

---

---

THE

# House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

---

SESSION 1962

---

## HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

*Tuesday 9th July, 1963.*

Pursuant to the adjournment, the House of Assembly met at 12 o'clock (noon) today.

### PRESENT

His Honour J. E. T. BRANCKER, Q.C., (*Speaker*); Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD, (*Minister of Development, Trade, Industry, Labour and Tourism*); Mr. L. E. SMITH, J.P.; Hon. C. E. TALMA, (*Minister of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries*); Hon. J. C. TUDOR, M.A., (*Minister of Education*); Hon. G. G. FERGUSON, (*Minister of Communications, Works and Housing*); Mr. W. R. COWARD; Mr. W. R. LOWE, J.P.; Mr. G. V. BATSON, (*Chairman of Committees*); and Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS, (*Minister of Social Services*).

*Prayers were read.*

### MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House of the receipt of Minutes of certain dates, which Minutes I understand have been circulated amongst hon. members. The Minutes are for the Meetings of the 12th March, 15th March, 19th March, 2nd April, 16th April, 23rd April, 7th May, 14th May, 21st May, 28th May, 11th June, 18th June, 21st June, and 25th June, all for the year 1963.

If there be no objection, these Minutes and each of them will be confirmed. (*A pause*).

Hearing no objection, I declare each and all of these Minutes now duly confirmed.

### LEAVE OF CLERK

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that I have received a medical certificate in respect of the Clerk of this House whose medical adviser has advised that he is unable to resume his duties during the instant month. I think that Certificate has been viewed by the Hon. Leader of the House and, perhaps, he might be disposed to make an appropriate motion.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, in consequence of the receipt of this Certificate from the medical adviser of the Clerk of this House to the effect that he would be unable to resume his duties for another month, I beg to move that leave be extended to the Clerk until the 31st of the instant month.

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

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

## DEPUTY CLERK TO ACT AS CLERK

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the Deputy Clerk be appointed to act in place of the Clerk as from the 4th July until the 31st thereof.

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

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

## MISS NORMA MAYNARD TO ACT AS DEPUTY CLERK

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I now beg to move that Miss Norma Maynard, Solicitor, be appointed to act in the place of the Deputy Clerk as from the 4th to the 31st July, 1963.

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

*The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.*  
12.25 p.m.

## PAPER LAID

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I beg to lay the Report of the Sugar Factory Smoke Control Board for the year 1962.

## GOVERNMENT NOTICES

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

Resolution to place the sum of \$144,000 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to supplement the Estimates 1963-64, Part I - Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1963-64, No. 8 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

Resolution to place the sum of \$10,860 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. 9, which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: On my own behalf, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to place the sum of \$1,064 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. 19 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I should like at this stage to give notice of my intention to ask for leave to deal with this Resolution in all of its stages today. Copies of the Resolution are being circulated to hon. members and I am merely signify-

ing my intention to ask for leave to deal with it in all of its stages later in the day.

Mr. SPEAKER: It is an urgent matter, I take it.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: More or less Sir.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition by the Governor-in-Executive Committee of the parcel of land described in the Schedule thereto for the purpose of extending the St. Paul's Primary School.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following Resolution:-

Resolution that the rate of interest chargeable to the Transport Board on a loan of \$45,000 which was guaranteed by the Government in accordance with Resolution No. 26/1963 be "one half of one per cent below the prime lending rate from time to time" instead of being 6%, one half of one per cent below the prime lending rate from time to time as was stated in the Resolution No. 26/1963.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, again on behalf of the Hon. Premier, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to place the sum of \$60,040 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. 11 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

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 in order to deal with the money Resolutions of which notice was given today, except the Resolution for the sum of \$1,064 standing in my name.

#### PRIVATE MEMBERS' NOTICE

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

BE IT RESOLVED that this House deplore the Statement made in the House by the Hon. Minister of Communications, Works and Housing on the 14th June, 1963, concerning proposals for establishing and operating a condenser and milk plant in Barbados.

#### REPLIES TO QUESTIONS

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, there are three Oral Replies ready to Questions which have been asked. On behalf of the Hon. Premier, I beg to lay the Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 50/1962 asked by the hon. junior member for St. Thomas on the 29th May, 1962; and the Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 119/1962 asked by the hon. senior member for St. Michael on the 23rd April, 1963.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice that the Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 112/1962 asked by the hon. junior member for St. Philip on the 2nd May, 1962, is now ready.

#### SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I am asking leave to move for the suspension of Standing Orders Nos. 5, 14, 16 and 18 for the remainder of today's sitting.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member is asking leave to move for the suspension of Standing Orders 5, 14, 16 and 18 for the remainder of today's sitting. If there is no objection, leave will be granted. *(After a pause)*, There being no objection, leave is granted the hon. member.

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

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

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

12. 35 p.m.

#### RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, for the second time in as many months, the hon. senior member for St. Joseph has had the misfortune to have sustained the loss of someone near and dear to him. And, as is the custom, I should like on behalf of the House to extend our deepest sympathy to him in this second bereavement.

The hon. member must need all the strength and faith he can call upon to sustain him in these recurring tragedies, and the sincere sympathies of his colleagues in this House will help to mitigate the severe loss and sorrow he must now be suffering. I should like to assure him that all of us share in a most profound manner the loss which he is now called upon to bear.

It is not often that death strikes twice in the same family within such a short period of time, and the hon. member must wonder why these losses should befall him in such an unexpected and sudden manner. It is not left to any of us to attempt to unravel the mysteries of fate, but we do assure him that we deeply regret the passing of a very close and dear relative - in this case his sister - and we hope that this is the last occasion for a long, long time to come in which the hon. member will have to sustain such a personal blow.

I beg to move that a Resolution of Sympathy be conveyed to the hon. member in the following terms:

"RESOLVED that this House place on record its sympathy with the honourable senior member for St. Joseph at the loss sustained at the passing of the said honourable member's sister, and that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Member."

Mr. MOTTLEY: Sir, it is my very happy and pleasant duty to associate myself with the remarks made by the Hon. Leader of the House. Little did we think when we expressed our sympathy here just a few weeks ago to the hon. senior member for St. Joseph at the sad loss of one so dear and near to him - his mother - that we would so soon be back here to pass a Resolution of Sympathy to him in respect of another dear and loved one - his sister.

On an occasion such as this, there is little point in trying to say much, because the hon. member knows quite well each and every member of this House really shares his sorrow, and we can only ask him to take consolation in the words or the injunction of Holy Writ: The things which I do now I shall not do hereafter.

Knowing him as I do, I am sure the quotation to which I have referred will be of some comfort to him. I, too, on behalf of the hon. members in my party and the Opposition, beg to associate myself with the view of the Hon. Leader of the House and hope that, as he said, there will be a long time before we would have to express any such sympathy to the hon. member.

Mr. SPEAKER: In associating himself with the remarks made, does the hon. member wish to second the motion?

Mr. MOTTLEY: I beg to second the motion.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I too, wish to associate myself with the remarks made by the two last speakers tendering sympathy to my colleague. Sir, as you know, the Good Book states that the Lord giveth and the Lord taketh, and what is to be will be. We are not in a position if and when it comes, because death is a sure debt that we all have to pay. Although we do not always look forward to it, sooner or later it comes to us. Knowing my colleague as I do, I am sure that he has the faith to brave it off. I knew his sister from birth and everybody in that district looked up to that family in some way or the other, and they have always been willing to lend a hand.

With these few remarks, I tender my sincere sympathy on behalf of myself and my party to my colleague.

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Speaker, I rise to associate myself with the remarks made by previous speakers in connection with the hon. senior member for St. Joseph. He has been very unfortunate for a very long time. I remembered when his mother died and his sister is now dead. I know how much it will take out of him at this time but, as an hon. member said, the Lord giveth and the Lord taketh; blessed be the name of the Lord.

I am sure that the hon. senior member for St. Joseph, who is my good friend, will not throw away his confidence. I know of his faithfulness to his mother and sister, and I know that their death will take a lot out of him. We are in sympathy with him, and we hope that he will always be brave enough to keep his courage as a brave soldier. I am sure that if he walks in the footsteps of his mother and sister he will receive the recompense similar to what they have received for their good works. I hope he will be brave and cheerful at all times.

Mr. SPEAKER: May I say how wholeheartedly and thoroughly I associate myself with the remarks of sympathy made by hon. members from all sides of this House. The hon. senior member for St. Joseph can be assured that I feel as deeply grieved over the recent bereavements which he has sustained as any other member of this House, and I offer him my profound sympathy.  
12.45 p.m.

As a token of respect, I am asking hon. members to stand in silence for two minutes as indicative of their acquiescence in the passage of this Resolution. (*After two minutes silence.*)

This Resolution has been silently passed.

Mr. COWARD: Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank all hon. members for their kind expressions of sympathy to me on the passing of my sister. I am one who always believe that whatever God does is well done. A few weeks ago similar expressions of sympathy were expressed to me over the passing of my mother and at that time I also thanked hon. members. Within that short time, I am again doing so.

#### 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 Island.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Your Honour do now leave the Chair and the House go into Committee of Supply and that it be an instruction to the House when in Committee to deal with the Resolution for \$1,064 of which notice was given today and in relation to which I signified my intention to deal with it in all its stages today.

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 ESTIMATES 1963-64 No. 7

##### PART I — CURRENT: HEAD 11 — PENSIONS

*Head 11 — Pensions — was called.*

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, the item which stands under this Head is for *ex-gratia* gratuities and there are two grants. As hon. members would see from the note, it is proposed to authorise the payment of an *ex-gratia* gratuity of \$3,192 to Mrs. E. R. Dove, M.B.E., formerly Headmistress, Government Industrial Schools.

Mrs. Dove has given sixteen years satisfactory service in an acting and non-pensionable capacity in an established

post and it is considered that she should be rewarded for her service. The quantum of the award is the equivalent of one year's salary.

Further with regard to Mr. Claude Taylor, it is proposed to authorise the payment of an *ex-gratia* gratuity of \$1,200. He was formerly Signalman, Highgate.

Mr. Taylor has given eighteen years satisfactory service in an acting and non-pensionable capacity in an established post and it is considered that he should be rewarded for his service. The quantum of the award is the equivalent of one year's salary.

Both of these retired employees, Sir, were discharged from their duties satisfactorily. In the case of Mrs Dove, she had a most enviable record in the service of the public, both in the Government of Africa and in the Government of Barbados after she assumed the post of Headmistress of the Government Industrial School. Now that both are about to enter in their retirement — Mrs. Dove and Mr. Taylor — the Government in signal honour of their satisfaction feels that they are entitled to this token of appreciation.

I beg to move that Head 11 stand part.

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

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

#### HEAD 17 — PREMIER — HOME AFFAIRS

*Head 17 — Premier — Home Affairs — was called.*

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: This is also a new item — Ordnance Survey Maps — for which the sum of \$2,071 is to be voted. As hon. members would see from the explanatory note, the amount of \$2,071 represents 80% of the sum realised by sales of Ordnance Survey Maps to the public during October 1954 to December 1962, which sum has been credited to General Revenue. By agreement with the Directorate of Colonial Surveys this percentage of sales to the public must be refunded to the Directorate.

Inclusion of this item in the Resolution is to provide this sum of \$2,071 for the purpose of a refund to the Directorate.

I beg to move that Head 17 stand part.

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

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

12.55 p.m.

#### HEAD 30 — WATERWORKS

*Head 30 — Waterworks — was called.*

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, under this Head there is Item 46, "Furniture and Equipment". The sum of \$317 is required to replace an old platform scale at the Waterworks Department which has now become unserviceable. We understand that this scale used to be engaged in weighing plumbing supplies. I beg to move that Head 30 stand part of the Schedule.

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

*The question that Head 30 stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.*

#### HEAD 47 — SUBSIDIES AND GRANTS

*Head 47 — Subsidies and Grants — was called.*

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, under this Head, there are two items:— Item 23 — W.I. School of Public Health and Item 48A — Pan American Health Organization. With regard to the first item, that is, the West Indian School of Public Health, hon. members will see from the notes that during each of the years 1958-59 to 1961-62

four students from Barbados attended the West Indies School of Public Health in Jamaica and funds were provided annually to meet the cost of their training. However, these funds lapsed as no claims in respect of the students were received. The Government of Jamaica has submitted its claim at long last for the entire period and the total cost of the training comes to \$16,634 which we are now being asked to provide.

With regard to the other item, the Pan American Health Organization, the amount of \$3,790 which has been provided in the Estimates to pay our contribution to the Pan American Sanitary Organization for 1963 was calculated on the basis of the 1962 assessment. We have now been informed by the Secretary for Technical Co-operation that the *pro rata* contribution for the current year 1963 has been increased. Therefore, supplementary provision of \$480 is now required to make up the total payment of our contribution for 1963 at the increased rate. If hon. members would look at notes 4 and 5 of the Notes to these Supplementary Estimates, they will see that the reasons for the inclusion of these items in this Resolution are as I have set out. I beg to move that Head 47 stand part of the Schedule.

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

*The question that Head 47 stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.*

#### 1. — ANNEXED ESTIMATES — POST OFFICE

*Head 1. — Annexed Estimates — Post Office — was called.*

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, under this Head there are two items — item 20 — Inland Mails — in respect of which the sum of \$5,276 is required, and Item 39A (New) "Rent" in respect of which the sum of \$480 is required. With regard to "Inland Mails", it has been pointed out that a new contract has been agreed upon with effect from the 1st April, 1963, for the conveyance of inland mails between the General Post Office and the District Post Offices. The present tentative provision of \$12,724 in the Estimates is inadequate and we are therefore forced with the necessity of providing an additional amount of \$5,276 in order to pay the new contract rates to the end of the current financial year.

As to the new item "Rent", the sum of \$480 is required to cover the cost of the rental of a room at Eagle Hall corner, which is being used as additional accommodation for the Black Rock Post Office because the accommodation there has become inadequate. This room is rented at a monthly figure of \$40 and provision on this basis for a year will cost \$480. I beg to move that this Head Annexed Estimates — Post Office — stand part of the Schedule.

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

*The question that Head 1. Annexed Estimates — Post Office — stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.*

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: I now beg to move, Mr. Chairman, that a Resolution for the sum of \$29,650 do now pass.

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

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

#### SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE, 1963-64, No. 10

##### GRANT TO THE BARBADOS WORKERS' UNION

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: The next Resolution, Mr. Chairman, which I trust by now is in the hands of hon. members, is for the sum of \$1,064. This sum is to be granted from the Public Treasury and placed 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. 10 which forms the

Schedule to the Resolution. As is explained in the Addendum, the Extra-Mural Department of the University of the West Indies is holding a seminar for Trade Union Organizers in the Caribbean area at the Aquatic Club from the 15th July to 31st August. The course will be residential and the charge for accommodation will be \$11 per day per student. The Barbados Workers' Union has been allocated five places on the course and the Union has requested financial assistance from the Government in order to enable it to take up these places. The cost of subsistence for five students amounts to the sum of \$2,640 of which the Union is expected to receive a grant of approximately \$511.44 from the International Labour Organization. Hon. members will note that the Union has also stated that it will incur additional expenditure such as the entertainment of the visiting students and the Union may find it necessary to make payments to the local students in order to maintain their take-home pay during the period of the course.

The Government is of the opinion that the Union should be enabled to participate fully in the seminar and proposes to make a grant to the Union on a dollar-for-dollar basis up to a maximum of \$1,064. The Government considers that these courses are of tremendous importance to the workers in this country. If the Union is to play its logical part in the community, it is highly imperative that both the leaders and the rank and file should be properly trained and be fully aware of their responsibilities, and they must also have some proper knowledge of their commitments to the country in which they live and operate. The Government is therefore very, very pleased that the Extra-Mural Department of the University of the West Indies is conducting this course and it is more than desirous that the local Union should participate to the maximum extent possible. The Union itself will have to find a certain amount of money, as has already been pointed out, both for the entertainment of the students in attendance at the seminar, as well as to supplement the take-home pay of the Barbados students who are attending the course. For this and other reasons the Union is soliciting the assistance of the Government in meeting the expenses incurred in this entire operation. 1.05 p.m.

There may be some people in the community who may cavil at the action of the Government in taking funds from the Public Treasury for this purpose on the ground that the Union should defray all the expenses or make some effort to do so. But the Government feels justified in taking this step in the interest of the achievement of the objects I have outlined earlier.

The Government feels, as I have said earlier, that the only way in which the Trade Union Movement in Barbados can play a most effective part in the life of the community and make a most vital contribution, which it can, is by providing a core of properly trained and fully equipped Trade Union Leaders in the Island. This is a course which is designed to inculcate into the students who attend it the maximum sense of responsibility and a proper appreciation of the obligations involved. This course will make some contribution towards providing this community with the sort of Trade Unionists which the Government feels it should have.

I therefore beg to move that the Resolution for \$1,064 do now pass.

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

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, I think it would be proper for me to say something on this matter, because this request originated from the Organisation with which I am closely associated. In certain circumstances, I may be regarded as taking a vote on something in which I have an interest. Some people may say that I am interested in this matter because I am paid by the Barbados Workers' Union, and this Resolution provides the Union with funds. However, I do not have any pecuniary interest in the matter. I am not one of the students, but I would like to compliment the Government in the action it has taken. I hope that this will not be associated with any other request which is subsequently made, because I would like to say that this Government was a little slow in agreeing to a principle similar to this on a former occasion.

I remember that a course was held in Jamaica last year and a similar request was made, but the Union was not granted anything on that occasion. I would like to refer to this amount as a subvention to the Barbados Workers' Union. In truth and in fact, it is a subvention to the University of the West Indies, because it is not the Barbados Workers' Union as such that is holding the course. This course is held by the University of the West Indies and if the Governments of the West Indies had provided the University with the money, it would have been able to carry on the course and the Unions would have been requested to pay.

I would like to point out that the I.L.O. have fellowships all over the world of various types of education and U.N.E.S.C.O. make money available to universities. The I.L.O. made a subvention of \$3,000 U.S. to the University to defray the cost of a course. The I.L.O. would not make a subvention unless they are satisfied that the University would be capable of running a proper trade union course.

I would like the people to understand this matter clearly. We are not immune from idiots in the world, and somebody may say that the Barbados Workers' Union was given a subvention for a trade union course when somebody else is not given a subvention to go and study photography or something like that. It must be remembered that the Barbados Government as such does not place in the Estimates specific amounts to take care of adult education which includes industrial training which is part of the United Kingdom policy.

For example, my organisation has been invited by the Ministry of Labour in the United Kingdom to nominate people to be sent on a similar course to be held in the United Kingdom. Passages will be paid by the United Kingdom as well as subsistence allowance during the time the students will be attending the course. About \$3,000 to \$4,000 will be paid out by the British Government in connection with this course. There is nothing unusual for a Government to make subventions like this one. The United States Treasury makes subvention to Harvard University in California. Cornell is an excellent industrial relations department and it gets a subvention to assist in certain things. Moreover, the Government of Barbados is not making any precedent by making this subvention available to the Union. A similar course was held in Jamaica in 1952 and two candidates were sent from Barbados. I have pointed this out so that the Government and organisations will be aware that it is necessary to plan for these things and insert provision for them in the Estimates instead of dealing with them on an *ad hoc* basis.

The Barbados Workers' Union will have to provide a certain amount of money. I should like to take this opportunity to say how very much we appreciate the attitude of the Employers' Federation for accepting the principle of paying workers, who are attending training courses, their full wages. But, as has been explained by the Minister, there are a few borderline cases where a man may be working for basic wages, but during the time he is attending the course an employer does not pay him the extra money for the accumulation of overtime. That results in a net loss to the man, because he cannot get the money he could have earned. In these circumstances, the Union may find it possible to assist such people financially.

I want to point out that this is not the first Government to vote money to assist people going on overseas courses. In a place like Barbados, one cannot prevent people from saying at some subsequent date that this was done for the Barbados Workers' Union and it should be done for somebody else. We should be very careful in dealing with such matters, because the Government of Barbados is a participating member of the University.

I would prefer the University itself to be the sponsor of such courses and be given the necessary subventions to cover the cost. This course is one of the most expensive courses that we have ever had to attend, and I would suggest to the Minister of Education that the Government of Barbados should explore the possibility of establishing an institution for such courses that are non-commercial.

For instance, my organisation has been using Codrington College, but it can only use the College on a temporary basis.  
1.05 - 1.15 p.m.

If this were done at Erdiston College, which is a residential College, we would be able to get it done on a cheap basis, probably about \$3 or \$4 a day.

Sir, while on this I wish to say that the Hon. Minister for Education has already indicated the intention of the Government as regards a Labour College. I do feel that there are big, old buildings in this Island which are large enough to accommodate a College for this work. I am not acting as a real estate agent but I understand that Farley Hill House with its quarters and its environment would be a suitable place to make an educational institute because it is out of town, and it is situated where students can be away from the hustle and bustle of life. Along with that, it has some fine grounds attached to it.

We need somewhere like that where students and teachers can make use of, and where students can pay for such facilities at a normal cost. As hon. members know, very few organisations would be able to find \$1,000 to pay for these things and, as a matter of fact, some do not even have a surplus of \$1,000. Hon. members would know that there is not only this but the other things which the Barbados Workers' Union has to do, and which call for money to be spent. I feel if we have an Institute which can be used for training courses, other voluntary organisations would be able to use that place too.

I would like to underwrite what the Hon. Minister said about training courses. There are some people in Barbados who feel that a Trade Union is only a rabble-rousing organisation and an organisation to get some more money for the people. We have some excellent musicians or people who play music by air and because of that some people feel that everything can be played by air. They feel that the Trade Union Movement can be played by air, but it cannot be played by air, more so, those Trade Unions in developing territories. When people are trained like these students are trained, it is not for the benefit of the Union solely, but for the community as a whole, because you are exposing your young men and women of the world to things which are important. You can therefore see that I do not look at things in an insular way.

Sir, I hope that we do not get from this Resolution the rubbish argument which we get in the Press and by people imputing motives such as "this was done for the Barbados Workers' Union." This has been done with no other motive than that which a thing like this is done by the British Government. The British Government is doing it for people in colonial territories and there is the Colombo Plan which makes provision for these things. The people of India have made frequent visits to all parts of the world at the expense of people who have contributed to the public's purse. If the people of Canada and Great Britain and the other people who are connected with the Colombo Plan contribute to these things, I do not see there is anything wrong for the people of Barbados to make a contribution to something which would mean something better to the community as a whole.

I am sure from what people can see from our organisation here, they can very well see that if you have a responsible Trade Union in existence as against an industrial organisation such as one which is only a mania of a political party which would cause it to inflict the community with periodical disturbances, that is a clear example that you should do anything you can to enhance the work of a responsible organisation and to promote it because anything which is done for that organisation is done for the community as a whole.

Sir, as I have had a close association with the Trade Union organisation of this country, I can speak from the horse's mouth. There are many hon. members on the other side who do not know much about it.

Sir, I am very pleased to say that you are going to have a University which is going to function not only intra-

murally, but extra-murally. We hope that just as the Canadians have done already, that some day the University of the West Indies would see its way to establish a faculty for these things which we are thinking of and where it would be possible for the right type of people to go and take out a degree in a course of Sociology and Practice in the Theory of the Trade Union Movement, as well as the Social Science, because the community would be able to benefit from their knowledge. I do not think the University of the West Indies is in a lesser position today than that of the McGill University in Canada, which is doing these things. The day will come when the Trade Union itself will be making a contribution to the University by way of finance in order to set up such faculties in the University for the benefit of the community as a whole.

Sir, this Resolution has instigated and stemmed from my own organisation and I am glad that the Government has seen fit to bring it in, and as time goes on I hope we will see in the Estimates a contribution for industrial training in the same way as you have provision for other training in the Island, because industrial training is just as important and it should run parallel with that of other training.

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

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

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

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

1.25 p.m.

#### PUBLIC EMPLOYEES PENSIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Premier:— To move the second reading of a Bill to amend Public Employees Pensions Act, 1961.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, this Bill is a very short Bill to amend the Public Employees Pensions Act, 1961. In Section 16 (3) of that Act there is a reference to Regulation 11 in the Third Schedule of the Act. It has been discovered that that was a printer's error and the reference should have been one to Regulation 13 which is the Regulation which provides for the grant of a gratuity and a reduced pension instead of the full pension similar to the normal provision for public employees for the acceptance of reduced pensions and gratuities in certain circumstances. All this Bill seeks to do is to rectify a mistake which appears in Section 16 (3) of the Public Employees Pensions Act, 1961. I therefore beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

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

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to enquire of the Hon. Premier if any progress has been made in the matter in connection with this Bill where I mentioned that there were persons who have retired and some of them have been waiting for their pensions for as long as two years. There is a very critical case where a man who has retired and who has been coming to me. I would like to know if the Hon. Premier can let us know if any progress has been made in connection with this matter. This is all in connection with this Bill which deals with public employees and it is on that basis that I would like to know if, in passing this Bill in order to rectify an error which has been made in a previous Bill, we can know what progress has been made with regard to the implementation of that Bill which has been passed in 1961.

Mr. SPEAKER: I suggest that that matter could be more appropriately gone into in the Committee stage particularly when we come to Section 2 of the Bill. That is the matter on which the hon. senior member for St. Peter was seeking some enlightenment.

*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.

Clause 1 was called and passed.

Clause 2 was called. It reads as follows:—

2. The Public Employees Pensions Act, 1961 shall have effect and shall be deemed always to have had effect as if the word "thirteen" were substituted for the word "eleven" appearing in the definition of the expression "commuted pension gratuity" in subsection (3) of section 16.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: I beg to move that Clause 2 stand part of the Bill.

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

Hon. E. W. BARROW and Mr. SMITH rose to speak.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The Hon. Premier caught my eye first.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Chairman, I suppose that the hon. junior member for St. Joseph is going to ask that we make a provision to amend Clause 16 (3) in order to deal with Regulation 13 instead of Regulation 11, because I notice that everything that the Government has set out in its Manifesto and is actually implementing, he is asking questions about. However, Sir, I really rose to reply to the question which has been asked by the hon. senior member for St. Peter which, although not strictly germane to the matter which we are discussing now, I have no objection to replying at this stage. The hon. member has asked what progress has been made in this matter whereby certain retired members of the Unestablished Staff of the casual employees of the Government have had to wait for a considerable length of time in order to get their pensions. The position is that, as I have explained before, there was no system of keeping records particularly in the Works Department in relation to the casual employees. As a matter of fact, not only were the employees regarded as casual employees, but the whole method of dealing with these employees appears to have been one of a casual nature because they were not permanent employees of the Government. The pay sheets used to be made out in such a way — I do not want to say anything about the pay sheets because in that case that would only start another debate now.

1.35 p.m.

I should like to say, in all due seriousness, that this Government is not unaware of certain tricks which have been fostered, encouraged and developed to a very high degree in the last Government. The Government has evidence to indicate that people were not only taken off Government work, but were sent to work on private projects. I do not want to call names at this stage, but I think I should mention on the floor of this House that those persons who are still doing that and have become imbued for a long time in this practice are looking for trouble because the police are

investigating this matter. We intend to come down very heavily on these people and use the full force of the law against them. This practice was actively encouraged, fostered and developed by the last Government, and members who are not members of that particular party — nearly every single person in this House knows that what I am saying is correct. You can go outside in this yard and call any member of the Public Works and ask him to give you the names of these people.

I have had a complaint up to last week. The file which I have on this matter is about three inches thick and it will be turned over shortly to the Police Authorities. If I may give you an illustration, this is something which occurred at the abattoir where the Government spent about \$1 1/2 million. Certain houses have been built around the borders of the parish of St. George which we know about. I do not want to go into details because the culprits will flee from the Island before the force of law falls upon them. I do not want the taxpayers' money to be used on private projects.

Certain Government Departments will have to take the responsibility for being a bit tardy in computing and paying out these pensions to people who were casual workers because the records are in an ungodly mess and some of them are non-existent. We have to rely on affidavits sworn to by public servants and engineers regarding the length of time people have been working. This state of affairs is due to the malfeasance or misfeasance of the last Government.

If a Government knows what it is doing, the first thing it does is to set its administrative house in order so as to make sure that that sort of haphazard system of accounting is not perpetuated, and that a proper account is kept of the public funds of this Island. This Government has introduced the principle of a Public Accounts Committee. The Government has made use of the Statistical Office and the Organisation and Methods Department to make sure that proper, up-to-date, modern accounting and record systems are kept in Government Departments. Government Departments could not function smoothly under the old set-up, which we discovered to our horror when we came into office.

I should like to reassure the hon. member for St. Peter that everything is being done to pay out these pensions to the people who are entitled to them. I cannot guarantee that the Government is going to pay pensions to people who cannot satisfy it — I would not say beyond a shadow of doubt, but certainly a high standard of proof which is necessary even in a Civil Court will have to be shown by those who are entitled to these pensions. This procedure may hurt a few people but that is not our fault. We cannot pay people who are foisted on us unless we are satisfied that their claims are correct. It is known that some people work on estates and then they work with Government for about a year. Such people will have to comply with the requirements of the Pensions Act.

Mr. MILLER: Sir, I understood that the Hon. Premier wanted to discuss the question of pensions, but it would appear as though he has been discussing the last Government. The last Government has been accused of everything including the failures of the present Government during the last eighteen months. The Premier says that this form of corruption took place during the regime of the last Government and I think he should do everything possible to send the members of the last Government to prison. He says that Government materials have been used to build private houses. I believe that the Hon. Premier would be failing in his duty if he did not take steps to have the people involved in this matter prosecuted before the Court.

Almost every charge in the Statute Book has been brought against the last Government. We have been accused of over-taxation, but today this Government like a vampire running after its victims is sucking the life blood from the taxpayers in this Island. The Hon. Premier says that the members of the last Government can be accused of this, that and the other.

However, today, we are discussing pensions, but we are told that the last Government has failed to meet certain requirements. We are also told that workmen who are

entitled to certain things have not been given them. There was some talk about a run on the Treasury, and we were also told about what took place at the abattoir. I would be extremely happy if the hon. Premier would take the necessary steps to prosecute and send to prison the people in the last Government who are now accused of such behaviour. It is all well and good to make certain statements in this House. During and after the elections the last Government was accused of everything under the sun, and this is merely another attempt to say bad things about the members of the last Government.

1.35 - 1.45 p.m.

I am asking the Hon. Premier of this country to do something about it and to make a release to the public. There again we are up against some ugly contraption of what is meant for the people of this country.

Sir, with your permission I repeat that the Hon. Premier would be failing in his duty if there is any source which he can bring to prove that these forms of corruption referred to the last Government are true, if he does not prefer charges against those persons so as to send them to prison.

Mr. WALCOTT: Sir, I am thankful to the hon. member for the explanation which he has given and to know what progress was made in connection with that. I was in complete agreement with him when he said that it was the responsibility of the Government to make sure that the administrative procedure was in order before we passed legislation that involves administrative accounting, and it is very evident that this was not done.

I am in complete agreement with him and I am aware, as I would term it and as Americans would term it, that this bit of legislation was passed with good intentions but at the time it was passed, it was passed as a political gimmick. It was passed in 1961 when the administrative machinery probably was not geared for it, but because the General Elections were going to take place in that year. What is evident is that had the administrative machinery been in order, no man would have had to wait two years.

This is not as a result of Government's policy but this is as a result of Government's lacking in its administrative function. Where I see that it is a very serious thing is that a man before he is pensioned is called upon to retire at a certain time and to do a thing like this and then keep him back so long is not the best thing.

I accept the explanation that something is being done but the Hon. Premier must bear the responsibility for whatever a previous Government does because you must bear in mind that whatever was good, you have taken over, therefore, whatever was bad, you also have to take it over.

I do not agree with the view of the last hon. member who spoke. It is evident that the last Government did not have the administrative arrangement geared to meet the legislation which it passed, therefore, I do not agree with the hon. member when he said that it is a matter of looking back too much at the last Government. I think it is a matter of stating a fact. The people today are suffering because of poor administrative arrangements. You are asking people to go up at the back of the Drill Hall and look for old files in order to find something which may not have been even there.

An amendment should be made in accordance with this matter. It should be, either that you reach some arbitrary agreement and come down with legislation saying that a person who has worked for so many years and can satisfy you that that is so, in the absence of anything to the contrary, you should let the onus be on the Government Department to prove that what he said was not so. But to ask a poor man who is not possessed with the knowledge of keeping a record of these things to satisfy you that he has done so and so and to bring along proof is a difficult thing for him. As a matter of fact, I have knowledge that there are some people who do not know their correct age. As hon. members know, there were some old people who regarded it as rudeness for their children to ask what was their age and

some of them had to go and look in some old Bible to see something scribbled as to what was their age. We know that too well because there are those of us who have had to go and ascertain our own ages. There are some people who tell you that they were going to school when the 1898 storm took place but for them to tell you the correct date of their birth would be a very difficult thing for them to do.

Sir, I would like to see something done so that these people would be able to get their pension. I think it is going to involve this Government in more confusion because although this matter was passed by the last Government, this Government has to take the responsibility; the reason being, that the last Government is not now in power, therefore, the last Government is not going to be accused by the pensioners for not paying them. Some members of the last Government would even go as far as to tell those people that it is this Government which is keeping you back. That argument can be used and they can say that it is this Government which is keeping it back. I think something should be done to circumvent that.

I can tell the Hon. Premier this. The attitude of some Civil Servants is as such that they believe that they have contracted out of society when they get into a Government Department. It is amazing. I had a classic example sometime this week. I went into a Government Department where I saw some people were involved and you were asking for a simple matter and the way in which the Civil Servants treated the enquiry, you were bound to come to the conclusion that those people were asking for one of the biggest secrets at the Atomic Energy Plant. It is a peculiar conceit of this community that when these children leave school and go to work in a Government Department, they feel that they are completely lost to other members of this society and there is this numbness and coldness towards you as if you were some trespasser. More so is this strange attitude shown by them when they have to deal with people like carpenters, masons, labourers and the like. They do not think that it is their duty to help such people and the way in which they treat such people is with dismay. This attitude by Civil Servants is not going to do us any good. As soon as they leave school and join the Civil Service and find themselves wearing a white shirt and tie and feel that they have the symbols for "touch me not, I am the Lord's anointed."

1.55 p.m.

That is the sort of peculiar attitude in the Civil Service. The Civil Servants must get down to the fact that they are a part of the community in which they live and they must help people. All this numbness and coldness are not good for this community. They are only looking at the cantonnier who is employed in the street to see that he is not working but you cannot measure the work of these other people. It is not an easy matter to measure if a man is lazy in the office in the same way as we can measure a man who is lazy in the road. All of this nonsense must cease; it is largely at this level and at this point that you get this state of affairs. Mr. Chairman, I am speaking from experience. I repeat that this coldness and numbness in which the Civil Servants want to approach the public must be stopped. If they happen not to know who you are, that is the sort of thing you get; but if it is Mr. Walcott, somebody will say: "Oh, that is Mr. Walcott". I say that that is not good enough. If you are according a member of the House the respect which is due to him, you must also accord that same respect to other members of the community.

I hope that the Hon. Premier will let the Civil Servants know what has been mentioned in here. If you have four thousand eight hundred and ninety-one people in the Civil Service then the last person is included in this. What I am saying is not an indictment of anybody but if all of them are so stupid as to believe that it applies to all of them, well all of them are fitted to what I have said. I sincerely hope that this will be the last occasion on which I will have to say what I have said. I thank the Hon. Premier for his reply but you have to expedite matters in such a way that these people can get relief. I would not like to say that this matter is being done in a haphazard manner, but I think that something could be worked out between the Executive Committee and the Ministers so that these things can be dealt with more expeditiously.

*The question that Clause 2 stand part of the Bill 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 of this Bill in Committee.

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

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

*Mr. CHAIRMAN reported and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.*

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

#### LEAVE TO DEAL WITH RESOLUTION

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, it has been drawn to my attention that there is a matter of urgency with reference to a Resolution of which notice was given earlier today, a Resolution for the sum of \$144,000 to be placed at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to supplement the current Estimates 1963-64. That Resolution refers to the payment of a cost of living allowance to pensioners. We have to increase the amount which is provided in the Estimates under the Head "Pensions", in order to grant this \$10.00 a month cost of living allowance which the Government has agreed to allocate to Government pensioners during the Budget Proposals earlier this year. I am quite sure that hon. members will appreciate the importance and the urgency of making this money available to these pensioners in the very shortest possible time and will therefore agree to the request which I now propose to make. As a matter of fact, I am sure that hon. members will concur in that request. I am requesting that leave be granted to deal later on in the day with this Resolution in all of its stages so as to expedite the time in which this money will be made available to the people whom it is designed to help. I propose to deal with that Resolution later on in the day and I am now merely giving notice of my intention to ask for leave to deal with it. At this stage, Sir, I am going to move that this sitting be now suspended for forty minutes.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member should ask leave to proceed with this Resolution to which he has referred, on the resumption of the sitting, as a matter of urgency.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Very well, Sir. I am asking leave that the House resume Committee of Supply on the resumption of the sitting and that it be an instruction to the Committee to deal with this money Resolution to which I have just made reference.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member is asking leave that the House resume Committee of Supply on the resumption of the sitting and that it be an instruction to the Committee to deal with a Resolution to which reference has just been made. If there is no objection, leave will be granted the hon. member. *(After a pause)*. There being no objection, leave is granted the hon. member to deal with this Resolution. 2.05 p.m.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this sitting be suspended for forty minutes.

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

*The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.*  
2.10 p.m.

*On re-assembling,*

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, there is no quorum, and I ask that the Bell be rung.

*The Bell was rung and a quorum obtained.*

Mr. SPEAKER: When the sitting was suspended, the Hon. Leader of the House had sought and obtained leave to move

that the next Order of the Day be a Resolution for \$144,000, of which notice has been given and of which copies, I understand, have been duly circulated.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the next Order of the Day be Committee of Supply and that instructions be given to that Committee to deal with the Resolution for the sum of \$144,000.

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

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

#### COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Leader of the House: To move the passing of the following Resolution. Resolution to place the sum of \$144,000 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. 8, which forms a Schedule to the Resolution.

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

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

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

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

#### SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE, 1963-64, No. 8

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Chairman, this Resolution for \$144,000 is to implement a proposal put forward during the Budget Speech towards the end of April or early in May this year in which the Government decided, as part of the Budgetary Proposals, to alleviate the position in which Government Pensioners who retired before the 1st April, 1961, may have found themselves as a result of having retired from the Public Service of the Island at a time when salaries were far below what there are now for equivalent posts.

There has been a suggestion, or there have been suggestions from time to time that a flat rate of increase in the pensions of retired Government Servants is not the most appropriate way in which to deal with a matter of this kind. There has also been a suggestion on the floor of this House that whenever there is an increase in the emoluments paid to Government employees, whether that increase comes consequent upon a report of a Commissioner or otherwise, that there should be some kind of escalator principle whereby pensions should automatically be upgraded to the same degree as if a person receiving the pension had retired from the post which he formerly occupied subsequent to the day on which the salary revision was made. Some precedent has been referred to — I think the case of British Guiana has been used as an illustration — in which some similar rule appeared.  
3.00 p.m.

The Government has investigated all of these arguments with a great deal of care and we have come to the conclusion that while it may be highly desirable in a community where there are adequate resources to relate Government pensions directly to the salaries which are now being received, by the holders of equivalent posts, yet on the other side of the picture, to institute a system like that at this stage where the present posts command salaries, probably five or six times higher in some instances to the salaries enjoyed by the former holders of the offices, would place an inordinate burden on the taxpayers of this Island.

What we have tried to do in introducing this raise of \$120 per annum to all Government pensioners is to introduce a principle by a percentage system to ensure that

those who enjoy small pensions would receive the same raise as those who enjoy large pensions. If I may give an illustration, a person who has been in receipt of a pension of \$40 per month, percentage wise, the increase which this Resolution seeks to implement, would mean a 25% increase in pension to that person. On the other hand, a person who is getting a pension of \$100 a month now, the \$10 increase would represent a 10% increase and in the intermediate brackets, the increase would be correspondingly lower. Sir, you will therefore see that the principle is perfectly equitable, its administration is easy to operate and it does place the emphasis on the people in the lower brackets where the emphasis is due.

Some proposals were put forward by some Government pensioners whereby a sliding scale should be brought into operation, that is to say, a system whereby you calculate it on the principle of 40% on the first \$50, 30% on the second \$50, and 15% on the third \$50. This was quite an arbitrary arrangement put forward by a group of the Government Pensioners Association. A calculation of the amount made by that method would have meant an increase of over \$330,000 a year. When this was examined it was discovered that no attempt was made to calculate the individual effect of such a sliding scale on which each of those 1,400 Government pensioners would receive, and therefore the \$330,000 would be substantially more than that if proper attention was paid to the percentage increase on the amount received by individual Government pensioners.

In an exercise of this kind it is very easy to stand up on one's foot and enunciate some new kind of economic theory and say that this is the way how it should be done. The most important thing at the time of the Budget was that we should not spend another two years discussing the merits or demerits of a different formula but that something should be done which would inure almost immediately to the pensioners. No one in this House would argue that something should not be done about an increase of pensions for this group of former Government employees. The only argument which can arise is out of the formula which the Minister of Finance has chosen in order to implement something which hon. members on this side consider ought to be done and done as soon as possible. If you are going to give assistance to people, the assistance is doubly given if it comes at an early time in their predicament and if it does not come when it is too late for them to appreciate or benefit from the assistance which is given.

We have therefore investigated all possible ways in which the increase can be implemented and we have also taken into consideration the financial state of the Government. There was a substantial deficit in the Estimates for this year where expenditure on all Government services exceeded revenue by probably \$1 1/4 million and new provisions had to be made for collecting additional revenue in order to meet not only the existing commitments but also the increase in Government pensions which had been promised. Taking all these things into consideration and taking into consideration also the fact that in 1962-63 and in part of 1961 when we came into office that for the first time in ten years, Government was confronted with all bills and deficits, and for the first time in ten years, Government did not have at its disposal surpluses of the order of \$2 million to \$3 million, I think the Government had done remarkably well to mete out this increase to this group of members of the public by introducing provision for the payment of additional pension of \$120 per annum to all of the Government pensioners. To some of them, the increase will be as high as 50% on their present receipts and to none of them would it be certainly below 5% and it is commonly accepted that the people who are receiving more can do with a little less than the people who are receiving a little pension because the cases of hardship are those at the bottom of the ladder rather than to those at the top and it is remarkable that those persons in receipt of substantial pensions are the type of people who can find employment after they retire. You will find that people who are receiving comparatively large pensions, the people in those grades, are those in demand by people in the private sector and you will find that some of them are even re-employed on a contractual basis; but I should mention in passing that it is not any part

of Government's policy to re-employ persons on a contractual basis if suitable applicants for those jobs are available inside this community and in the Public Service. However, there is the isolated case in which sometimes for a short period it is expedient to re-employ somebody on a contractual basis.

Let us take the case of the Unestablished Staff. The people of the Unestablished Staff who have passed the age of 65 years are those who find it hard to get employment after they retire and they are the people on whom the emphasis should be placed and although we have projected an increase of \$10 on top of what pension he or she may be receiving, one must not disregard the fact that the percentage of increase is much higher for those in the lower brackets than those in the higher brackets.

Sir, I do not think that there is much more for me to say on the second reading of this Bill. The total amount for the balance of this financial year would be \$144,000 and the pensions would be payable as from the 1st April, 1963, therefore, at the end of the month, all Government pensioners would be in receipt of an additional \$40 over and above their monthly pension.

I think it comes at a good time in the year for these pensioners. When this comes into effect, almost all of our promises in our election manifesto would be completed from page one to page sixteen systematically, though not necessarily chronologically. In some respects, we are to page sixteen but in no respects are we back to page one.

I beg to move that this Resolution be now agreed to.

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

Mr. WALCOTT: I do not oppose this Bill but I want to draw the Hon. Premier's attention to something. While I agree that the theory of computing pensions depends on the particular stages and so forth of the pensioners, I do feel that there comes a time when we shall have to call a halt. While I do say that this increase of \$10 per month to all Government pensioners would mean a lot to some of them, what we have to bear in mind is that pensioners in any service should be marginal.  
3.10 p.m.

The bulk of your money which is to be paid out in pensions is based on the upthrow of the new pensioners and it is not so much a question that the old pensioners will last very long. You are working on an age-limit and that is why I have suggested that, with the system of paying pensioners, if and when you review salaries, that is the only justification for it. I think that in this island there are some people who get things cock-eyed. A man's pension is based on his salary, whatever it is, when he retires. You get this argument that a person has been drawing a pension since 1920, but if you have never changed salaries since 1920, a person who has gone on pension now, would not be any better off than the person who retired in 1920. The Government has accepted that argument because it says that it is not paying people who go on pension after April, 1961, this new pension because it is in relation to the salary. The hon. member has said that you cannot negotiate with a body and say that this is a body of pensioners which you have. It can happen that some of your high pensioners may die tomorrow, and some of your low pensioners may also die; but I think that you should put an end completely to this scramble. It is true that in the United States of America President Kennedy said that he was reviewing pensions but in this island the payment of pensioners is used as a political platform and not as a structure for reviewing the system which you have.

It is for this reason that I consider that you should review pensions in the light of your salary structure. I was talking to one of the constituents of the Hon. Premier on Saturday. He said that he was working with the railway and hon. members will know how long this person has retired. Some of these people are getting an abolition pension. I know that it is becoming very fashionable for people in Barbados to retire when they should be working. I do not know

on what grounds some of these people retire, but I am astonished to see that some men who are in the prime of life, who have been working for the Barbados Government, have retired from the Public Service. It is true that some of them did not have much brain and they should not have been in the Public Service as such; rather they should be in a public institution or a mental home because they have not got the mental power or ability which is required for employment in the Public Service. As I was saying, Sir, what surprises me is that men who are in the prime of life, want to look forward to an era where they will just be going to the Public Treasury and collecting pensions. We have a situation here where a man at the age of 50 years can ask to be retired; at the age of 55 you can ask him to retire and at the age of 60 years retirement is compulsory. In Barbados, where a man has reached his middle fifties, I think that that man has a lot more life in him and what I am worried about is to think that if what I have just mentioned becomes fashionable, the Government will find that instead of having a normal percentage of people on its pension list, it will have something like fifty per cent of its total labour force on pension. I am saying that that will become a very serious position. If the pensionable force rises to the point of your labour force, then it means that you will be retiring people at too early a stage.

It is just like an insurance. Your pensionable structure will be wrong if you have a large proportion of your working population on pension. A pension is only something by means of which a man can free-wheel in the evening of his days. The idea of a pension is not to put a man permanently on the responsibility of the Treasury so that he can draw the benefits of the Treasury. If a person can work until he reaches a reasonable age, then the pensionable age will be increased; but where the number of persons who retire on pension are increasing, we will reach the stage where we are carrying an overload. If you have 1,400 pensioners with a labour force of 400 people or if you have 5,000 people but your national income has not increased any more — you will find that your expenditure will be increasing proportionately higher than your income increase because the structural arrangement has not been examined.  
3.20 p.m.

I think this is something the Government will have to examine very carefully, otherwise you will have a lot of people drawing pensions who have not done active service. If the health arrangements here are not good, we will have to review the matter. I feel that pensions should be so calculated that this sort of political bait that can be made to pensioners should cease. I feel that if a man is entitled to a pension, he should be given a proper pension.

I hope that the Hon. Premier and the Government will look into this matter so that we will be relieved of this sort of thing. The other point I have raised is an important one in so far as the community as a whole is concerned. I have seen people who are able to work, and I do not think it is fair to the public to be saddled with too many pensioners — pensioners who should continue to work in the service, but are content to draw a pension and retire. I do not think it would be necessary or proper for me to call names, but I say that too many people who look fairly strong are drawing pensions. I do not think that strong-looking people should be paid pensions, unless they are permitted to retire on medical grounds. I know that a lot of able-bodied people are retiring from the Service and saddling this community with a higher pensions vote.

*The question that the Resolution for the sum of \$144,000 do now pass was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.*

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

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

## HOUSE RESUMES DEBATE ON THE FEDERATION OF THE EAST CARIBBEAN CONFERENCE

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Education: To resume debate on the following Resolution:-

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

When this debate was adjourned, the hon. junior member for St. Joseph was speaking, but I do not know whether the hon. member has concluded his address.

### AMENDMENTS FROM THE OTHER PLACE

Mr. SPEAKER: Before this matter is proceeded with, I would like to avail myself of this opportunity to mention that I have just received from the Other Place a Bill to consolidate and revise the law relating to Trade Unions which, according to my information, has been passed with certain amendments. I have not had the opportunity of discovering what these amendments are and, perhaps, hon. members would desire that the Bill be printed as it passed this Chamber together with the amendments which passed the Other Place and that such printed amendments be circulated for the benefit of hon. members of this Chamber.

I cannot say what these amendments are because I have not seen them. The Bill has just been handed to me.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, may I suggest that since the Bill has been in the hands of hon. members before, in order to save time and expense, that Your Honour direct the circulation of the amendments.

Mr. SPEAKER: If the suggestion of the Hon. Leader of the House meets with the approval of the House, the amendments will be circulated. (A pause), I hear no objection, and I will order that the amendments be circulated. 3.30 p.m.

I trust that hon. members still retain copies of the Bill as has been passed by this Chamber.

Mr. WALCOTT: Sir, I think the Hon. Leader of the House should have that amendment printed with the particular clause of the Bill to which the amendment was made by the Other Place instead of having the whole Bill printed with the amendment.

Mr. SPEAKER: I understand that the original clause will be printed on the left hand side and the amendment on the right hand side. I take it that it would be done in that way.

## HOUSE RESUMES DEBATE ON RESOLUTION re EAST CARIBBEAN FEDERATION CONFERENCE

Mr. SPEAKER: As I was saying, it was the hon. junior member for St. Joseph who was speaking when this debate on a previous occasion was completed for that day. Perhaps the hon. junior member for St. Joseph would indicate whether he had completed his remarks or whether he proposes to resume today.

Mr. SMITH: I propose to resume.

Sir, last week I said that from the way in which the Hon. Premier spoke on the Resolution, I could clearly see that a battleground was at Sherbourne. Since then, I have discovered that bombshells were thrown, so after all, I was right.

Now, Sir, we all are in favour of a Federation and a very strong Federation at that. It is no use our going into a Federation and allowing it to remain weak.

Mr. SPEAKER: Just let me interpose for a minute. The hon. member said "last week". There was no meeting of this House last week. Is the hon. member speaking of something said outside of this Chamber last week?

Mr. SMITH: I was referring to the last time I spoke on this Resolution. I am so much accustomed to our meeting every Tuesday that I did not remember that last Tuesday I had a break.

As I was saying, Sir, we are in favour of a very strong Federation and we must go into that with that spirit. It is of no use our trying to say Federation and that is all we mean — just purely calling the name. If we are going to federate, let us federate or do not let us do anything at all.

Now, I can clearly see that at the last Conference of the Council of Ministers, they practically departed from what was written in the White Paper. I do not know, Sir, if it is that every leader wants his own little power. It seems as if it is that each of them does not want to give up this or give up that, but he wants to hold this and to hold that. If every leader were to say the same thing, where are we going? I understand for a fact that Antigua does not want to let go certain things. If the leader of that country does not want to let go certain things, what will become of Federation? The Federation must have something to go back on and something to work by. In short, you must have money to run a Federation.

Now, Sir, I do not know, but imagine Barbados is quite willing to go it alone! That is what I have heard I cannot see it in that way. I may be blind, but I cannot see Barbados going for the whole thing themselves. I have heard that it was said at the Conference that Barbados will go it alone, Federation or no Federation. Well, as I have said already, something must have been wrong. I have been told by the Hon. Premier that he has taken up the Treasury without any money in it and now if he can go it alone, something is wrong somewhere. Trinidad is a very big country, full of oil and all sorts of industries and they have most things, yet they are having headaches now since they are going it alone. I have no doubt that Dr. Williams would throw in the sponge tomorrow and come along with us. It is no mean joke when you want to be independent. You cannot be independent and dependent at the same time on somebody else. Therefore, I fail to see how Barbados can go it alone.

Sir, I have made this note from the speech of the Hon. Premier. He said that the members of the Barbados Democratic Party have committed themselves to the electorate and they had promised that they would go for independence in 1964 with or without a Federation. If that is so, I do not know anything about it. It was not said on the floor of the House. I have not heard that at any public meeting it was put to the people and the people gave the okay to go it alone. I have not heard of it. No matter how I am counted among other legislators, I have not given the okay to our going it alone, and saying that we must be independent by 1964. If that statement is true, what is happening? Barbados never said so. How can we go it alone especially when we do not have the wherewithal to go it alone? If the Government wants to build a 16 by 9 house, they have to tax the people in order to build it, and do you mean to tell me now that you are going in for building a big bungalow? 3.40 p.m.

Hearing that from the Government, it is not encouraging to the British Government to go all out for us and give us the necessary amount to help with the Federation, because we can go it alone. I do not know if this going alone will be like the free school meals. You will make three parishes independent and the other eight parishes will have to contribute to that. I do not know if we mean it in that way. We have got to be realistic; we have got to go about this matter in the right way; we have to tell the people what they can expect. The people do not know anything about it yet; I have read that one Minister drew the matter to the attention of his constituents in one of the other islands. He had a meeting and he tried to explain the matter to the public; he explained what happened at the Conference at "Sherbourne". Well, we heard some of it; we were not told that it was said that we were prepared to go it alone from 1964; that would have to be put forward from this House or from the people.

Is this Federation going on now? Every week you are hearing something new and I am sure that if you had to bring about a Referendum in Barbados with regard to Federation, you will get the same thing as what took place in Jamaica. I am quite sure about that; there are too many doubts about this matter. Things are being hidden from the people because, by now, this Government should be allowing the people to know through the radio or from the public platforms what they are to expect. This Government should be in a position to say what Federation will cost and when it comes to the question of taxation, what we are to look for. All of these things should be told to us. I am wondering if the leaders really know something about this Federation because, if they did, they would let the people know about it; and if they know about it they are hiding something from us. They should let us know what we have to depend upon.

Mr. Speaker, every time that we have a Conference it appears to me that something new is coming from it. We had a White Paper issued from London and I really thought that this Conference at "Sherbourne" would have been the last one; but it appears that we have not yet got anywhere. We have had that Report of the Fiscal Commissioner and I have not read all of that Report. I believe that the proposals which are in that Report should be discussed. That is telling you something now and if you read that, you will have to look forward to what is going to happen. The larger the Federation, the better it will be, but if one wants to go it alone then the reverse will be the case. I understand that one of the leaders is so much in favour of a strong Federation that he prefers some kind of Federation rather than no Federation at all. He has spoken the truth in the first instance; he is in favour of a strong Federation because if it is a strong Federation then we will get somewhere; but rather than fighting for a strong Federation, rather than getting nothing at all, he still prefers Federation. He is so much in favour of a strong Federation that he went to the Conference with his mind made up and things were so hot that he had to go away so as to arrive at something. I do not know who lit the fire up there, but the bombshell was thrown by the Barbados Government. When you get things like that, when things get so hot that they have to change their minds, the people must suffer and what kind of representation will that be? No sooner than we undertake to represent the people, we must be strong and we must give and take. That is how we will get along, but do not let us expect to be always taking; you will have to give sometimes. We must not fight for this little power to run and forget that it is the people who can decide for a Federation now. It is the people who are to decide on Federation because they have to pay the piper and they must call the tune.

The Leaders can meet at all of the Conferences which it is possible to hold, but they still have to meet the Electorate as soon as they have finished with the Conferences and as soon as they have decided to do what they are about to do and to commit each colony by their decisions without the knowledge of the people. Whenever that is done, they still have to face the people. It must be remembered that it is the people who have to elect members to the Federal Government and when you are going to face the Electorate, questions will have to be asked by the Electorate. In these circumstances, are you going to hide from the people? Are you going to make styles? Are you going to bamboozle the people? Are you going to tell them lies? Are you going to fool them? You have to give all the truth to the people because you cannot have a Federal Parliament unless the electorate cast their votes in favour of the leaders. The people still have the trump cards now despite the bosses, the leaders, the Premiers and the Governor-Generals. It is no more a question of fooling the people today; you have to go to the people by means of the radio and the platform and let them know what is taking place.  
3.40 p.m.

It is all right for you to go and decide on certain things and come back on the floor of any Legislature and say that it pleases you to increase the tax on this and that, and that such taxation should come into operation from tomorrow and all the people have to do is to pay it whether they are able or not. That is not good enough. We have time enough to consider this matter, make proper plans, and when we

have come to a decision, it should be an amicable and reasonable one. There is no sense in rushing things in an effort to get Federation and be the Big Shot of the Federation. It is the people who will play an important part, and we have to consider what they have to pay out of their pockets.

I do not know what is going to happen, but I cannot see them having any final conference on Federation before all of the leaders meet again and work out a formula or plan. Are you disregarding the Hicks Report because it is too extravagant, or are you going to accept it? I understand that one of the Islands has already turned down the Report, and it may be necessary for us to resort to some other formula.

The Hon. Premier said that the Committee which was responsible for looking after pensions was dillydallying, and he had to work out something in order to save the lives of pensioners. I commend him for that. From next month, in my opinion, these poor pensioners will be able to get something more.

If these politicians in the other territories are not prepared to sit together and work out a formula to start with, then the same way the Hon. Premier arrived at something for our pensioners, he could put up something to other West Indian Leaders. We are fortunate in having a leader who is an economist, but the other leaders are not economists. We have an economist who may be in a position to turn a two into a six and still get things to work out. Let us work out our own formula, but do not think that because you are an economist that you can work out figures in order to go it alone and squeeze the last drop of blood out of the people of this country.

I am sure that a formula can be worked out for all of the territories and everybody will have to bear the cost. We must all make a sacrifice. We cannot go into Federation and meet a bed of roses. Every territory will have to pay. Do not think for one moment of paying the Ministers of the Federation more than what is paid to the Ministers of the Local Parliament.

I believe there are several people who want to run for the Federal Elections in order to draw a lot of money, but you must let them know that they will not be getting any more or less than a Minister in the Local Government. The Prime Minister will not be getting \$18,000; he will get no more than the Premier of the Local Government. That is how we will have to go about things. I do not care who the person is going to be, because I believe the attraction for some of these people — I am speaking plainly — is money. I am sure that if you whittle it down and give them a small amount for the first five years — one must not start high to go down low; let us start low and rise gradually so that when we reach a height we can remain there. I would not say that this sort of thing happened in the last Federation. I do not know what caused the last Federation to break up, and I am not asking anything about it. I know that, as far as finance is concerned, some good reasons were given.

We want a strong Federation, but how are we going to get it? If you have a delicate child, you will have to feed it on the best things possible in order to make it strong. If you are a mother, you cannot use Lactogen and Ovaltine and give the child hot water. You may have to drink the hot water and give the child good things to make it strong. If we do that we will get somewhere. We will not get anywhere by starting off with big salaries and so on. At this very moment people are saying that such and such a person will be getting this big job and that big job with big salaries and that certain people will suffer.

We must go about Federation in the right way. When you are starting a business, you do not think about making profits immediately. You cannot think about profits before you start; you have to think about the cost. Do not let us think about getting rich overnight; let us think about the cost of Federation, and tell the people about it. Every candidate who is prepared to offer himself as a Federal candidate will have to answer questions put to him from the people. The people are not going to vote blindly any more. The first thing they are going to ask is how much more taxes they

will have to pay, and he will have to answer them. I do not care who will be the Governor-General or the Prime Minister, but the electorate will have to be told about taxation. If you do not put the people right, they will put you wrong, because it is a question of money to be spent.

We want Federation, too, but do not let us work blindly. If it is a fact that the British Government wants to get rid of us that is all right. If the British Government wants to get rid of us, it must pay us. Let us find out at once the true position of this matter. The British Government may not be in a position to tell us how much it can give us, but at least it could tell us something.  
4.00 p.m.

Paragraph 7 reads as follows: "That the terms of the Financial assistance to be given to the Federal Government and Unit Governments by Her Majesty's Government during the ten year period 1963-73 be settled at the Conference to be held in June 1963". (Well that is gone) "or later as the Secretary of State may decide, and should provide for open grants for administrative purposes, grants for establishing the Federation, Development Grants and Development Loans."

Now, Sir, I do not know how lawyers may determine it, but the word "may" is a strong word. You say "or later as the Secretary of State may decide, and should provide for open grants for administrative purposes,....." We have to depend on them to get grants or to get a grant to start off with.

I do not want you to blame me for it but may I ask, about how much are they thinking of giving us? I may get rich tomorrow, or I may die tomorrow. I do not know if I may get rich tomorrow or if I may die tomorrow. I will only say that if we want to encourage these boys to help us on financially, please do not let us curse them, or let other people believe that those boys are not true and are not honest. Do not let us say anything bad about them. Let us praise them as much as possible until we draw. Do not let us curse them, do not let us say anything bad about them because you may be hurting yourselves. We cannot make them give us a pound, when they are out to give us a cent, therefore let us say that they are the best people in the world. Do not let us confuse the other Ministers. Do not let us put the whole thing in chaos. Let us try, as the old people say, to grease the wheel — the wheel of progress.

I do not care what is going to happen now, if we are to go somewhere I would prefer to hold on to the coat tails of the United States or Canada. I feel that if we are going to do anything, we would get assistance from those people. However, do not let us start and when we get out in deep water, we find that there is no kind of assistance for us. Before we go out into deep water, we need to be perfect swimmers. We cannot go out into deep water yet because we are not perfect swimmers. We can do a little around the edge, but as soon as we get out in deep water which calls for good swimming, that means life and death, therefore let us take out time and march and go slowly along until we reach that goal.

Now, Sir, I cannot understand this. You have at sub-paragraph 4 of paragraph 7: "Appointment of Governor-General and creation of Federal Council of ministers into a body corporate with power to legislate by Regulations made by the Governor-General on the advice of the Federal Council limited to a number of subjects, such steps as are necessary for the launching of the Federation."

Now, Sir, you are going into a Federation and before you go to the people to ask them for a vote, you are forming the Federation. How does this thing look? I can never agree to a thing like this. How can I approve of this? You are doing the last thing first. In other words, you are putting the cart before the horse.

In sub-paragraph 5 of Paragraph 7, it is stated: "Federal Elections in 1965."

You are having Federal Elections after you have formed and did everything and in some cases you have left out

some things, because you say "limited to a number of subjects." I would like to know what are these "number of subjects?" All of these things are to be done. You say "appointment of Governor-General". That is alright. You say "creation of Federal Council of Ministers into a body corporate". This Federal Council of Ministers would not be elected by the people. At the present time, this Federal Council of Ministers are still elected by the people of each territory and if they do anything wrong, they will be made to pay for it. This Federal Council of Ministers will be only a Federal Council of Ministers until elections take place and if that is so, it would be worse. If I know that I have power to make rules and regulations but as soon as the Federal Parliament is elected, I will not be there, I will not care what I do; I would make rules and regulations wildly and blindly. When the other people get in and there is a barking and a groaning, I will not be there. I am sure that the people of any of the territories — I know for Barbados — would not elect any person if this thing happens because all of them — the Chief Ministers and the Premier — are talking of a Federation and all these things which are set out in this Appendix but not one person has gone to the polls to elect the Parliament; therefore, do not let us do anything behind their backs; do not let us hide anything from them; do not let us fool them; do not let us trick them, because they have the last say.

Sir, this is very tough. You are doing everything possible before you go to the people. After you have done everything, you say Federal Elections in 1965. After you elect these Chief Ministers and the Premier, these leaders can go ahead and can create a Federal Council of Ministers into a body corporate with power to legislate. Power is what is ruining us today. What has just put poor British Guiana on its face? Power. Now, they are going to give these people power to legislate by regulations.

A regulation is a law. That is what it is to me. I do not know how you would put it to me, but to me a layman, especially one who undertakes things which I cannot manage, I still say that a regulation is a law.  
4.10 p.m.

If these people make the law why are you going to hold a General Election in 1965. If these people are getting together and the Governor-General is appointing these people to do these things, what do you want a General Election for? Do you want a General Election to spend more money on Ministers? I would go throughout the length and breadth of this island and I will tell the people not to vote for me or for anybody else under those conditions. I would say; let those boys carry on. The vote is our right. As I speak to the Electorate I say that the vote is a sacred thing. The vote is better than a cheque book because sometimes you have a cheque book with one hundred cheques and you do not have four cents. When it comes to the Federal Government, the voting is more serious because when you are voting for the Local Government you know what to expect but you do not know what to expect when it comes to the Federal Government because you are not told. However, I know what to expect; your hands will have to go deeper into your pocket and you will have to pull the lining out of your pocket as well. As some hon. members have said, if you want these things you will have to pay for them.

There are some of us who say that we want to have a motor car and we are not even able to pay for a donkey cart, but we want the motor car because it is a necessity.

When we come to Item No. 4 in Appendix "A" of this Statement, that is a serious item and this will cause me to vote against this Resolution unless the Hon. Minister is able to convince me about it, and I may say that I can be quickly convinced. As I have said just now, we have not done anything as far as Federation is concerned. All of these Conferences have gone with the wind because Antigua does not want certain things to be removed. Are you going to federate with Antigua when she is holding her power for herself and the others have to go along with her? Well, we in Barbados, can hold ours too. I am convinced that the majority of these leaders want this Federation but they must have the power also. Do you mean to say that I want your money to put into my business in order to help me

carry on, but at the same time I must withhold certain things from you? You must not see how I charge and so on, but you want to see everything. You want to see the balance-sheet as to what happened last year. Even if you are going to the bank you want to have your balance sheet because if it is not satisfactory you cannot expect the Bank Manager to help you. You have Antigua playing that she does not want to let go certain things but I still prefer a Federation even if it is a weak one. That is not the sort of language which we should be using. If this language is coming from me, nobody will take it but you will take it if it comes from the big leaders who have the lives of the people in their hands. Mr. Speaker, imagine one man having 250,000 people in his hands and he can decide for them? That is a lot of power. That is not good enough. That man must keep his head on and work things in the right way. He can work out a formula and let us get somewhere in this Federation because we are not strong. We are not rich; we do not have any money. I have been told that the Treasury did not have any money and therefore I have to believe that.

Mr. Speaker, as far as taxation is concerned, there is very little which we can do now, but we want to see the balance sheet. I can tell somebody that I am going to be sold out but I want a little assistance; he will give me that assistance because I have a building and it is not the building which will make the repayments. It is what you put into the building. If after you have founded the building and you do not put something in it, you will not be any wiser. That is this Federation. We can federate, but we do not have any money with which to run the services. I do not think that I am criticising anybody in any way; I am just throwing out my suggestion and putting them to the public so that if we are going to fall into the ditch we may be able to shun that. You have a boy to attend to your animals in the yard and if he is going to say anything to you, you should listen to him. There may be something which he may be able to tell you, something of which you have not thought, and he may be able to save you from falling into something. If you say that that boy is only a yard-boy and you do not want to hear anything from him that is where I think you will go wrong.

Mr. Speaker, you have here in this Appendix "A" to this Statement in paragraph 7 (6) "Inauguration and appointment of Prime Minister and other Ministers on advice of the Prime Minister." You have Sub-paragraph (4) "Appointment of Governor-General and creation of Federal Council of Ministers into a body corporate with power to legislate by Regulations made by the Governor-General on the advice of the Federal Council limited to a number of subjects, such steps as are necessary for the launching of the Federation." You have Sub-paragraph (5) "Federal Elections in 1965", and Sub-paragraph (6) which I have already mentioned. I am submitting that Sub-paragraph (5) should be in the place of Sub-paragraph (4) or it should be in the place of sub-paragraph (1) which is "Appointment of Interim Federal Public Service Commission to appoint key Federal Officers." 3.50 p.m.

No. 6 would be the inauguration and appointment of Prime Minister and other Ministers on advice of the Prime Minister. That should have been No. 2. You should not have No. 4 in the place that you now have it. You now have Antigua saying that it is not too keen and is throwing away the Report of the Fiscal Commissioner. Antigua says that it is not going to allow people to do as they like, and Antigua is prepared to do things for itself. Antigua does not want Federation at all. It is better that the six Islands come together and forget Antigua. Any territory that wants to hold on to certain things should be left out. Let us work together in everybody's interest. If people are not willing to join with us, we should leave them out because we will not get co-operation from them. We are talking about Federation now, we are talking about six territories, but when we are ready we may only have two and we may end up with nobody at all. If we do not join together just as I am without one plea, we will not get anything.

You have already told these people that Barbados can go it alone, Federal Elections or no Federal Elections. This statement is really a bombshell. The people may decide to

leave us alone. If the people want to do as they like, it will not end in anything good. Putting a strong man and a weak man together is a serious thing, if you do not have co-operation. If there is co-operation, love and everything else, everybody will be working in one direction for the good of all. We will be going ahead and we will not be taking any notice of those who are strong. If you feel that you are strong and you do not care about a person who is weak — a person may be weak but he has commonsense, but you may be strong and ignorant. If I am weak and I have commonsense, I will beat you because you are depending on your strength only. Because you are a lawyer and went to school and I did not go to school that does not mean that I am a fool. I still have commonsense.

The Government is not going to listen to me even if I said something that is worthwhile. The Government would not let me know that I have said something sensible. I will tell the people that until this Government or any other Government calls the Council of Ministers together again before the leaders go to London we will not get anywhere. Do not let us go to London and waste money. Let us fix our differences here first. You may go to St. Lucia and hold a Conference instead of holding it in Barbados. You must outline the cost of Federation and point out that if we have to federate we have to give up certain things. We do not want so many Ministers and we will not be paying so much money to Ministers. You must discuss the matter among yourselves and arrive at a unanimous decision.

I do not have the Resolution before me but I understand that the decision taken at "Sherbourne" was supposed to be unanimous, but since then I heard that the decision was not unanimous. Let us get a unanimous decision. Let us get a unanimous vote; do not let the Ministers vote by show of hands; let them mark the paper with an "X". I believe that if they do not get things their way, when we are at the peak of Federation we will find people dropping out. You must make things so strong that the moment one joins one will not be able to get out.

The Referendum held in Jamaica at the last moment should have been done first. That is why I am afraid of paragraph 4. The things which you should have done last you want to do first, and what should have been done first you want to do last. In the end Jamaica pulled out. I feel that the Federation may have been working today. Trinidad may not have pulled out. Jamaica was strong and she left us; Trinidad was strong and she left us, too. Barbados is now threatening to leave, even before the Federation starts. If you say that Barbados is going it alone whether there is a Federation or not, you are hinting to the other territories that you will do like Trinidad and Jamaica. You should put your cards on the table at once and bring the people together.

I warn you not to think about going it alone. In other words, do not even entertain it by way of a thought. Unless you are in a position to finance it yourself, you should not think about it. You may be able to get some of the good boys together. Some people know that they cannot beat a man, but the way they talk they will beat a strong man. If you continue making threats you will run off the other Islands. Up to now, some of the leaders still have their doubts about Federation. Let us cast those doubts away. The moment you have a doubt you will fall. I read in the Good Book — I think it was Peter who began to walk on the water to go to our Saviour. He was walking as good as I can walk in this Chamber, but the moment he thought about drowning, he went down in the water. The moment I have my little doubt and you have your big doubt; the moment I want my little power and you want your big power, things will happen. 4.30 p.m.

I would not like to see it fizz out again; I would prefer to see us remain as we are rather than to go into a Federation and lose again. When you lose, you do not win. Let us fight to win. I am appealing to this Government to take it easy. Let us have another conference on Federation between the Chief Ministers of these territories and the Premier of Barbados in these parts before going to London. In other words, let them start consideration on Mrs. Hicks' report and see what they can take out and what they can put in. Let

us start to work again fresh and get to something tangible. Let us start in the right way. Let us straighten up and come right and we will come to something tangible. Before you go to London, get together and formulate your plans with the sole idea of starting in a small way financially, as small as possible until we can get somewhere and increase, but for God's sake, do not give a member \$600 a month for travelling in your constituency; do not give a Minister so much for travelling in his constituency. Do not start top-heavy. Let it be done at once. Whatever you are getting in the local Assembly, let us start with that, and let that be so even with the Civil Servants. If one of these Civil Servants is coming from a department of yours and he is getting a dollar, do not give him \$1.50; give him the same dollar. Let us work out a formula and put it to the people. Put it to the people so that when you go to them and ask questions, they would be able to answer you.

Sir, there is a lot more which I can say but I do not want to take up any more time. The point which I wanted to make was to warn our Government — I cannot warn the others — to take it easy and to go into it in the right and proper way. Do not say again that you are going it alone. Do not mention that any more because those who have heard that statement already may think it is a password. Do not do that. Call them together again and find out what they really want and what they really would like to do and if you cannot do it, leave it as it is and go at it again another time. I have to think of the people who sent me here to represent them. You can talk as much as you like, nobody takes you seriously but as soon as you take a dollar out of a man's pocket, he gets serious. If he never talked, he will talk and if he never fought, he will fight. We have to see to it that we do not take it out of the people and spend it unwisely.

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Speaker, I am well aware that the leaders of the Governments of the Eastern Caribbean territories have accepted to come together and form themselves into one government and I know that they are seeking ways and means how to go about it.

Now, Sir, I know of two Governments. This puts me in mind of a man who is going to build a home. He sits down and drafts his plans. He looks at the amount of money which he has in hand and then he calls in his architect to draft his plan to suit the money which he has and to build a building which would be satisfactory to him.

I have sat down and listened to all the hon. members who have spoken on this Resolution and they have brought to my memory when old Jerusalem was broken down, when the Israelites were under the jurisdiction of Nehemiah and when Sanbalat and Tobiah got outside and criticised — that was all they could do — in order to tempt the spirit of the workmen and when they said that if foxes ran across the wall, it would be broken down. I am saying, Sir, that instead of hon. members getting together and reasoning and working out the best solution, they are just talking and you cannot find out in their hearts if they are lukewarm or if they are sound. It is either that you are against a Federation of these territories or you want it. If you want it, speak for it; if you do not want it, speak against it.

I am saying that the leaders of the Eastern Caribbean territories — what I would call the delegates — have come together to reason because they want to build a Federation of these territories and they have arrived at a method. They have sat down and conferred in order to unite. When a delegate is sent out from one territory to another, he is sent out as a messenger. He has the whole weight of the country on his shoulders. The people are looking forward to him, therefore, the people who have sent out a messenger should pray to the Most High God to strengthen their messenger and to give him wisdom and understanding to lay a proper foundation for them and their seed. They are building a building and they must make it as fortifiable as they can. They must build it on a rock for it to stand forever. If they are only going on their own thoughts and they do not intercede to the Most High God who is to counsel and enlighten their direction, understanding and knowledge on what is to come, I must say that they will only be working on their own and when the streams, the tides, and the winds come, they will wash them away.

4.40 p.m.

They will have nothing to steady them. I am sure that if these members of the various islands want to get together and they know what they are about, the Almighty God will help them. They have got to reason together. It seems to me that, at this particular time of the age, it is impossible for these single units in the Eastern Caribbean to exist alone. I do not see any possible means of their future existence unless they join themselves or weld themselves together. We cannot help ourselves and therefore we will be strengthening ourselves by joining together. One stick can easily be broken, but when you put six or seven sticks together then it takes a great deal of pressure to break them. If these representatives from the various colonies have come together in order to form a Federation, it is necessary to have a Federation among ourselves. There are many countries and many businessmen from the various countries who would be glad to invest their money in the West Indies but they are afraid to do so because we are all single. We cannot do anything by ourselves. When we bind ourselves together, any businessman will take a chance to establish an industry in the West Indies because he will get sales for his industry. If we bind ourselves together that will encourage industrialists to come into the West Indies. We will be able to afford more employment for our people, and we will be able to expand ourselves. We will be able to manufacture the commodities which we are now buying from abroad.

In the last Federation Jamaica pulled out; Trinidad also pulled out and left the other eight territories alone. Now we find that Grenada has pulled out and has joined a territorial state with Trinidad. I am praying that this Federation will be successful because I can see that one of the greatest punishments which Trinidad will ever have to bear is when this Federation comes into being. The Trinidad Government will then know on what ground she is standing despite her \$240 million. We expect to establish an oil industry here; we also expect to establish a cement factory. At present we are buying these products from Trinidad and if we establish these industries here then we will not be buying anything from Trinidad. As a matter of fact, none of the big countries like Canada will be buying its oil or its cement or fruit juice from Trinidad because we will have our own. Trinidad will do anything that lies in her power to get these territories separated, because she knows that we will have to depend upon her for our materials. Trinidad is going to suffer more than any other country in the West Indies when we come into Federation. She cannot stand alone; I am sure about that. She can manufacture as much as she likes but to whom is she going to sell her products? At the present time she is depending upon the other territories in the West Indies to buy her goods, and if we do not buy them then she must suffer. If we were to cut away from Trinidad her wealth would not be what it is.

Mr. Speaker, the same thing applies to Jamaica. I trust that we will stand loyal one to another and contribute one towards the other in this Federation. We will have to think of bearing one another's burden. We cannot say that we will live sumptuously in Barbados while the other territories are suffering. That cannot be so. As soon as we bind ourselves together, we will become one and therefore we will have to try and save those who are going to die. We will be pulling together in Federation and we should try and develop ourselves. I remember that I was in St. Lucia working under the American jurisdiction and there were a lot of Barbadians there. Things were hard down there and wages were low and we could not get anything to send to our homes. I suggested that we should have a "sou-sou" which is a "meeting turn", because I was the hero of the crowd. We contributed five dollars a week and to the man who had seven children I suggested that we should give the first chance. I suggested that so that he could help his wife and the children in their suffering. The next turn we gave to the man who was not in such straitened circumstances and the strongest man we left for the last. The strong man could not feel things in the same way as the others. We helped one another like Barbadians and one of the men said: "You are the best man we have ever met; you have done good for us."

Mr. Speaker, it is the same thing with these unit territories. We have to try and develop those territories which are ready to die. I am sure that when this Federation comes into being, big countries like the United States of America

and Canada will think a lot about us. The United States of America, Great Britain, Australia and Canada, all of these countries will have to look at us in a fuller way. The world as a whole will say that Trinidad with her \$240 million has pulled out and left us on the steep of the hill and these seven territories are still willing to bind themselves together so that we can have some kind of unity. I am saying that if we are divided we will fall, but if we are united we must stand. 4.20 p.m.

Why did those countries pull out from us? They thought they would have been robbed of their revenue. We know that we have one vine — Almighty God. They have pulled out from us, but we are still provided for. The same God who helped Jamaica will help us. I hope that if the territories join together, we will be able to make a nation and help our poor Brethren.

The hon. junior member for St. Joseph said that the electorate will not mark blindly again. If they marked blindly the first time, I hope they will not do it again. The hon. junior member for St. Joseph has shown me more light than I have seen before. I have never heard him like that before; he seems to be a new man today. I will consider his attitude, but what shocks me is that he did not say much to us today. I hope that henceforth he will be able to see the good works this Government is doing, and he will realise that this Government has certain things under consideration with a view to helping the people.

I am not saying that we should go into Federation without telling the people about it. We have brought Rediffusion in this Chamber so that the people will be able to hear our views on Federation. The people have chosen members to represent them; they have put their trust in us and have sent us to this Legislature to represent them. We are here to look after the economic conditions of the people. If they put their trust in us, I hope that we will do our best for them. The people are the judges and if we give them cause to mistrust us it will be our own fault. We have to face the electorate and we are here to do good work for them. If the Government gets spiteful or headstrong and throws about its power it will be a matter for it.

I am saying that several people are talking about the Ex-Prime Minister of the West Indies, but I have nothing to say about him. He has fought the good fight; he has completed his work and he has received recompense. If I were in his position, I would sit on the hill and watch the horses run. I would tell the boys which horse would win, but I would not go back into the ring like Joe Louis. The Ex Prime Minister has received compensation, and there is no other man in the history of the world who has received such a pension. He has reached a height where he should sit down and praise God for the balance of his days. He should sit down and take it easy. I do not know of any other Prime Minister who has received a pension. I wish I had his wits because I would be all right today. The Prime Minister has fought a good fight and I will not speak anything against him. I hope that God will choose the right leaders for this Federation, and I hope that they will carry on in such a manner that they will satisfy the people in the territories. I hope that these people will reason one with the other and help the leaders to lead them successfully.

The Good Book says that when Moses was resisting enemies, the people had to hold up his hands and as soon as his hands were held up he resisted the enemy, but when his hands fell he was in trouble. Politicians are in the hands of the people and when they drop us, we will be in trouble. When they drop us, we want to feel that we have done a good job for the people and that our efforts have been accepted in the eyes of God. Do not let pride overcome us. There is nothing that can overthrow a Government like false promises and pride. These things will overthrow a mountain in the east which is Mount Iris in Asia. That sort of thing was responsible for overthrowing the last Federation. God does not like pride. Any man who has pride cannot lead his people properly. He must humble himself; he has to listen to the poor as well as the rich; he has to be in sympathy with the rich as well as the poor; and when justice cannot be secured something else will have to be done.

I can assure hon. members that if this Federation comes into operation, it will be a success. I have confidence in that because I have seen how much help it will be to the territories. People from Canada would be glad to come here and establish industries but they cannot do that at the moment because they would not get their materials sold in view of our economic condition. If we join together we would be able to buy what they produce. If we have the necessary material here, it would provide work for people. Businessmen would establish new businesses here, and we may be able to buy certain things cheaper.

I hope that when this Federation comes into operation the Ministers will get together, reason together and never forget Almighty God without whom we can do nothing. I am asking the Ministers not to go to any conference without thinking of God. I hope that this Federation will make a wonderful success. 5.00 p.m.

Mr. LOWE: Mr. Speaker, speaking in support of this Resolution, I do feel that hon. members of this Chamber have wasted a lot of time on it, because it is as simple as can be. When you have gone right through the context of the Resolution and listened to the statement made by the Hon. Premier and also considered the introductory remarks made by the Hon. Minister of Education, you can see the context there clear before your eyes.

Let us take first the context of the Resolution:-

WHEREAS the people of seven British Eastern Caribbean territories, through their several Legislatures, have agreed to establish, and enter into, a Federation of their territories, and

WHEREAS they possessed the untrammelled right to act freely and responsibly in determining the nature, purposes and functions of such a Federation, and

WHEREAS the Regional Council of Ministers, composed as it is of the Heads of Democratically elected Governments of the area, has at its recent meeting with the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies in the United Kingdom Government, outlined its views on the character of the Federation to be established, and

WHEREAS these views are embodied in a Statement made before this Honourable House by the Honourable Premier on Tuesday, 11th June, 1963, and are set out as Appendix "A" of the said Statement,

BE IT RESOLVED that this House supports the proposals contained in that document, and particularly approves, commends and endorses the proposal that the new Federation should be independent from the establishment of the first elected Federal Government.

Now, Mr. Speaker, when you consider the speeches of some hon. members who have come to this Chamber and spoken on this Resolution, I can only say that they are either wasting or delaying the implementation of this Resolution whereby the seven territories in the Eastern Caribbean can get together and sort out their own type of Constitution, their own type of rights where as West Indians they can live up and down without any person telling them how they must live in the West Indies.

Let us take the last point that the new Federation should be independent from the establishment of the first Federal Government. I think that is the point which we all should think and argue about. I do not see anything wrong at all whereby from the moment that the Federation has been set up that you should be independent. If you are prepared to get rid of your children, the first thing which you should do is to make them independent because when I am independent, I do not have to hang on to my mother's coat tail and I can solicit help from other sources. You cannot tell me that either the U.S.A., Canada, West Germany or any place in this world is going to assist these colonies when those countries know that these colonies have ties and connections

with the United Kingdom. That is the reason why these territories are suffering day after day. I think it is quite sufficient time that legislators and politicians should come to the full realization that it is the destiny of the people which they are playing with and not individuals.

Let us look calmly and dispassionately at everything which is within the Statement. It is stated:-

"The Conference unanimously recommend that the Federation of the West Indies be independent from its inauguration with constitutional guarantees for the subjects set out in the Bill of Rights."

What is the use, Mr. Speaker, that tonight you are preparing to give me ten acres of land and you are not prepared to give me the deed - the Bill of Rights - that I can say how to develop it and so that I can borrow money from people in order to develop it? Unless you are prepared to do that, I feel that the Federation is null and void.

Sir, I remember when I spoke on the White Paper, I stated emphatically there and then that the seven territories must put their house in order and present their case to the United Kingdom by informing them that this is what we want, we are not begging them, this is something which belongs to us. You have to consider that the chief product of these colonies, some 300 years under British rule, some less than that, is sugar, and right back through the ages we were actually raped of our wealth, therefore when we ask the United Kingdom Government for aid, we would not be asking too much if we tell them definitely now that this is our position, we have served our useful purposes to you now we are asking that you compensate us to the terms of this. They must not dictate to us what we must expect; we should tell them now what we want to run our Federation. We are not humbling and begging and beseeching any longer. If you are prepared to give these territories their independence and allow them to obtain nationhood, you must do the necessary things in order that they would be able to be respected in international organizations and whereby they would be looked upon as a nation and not as little children who are weeping and asking for bread from the hands of someone.

5.10 p.m.

Mr. Speaker, I have heard a great deal of comment about the Federation being independent and that we are getting something before we get a Federation. I doubt very much if any person, after reading the Statement which was made in this House by the Hon. Premier, could come to that conclusion. You will see that the first thing is that you must have a Federal Election and after that Federal Election you must have independence; after that you will set up the different things whereby you will function in a Federal Government. I feel, Sir, that for the length of time during which we have had this Statement and this Resolution before us, we who have discussed the White Paper and who realise that within this Statement there is something from which these territories must benefit, we should have had this Resolution passed so that the Colonial Office will realise that the legislators in Barbados and those of the other Eastern Caribbean Territories are prepared to acquit themselves like men and tell the British Government what we want.

Mr. Speaker, I can only say now that when we have the Head of a Government who is prepared to make sacrifices for the people and to see that they obtain nationhood, it is very bad that legislators in their turn would fight so as to thwart the efforts of the Government.

† Mr. COWARD: Mr. Speaker, I consider it my duty to declare how I stand in relation to this matter of Federation. When I refer to my stand on the matter of Federation, I am not speaking in my private capacity but in my capacity as a representative of the people of St. Joseph. I must confess, Mr. Speaker, that although one knows that in unity there is strength, from the surrounding circumstances one has to be very firm in order to maintain his stand on such an important issue as this. There is an old saying that hard cases make bad law and it may be, from the policy and attitude

of the British Government in dealing with Federation in recent years, that there may be misgivings; to put it as mildly as I can, it may be that one may be doubtful about the future.

Mr. Speaker, there is no use in our fooling ourselves. We cannot go forward single-handedly and if we must go forward and fill our place in the Commonwealth, we must do so in a united way. I believe that in the history of Federations there has always been some set-back in the elementary stages. As you know, Sir, perseverance seldom fails, and by persevering the time came when a number of these Federations have finally succeeded. As to the Statement made by the Hon. Premier and the accompanying note, one may wonder if Federation will become a reality. You will recall, Mr. Speaker, that when we discussed the White Paper in this Honourable Chamber, I made it abundantly clear that I am in favour of Federation but I must say that I am not in favour of a Federation on paper; I mean a strong Federation. What I think will kill any Federation is if selfishness is allowed to dominate the position; our leaders must enter Federation with that determination of giving and taking. I note here in Appendix "A" of this Statement where the Ministers have apparently agreed that after the expiration of five years certain services should be handed over.....

*At this stage, Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER took the Chair.*

Mr. COWARD: I was saying, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that the Ministers have apparently agreed that certain services should be handed over from the unit Governments to the Federal Government at the expiration of five years. They have further agreed that if any one of the unit Governments is not willing to hand over such services, that Government will still have the right to continue to administer such services. Mr. Deputy Speaker, that part of the Agreement is not good enough. I am one who hates to refer to the breaking up of the last Federation but it was so referred to by the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies. I must say that just as there was a breaking up of the last Federation, there will be a breaking up of any Federation which is not built on a solid foundation. Mr. Deputy Speaker, it is not good enough for any unit Government to retain the cream of its resources and then hand over the husks to the Federation. A Federation on that score will not worth us anything.

We want to have a strong Federation. If we must have Federation which I feel we should have, we must be realistic in our approach to that Federation. We must face up to the future and let the failure of those who have attempted Federation before us be forgotten. As far as independence is concerned, I am one of those persons who feel that it would be far too expensive for one unit to go it alone.

4.50 p.m.

I feel that if we unite together we can have an independent Federation. If you were to look around this Island, you will see that the business houses are uniting together. I suppose that the object of this is better efficiency and better protection. Gone are those days when any isolated place will be able to prosper alone, but if we unite together much can be achieved. We are in need of a strong united nation. If we can unite together, we will succeed.

Although our two bigger brothers have forsaken us and a small brother is now sidestepping us, I feel that there is good prospects in the Federation of the seven territories. I am in favour of a strong Federation, and I hope that this new union will soon come about and that the leaders will do everything possible to make it a success even in the eyes of their enemies. //

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, it would normally have fallen to my lot, having been the mover of the union, to wind up this debate, but in view of the fact that the Hon. and Learned Premier is more intimately concerned in these matters than I have been, I am now asking the leave of this House to forego winding up the debate in order to permit the Hon. Premier to do so.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, what I have said with respect to the debate still stands, but the Government does not wish to proceed further with Government Business today.

#### THE ADJOURNMENT

*This brings Government Business to an end.*

*In fixing the Order Paper, Committee of Supply ---*

*(Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER left the Chair and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair at this stage.)*

Mr. WALCOTT: If the Hon. Leader of the House will give way, I would like to remind him and the House that in fixing the Order Paper, I would like to know if the Acting Leader of the House is going to take cognisance of the fact that the Other Place sent back amendments to a Bill and Your Honour has agreed to have them printed. I would like to know what is the Hon. Premier's intention.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: I think that the attitude of the Government to this amendment should be made clear. The Government is not accepting this amendment. I do not know whether any useful purpose would be served by putting the matter on the Order Paper, except to tell hon. members and the Other Place what we think about it. I have not yet decided in my mind what action I should take.

Under this Island's constitution, they have the right to flout the desires and wishes of the masses of the people. I can only say that, as far as this Government is concerned they will not accupy that position for very long. I hope that when the Hon. Minister without Portfolio and the Acting Attorney General return from the United Kingdom this Government, in the light of this most recent undemocratic, misguided and unintelligent exercise of what they choose to call a constitutional right, will be able to bring legislation before this House to rectify this kind of anomaly in our body politic.

I do not know if hon. members wish to debate the amendment, but the Government has not invited the House to entertain it. If we are called upon to put it on the Order Paper, that can be done. The debate would be more of a constitutional debate rather than a debate on the amendment. The Government is not asking the House to accept this amendment. We can put on the Order Paper the amendment to the Bill which has been passed by the Other Place, but Government is not prepared to ask the House to accept it. Normally, some action will have to be taken on this amendment. What has happened has placed the Government in a paradoxical position, but it is not taking legislative notice of this amendment at all. Perhaps, it would be better to deal with this matter by way of a substantive Resolution by some member of the House, not necessarily a Government member, reflecting on the present constitutional arrangements in Barbados. Some people have a sort of inflexible idea as to what procedure should be adopted, but I merely mention this for the benefit of hon. members who are interested in parliamentary democracy. 5.30 p.m.

Mr. WALCOTT: In so far as what the hon. member says about these matters reaching the Order Paper, I would like to point out to Your Honour that these are not matters which you can decide to put on the Order Paper. As long as hon. members give notice of them, they have to be put on the Order Paper. You can deal with the matter forthwith or it can remain on the Order Paper for a time. It just depends on how the House feels about it.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr Speaker, through you, I would like to ask hon. members, not particularly the hon. senior member for St. Peter, whether it would be their desire to have that item down as Order No. 1 so that it can be most easily disposed of.

Mr. WALCOTT: Yes.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Sir, since that seems to be the desire of the hon. member, we would say that in the fixing of the Order Paper that the amendment from the Other Place be put as Order No. 1, the Notices which we gave today would follow immediately after that, and the other things *seriatim*.

Mr. SPEAKER: In respect of the point made by the hon. senior member for St. Peter, the appropriate Standing Order dealing with that is Standing Order No. 49 which reads as follows:-

"When a Bill has been returned from the Council with a list of the Council's amendments, the Member in charge of the Bill may move for the consideration of the said amendments forthwith or on a future date; and such a motion shall be decided without amendment or debate."

"Upon consideration of the amendments, the House may agree, disagree or make amendments thereto, or may propose amendments in lieu thereof."

"Unless the Council's amendments are agreed to, the Bill shall be returned to the Council by the Clerk with a list of the further amendments and, if any amendments have been disagreed with, a list of reasons for such disagreement, and a Message desiring the concurrence of the Council."

Because of Standing Order, No. 49, this amendment will go on the Order Paper.

Mr. BATSON: Mr. Speaker, under Private Members' Business, I would like Order No. 2 to be Order No. 1, Order No. 17 to be Order No. 2, and Order No. 19 to be Order No. 3.

Mr. SPEAKER: Perhaps, the hon. member should take one at a time.

Mr. WALCOTT: Sir, I must object. It would be difficult if an hon. member who has notices under Private Members' Business wants to engage in a monopoly. The hon. senior member for St. Thomas is not only asking that Order No. 2 be Order No. 1 for which we would have no objection and so that we can dispose of that item because a debate on that now would just be like cold pone but the hon. member cannot expect to bring forward all of the measures under his name chronologically after Order No. 1.

I have a matter which is Order No. 4. It was debated on the last occasion and unfortunately, I was not in the Chamber when the House adjourned, if not, that would have been Order No. 1, because that was the matter under debate. It got pushed back because I was not in my place at the time.

I therefore will ask that Order No. 4 standing in my name be Order No. 2.

Mr. SPEAKER: Let us deal with one at a time. The hon. senior member for St. Thomas is requesting that Order No. 2 be Order No. 1 of Private Members' Business. If there is no objection.....

Mr. SMITH: I am objecting. Order No. 1 is non-controversial. It can be disposed of in five minutes, the longest would be ten minutes. What is the difference between letting Order No. 2 remain as it is and putting it as Order No. 1?

Mr. BATSON: Mr. Speaker, if you notice carefully, my resolution was brought in on the 7th May, and the resolution by the hon. senior member for St. Joseph was brought in on the 25th June. It should not be Order No. 1 at all.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member may not say where anything should be or whether it should be there at all.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Apparently, the hon. junior member for St. Joseph and Your Honour were the only two peo-

ple who were conscious of what was going on when the Order Paper was fixed on the last occasion but it is highly reprehensible that important things in progress, something which should be debated fully, should be pushed back for things of less importance to come before. I do not think hon. members of this House would entertain that at all.

Mr. SPEAKER: The fixing of the Order Paper takes place at the end of every meeting for the next meeting. At the last meeting, the hon. junior member for St. Joseph requested that his item be made No. 1 and there was no objection.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: We are now fixing the Order Paper for the next meeting. We agreed with the hon. senior member for St. Peter that measures of greater antiquity and greater authority should be given priority. It should not be a question of the person.

Mr. SPEAKER: There is no dispute when we are fixing the Order Paper for the next meeting but my reference to the hon. senior member for St. Thomas was that we fix our Order Paper at the end of every meeting and at the last meeting we fixed that item as Order No. 1. I would say that it is a sad reflection on those hon. members who were unconscious at the time.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Some were unconscious and some were not present, including myself.

Mr. BATSON: Mr. Speaker, I agree to accept that Order No. 4 be Order No. 2 and Order No. 2 be Order No. 1.

Mr. WALCOTT: I think the hon. junior member for St. Joseph should agree. I am not telling him how to do his business. Order No. 1 is not a Resolution in the true sense because it is an imposition on us to pass a Resolution for an electric light to be put in Branchbury in St. Joseph. That is the sort of thing which you would ask a Council to do. When we are doing that we are just like a mock house. Why I am insisting that my item — Order No. 4 — should be placed higher is because it deals with the Boundaries Commission and the notice of that Resolution was given on the 24th May last. I think you will agree that Order No. 2 standing in the name of the hon. senior member for St. Thomas should be Order No. 1 so that we can dispose of that.  
5.40 p.m.

That notice was given on the fourteenth of May as distinct from his which was given on the 25th June, Order No. 2 which stands in the name of the hon. senior member for St. Thomas should not prevent this debate on the Boundaries Commission from being concluded. The debate on this Resolution which stands in my name dealing with the Boundaries Commission has already been started and it looks to me as if it is more important that we should dispose of this Order in one way or another before dealing with other matters. I am asking that Order No. 4 be made Order No. 2.

Mr. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I am asking that Order No. 5 which stands in my name be made Order No. 3, and that Order No. 6 which also stands in my name, be made Order No. 4.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, relative to Order No. 1 which stands in my name, as I was saying, it was decided to make this Order the first Order of the Day under Private Members' Business. The Hon. Premier is talking about cheap politics and so forth; he can talk whatever he likes but I am representing the people. When people ask me to do anything for them I try to do it for them. When the hon. member talks about putting a light in a dark hole.....

Mr. WALCOTT: On a point of order. A light in a dark hole is a necessity. However, I never mentioned anything about that although some dark holes need light. The Resolution of which the hon. member gave notice deals with the provision of electric light in districts like Branchbury, Surinam Village and so forth. In my humble opinion, that is not the sort of thing you need to ask a General Assembly to pass a Resolution about. When you ask the House to pass

a Resolution, it is in connection with something of a general character; you do not need a Resolution to be brought before this House to deal with putting light in Grave Yard or anything of that sort.

Mr. SMITH: Is this Resolution out of order when it has been put down as a Resolution? If the hon. member wants to do things in his way then he can do them, but I will do things in my way too. All this House has to do is to throw out this Resolution. When the hon. member talks about cheap politics in relation to light being put in his constituency, I should like to say that if he does not know that there is the necessity for putting light in Martins Bay, I know it. I will go to Martins Bay and tell the people that.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I do not think that you should allow this type of Resolution at all for the simple reason that the Government does not own or control the Barbados Light and Power Company. The way to get light in St. John is by dealing with the Barbados Light and Power Company. We have already made provision for light in Martin's Bay so that he can go down there and tell the people what he wants to tell them. His Government could have bought the Electric Company for \$500,000 and they even promised that they would nationalise the Electric Company within six months of their getting into power. Nowadays they could not even buy it for \$15 million because it is now in the hands of a Canadian Company. We have to get fifty or sixty districts electrified including St. Clements and Grave Yard and we are going to Martin's Bay. I should like to inform the hon. member that Electricity is not going to be installed by any of his efforts.

Mr. SPEAKER: I should like to remind the Hon. Premier that long before the present Government was in power, my colleague and I have been asking the Government to instal light in these districts in St. Lucy. (Laughter). Will the hon. senior member for St. Thomas make a formal motion that Order No. 2 on today's Order Paper under Private Members' Business be made Order No. 1 on the Order Paper for the next meeting of this House?

Mr. BATSON: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Order No. 2 on the Order Paper under Private Members' Business for today's meeting be made Order No. 1 under that Heading at the next meeting of the House.

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

Mr. SMITH: I object to that. I have made a motion that Order No. 1 standing in my name under Private Members' Business remain as it is.

*The question that Order No. 2 on the Order Paper under Private Members' Business for today's meeting be made Order No. 1 under that Head for the next meeting of the House was put and resolved in the affirmative. A division was taken as follows:—*

AYES: Mr. BATSON, Hon'bles E. W. BARROW, W. A. CRAWFORD, C. E. TALMA, G. G. FERGUSON, A. DaC. EDWARDS, J. C. TUDOR, Messrs. LOWE, CORBIN, YEARWOOD, CARMICHAEL, BOXILL and WALCOTT—13.

NOES: Messrs. COWARD, HOLDER, SMITH and LYNCH—4.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question has been resolved in the affirmative, thirteen hon. members voting "Aye", and four hon. members voting "No". I now declare that the "AYES" have it. Order No. 2 on today's Order Paper under Private Members' Business will now be made Order No. 1 under that Head at the next meeting of the House.  
5.20 p.m.

Mr. CARMICHAEL: Mr. Speaker, under Questions for Oral Answers, I beg to move that Question No. 58 standing in my name be withdrawn from the Order Paper inasmuch as the question has not been answered in words but in deeds. The Hon. Minister of Communications, Works and Housing

together with the Hon. Minister of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries have jointly made the matter patently clear to the public. The entrance to the beach has been attended to; the bush and shrubs have been removed by the prisoners of Her Majesty's Prison, and arrangements are being made for a public right of way.

Mr. SPEAKER: It seems to me as though the Hon. and Learned gentleman, the hon. senior member for St. James, was making a speech, but since what he says can be contained in one sentence, I did not stop him. He is asking to withdraw from the Order Paper Question No. 58 standing in his name.

There being no objection, it will be withdrawn from the Order Paper.

Mr. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Order No. 5 standing in my name be moved up to Order No. 2 on the Order Paper.

Mr. YEARWOOD: I beg to second that.

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

Mr. SPEAKER: No. 5 now becomes No. 2 on the Order Paper under Private Members' Business.

Mr. YEARWOOD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that No. 14 standing in my name be moved to No. 3.

Mr. BOXILL: I beg to second that.

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

Mr. SPEAKER: No. 14 now becomes No. 3 on the Order Paper under Private Members' Business.

Mr. CRAWFORD: I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday next, 16th July, 1963, at 12.00 o'clock noon.

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

*The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER adjourned the House accordingly.*

5.55 p.m.