee; if the Board is being mismanaged, are we going to refuse to supply the procedure for the management of the Board? Take the Transport Board; we have had to go into matters relating to that Board, but it does not mean that the Board should suspend its operations or that we should not take every possible step in order to ensure that the legal authority under which the Board operates is, in so far as we are concerned, the best we can think of for the purpose. My sole reason for rising was not to permit the Committee to be influenced by the contention of the hon. senior member for St. Peter to the effect that since the allegations have been made and the Hon. Minister has supported them, we must even refuse to pass this Bill amending the definition of the word "produce" with which the Board should concern itself. Of course, I know that when it comes to certain opinions, not even international experts can question them, but there is no authority in the world, there is no Parliamentary authority anywhere in the world who could tell me that the Hon. Minister of Social Services was wrong in contending that this time was not the time for the remarks made by the hon. senior member for St. Peter, because I agree with the Minister *in toto*.

Any hon. member had it within his power, according to the Rules of procedure in this Chamber, to rise on the third reading of a Bill and say: "In view of the allegations which have been made, I am not voting for this Bill." It is not the normal procedure for us, after having accepted the principle of a Bill *in toto*, to question certain aspects of the Bill while it is in the Committee stage.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, I cannot allow those remarks to go unnoticed. There are no principles which anybody was questioning; you can make an analogy and that can be made quite easily. Reference has been made to the Transport Board; but if you have a Commission of Enquiry in relation to the Transport Board, are you going to provide the Board with the same thing which you are asking the Commission of Enquiry to investigate? On the floor of this House it came out that the whole place was being mismanaged. It was not a question of the principle of the Bill at all; the Board is functioning today and it will function tomorrow. This Bill does not create the Marketing Corporation because that is already in existence. It is therefore nonsensical for us to hear that if we do not pass this Bill, the Corporation cannot function.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: On a point of order. Mr. Chairman, I have already explained that the definition in the Regulations must coincide with the definition in the Act, and it is for this reason that we are asking that the Act be amended. For the efficient working of the Board there must be definitions and those definitions must coincide with each other.

Mr. WALCOTT: The hon. junior member for the City never questioned the matter of the Bill not being passed. I was the person who said so, and I am not afraid of saying that. If the matter is now drawn to the attention of the public that something is so gross, what have you got to go on with it for? I say that a Statement should be made on the Marketing Corporation. I am not in public life to please people; I am in public life to do my duty.

The Hon. Leader of the House is bound to support his colleague in this matter. I said that I was not supporting the Bill on the ground that I have the highest opinion for public conduct. If the hon. junior member for the City had not made the remarks which he made, something which I could not substantiate — and I may say that I do not join bandwaggons which seem to be popular and to be running smoothly, I did not have the facts to know that these losses had taken place. These facts have come out in the debate, and I say that it does not seem proper that we should pass this Bill in the light of these facts. It is a good thing when you can say what you think of yourself, but it is always good to think that your public conduct is something which can be scrutinised. I am in public life and I have nothing of which to be ashamed. I would not have to look around to see who is pleased or who agrees with this; this is the most serious complication you could have, and I say that the Hon. Minister should have promptly decided not to proceed with this matter until he could come down here with a Statement dealing with the Marketing Corporation; then he could come back here with the Bill. I have no apology to make because when the Minister says what he says, it shows quite plainly that what I have said could be substantiated by any Parliamentary conduct. I do not think that the Hon. Minister could proceed with this matter today; a Statement should be made about it. I am standing for the highest standard of public life, not the lowest standard of public life.

The question that Clause 2 stand part of the Bill was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Clauses 3 to 5 inclusive were called and passed.

5.20 p.m.

On the motion of Hon. C. E. TALMA, seconded by Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON Mr. CHAIRMAN reported the

passing of one Bill in Committee and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

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

THE SPECIAL LOAN ACT, 1963

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the next Order of the Day be the Bill circulated this morning entitled "The Special Loan Bill, 1963."

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

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

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: You will see from the Objects and Reasons, Mr. Speaker, that it has become necessary to purchase a second Tug for the Port Department, and it is estimated that the cost will be in the vicinity of $626,098. The Governor-in-Executive Committee therefore proposes to borrow for the purposes of financing the said expenditure the sum of $422,625 from a bank to be repayable over four years with interest at not more than the finest lending rate to the Government by Commercial Banks. Now the difference between the $626,000 and $422,000 will be met from the Harbour Fund Reserves, and the Bill before us is to make such provision as is necessary to enable the Governor-in-Executive Committee to borrow the above amount.

Now as hon. members are aware, there is one Tug in service at the Port Department, and it has now become necessary to purchase another Tug. The first Tug, as I understand it, cost something like $750,000, but this Tug will come from a firm in New Orleans, Louisiana which will cost something like $1,000 odd less than the Tug now in use. The Port Manager was recently in Louisiana to look at the sort of equipment provided by those people and to discuss with them the specifications, and it has been represented to the Government in the most effective terms that it is a risk to continue trying to service the Harbour with only one tug.

The Hon. Minister of Communications and Works is naturally more *au courant* with the reasons for getting this kind of Tug and the reasons why one is insufficient, and when it comes to dealing with the accompanying Resolution he will probably, if required by hon. members, give them any more detailed information which they might require. The Bill before us is merely to authorise the borrowing of this $400,000 odd.

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

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

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, now I believe I can confirm my own opinion of the actions of this present Government in railroading Resolutions and Bills through this House at a moment's notive. I am satisfied in my mind that it is a trick. Last week, Sir, the Hon. Minister informed me that this money was urgently needed and asked if we would be satisfied to return to this House on Friday to discuss it and I readily agreed. I take it that if the last meeting of the House had ended as it should have been, we would have met last Friday to discuss this Bill and the Resolution. Now the Government had ample time, even from last Friday, to circularise this Bill to us instead of two or three hours ago; so I am now satisfied that it is the Government's intention to do these things.

5.30 p.m.

They cannot say now that they do not have any time and this is urgent and they are bringing it in today because it was anticipated by the Minister last Tuesday to discuss it last Friday but the House did not meet then. This morning this was presented to us. How on earth can you expect me to know something about this? I had no time to read it or to study it. We had about four other Resolutions pitched in our hands and while reading them we had to listen to the Minister and to the various speakers. As far as this Bill is concerned, I have not read it at all. Is it fair for representatives of the people at this late hour to give the okay to the Government to borrow $626,098 or whatever you call it? Is it fair to the taxpayers of this country? We are dealing with money. Some children will kill parents when it comes to money. You have to be more than careful with money. Money has caused many peoples' lives and this is a very serious state of affairs which the Government is doing. This Government is tricking us into doing things every Tuesday.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Sir, the hon. member is quite justified in making any allegations he may like with regard to the timing of the presentation of this Bill, but I am certainly going to object, Mr. Speaker, to his utilisation of the expression "tricking" in relation to what is happening today. I do not think it is parliamentary. It certainly is inappropriate in reference to the Government's action on any matter which is introduced by this Government. Sir, I object to his using the word "tricking".

Mr. SPEAKER: What is the word to which the hon. member has said that he is objecting?

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: The word is "tricking".

Mr. SPEAKER: The reason I ask was because I heard a word used like that.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Perhaps the hon. member may have said the word "tricks".

Mr. SPEAKER: I will get the correct remarks from the Official Reporter. Will the Clerk get from the Official Reporter the remarks used by the hon. junior member for St. Joseph?

The SPEAKER was handed a copy of the remarks.

Mr. SPEAKER: From the Official Reporter, I have received this: "Tricking us into doing things every Tuesday."

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Well, Sir, those are the words to which I offer the most strenuous objection. I have never come in here to trick anybody.

Mr. SPEAKER. The Hon. Leader of the House is objecting to the use of the words "tricking us into doing things every Tuesday", and the imputation is that the Government which comprises certain members of this Chamber tricked other members of this Chamber. Will the hon. member withdraw that word "tricking".

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, you know that I would do anything which you want me to do.

Mr. SPEAKER: I will tell the hon. member of my need for a loan this season; I do not know if the hon. member can grant me it.

Mr. SMITH: Sir, if you take it as unparliamentary, I respectfully withdraw the word.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am grateful to the hon. member. Will he proceed?

Mr. SMITH: I am going to throw this out to the Hon. Minister. I wonder if I go outside and I pick up a stick and hit him and ask him pardon if he would accept it.

Mr. SPEAKER. I prefer that not to be said in here.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: The hon. member is at liberty to try it.

Mr. SPEAKER. Will the police remain in this compound?

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I want to know why people like to do things, and when they are reminded of them, they are playing that they are vexed. Every Tuesday, the Government or the Leader of the Government comes in here with Resolutions and Bills of this sort. This was never done so regularly in the time of the last Government and when they had to do it the Hon. Leader of this House and his colleagues would try to blow off this house top and they used to warn the Government not to do it again and if they did, they would parade. Yes! Yes! Yes! They are living in glass houses, but they have thrown stones already. They could just as well save the paper on which they print the Order Paper because we are deprived from sticking to the Order Paper Tuesday after Tuesday; they are bringing in their own Order Paper and they are doing it only because they have the numbers. They are doing just as they like. It is not I; it is the electors whom they have to tell about this. It is the electors to whom they have to give an account of their stewardship. I am not going to say "their smartness", because the Hon. Leader of the House may get up and object to the word "smartness". They have to give to the electorate of this country an account of their stewardship.

Sir, I am telling you to take a little time off and talk to them. I believe they will adhere to the Speaker and see that it does not happen again.

Mr. SPEAKER: I will say this: the injustices of which the hon. member complained would have been more appropriately made when it was moved that the matter be the next Order of the Day; but when no objection was taken then, we are now concerned with the subject matter rather than going back and saying whether the matter should be debated.

Mr. SMITH: Yes, Sir, that is so, but I am only a lone one crying in the wilderness. They have the numbers and, right or wrong, they are going to get the majority; therefore, I have just only aired my views so that the public and the Government would know my feelings. There are only two or three of us, and all the remainder would be against us and that is why they would be doing it.
5.40 p.m.

That is why this Government is doing it every time; they will do it every time and get away with it. Sir, I am not against the Bill because if you want a Tug you must have a Tug, but at the same time they must have a 'tug out'; the Government will get a 'tug out'! I am voting for this Bill for them to get a Tug and at the same time the electorate will tug them out for their behaviour in doing things in this way all the time.

Mr. SPEAKER: Is there any other hon. member who proposes to contribute to this debate before the hon. member exercises his right of final reply? *(After a pause)*. Apparently, there is no other hon. member who wishes to contribute to this debate and the Hon. Leader of the House may exercise his right of final reply.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I want to inform the hon. junior member for St. Joseph that there is no stronger defender of the rights of this House than I am. I contend, as the hon. member has pointed out in season and out of season, that hon. members should be treated with a certain amount of parliamentary and other respect. Of course, hon. members are entitled to every possible consideration in so far as the conduct of business in this Chamber is concerned. I quite agree with the hon. member that the Government is morally obligated to see that every hon. member of this Chamber is given sufficient notice before he is asked to make a decision as to matters which come before the Chamber.

The hon. member says with some degree of justification that we have repeatedly brought down things at a moment's notice for the consideration of the Chamber; but the acid test is whether, on any single occasion, any one of these things brought forward at a moment's notice is not in the public's interest. Have we, at any time, asked the House to consider or grant approval to any matter which the Opposition or any member of the public could contend, with some degree of accuracy, was not in the public interest? Mr. Speaker, if the answer is "No", then we apologise to them to have to attend to matters to which we have to give certain consideration, but at the same time they were matters which we feel are in the public interest.

Secondly, Sir, if you compare the number of Resolutions, Bills and matters which have been attended to by this Government in the two-year period of its office with similar matters attended to by our predecessors in a similar period, you will find that we have done probably two or three times as much. (Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Five times as much.) I am told by the hon. member on my left that we have done five times as much. (Mr. SMITH: He would say ten times as much.) The hon. member who said that we have done five times as much as our predecessors in a similar period, has made a check for the period at the end of the first year as to the number of matters which were dealt with by this Government in the 12-month period of its office as compared with one year by the previous Government. The Hon. Minister has therefore assessed the amount which we have done as compared with what the previous Government had done. In the first place, we have met more often.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I plead guilty to the fact that this Government is a Government in a hurry and we have pledged to do in three years what they have taken fifteen years, and probably longer, to do. If that is the case, it must follow as a matter of course that there are occasions when we will have to come down without giving the notice which we should give, and ask the House to support us. A lot of these things are done at the inconvenience of the Ministers themselves and of the Public Servants. I may say, Sir, that there is not a single Sunday over the last year that the Hon. Minister of Communications and Works has not been in his Ministry all day. He left at 10.30 o'clock last Sunday night. Last Saturday when I left, my Permanent Secretary was coming in to complete the Report of my colleague on his trip to Florida. The hon. member will see the Report on that. I want to say, Sir, that no member of the previous Government has even been found in a Cabinet Ministry during the hours at night or even in the evening that we are to be found there. Therefore, Sir, we offer absolutely no apology if on occasions we have somewhat to stray from what we believe should be the normal policy of introducing matters in this Chamber and ask hon. members to give their approval to what we admit is short consideration; but, Sir, we have no qualms because we know the alert mentality and the intellectual ability of the hon. junior member for St. Joseph, that he will be capable of reading and assimilating anything we put before him and his colleagues at even shorter notice than we have given today *(Cheers!)*

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

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

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

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

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

Clauses 1 and 2 were called and passed.

Clauses 3 and 4 were called and passed.

5.50 p.m.

The First Schedule was called and passed.

The Second Schedule was called and passed.

On the motion of Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported the

passing of one Bill in Committee and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

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

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the next Order of the Day be the Resolution for $626,098 in connection with the New Tug relating to the Bill which we have just passed.

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE 1963-64 (PORT DEPARTMENT)

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: Mr. Speaker, this Resolution seeks the approval under section 10 of the Barbados Harbours Act, 1960 to supplement the Estimates of the Port Department for the year 1963-64. The provision of $626,097.50 is required to finance the purchase of a second tug and equipment and to meet incidentals thereto and connected therewith. It is therefore proposed, Mr. Speaker, to increase the provision in the Port Department's Estimates by $626,098.

Mr. Speaker, under normal circumstances a tug should be hauled out and dry-docked at least every eight months, to clean and paint the bottom and check; and, if necessary, replace such fittings as zinc plates and bearings; also to clean strainers and remove any marine growth from strainers which filter water through engines. The present Tug, Pelican, is classified A.1 at Lloyds and it is necessary to have a general overhaul of all machinery at least once in every four years if this classification is to be maintained. A general overhaul like this will take at least 3 weeks. The Tug Pelican arrived in Barbados early in 1961.

The Port cannot operate efficiently without two tugs. This was always the view of Captain Smith and others who advised the Government on port equipment and operations; but, on account of the high cost of a second tug, it was decided to operate for the beginning with only one. Due to the increase in number and size of ships now calling at this Port, it is essential that a second tug be purchased as the Port cannot operate efficiently with one tug. There is at present the *Lord Willoughby*, a water boat, which could and has been used as a substitute, but can only handle ships of a very small tonnage. An investigation as to the possibility of hiring a tug of the class of the Pelican was made a few months ago when the Pelican was to be dry-docked, and also to pull a few pistons for examination, and a price of $1,500 U.S. per day was quoted.

At present some of the Tourist Liners calling at this Port still anchor in Carlisle Bay as their Masters rightly consider it unwise to enter the Bridgetown Harbour with only one tug in attendance. On more than one occasion it was necessary to await the lull of the strong prevailing winds which blow between the months of November to April and bind ships alongside the breakwater and make it impossible for a single tug to pull them out.

Mr. Speaker, the geographical position of Barbados with its up-to-date bunkering facilities has attracted several large ships to this Port; and if we are to maintain this trade and really put Barbados on the map it is necessary to have an adequate tug service for berthing and unberthing ships. Again, our geographical position being the most easterly of this group of islands and the wide expanse of ocean stretching east of this island, in case of ships in distress, we would be the most suited for carrying out salvage operations. There are ships at present of 45,000 tons dead weight calling at this Port regularly to refuel.

The average monthly revenue collected from bunkering at a royalty of 17 1/2¢ per barrel exceeds $25,000. The average monthly revenue collected from tug services is $10,000. The Tug Pelican was recently awarded $33,600 for its share of salvage award for services rendered to the Greek Ship *Maria Bourbolis*. With the provision, Mr. Speaker, of a second tug, the revenue from these services must increase and there is no doubt that a second tug must more than pay for itself.

The present Tug Pelican was built in the United Kingdom and delivered here at a cost of $650,000. It is equipped with National twin diesel engines at 570 H.P. each with a bollard pull of 15 tons. It also has fire fighting apparatus and is classified A.1 at Lloyds. The tug required is being built by Equity Equipment Company Incorporated for classification A.1 A.B. at the Port of New Orleans in the State of Louisiana in the U.S.A. It will be equipped with twin catepillar diesel engines of 765 H.P. each twin screw and will have a bollard pull of 16 tons. It also has fire fighting apparatus. As the care given to engines at their early operations is essential to their long life, it is the intention of this Government to have the tug brought out by a local crew to ensure the necessary care so essential in the life of its machinery.

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.

6.00 p.m.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE, 1963-64 No. 36 REGULARISED

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Education: to move the passing of the amendments of the Legislative Council to the Barbados Development Bank Hill, 1963.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, before we come to that, I understand that a Resolution which concerned the Port Department was today passed in Committee of Supply and which was not a supply Resolution but an abstract Resolution, and because of that, it should come back to the House.

I beg leave of the House to regularise that Resolution by having it formally passed with yourself in the Chair.

Mr. SPEAKER: Will the hon. member say what Resolution it was?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: It was a Resolution asking the House of Assembly to approve under Section 10 of the Barbados Harbour's Act, 1960 the expenditure required to supplement the Estimates of the Port Department for the year 1963-64 as shown in the Supplementary Estimate 1963-64, No. 36, which forms the Schedule to this Resolution, and if assented to by this House, that the Other Place be invited to concur herein.

This is an abstract Resolution and not a supplementary Resolution on the Estimates.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am grateful that the Hon. Minister has brought that matter to my attention. He has asked for leave to deal in this House with this Resolution which was inappropriately dealt with today when the House was in Committee of Supply and which was purported to have been passed when the House was in Committee of Supply and which was presumably one of those Resolutions among the ten reported to me to have been passed today.

If there is no objection to this matter being now dealt with — and I have heard none — leave will be and is hereby now granted.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I now formally beg to move that the House of Assembly approve under Section 10 of the Barbados Harbour's Act, 1960 the expenditure re-

quired to supplement the Estimates of the Port Department for the year 1963-64 as shown in the Schedule to this Resolution, and that the Legislative Council be invited to concur herein, and if concurred in,

RESOLVED that His Excellency the Governor be asked to assent and take the necessary steps to give effect to this Resolution.

As hon. members will remember, having received a thorough explanation, this Resolution calls for the sum of $145,454 to supplement the provision in the Current Estimates under the Annexed Estimates — Port Department. A breakdown of the amount has been circulated in the Addendum to the Resolution. The breakdown is as follows: Item 32 — Light and Power — $8,684; Item 34 — Marine Services — $14,000; Item 52 — Audit Services — $3,000; and Item 58 — Static Facilities — $119,770.

As I have said, Mr. Speaker, a full explanation has already been given, although improperly so when the House was in Committee of Supply, and there is no need for me to go over that.

I now beg formally that this Resolution do now pass.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: I beg to second that.

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

AMENDMENT TO BARBADOS DEVELOPMENT BANK BILL, 1963

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the same hon. member: To move the passing of the amendments of the Legislative Council to the Barbados Development Bank Bill, 1963.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I am asking leave of the House to make as the next Order of the Day the consideration of the Report of the Select Committee appointed to consider and report on the Bill to make provisions for the regulating of banking and for purposes connected therewith.

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, Your Honour will recall that on the 22nd October, 1963, Your Honour appointed a Select Committee consisting of the hon. senior member for St. Philip, the Hon. Minister of Education, the Hon. Minister of Communications and Works, the Hon. Leader of the Opposition, the hon. junior member for the City, the hon. junior member for Christ Church, the hon. junior member for St. James, the hon. senior member for St. Thomas and the hon. senior member for St. Peter to go into this matter.

I now have the honour to present to the House the Report of that Select Committee.

The Select Committee appointed to consider and report on the Bill to make provision for the regulating of banking and for purposes connected therewith, has the honour to submit the following Report:

1. The Committee met on four occasions.

The Attorney General and the Financial Secretary were present by invitation at two of the said meetings.

2. In the course of its deliberations the Committee studied memoranda on the Bill from (a) the Barbados Shipping & Trading Company, Limited; and (b) Barclays Bank D.C.O.

3. The Committee recommends the following amendments:-

Clause 2 (1)

That the definition of "banking business" be deleted and the following substituted therefor:-

"banking business" means the business of —

(a) receiving money from the public on current account, deposit account or other similar account, and paying and collecting cheques drawn by or paid in by customers and making advances to customers; or

(b) receiving money on savings account from the general public repayable on demand or after not more than three months' notice;"

Clause 3

That Sub-clause (2) be deleted and Sub-Clause (3) be re-numbered (2)

6.10 p.m.

Clause 4

That a new Sub-Clause to be numbered (5) be inserted after Sub-Clause (4) to read as follows:-

"(5) In the event of doubt as to whether a company is or is not carrying on banking business the matter shall be submitted to the Minister for his determination and the decision of the Minister thereon shall be final and conclusive."

4. Save and except for the amendments set out in paragraph 3 hereof, the Committee recommends the passing of the Bill in its present form.

J. CAMERON TUDOR,
Chairman.
25th November, 1963

Mr. Speaker, if I may just comment briefly, it will be recalled that during the debate on the Second Reading of the Bill, hon. members opposite had some scruple and anxiety that the definition of "banking" as it then stood in the Bill, was not clear, and would militate, if it were passed in that form, against certain firms and commercial enterprises now currently undertaking this business. In Select Committee we considered this problem very carefully with the help of the Acting Attorney General and the concurrence of the Financial Secretary whom we were fortunate enough to get to sit in at two of our meetings; we have unanimously arrived at a definition which safeguards the Government's position but it does not affect that form of activity which is currently being carried on and it is in accordance with the strict legal definition of "banking".

Mr. Speaker, the powers which the Minister had in the original Bill to say whether a company is or is not carrying on the business of banking were no longer necessary in that part of the Bill because the definition of "banking" had been tightened up and made accurate beyond the shadow of doubt; so that the power given to the Minister to determine whether or not banking was in effect being carried on by a company was not necessary in the light of the more accurate description of the business of banking.

With those few remarks, Mr. Speaker, and in the absence of the hon. senior member for St. Philip who was, in the capacity of Minister of Trade attending the meetings of the Select Committee, I have the honour to present the Report and I beg formally to move that the Report of the Select Committee appointed by Your Honour on the 22nd October, 1963, to consider and report on this Bill to make provision for the regulating of banking and for purposes connected therewith, be now formally adopted.

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

The question that the Report of the Select Committee appointed to consider and report on this Bill be

now formally adopted was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this Bill as amended be now read a third time.

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

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

On the motion of Hon. J. C. TUDOR, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, the Bill as amended was passed.

LEGISLATION COUNCIL'S AMENDMENTS TO THE BARBADOS DEVELOPMENT BANK BILL

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, subject to what Your Honour has in mind, I beg to move that Order No. 8 be taken as the next Order of the Day.

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

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

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day now stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Education:- To move the passing of the amendments of the Legislative Council to the Barbados Development Bank Bill, 1963.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, the amendments of the Other Place to this Bill have been accepted by the Government and they do not substantially alter the form of the Bill although they make the Bill tidier. On page 7 Clause 8(3) originally read as follows:-

"(3) The Bank may, from time to time, with the approval of the Governor-in-Executive Committee, vary the amount of the authorised capital of the Bank."

The Other Place has suggested an amendment to the effect that the words "Governor-in-Executive Committee" should be deleted and the word "Legislature" inserted in place thereof. In other words, according to the Other Place, it should be for the Legislature to say the terms and conditions upon which the Bank may vary the amount of its authorised capital. That means that the control of the policy of the Development Bank shifts a little more closely towards the Legislature.

Then Sir, on page 19 there are Clauses 32 and 33. The original Clause 32 reads as follows:-

"32. Nothing in the Banking Act, 1963, shall apply to the Bank."

And Clause 33 reads as follows:-

"33. This Act shall come into operation on such day as the Governor may by proclamation published in the *Official Gazette* appoint."

So far as I can see, Mr. Speaker, the view of the Other Place is that the whole of Clause 32 should be deleted in the light of the amendment to which I have already referred, and more important still because the Banking Bill has not been passed, it would not be proper to have a reference in this Bill to a Bill which is not yet the law of the land. In order to regularise that position, the original Clause 32 should be deleted so that the original Clause 33 would become Clause 32.

I beg to move that these amendments be now read a first time.

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

6.20 p.m.

On the separate motions of Hon. J. C. TUDOR, seconded in each case by Hon. C. E. TALMA, the amendments were read a second time and agreed to.

THE NATURALISATION (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1963

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I am asking leave of the House to take Order No. 6 which stands in the name of the Hon. and Learned Premier as the next Order of the Day. I am also asking that the Minister of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries be allowed to take charge of it in the absence of the Hon. and Learned Premier.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Minister of Education is seeking leave of the House to proceed next with Order No. 6 as the next Order of the Day, and that stands in the name of the Hon. and Learned Premier, and if there is no objection, leave will be granted.

There is no objection and that motion may now be proceeded with as the next Order of the day. Before that is done, the Hon. Minister of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries is seeking the indulgence of the House to take charge of that motion, and if there is no objection, then the hon. senior member for Christ Church may take charge of that motion.

There is no objection to his taking charge of this motion, which he may now proceed to move.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, as the Objects and Reasons of the Bill explain, this Bill seeks to make provision whereby the fees payable under the Naturalisation Act, 1915-5 in respect of naturalisation and related matters would be increased. In keeping with established practice, the proposed changes are designed to enable the said fees to be increased in keeping with increases recently made with respect to similar fees in the United Kingdom.

Fees in many Government Departments have been increased over the years, Mr. Speaker, and this is merely bringing in line an increase in fees in order to increase our chances of raising revenue to meet our new commitments. The Schedule of the Bill sets out the proposed increases, Mr. Speaker, and I hardly need to read them out because they have all been circulated, duly advertised and so on. If there are any other questions, I should be quite willing to answer them, but this is merely increasing fees in cases of naturalisation. The Naturalisation Act has been in force since 1915 and the fees have never been increased since then. That will necessitate the repeal of the Naturalisation (Amendment) Act, 1953.

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I beg to second that.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, while I agree with this Bill, I think I should take this opportunity to draw to Government's attention something which has been worrying artisans in this country for some time. While this has no direct bearing on naturalisation itself, it is a fact that with the building boon going on in Barbados, there is definitely the complaint that builders and contractors not of local origin are bringing people in from a foreign country. I say 'a foreign country' for the simple reason that I am thinking of Trinidad who at one time we could call our sister colony, but she is now independent and, so to speak, a foreign country. I should be the last to think of barring Trinidadians from coming to Barbados or even to suggest it, but I must bring to the attention of this House and to the public that the attitude of the Trinidad Government towards Barbadians leaves much to be desired in that our workmen are not allowed to go to Trinidad for the purpose of taking a job, but in Barbados some English and Trinidad firms and others have been bringing people here to take jobs, thereby depriving some of our good workmen of jobs.

I know of a case of a young man who was offered a job by way of promotion in one of the Banks in that country, and after all the tentative and necessary arrangements were made for him to go to Trinidad to take this post up, and as soon as the directors were willing to get him off, he re-

ceived the shock of his life when he was told that it was a job that a Trinidadian could do and therefore he would not be allowed to come in. We did not expect to live that way with what we considered at one time our sister colony, but if this is going to be the attitude, we must deprecate it very much, and I am sure that the Government would frown on any such attitude by the Trinidad Government. We do not want to put up barriers, but however much you may talk about naturalisation and however well-meaning you might be, you have the new hotel going up, new buildings going up and new places with welding and so on going up.

With the new gas mains being laid, Mr. Speaker, we allowed Trinidadians especially to come in because we knew that some of them did good work; but many of our own men are very quick to catch on to work, more especially our artisans, and I promised that I would take the first opportunity that presented itself in this Chamber to raise the matter for the benefit of the Government so that they could look into the matter.

6.30 p.m.

I hope the Hon. Leader of the House or the Hon. Minister in charge will give us some assurance that they would look into it. If it is necessary for me to give them data relative to the young man who was offered permission and was told when he was ready to leave that a Trinidadian could do the job, and therefore, he is not permitted, I can give them.

We have not got the number of new industries which Trinidad has, nor the natural resources to find employment for all of our people. If we are somewhat lax in our immigration laws and we allow them in, I think the Hon. Minister in charge of this portfolio of Immigration should go into this matter on a high level. I hope the Government is paying attention, and I hope the Minister is taking this very seriously and that he would take the matter up on a very high level. We have not been barring, so to speak, these people; and although I, myself, have not given it a thought, whether we should or not bar these people, I do know that it is creating some unemployment from what I have heard and, in my opinion, it is a matter for the Hon. Minister of Labour to get some statistics; and if at these hotels they are bringing people to do the work and are depriving our people of working, then I say it is time that the Minister take the matter up.

Sir, I hope this will not fall on deaf ears and the Minister will do something about it. If it is necessary for me to mention some of the names, I will do so, but I will prefer to do so on another occasion.

Mr. WALCOTT: Sir, I hope I will not be interrupted by points of order because I am sure that some of the behaviour which I experienced just now when the Committee was considering a Bill would not have taken place if Your Honour was in the Chair.

Sir, I agree completely with Trinidad. It happens in France; it happens in Europe; it happens in the United States of America. I say again that I agree completely with Trinidad. Why should you allow somebody to come into your country and take up a job when somebody in your country can do the job? Are you foolish? What protection are you going to give to your people? You cannot enter France and work in France unless you can prove that you do not have a Frenchman who can do the job. You cannot go to the United States of America unless you are going there as a permanent resident and take up a job as an American can do. The United Kingdom has now passed the Immigration Bill and therefore all countries have to carry on this protection. If the Barbados Government does not feel that way, well it is up to them.

When I raised the point about the B.O.A.C. and the Hilton Hotel, I did not get any support. I say that this Government may be opening itself for so much trade and so much industry. I am going to be specific. Only yesterday I agreed to a contract with the hotels in this Island but I was not talking about Trinidad. This is no reprisal against anybody; this is a commonsense measure. I do not subscribe to the view that these hotels on the West Coast should bring in receptionists from outside. What is the point of bringing a receptionist from England to tell people who come to Barbados where you can find the Animal Flower Cave, St. John's Church, or where Bathsheba is? She has to ask the bell boy where to find these places; but what we have got to accept is that the class from whom we can get these people is such that they do not participate enough in progressive movements and there is this opportunity for them. We have enough girls from Queen's College and the Secondary Schools who are capable of being receptionists at any hotel in Barbados at any time. I feel that the question of colour so far does not arise. I feel that if a man can go at a hotel and be served by a black waiter, he would not expect anything different if he had a black receptionist.

No foreigner can come to Barbados and expect to find a community of white people because it is not a white community. We have enough girls in Barbados with the education and dignity to fit them to be a receptionist: and if I had the authority, no person could land in Barbados and take up a job as a receptionist. It is no special job. Any hotel manager can find a Barbadian to be a receptionist.

We have girls working in the banks of Barbados. Are you suggesting that the job of a receptionist carries more responsibility than that of a girl working in the bank? You need a higher standard of education to work in a commercial bank, and on top of that the girl has to be of the highest integrity because if you are working in a bank, you cannot work closer anywhere else to money.

Barbados has a redundant population and a heavy unemployment situation. In the Trade Union, we do not have state power. I can very well understand that the problem with respect to artisans are not as great in my view as in other sections of employment because, by and large, as the position now stands, fortunately for us, artisans are not under-employed in Barbados. Masons and Carpenters are not at present the ones who are hard hit because in some sectors you are finding it difficult to get qualified artisans to do certain kinds of jobs. As I have said, despite that, I do not see any necessity for importing artisans into Barbados unless he is an artisan in a field of employment for which a Barbadian cannot be found. It is true that if you have a good job of welding to do, I do not see that we have all the welders which may be necessary. I know from my own experience that we are short of certain skilled men in certain jobs. I know, for example, that we are short of artisans in certain jobs of plumbing. If you had the Hospital, the Hilton Hotel and another big building project being done simultaneously, I do think that you will find it difficult to get the complement of plumbers which you will need. That is one of the fields of employment in which you may be short of supply of artisans. Yet with all that, nobody brings plumbers here from abroad.

6.40 p.m.

Nobody brings in plumbers as such. The Hospital was doing a plumbing job and the Plumbing Contractor utilised some of his supervisors because he had a new sort of plumbing to do. I feel, Sir, that, by and large, the Barbadian community is not the community which is open to the importation of labour. We are exporting labour; I hope that with this Naturalisation Law we are using it as a principle. We are not opposed to the principle of increasing the fees, but we do take this opportunity to say — and I say it with all the force that I possess — that I am to be convinced. Perhaps you have more experience with the hotels, Mr. Speaker, because you live in that salubrious district where you expect the Speaker of the House of Assembly to reside, and you are aware of the employment there more than I am. It seems to me that in that district more than in the South, there is the tendency of hotels to utilise expatriate receptionists.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to know what are the special duties of receptionists that you cannot use your local people as such. It costs more money to bring down receptionists for these hotels, and the hotel people will tell you that we had to close down for nine months of the year. If this is to

create the image that we are a Miami, Bahamas or a Bermuda, that you are using the natives for menial jobs, but when it comes to the other jobs where you expect the community to rise in the eyes of the visitors, you do not allow our people to be utilised at these points, then I will be a very stern critic. If I am wrong, I am quite willing to be corrected; but I do not see why anyone need come to Barbados from England, America or anywhere else to become a receptionist in a Barbadian hotel. I have said that I would speak on this matter when the opportunity arrives. I do not wish anyone to come to Barbados to work in any job where a Barbadian could be supplied to fill that job. If they want to come here for a holiday, well, let them come; but do not give them the opportunity to reside here and perform jobs which should be performed by Barbadians. I say that that is inimical to the best interest of Barbadians.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I will promise hon. members who have spoken to draw this matter to the attention of the Cabinet and to the attention of the Hon. Premier in particular. We fully appreciate the fact that the interest of the Barbadian workers must be protected in any case. Of course, this Bill deals with naturalisation and although we are not directly on the point, the remarks made by hon. members are appropriate.

Mr. SPEAKER: I thought it justifiable to allow that little latitude.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Barbados is one of those few islands where, if sanctions were imposed in so far as the emigration of Barbadians is concerned, the permission being given to Barbadians to remain in other lands or territories, instead of our enjoying a population of 250,000 people we would probably have a population of 1,250,000. Anyhow, Sir, we will bear in mind what hon. members have said and our policy will have to be rectified to agree in this matter.

Mr. WALCOTT: On a point of order. Mr. Speaker, nothing I have said was said with the idea of preventing people from coming here. We were dealing purely with the principle of taking up employment. We are not permitted to go elsewhere and take up employment in preference to other people. That is why I told the hon. member that I agree with Trinidad, because I feel that we should have to protect our own people. We do not tell people not to come in and open businesses, but we do say that if they come in and make their profits here then they should employ Barbadians.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: In so far as the receptionists are concerned, we do not think that they are fully trained and we fully appreciate the remarks of the hon. senior member for St. Peter. We feel that we have sufficiently educated Barbadians here who can perform these duties. This is an island which has a redundant population and a vast army of unemployed people. However, Sir, I do not think it is necessary to prolong this debate any longer.

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

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I beg to second that.

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

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

Clauses 1 to 4 inclusive were called and passed.

6.50 p.m.

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

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

THE STAMP (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1963

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I am asking leave to deal with Order No. 9 standing in the name of the Hon. and Learned Premier as the next Order of the Day, and I myself desire leave of the House to take charge of it in his absence.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Minister of Education has asked that Order No. 9 be proceeded with as the next Order of the Day, and if there is no objection, leave will be granted him to proceed.

Hearing no objection, he is granted leave to proceed. And the Hon. Minister of Education has further asked the leave of the House to take charge of this matter which stands in the name of the Hon. and Learned Premier who is now absent from the Island, and if there is no objection, leave will be granted to him for that purpose.

Hearing no objection, leave is granted. The hon. junior member for St. Lucy may proceed and take charge of Order No. 9.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, as hon. members fully know, the University of the West Indies operates now on three campuses, here, in Trinidad and in Jamaica, and in each of the other two divisions of the University in the territories in which these divisions are, similar facilities as these now requested here have been granted. In consequence of correspondence which has passed between the Vice Chancellor of the University and this Government, this Government has agreed to exempt from stamp duty all instruments executed by or on behalf of the University of the West Indies in Barbados.

In consequence of our undertaking to do that, it becomes necessary for legislative approval to be sought. Consequently the Bill seeks to amend the Stamp Act, 1916, and to exempt from stamp duty all instruments executed by or on behalf of the University of the West Indies.

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

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. J. C. TUDOR seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the House went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. BATSON in the Chair.

Clauses 1 and 2 were called and passed.

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

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

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, as far as I can ascertain, that concludes Government Business for today's Sitting.

In fixing the Order Paper for next week, we should like Committee of Supply, if there is any, as Order No. 1 and everything else which is there.

I believe, Sir, that it will be very possible for us to get through our business early so that we can exchange with Your Honour the compliments of the approaching festive season, and also so that Your Honour may dismiss us for the Christmas recess in appropriate style.

I now formally beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday, 17th December, 1963, at 12 noon.

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

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, is there anything on the Order Paper for the Government to bring us back next week? Why not adjourn now for the Christmas recess.

Mr. SPEAKER: Is the Hon. Leader of the Opposition addressing the Chair?

Mr. MOTTLEY: I am doing so, Mr. Speaker, with the greatest respect to you, Sir. It is at this stage that you should adjourn.

Mr. SPEAKER: There is a motion that we do now adjourn.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I want to know why we should adjourn until next Tuesday. We should adjourn until after the Yuletide season. Anyhow, the Hon. Leader of the House says there is business to be done.

7.00 p.m.

Hon J. C. TUDOR: If the hon. member will give way, he knows very well that I will not attempt to bring the House back here on Tuesday next unless I knew that there was business to be done.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Except of course, the Hon. Minister of Social Services.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Sir, the hon. senior member for the City of Bridgetown knows that the month of December is my busiest time for the year.

The question that the House do now adjourn until Tuesday next, 17th December, 1963, at 12.00 o'clock (noon) was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER adjourned the House accordingly.

7.03 p.m.