

THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SESSION 1962

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday 29th October, 1963.

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

PRESENT

His Honour J. E. T. BRANCKER, Q. C., (*Speaker*); Mr. L. E. SMITH, J.P.; Mr. E. St. A. HOLDER, J.P.; Hon. J. C. TUDOR, M.A., (*Minister of Education*); Mr. J. W. CORBIN, Mr. S. E. SEALEY; Hon. G. G. FERGUSON, (*Minister of Communications, Works and Housing*); Mr. R. ST. C. WEEKES, J.P.; Mr. W. R. LOWE; His Honour E. L. CARMICHAEL, J.P., (*Deputy Speaker*); Mr. L. A. LYNCH, J.P.; Mr. G. V. BATSON, (*Chairman of Committees*); Mr. N. W. BOXILL; and Mr. J. B. YEARWOOD.

Prayers were read.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER: The Minutes of the Meeting of Tuesday, 22nd October, 1963, have been circulated, and unless there be any objection, they will be confirmed.

Hearing no objection, I declare the Minutes of that meeting duly to be confirmed.

PAPERS LAID

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

An Account of the Transactions in Rum in the Several Districts of the Island for the Quarter ended 30th September, 1963.

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

The Customs Duties (Regional Council of Ministers) Order, 1963.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

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

Resolution to approve the lease of 89,069 square feet of land described in the Schedule thereto to the University of the West Indies.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Bill further to amend the Public Utilities Act, 1951.

On behalf of the Hon. Premier, I beg to give notice that Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 108 asked by the hon. senior member for St. Thomas, is ready.

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill to amend the Public Utilities Act, 1951, be now read a first time.

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

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

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of my intention to move the suspension of Standing Orders Nos. 5, 14, 16 and 18 during today's session. 12.25 p.m.

SUSPENSION OF ORDERS 5, 14, 16 & 18

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

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

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

Mr. SPEAKER: I think I need hardly point out that that suspension only carries until midnight.

THE CARIBBEAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION BILL

Mr. SPEAKER: The first Order of the day stands in the name of the Hon. and Gallant junior member for St. Michael: To move the House into Committee on the Bill to provide for the establishment of a Corporation to be known as the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation, for the functions of the Corporation, and for purposes connected with the matters aforesaid.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: I beg to move that Your Honour do now leave the Chair and that the House go into Committee on this Bill.

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

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

Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the House went in Committee on the Bill, Mr. BATSON in the Chair. Clauses 1 to 6, inclusive, were called separately and passed.

Clause 7 was called.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: I beg to move that Clause 7 stand part.

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

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, Clause 7 is the Clause which gives general powers to the Corporation. It reads as follows:-

"The Corporation shall, subject to the provisions of this Act, have power to do all such things as are in their opinion necessary for or conducive to the proper discharge of their functions and, in particular and without limiting the generality of the foregoing provisions, they shall have power -

- (a) to erect, maintain, and operate broadcasting transmitting relay and receiving stations;
- (b) to arrange for the provision and equipment of, or, if need be, themselves to provide and equip, studios and other premises for broadcasting purposes;
- (c) to make arrangements for the distribution of programmes broadcast by the Corporation and to receive programmes to be broadcast by the Corporation;
- (d) to do such things as are necessary or expedient for the purpose of turning to account any property or rights of the Corporation."

Now, Sir, I mentioned in my second reading speech on the last occasion that the Corporation should have the power to give to properly constituted Parties broadcasting time, whatever the Corporation should care to charge for it, and that all of the properly constituted Parties should have the privilege of broadcasting to the people of Barbados on this particular station and they should not be left to the mercies of the Corporation or the Minister in charge to be granted such a privilege. I am very doubtful and unhappy about this, because I have cases in point where such was not the case, and various leaders were prevented from broadcasting or various people tried to stifle various Parties from broadcasting over the air.

As I have said already, it is not fair either to the Party which was prevented or the people of this country; and especially now where it will be the people's money which will be running this broadcasting station, I cannot see why you should do such a thing. To make sure that this Bill does not pass as it is, we should put something of some kind into this Clause because as soon as this Bill is passed and the station goes into operation, you may get a Minister telling a particular Party that one of its members will not be able to broadcast over this station.

We must sink all these differences and pettiness and come forward to the people as human beings. We must not be selfish. I have said, that both Governments have done it - that is to say, refused to allow other people to broadcast. I was never in favour or will never be in favour of that. I have heard one of these Parties speaking about it and I have heard the other at one time. I am not too sure, but I think my Government stopped someone who was to come over the air; but I have seen the letter which this Government wrote and stopped Sir Grantley Adams from broadcasting his anniversary speech. As I have said, it is not fair.

I call Rediffusion a private company, but the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation, although a private company, will be governed by the Government; therefore it cannot do as it likes; it cannot broadcast what it likes because the Government still has its say over what it should broadcast. I say that so long as it does not bring over anything which is libellous, I do not see any reason why they should be debarred from bringing such a thing over.

In this particular clause where it is that powers are given to a Corporation, I would like to insert a paragraph so as to make sure that after we have passed this Bill, no one will be able to get around it and try to muzzle the ox that treadeth the corn or try to stifle anything which the public should know. The time is coming when we should be able to do our canvassing on the air rather than go from house to house and canvass people. We should be able to go on the air and speak to the people, and the whole island would hear our voices coming over. Let us get on the air

and do the canvassing and if we are going to attack others, let our attackers hear. Let both our friends and our enemies know from which angle we are coming.
12.35 p.m.

The time has come when we should do the necessary canvassing on the air and we must make provision for it. I am moving an amendment to Clause 7 (1) (c) to read as follows:-

"The Corporation shall make regulations guaranteeing the freedom of broadcasting time to all properly constituted Political Parties and Trade Unions in this Island." (*After a pause.*) Mr. Chairman, you will excuse me for a moment while the Clerk is trying to take down and to draft this amendment. It reads as I have indicated.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, there is something in what the hon. member is saying, because I am one of those people who believe that whatever goes up must come down. We cannot defy the laws of gravity and what is good for me must be good for you. As far as I am concerned, I hope that the hon. member will not take any umbrage at what I am going to say now; but from my little knowledge, I do not think that it is scientific to insert this amendment here. I am wondering if we should not defer the consideration of this Section and give the Clerk time to be able to consider what the hon. member wants included in this Section. On the face of it, I am inclined to support the idea of giving political Parties time on the radio to make broadcasts; I am not hiding that from anybody at all. I was in the wilderness, and the Government should remember that when they were in the wilderness they wanted to have broadcasting time on Rediffusion. Because the last Government denied us the right to have broadcasting time on the radio, it does not make it right that the present Government should not provide such right now that they are in power.

Mr. Speaker, I am supporting the idea of the amendment, but I do not like the way in which the amendment is drafted, although I am not a lawyer. I am therefore moving that this Section 7 be deferred until later on so that the Clerk will be given time to be able to draft this amendment. For the hon. member just to get up and make an amendment is not good enough. As to the Trade Union Leader who is coming into the House now, I am sure he would say that the registered Trade Union should be given time on the radio. I suggest therefore that we should postpone the consideration of this Clause; in fact, I beg to move that the further consideration of this Clause be postponed until the hon. junior member for St. Joseph can get together with the Hon. Leader of the House and make his amendment. The proposed amendment is nothing to which the Government should be opposed. We fought battles with the last Government and we said that those who form political Parties should be given the right to use the radio for the purpose of broadcasting. Now that this Government is in power they cannot say: "I wanted it then and now I am not giving you the right to do it."

Mr. Chairman, let me put it in this way. Talk as you like, you cannot forever resist this. You have just given 18-year-old people the right to vote and you cannot fool them with the idea that you do not want them to hear both sides of any question. In this connection, Nixon came up against Kennedy. I do not think that the Hon. Minister of Education would have any fear about representing his Party on the radio against my party, to say nothing of the Party of the hon. junior member for St. Joseph. I do not think that the Hon. Minister would have any fear of representing his Party against the other Parties in the House.

Mr. HUSBANDS: Mr. Chairman, I am seconding the motion which has been moved by the hon. senior member for the City. It does seem to me that paragraph 7 (1) (c) has some relation to the subject of the arrangement of programmes by the proposed Corporation. I think that this sub-paragraph (1) (c) should be so amended as to make the necessary provisions as foreseen by the hon. junior member for St. Joseph. I was wondering, Sir, what provision was made, as far as the Government itself going on time is concerned, when we are getting near to the

Elections, with the Opposition Parties of members wanting to make broadcasts, and I find no place in this Bill which makes any reference to anything related to such procedure. — I find nowhere having this relation but in this same subparagraph (1) (c) which reads as follows:—

"To make arrangements for the distribution of programmes broadcast by the Corporation and to receive programmes to be broadcast by the Corporation."

That is one of the things which the Corporation shall have power to do.
12.45 p.m.

I think that is the relative part of the Bill where by amendment this sort of provision should be made. Now, Sir, it is well known to everybody in Barbados that by arrangement the Government who granted Barbados Rediffusion a licence has some priority. As a matter of fact, I think they can use the services of Barbados Rediffusion in an emergency at the very shortest notice. Barbados Rediffusion is a private company, but this is a Corporation which of course is sponsored and maintained by the Barbados Government — which means by the taxpayers of Barbados; therefore I think that this Bill should not have presented itself in this manner to this House. If the Barbados Government had by agreement, when giving a licence to a private company, to make definite arrangements, the details of which are not necessarily known to each individual member of this House or to the Barbados public, if that arrangement had to be carried out ensuring that the Government had a say whenever it wanted a say, we should know now in this Bill and be guided as to what other arrangements the Government is making or intends to make relative to their using the services of this proposed Corporation.

That, Sir, brings us one step further to the principle mooted by the hon. junior member for St. Joseph and seconded by the hon. senior member for Bridgetown, and makes the clarification that at a particular time and especially at election time the Opposition Parties or members as the case might be — and we do not necessarily have to mention the Trade Union — should have their time too. Maybe the members of the Trade Union can make arrangements with some officers as they do now or maybe with the Government's Public Liaison Officer for such things; but we should not be guessing; we should be knowing; because we could not go up at Rediffusion and ask somebody what is the agreement relative to the times that Government may use in informing the public of something. But when this is, so to speak, the Barbados Government Broadcasting Station being run by a Corporation, we members of the House of Assembly who are making this into legislation should be privy to it here and now. We could not wait on the Corporation to be told that the Government is not going to make any agreement with the Corporation; you are laying down the law. This is a proposed Broadcasting Company which is sponsored and financed by Government funds. The Managing body of this proposed Caribbean Corporation is going to be named by Government, and Government is in complete control; therefore we should like to know here and now what are the provisions to be made and what are the arrangements to be made as far as Government itself using its time is concerned, and at election time what is being done for those who are in Opposition to Government — because they are recognised in other ways — to have their voices heard over the air.

I think, Sir, that the paragraph I have read out is the relative paragraph, and that will bear amendment relative to the principle that has been enunciated by the hon. junior member for St. Joseph. I think that is the pertinent paragraph because it deals with the arrangements of broadcasting programmes, and I do think that I agree with the hon. junior member for St. Joseph that this provision should be made now and inserted in that section. I look through paragraph 7 of the Bill and I see that the only wording that bears true relation to what certain of us want put into the Bill appears in this section. I will read the section again which is as follows:—

"To make arrangements for the distribution of programmes broadcast by the Corporation and to receive programmes to be broadcast by the Corporation."

Well, if in its technical sense the word "programme" does not include the sort of matter to which I am making reference, I think a clause may be inserted between (c) and (d), because that seems to be in some way very closely related to what we are talking about, the only difficulty is if you call 'programme' technically something that would not include the using of the services of the Corporation by politicians or by Trade Unions. We could readily include Trade Unions; but as far as the inclusion for the use of the services of this Corporation by politicians at election time is concerned, I think that could certainly be left for a matter of drafting which can easily follow, and the purpose of the motion now before you is to postpone consideration of this Clause in order that time may be given when a proper draft will be presented.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, I am afraid I cannot agree with any of this argument though the Trade Union has been dragged into this. Reluctantly I do not want any support by being dragged into this, and I would advise the Minister not to accept anything like this because it is nonsense, and there is no point in trying to use this thing as any dragnet for bringing in politicians at election time on any bogus basis of talking about not having opposition. I am more or less surprised to hear this coming from the hon. junior member for St. Joseph, anyhow. Though I am not one who goes into these things, on this whole question of broadcasting, the behaviour of the Party to which he belongs has been such that I would say that if it had come from the hon. senior member for Bridgetown, it would have been all right, because he has always been in Opposition to what they have done.
12.55 p.m.

This is not Rediffusion. My colleague wants to know what the Corporation is doing. Unfortunately, that was in the second reading stage. When you spoke on the second reading of this Bill, you gave second reading to the principle. As I see it, the Corporation is going to be a body set up by the Government and have power under the Government. This idea of your asking that that be written in is not paying attention to the Bill.

As I read in Clause 4, the Corporation may by a vote of a majority of all the members thereof delegate to any one or more of the following persons, that is to say, the chairman, the general manager or a committee appointed by the Corporation, such of the functions of the Corporation as to enable them effectively to transact such of the day to day business of the Corporation as the Corporation may decide; but nothing herein contained shall authorise the Corporation to delegate to any person functions to make regulations or do any act involving extraordinary expenditure.

Then at Clause 7, which deals with the general powers of the Corporation, it is stated that the Corporation shall, subject to the provisions of this Act, have power to do all such things as are in their opinion necessary for or conducive to the proper discharge of their functions and, in particular and without limiting the generality of the foregoing provisions, they shall have power —

- (a) to erect, maintain, and operate broadcasting transmitting relay and receiving stations;
- (b) to arrange for the provision and equipment of, or if need be, themselves to provide and equip, studios and other premises for broadcasting purposes;
- (c) to make arrangements for the distribution of programmes broadcast by the Corporation and to receive programmes to be broadcast by the Corporation;
- (d) to do such things as are necessary or expedient for the purpose of turning to account any property or rights of the Corporation.

What more do you want to write in? As regards this idea of political broadcasting, we do not have any right to

any broadcasting at election time; we have no right to it. You have a right to go on the public platform and speak. But you have no right to broadcasting. It is not a common law right that you want to make it a constitutional right. It is not like a meeting which you have around the street. The Corporation should have the right and should have the power to say how it should be done.

The idea of political broadcast must stem from the Prime Minister. If he says that you should not have any time, the other man would not be at an advantage over you because he could not say so to apply to you alone. This is the Caribbean Broadcasting Station; this is not Rediffusion; and I do not think that is even the case with Rediffusion. If the Government decides that it is not going to have any political Broadcasting, the Corporation, most likely, would say so and nobody would be at a disadvantage. You cannot say that the Corporation should be given powers like this. What right has a Trade Union to broadcasting? Do you mean to say that they must have broadcasting rights because they may be taking up somebody's money illegally? What right are you giving them to broadcast to the world — and tell them what? What have they done for anybody, save collecting people's money? Are you doing that to give them the sort of publicity to say that they are a Trade Union? I have been in Barbados long enough to see Trade Unions just spring up and go down. I am not asking for any Trade Union rights to broadcast. I feel that anybody who wants to use a Trade Union as a guise to political elections should not be allowed to do so.

Mr. Chairman, I do not see how rights to political broadcasting should come into this scene. You cannot say that the Corporation should not have the powers which you have set out here, and if you tell them that they must have political broadcasting you will be telling them what to broadcast and what should be their programmes. There is nothing written in the B.B.C. to say that there should be political broadcasting. I would agree with hon. members if there was a negative clause which precludes these things from taking place.

What I would say now is that I hope that the policy with regard to the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation would not be a policy which is now carried out in granting a licence to Rediffusion; that is to say, you have restricted Rediffusion that there can be no political discussions other than at election time. My view of political discussions on the radio is that now you have reached a situation that I cannot go on the radio and speak in my own rights on "Trade Union Politics", and "Trade Union and Economic Development". Those are subjects which the Minister should think about being given permission to broadcast and such topics would call for various speakers who would be able to inform the people of what the emerging territories are doing. You have at present a rigid situation where nobody can have a discussion on Rediffusion of a political nature. I feel a Corporation like the B.B.C. should be free to arrange programmes, and, of course, they would be responsible for the quality of the script; but I do not see why topics of the day, as what is broadcast in England where you have different people of a different persuasion — not using the right to broadcast as a party pump, but using the right to broadcast so that all sides can hear you on your point of view.

Mr. George Woodcock who is General Secretary is a big radio and television star in the United Kingdom. As you know, the B.B.C. is not run on a common basis like this proposed broadcasting station because the B.B.C. does not accept advertisements. Television does, but the radio does not.
1.05 p.m.

The B.B.C. is not on a commercial basis as this Corporation is going to be; T.V. does it, but the radio does not. And for any political persuasion to use it, they use it as a means of education. A member of any political persuasion can make a broadcast of its point of view. You got a eulogy paid on the radio to Mr. Hugh Gaitskell when he dies; a Liberal and a Conservative could do that; but they do not allow political propaganda to be used on the radio. What the

Committee should now be discussing is that the power which you are putting into the hands of the Corporation should be in the hands of the Corporation and not in the hands of the Government. Fortunately, this is not one of the cases in which the Corporation must have the prior approval of the Minister to know what programme to put out. That is where the Minister will have to change the Board completely, I do not foresee that the Corporation would not have the quality or the personality to know that if this sub-paragraph (c) says that the Corporation shall have the power to make arrangements for the distribution of programmes then at election time that would be a matter of election policy and that would not in any way interfere with the Government policy. The policy which the various groups decide upon cannot be written into legislation; you cannot tell the Government that for the next election, this is how you should write your broadcast. The Government will agree to broadcast if they think that broadcasting will help them to win election. At one time the Government Party felt that they did not have the kind of speakers which would help them to win the election. For instance, in 1948 my colleague read the speech for the Party (Mr. MOTTLEY: What became of you?) I am not a good broadcast speaker; I am a good platform speaker. However, Sir, there could be no question in anybody's mind that you can say what a Government should do at election time. We did not say in the licence for Rediffusion what it determines, but the licence precludes broadcasts by election Parties. I cannot see that you should tell the Government that they should give that right because you do not have the fundamental right at election time to speak over any radio. If the Government is going to use the radio, I cannot say that the Government should make a broadcast but that nobody else should do that. If there are going to be broadcasts made, there will have to be an arrangement for such broadcasts. I cannot see that anybody in Barbados today would sit on a Board and say that the Government should have time for broadcasts. I do not think that this Government, unless you had a complete dictatorship, should have a broadcast at election time merely for its party. That would be unthinkable.

Mr. Chairman, in a *sotto voce* remark somebody has just said that that is the quickest way for the Government to get out. I have lived long enough to see that the Party which practised that sort of thing for fourteen years had the shock of its life in 1961. What have these restrictive practices done for them? They have caused them to be on the outside barking and trying to get inside. To be barking outside is probably better than to come inside and be facing the situation. They are just out of consonance of what is taking place in the world in 1963.

I agree with the hon. senior member for the City that you should not do anything which would preclude people having time for broadcasting. I am not dealing with election time; I look forward to the operation of Section 7 (1) (c) where provision will be made for political education. There would not be any restriction on political parties or politicians and they should be able to proclaim from this forum so that the people would have a better view of some of the topics which are discussed. For example, what would have been a better discussion put over the radio than the discussion on Federation? How could you ever get across something which is intelligent apart from what hon. members would get on a platform and do, that is, to criticise one Party or a person? What would be a better thing for us than to give the idea of Barbados in this matter of Federation on a platform? You are not attacking anybody; you are just dealing with issues, and the radio would be a good thing for that. A broadcasting corporation should not be a complete replica of the Rediffusion Services in that you cannot use those services for this sort of broadcasting. We are not precluding these people from using what programme is educational; I do not support the idea that you have to insert this provision for making broadcasts at Election time. That is an arrangement, and if the Government makes an arrangement, I would say that I do not see that anybody would disagree with that. There is nothing to prevent the Corporation from doing it, but I do not think that you should have any time at election time for political broadcasts.

Mr. HUSBANDS: Mr. Chairman, my slant on the motion which is now before the House is this. There are times

of national importance when it would be very, very convenient and beneficial to the public of this island that they be well informed at first hand about certain matters. This Government which is in power — I do not necessarily make any criticism of them — did a very wonderful thing in my opinion when they allowed the broadcasting of the debates taking place in this House on the subject of Federation. 1.15 p.m.

That was a special time, a time in which the Barbados public had become specially interested, and it was done from the point of view of national interest — not Party interest, not just political interest in its meanest sense, but in its broadest, widest and best sense. I take it again, Mr. Chairman, that when the term of this House is ended and the people of this Island have the right to say who is going to be their next Government, that is another particular time of national interest, and in my view all should be done to have those people who would claim their franchise to hear them and to hear them as well as possible. Now it is all right to say that you need not write things in a Bill. It is all right to say that the B.B.C. in London may not have, because I cannot say it does not have — my knowledge is limited there — the restriction of any Statute Law whereby a Party in power has the right on the eve of election and the Opposition Parties also have that right; but Sir, at our present stage of development of what we must still call the colonies, when we compare what happens in the United Kingdom, there is a lot that has to be absolutely written in and not taken as a convention before you are perfectly sure that the people would be best served. It is all right in England to know that certain conventions are going to be honoured. As a matter of fact, what the hon. junior member for St. Joseph referred to as his Party when in power mis-using their power to prevent certain broadcasts of debates continuing over the services of Rediffusion is an eye-opener for us. If they can do that, any other Government may do a similar thing. Let us learn by the past and let us see that as legislators we try to correct those mistakes in black and white.

I must say, Mr. Chairman, that I am a Barbadian and I know Barbadian customs, and I know when it comes to our view point, we do not have those age old traditions that we really honour conventions, and we should be absolutely certain that we give our opponents their due. These must be definitely written in; otherwise justice may not be meted out, and that is why I say I am in favour of knowing. The Hon. Minister in charge of this Bill may tell the House and is probably waiting until we finish discussing it in Committee before he puts our minds at rest; but without that assurance from him, I am of the opinion that we should not sit idly by and trust that all will be well. Just as in Federation, a time of national importance, so on the eve of the general election — another time of national importance — I think every opportunity should be guaranteed — and I have no hesitation in using the word used by the hon. member — that those who seek the suffrage of the Islander should be heard. I am not suggesting that every member of a Party should make a speech over the air; but the hon. member said properly constituted bodies. I think that properly constituted bodies have some sort of organisation, and therefore I agree that there is no great difficulty in having a draft produced that would serve to meet the purpose for which this amendment has been moved.

Mr. Chairman, do not let us believe that we can depend on another in the practice of conventions that might not be honoured. Do not let us go on forever doing things that way, because we are not facing realities. I am facing harsh, stark reality. As I said, Barbados Rediffusion is a private company, but we are now giving this proposed Caribbean Corporation powers; they cannot give us powers. The Minister in charge brought this Bill before the House, and it is now being considered by this Committee in order that we will give them powers; so do not let us say that the Corporation has any powers yet, and it will get none if this Committee fails to find agreement on this Bill. While we are doing this, let us go one step further and make sure that we are in no doubt. I think that is an ordinary business procedure. I mentioned the inclusion of the Trade Unions

because you cannot be partial in a matter of this sort and there are other Unions.

Remembering that it was this Government in its wisdom that reflected that it was a time of national importance and allowed the broadcast of debates to go out to the furthest ends of this Island so that every elector could hear the views of members expressed in this House on a matter of national importance like the proposed Federation of some of these islands, in my considered view the same should obtain in this case. If in the United Kingdom it is a concession or a right, I know it is a regular and established practice that on the eve of a general election the Party in power and the other Parties opposing have time on the B.B.C., but I am not feeling so very happy if it is just to be a concession in Barbados too. What is wrong in having the right? Party politics have come to Barbados to stay; let us face that fact; therefore if we believe in that, what is there wrong in guaranteeing that all Parties are heard at election time over the services of this proposed Broadcasting Station? What is worrying me at this present stage of our development — and when I use development I do not mean trade development or economic development; I mean mental and educational development — is that we do not always honour conventions. That is a sad admission on my part; but I am making it as a pure fact, and knowing that I am not very anxious to have repetitions of that sort of thing.

1.25 p.m.

Therefore for me, as for the hon. junior member for St. Joseph and the hon. senior member for the City of Bridgetown, we maintain that we should know from the Minister. It should be made possible through an announcement; but until that is forthcoming, I think that we should better put this in.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, I would not like to be long. Any members of this House must accept with Ministerial Government or without Ministerial Government that you cannot write something in a Bill which deals with the policy which a Government is going to pursue at election time. It is for the Government in power to say whether it is going to have political broadcasting and that is nothing to do with the Corporation. You cannot write that in this Bill because the Corporation must have the power to do things which are conducive to the proper discharge of their functions. The Government has the right to do certain things as a matter of policy, let us say, the hiring of buses at election time. At the last elections, we were informed that the Transport Board rented buses out to a set of people at a cheaper fare than it rented them out to the other set. They charged the same price for renting buses to take people to St. Peter by one Party as they charged the other Party for taking people to St. George? What are you going to do about that? They had the power to hire the buses. What power do you want here? You cannot say here that you want a guarantee. What guarantee do you want? You cannot have any guarantee from any corporation that they must make available time for political broadcasting. They are given the power to do what they want to do. You cannot say that they must have the power to broadcast speeches on the radio from people of the Red Cross or the Boy Scouts. They are given power to arrange their own programme, and quite naturally they would get things from the various organizations on what they would like to do.

What has happened is that some organizations do not understand that broadcasting is a bit different from speaking on a platform. People do not like to spend any time in preparing the necessary script for broadcast, and that is why people do not feel themselves given to making a broadcast. This Corporation is a statutory body, and there is no point saying glibly that we are giving them such powers now. We cannot prescribe by saying that you must write in a Clause something for having a guarantee. What guarantee can you write in paragraph 3 of clause 7 to receive programmes to be broadcast? What guarantee can the people ask of us that we must carry out after they have elected us to this House? The people cannot tell us that you must give us the guarantee that you will do so-and-so. We do what we consider is proper for us to do. You cannot have

these guarantees. Guarantees for what? What guarantee do you expect? All of these points are made to support the amendment that there should be political broadcasting at election time. That is not for the Broadcasting Corporation to do. It is not for the Broadcasting Corporation to canvass people to come in and make a political broadcast at election time. It is a national matter. I will ask: do you expect to have an election time and the Corporation not reporting on it? What guarantee do you want if the Government agrees that there should not be any political broadcast during an election time? You just would have to abide by that.

Sir, I regard this as a positive waste of your intelligence to begin to think that you should write a Clause like that into the Bill for this specific purpose. If you were to do that, well then, boxing boards, which are constituted bodies, would be able to say that you must write in something to guarantee that whenever the boxers or the promoters have anything, the Corporation must broadcast the fight. I do not see how you can insert those words into this Clause.

We all know that you can broadcast the speeches of members of Parties during an election time; but that is a matter of election policy, and that is a matter which has to be arranged all over the world. During the war, Sir Winston Churchill agreed that he would go on the air one evening and Lord Attlee who was the Leader of the Opposition Party would go on the next evening; but as the Liberals did not have anything too much, they did not go. What I would like to see written in is some clause that you should have a guarantee that all statutory bodies should have the right to have broadcasts. However, you may have constituted bodies at election time which you may be thinking of banning. For instance, if a Communist Party comes along at election time because it is a constituted body and wants to broadcast something, far from being given permission, we may have to ban it. Sir, I have been in the House long enough to know that if your Government is run properly, you do not want to have political broadcasts at election time anyhow, you want them before. The People of the country know how to deal with the people who only wait until election time to tell them things.

Sir, I do not see the necessity for inserting that Clause in this Bill. I am a champion of the rights and freedom of people, and if I thought that by not so doing it would be infringing on the rights of people, I would gladly support it. The Government is not controlling this; this is controlled by the Corporation, and we must not assume that the people in Barbados are so corrupt that you cannot have five or seven people to put on a broadcast committee and they have to be yard fowls. There are members of this House who sit on statutory boards. I sit on a statutory board, and we do not have to go up Bay Street and ask the Government what we should do or what should be done. We sat down on the Sugar Industry Agricultural Board and turned down applications for loans of the same people who made representation to the Board over the matter. We are not concerned with if the Government is going to buy anything. We sit down on the Board and consider a thing on its merits. If I feel that members of this Board would have to go up Bay Street and hear what the Ministers say before they make a loan, I would resign tomorrow. I see political parties write in the daily newspaper which claims it is independent and it gives them the right to give their submissions to it. That is the policy of the *Advocate* newspaper. Nobody has not beaten them into doing that; they decided to do it. I do not think a Board would be so stupid as to abuse the powers granted to it.

1.35 p.m.

How can you begin to think of that taking place with a Broadcasting Corporation; that members are going to give one particular Party the right to speak and preclude another Party of that right? With Rediffusion there is a licence referring to the broadcasting of political speeches; there is nothing in that licence in which the Premier can say that Rediffusion can call him up there to speak. I do not think that we should have the insertion of this amendment.

Mr. HUSBANDS: Mr. Chairman, I feel that if we have any viewpoint to make at this stage, now is the time to make

it and not hereafter. It will be remembered that before I made my second contribution in Committee on this very matter which is now engaging the attention of the Committee, I looked in the direction of the Hon. Minister in charge of the Bill and I said that we, in Committee, would like an assurance from that Minister, the sort of assurance which would put our minds at rest as to the necessity for the inclusion of that sort of amending Clause which we have in mind. I still maintain that. We have to know what the position is now; we cannot wait until a year from now and then say that we are sorry about this or that; I am not doubting the integrity of individuals; but I have no hesitation in speaking and voicing my experience as a politician of political bodies. I have no reservation as far as that is concerned; I maintain that we are giving the Boards these powers. If the Minister is in charge of policy, he is present in Committee and he should set our minds at rest and at ease now by telling us that there will be no abuse of these powers and that there will be no checking of one Party and allowing another Party any particular right. That is what we want to know, and that is the reason for our efforts in putting forward the proposed amendment. There is nothing more, there is nothing less. We have no ulterior motives.

I do not indulge in searching recriminations. It may be that that will help some people but that does not help me. I do not see that there is anything wrong in getting that guarantee from the Minister. One particular Party in power may believe that they will be in power for all the time, and if they find themselves out of power they would like to find themselves in a position where they can have justice meted out to them. We are passing our first Broadcasting Bill and this is the time that we should know about it. If we do not know about it now, when will we ever know about it? Do not let us say later on that we are sorry that we did not know this and that. I have my opinion and another hon. member has his opinion and we are entitled to voice our opinion in this Committee; that is why we are here. If I were sure that certain agreements and certain conventions would be honoured I would not have any worry; but it is past experience of men and matters political in Barbados that makes me ever anxious that I should have some form of guarantee or assurance from the Hon. Minister in charge.

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Chairman, a Bill of this nature which is now before us was long overdue. I am glad that a Bill like this has come before this House seeking to provide for the establishment of a Corporation to be known as the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation for the functions of the Corporation and for purposes connected with the matters aforesaid. I have sat and listened carefully and I have heard much said about this Bill. When I first came to this House the Opposition, which was on this side, was asking the Government to allow them to broadcast but we never reached that. The only Party who could broadcast would be the Government. I want everybody to understand that broadcasting to the public of Barbados is only like a tinkling cymbal and sounding brass. It is the people who are the judges, and they will check the work which has been done by the Government. The next Election will be just like people playing basket ball; it will be a question of who gets the ball in. Every man has the right to go to the people and be questioned. I should like to say that if there is any hon. member who should ask for the right of broadcasting it would be the hon. senior member for St. Peter, because he tells the people what they want and what he will do for them. We will tell the people what we are going to do for them. I believe that in due season the Government will cause each and every one of the political parties to broadcast their speeches as is done in other countries. I can say that I "Homie" Corbin preach in St. Andrew and it does not matter whether there was a broadcasting station or not. The people look forward to the promises which you make to them. When it comes to the next election, the people will mark us; they will mark our deeds and our works. They will check us as to the work which we have done. The position will be just as it is when people are playing basketball. I am saying that the provision for broadcasting will come in due season; I ask this Government not to let the wickedness of another Government prevent them from doing what is right towards the inhabitants of Barbados.

1.45 p.m.

I would not expect this Government to render evil for evil, but would advise them to render good for evil. I believe that this Government will give broadcasting time, and I am sure that everybody will be satisfied. We were waiting for this Bill for a long time, and now that it has come, I believe all members will vote for it. Some people complain that they cannot get news on their private radios; therefore this Bill needs no resistance; it only needs a third reading and being passed. This is one of the promises which the Government made, and it is now coming into force.

Mr. LYNCH: Mr. Chairman, in advanced societies, it is not necessary that democratic safeguards should be written into Bills of this nature. In emerging societies it is sometimes very necessary. There are certain things which are done in emerging societies which people do not feel outraged about, but if they were attempted at all in advanced societies they would cause a great outcry. It is well known that at election time in England every Party is allowed a certain amount of time to broadcast. It is also well known that Mr. Nixon lost the Presidency of the United States as a result of a T.V. battle which he had with the President of the United States. He did not show up well on T.V. and lost the election. It is necessary therefore that in introducing a Bill of this sort, the democratic safeguard that there should be equal time for the conflicting political parties at election time should be written in and thus safeguarded.

It is well known that when the Federation debate was on and was broadcast to the entire Island, it had a great impact on the community, and that certain members whose views were heard enhanced their reputations while others rather surprised, let us say, their supporters. Now, that we are about to pass into law suffrage for eighteen year-olds, it is even more incumbent upon us to see to it that there is a safeguard that they should hear the views of the various Parties at election time. There are some people who would not be found dead near a political meeting. The emotionalism, the hot air the personalities and the views which are often expressed keep away many a citizen from attending a political meeting. But these same citizens would in the privacy of their homes listen to the views of the speakers from the various Parties as well they might without venturing out to the political platform. As a matter of fact, those who keep most noise around a political platform do not even worry in many cases to exercise the vote. All we are asking, Mr. Chairman, is reasonably the insertion of such a Clause as is being prepared now which would ensure that at election time equal time should be given to properly constituted political Parties, and I can see no argument whatever against it. Democratic safeguards often have to be written into the constitution, I will repeat, especially in emerging territories. There are things which go on which would not even be thought of in advanced societies like, let us say, the United States of America, Canada or England. There are many people who rant and tear about private enterprise, Mr. Chairman, and who never mention the fact that the progress made in Western Germany is entirely due to their attachment to the system of free enterprise. Those are not points for a political platform because they might hardly be understood by those who shout and howl around the platform; but, Mr. Chairman we feel it is necessary that any clear and cold cut logic might well be listened to in people's homes at election time rather than be exposed to the molesting approach of those who would influence the more vocal electors.

I am supporting those who suggest that this safeguard be written in paragraph 7 (c).

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, I am very sorry that this debate has taken such a turn, but it is no fault of mine. This Bill is before us as representatives of the people for our approval, and if one cares to see it through his own eyes and it does not appeal to others, then one cannot be at fault. Everybody cannot see one way; everybody's glasses do not have the same lens, and there are some who do not have glasses at all.

This Bill, Sir, is seeking to authorise the Corporation to do such things as are necessary or expedient for the

purpose of turning to account any property or rights of the Corporation, to make arrangements for the distribution of programmes and so on. We could insert a paragraph into this loosening the hands of the Corporation in this way. At election time there are no more members of the House of Assembly since the House is prorogued. The only members who remain are those of the Cabinet. Let us take it in this light, though I am not saying it is likely to be like that, but there may be Parties in the field and it is felt that a particular Party is gaining ground on the Government Party, and that Party asks the Corporation's permission or applies for broadcasting time.

1.55 p.m.

It is human nature. It may be that one member of the Corporation will want to ask the Minister in charge what he thinks of allowing such a Party to broadcast. If the Corporation should refuse an application, you cannot say anything because it is not worded here to allow them to do so. The Corporation may comprise of five members; but you may well have one weak member on it or one who is leaning on the side of the Government Party and by so doing liable to keep out the other Party from being able to broadcast over this service. When this is written in this Bill and two members of the Corporation are in favour of that particular Party, they can grant him permission to broadcast. If it is not written, especially with members whom we have today, you will not be safe.

Let us take for instance this thing which only happened last Tuesday. I sat here and heard the hon. junior member for the City of Bridgetown ask the Clerk to include my name on a Select Committee to be appointed. The list was passed on to hon. members on the other side and it came back with my name off. I am a member who has been elected here by the people and you get another member who instructed the Clerk to put my name on that list, and only because I am not liked by some members over on the other side, my name was struck off that list. Do you want something smaller than that?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Sir, I rise on a point of order. I do not usually interrupt the hon. member when he makes these completely unfounded charges. But nobody would consider that his name was struck off because he is not liked. His name was removed from the list because his colleague the hon. junior member for St. James, did not have the opportunity of sitting on a Select Committee for a long time and we thought that we would give that honourable member the opportunity of serving.

Mr. SMITH: Sir, that means the same thing. Do you mean to say that they love my colleague so much? Well then, if it is love for my colleague, it is hatred for me. Imagine my name was on that list and they struck it off! Playing that they are smart, after they struck it off, they said: "Let us put on his colleague." Do you want something smaller than that?

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Sir, I rise on a point of order. The hon. member has been told why his name was struck off and was substituted by the hon. junior member for St. James. If you refer to the Order Paper, you will see that the name of the hon. junior member for St. Joseph is already on two of the three Select Committees which are set up. On this occasion, we thought that his colleague would be able to say that he is ignored; so we put his name on to serve. The hon. junior member for St. Joseph seems to think he wants to grab everything for himself and that his colleague is completely ignorant of everything.

Mr. SMITH: I do not want to grab everything for myself. I did not ask anybody to put my name on anything. The two Select Committees which I am on, I did not ask them to put me on. I do not care so much about them to ask them anything. Sir, if the Mover of the motion for the Bill sent to Select Committee agreed to nominate a member to go on it, they have no right taking his name off because it is the right of the mover of the motion to nominate who should go on it.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: It is not true to say that the Mover of a motion that you send a Bill to Select Committee

has the right to nominate the members. All he does is to suggest to the majority Party the names of members whom he thinks should serve. If the majority Party thinks so, it does so.

Mr. SMITH: Sir, I am stating my fears of leaving this measure as it is. The hon. member says he gave justifiable reason for taking my name off and putting on the name of my colleague. I did not hear it myself, but I heard that the Hon. Premier said in here that the hon. junior member for St. George would never get a pioneer status as long as he was the Premier of this country. When you meet such narrowmindedness and pettiness, what does it leave you to think other than they are narrow and petty? I have heard more. I have the remark that the Hon. Premier is not going to run this Board. I say that so long as it is something to do with the Government, it is to do with the Premier. I am thinking about the particular Party as a Party. We have to think as to the Party. We represent people; and I am sure that if you were to take a vote tomorrow, you would get 100% of the people voting for members of Parties being allowed to go on the air. We are dealing with the people and the people would like to hear us.

As far as the remark by the hon. senior member for St. Peter that I should be the last to bring this amendment, well, I would not go any further. I do not know the reason why I should be the last person nor did he say. I was never against persons going on the air. I would never agree to anything which is not fair. When the hon. member said that if the suggestion came from somebody else it would be more appropriate, I leave him to think on that.

When it comes to this Corporation — and this cannot be a Corporation until everything which is written here is passed by this House — I would only repeat that we are giving this Corporation more power so that if they want to allow a particular Party at election time to go on the air, no one could say to them that this Act or a Regulation arising out of this Act does not provide for it. It is only to put this amendment inside this Bill. It would not harm any person. We want it put in to make sure that it is in the Bill and the Corporation would not have to worry if it is put in the Bill. You are lowering the voting age, and by that, you will be having a lot of young people who would be able to vote. Allowing members to broadcast, these young people will be able to listen to them and they have intelligence on all things; therefore, everything possible should be handed out to them.
2.05 p.m.

Why should we think of depriving them of listening to the particular parties over the air? A broadcast on the air is taken in a different light from listening to speeches on the platform because everything you can say on the platform you cannot think of saying over the air. There are people who have no use for mass meetings, but they will sit around their radios and listen to the speeches of the various Parties and try to arrive at their decision. There are those who do not go out of their houses at night, but when they hear that the Leader of a particular Party is coming over the air they will sit down and listen to the radio. I am thinking along those lines because whatever happens, happens; whatever is to be, will be. If I am in here, whatever is to be, will be and if I am outside looking in, whatever is to be will be. There is no sense in rejoicing at not being a person who is outside looking in because there is a possibility that you may be inside and you have to be lifted outside. As long as you are dependent upon the people for votes there is the possibility of your being outside and looking in. You do not have the votes in your pocket to be put into the ballot box and therefore you should not rejoice over one who has lost. As a matter of fact, if one did not lose how would the other one win? However, Sir, I am asking leave to withdraw the motion which I made originally for the purpose of substituting another one.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The hon. member is asking leave to withdraw the motion which he originally made and if there is no objection, leave will be granted. *(After a pause)* There being no objection, leave is granted the hon. member.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, this is the motion which I am making now; I am moving the insertion of this sub-paragraph to be numbered (d) and it reads as follows:—

“To make arrangements for broadcasting time to be given to political parties contesting an Election at Election time.”

I am submitting that that is one of the things which the Corporation shall have power to do.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, I spoke on this matter and I have listened carefully to the remarks of the hon. senior member for St. Peter. I must confess that I did not read Clause 7 (1) (c) carefully enough. There is a tremendous lot in what the hon. senior member for St. Peter has said about the making of regulations. If the hon. member would read this sub-paragraph and think of it carefully, he will see what it says. It says this:

“The Corporation shall have power to make arrangements for the distributions of programmes broadcast by the Corporation and to receive programmes to be broadcast by the Corporation.”

On reflection it will be seen that that sub-paragraph in itself covers the whole thing. Therefore I am suggesting to the hon. member that, with the existence of that paragraph, you can say to the Government: “As far as you are concerned, this is the law in respect of this Bill to provide for the establishment of this Broadcasting Corporation and section 7 (1) (c) says that you can make arrangements for the distribution of programmes broadcast by the Corporation and to receive programmes to be broadcast by the Corporation.”

Mr. Chairman, if you were to read that carefully and apply commonsense to it, that will show you that whatever Government there is in power that Government has the right to do what is set out there. What you can do is to whip public opinion and ask why cannot the Government allow a particular Party in power to broadcast over that Station. I suggest to the hon. member that this sub-paragraph is sufficient for what we require; I am perfectly satisfied that this is the right thing. This Corporation can make arrangements for the distribution of programmes broadcast by the Corporation and for receiving programmes to be broadcast by the Corporation. That is enough, in my opinion, to satisfy me that that will give you the entire right to say what you want to say to the Government. I am asking leave to withdraw my motion for the postponement of this Section.

There being no objection, leave was granted the hon. member to withdraw the motion.

Mr. HOLDER: Mr. Chairman, I beg to second the amendment which has been moved by the hon. junior member for St. Joseph.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The motion before the Committee now is the one which has been moved by the hon. junior member for St. Joseph.

Mr. HUSBANDS: Mr. Chairman, in addition to the remarks which I have already made, I would like to say that, in my view, the Section which we have already passed, that is Section 6, enjoins impartiality on the part of the Corporation in having its powers directed by the Minister in charge of this particular Department; and as the Hon. Minister is still in his place, I would like him just to refer for a moment to Section 6.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: We have passed that already.

Mr. HUSBANDS: I know that. But unless we have....

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I should like to inform the hon. member that we are now dealing with Clause 7 and not Clause 6.

Mr. HUSBANDS: I am aware of that, but I think I have the right to refer to that Section.
2.15 p.m.

Already a section passed by this House enjoins no partiality on the part of the Board, and we were hoping, I do not believe in vain, that the Minister would make certain statements relative to this matter; and with that Section 6 having already been passed, laying down as it were that impartiality must be practised by the Board, I do not believe the Minister would have any difficulty in replying in the sort of vein that we would welcome on this motion.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, I am only replying to the hon. senior member for Bridgetown when he spoke on section (c) "to make arrangement for the distribution of programmes broadcast by the Corporation and to receive programmes to be broadcast by the Corporation." It does not say anything about if the Corporation cares to refuse. In Clause 6 which we have just passed, the Corporation shall have power by directions to lay down general standards of taste of all programmes; so the Corporation can still say that something does not taste good and they are not going to put it over. That is why I would like to see this amendment put in. I am trying to save such a thing as I have mentioned from happening, but if members cannot see otherwise, it is their business.

The question that the words to be included stand part was put and resolved in the negative without division.

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

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Your Honour do now report progress and ask for leave to sit again.

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

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

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this sitting be now suspended for 40 minutes.

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

The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER suspended the sitting accordingly.

On Resumption.

Mr. BATSON: Mr. Speaker, I observe that there is no quorum and ask that you direct the Clerk to ring the Bell.

Mr. SPEAKER: I thank the hon. senior member for St. Thomas. Let the Bell be rung.

The bell was rung and a quorum obtained.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' NOTICES

Mr. SPEAKER: It is of course a fact that when the sitting was suspended, immediately prior to the suspension of the sitting, the House was in Committee; but before allowing the Chairman to resume, I am prepared now to afford hon. members an opportunity of giving certain notices which they were unable to give at the appropriate time today, because copies were not available. On the Notice Paper there are certain questions and there is a Resolution, and the first questions are in the name of the hon. senior member for St. Michael who now has permission to give notice of his questions which he could not give notice of earlier today.

Mr. SEALEY: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following Questions:-

To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:-

Is the Minister aware that the bus stop at the corner of Beckles Road and Culloden Road, St. Michael, has been removed?

2. Is the Minister aware that the removal of the said bus stop is causing great inconvenience to the general public?

3. Will the Minister authorise its immediate replacement?

To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:

Is the Minister aware of the deplorable condition of the following roads:

Laundry Gap, Garden Land, St. Michael;
Tamarind Lane, Garden Land, St. Michael;
Long Gap, Grazettes, St. Michael?

2. Will the Minister authorise the repair of the said roads without delay?

To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:

Is the Minister aware that the roads in the Free Hill area in the parish of St. Michael are in an acute state of disrepair and are now well-nigh impassable to vehicular traffic?

2. Will the Minister authorise the repair of the said roads as soon as possible?

Mr. BATSON: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following Question:-

To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:

Will Government, in view of the fact that the maintenance of roads in the parish of St. Thomas has now become the responsibility of the Central Government, integrate all of the workers who originally worked with the Northern District Council on the said roads?

Mr. WEEKES: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following Question:-

To enquire of the Hon. Minister of Communications, Works and Housing:

Is the Minister aware that people living in Zones I and II of the Water Protected Area are not allowed to instal water at their homes even for domestic purposes?

2. If the answer is in the affirmative, will the Minister use his influence to alleviate the hardship caused by the existing restrictions?
3.05 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: Under Private Members' Notices, there is a Resolution standing in the name of the hon. and learned member for St. James.

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

WHEREAS Government has been demonstrating deep interest in the development of the social and cultural tastes of the people of the Island;

AND WHEREAS the Northern District Council is unable because of its limited financial resources to provide for pavilions at Trents and Thorpes' Playing Fields;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House requests Government in its development programme to make early provision for a small pavilion to each of these two places.

Mr. SPEAKER: That completes hon. members' notices which normally would have been given notice of earlier today. I would now allow the House to resume into Committee.

The question that Clause 20 stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Clause 21 was called. It reads as follows:—

21. Subject to the provisions of section 20 of this Act, the Corporation may with the approval of the Minister make regulations determining generally the conditions of service of employees of the Corporation and in particular, but without limiting the generality of the foregoing power, may make regulations relating to —

- (a) the appointment, dismissal, discipline hours of employment, pay and leave of such employees;
- (b) appeals by such employees against dismissal or other disciplinary measures;
- (c) the grant of pensions, gratuities and other benefits to such employees and their dependants, and the grant of gratuities to the estates or dependants of deceased employees of the Corporation;
- (d) the establishment and maintenance of superannuation funds and provident funds, and the contributions payable thereto and the benefits receivable therefrom.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Clause 21 stand part.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: I beg to second that. 3.35 p.m.

Mr. WALCOTT: Sir, I am only asking the Minister a question on this Clause. I take it when this Clause states that "Subject to the provisions of Section 20 of this Act, the Corporation may with the approval of the Minister make regulations determining generally the conditions of service of employees of the Corporation," in so far as the position is concerned where people over the years have from time to time been able to join Trade Unions, I hope this legislation enacted will not conflict with that.

There is a point which was made by the hon. junior member for St. George as regards the fact that sometimes we do get some hardheaded people coming to these territories believing that they are experts and they do not want to hear what any of the local people have to say.

I hope the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation will be off to a good start and there will be no collision between it and the Workers Trade Union. I do hope this legislation will not preclude the workers from their domestic rights to have conditions of service considered appropriate to themselves.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON. I am perfectly sure that this Government will do nothing to interfere with persons joining Trade Unions. I think the days have passed in Barbados completely when people would want to do that. Matters will be dealt with entirely as they have been dealt with over the last few years by Trade Union negotiations rather than by personal agreement, and I do not think the hon. senior member for St. Peter would have anything to dread in this Act at all.

The question that Clause 20 stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Clauses 21 to 23 were called separately and passed.

The Schedule was called and passed.

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

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

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

THE CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT (GENERAL) (AMENDMENT). (NO. 10) ORDER, 1963

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Order No. 8 be the next Order of the Day.

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

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

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. and Learned Premier: To move the passing of the following Resolution: Resolution to approve the Order entitled "The Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) (No. 10) Order, 1963."

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, in the absence of the Hon. Premier, I am asking leave to take charge of this Resolution.

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, as hon. members would know, this Civil Establishment Order has to do with certain arrangements for increased efficiency of the Public Service of this Island.

The Addendum shown that the matter before us involves, in the first place, the creation of six new posts of the office of Cadet under Head 40, General Service, and the removal of six posts of Administrative Assistant, and the bracketing of these posts together; then in addition to that, to increase the establishment of the Customs Department by the following additional posts; two additional Assistant Supervisors at the salary scale of \$3,096 - \$3,960 and three additional Long Grade Clerks at a salary scale of \$1,200 - \$2,832.

The House will recall that the last Salaries Commissioner, Mr. Jacobs, particularly recommended that the post of Cadet in this Service ought to be established and created so that young persons wishing to enter the service with suitable qualifications, particularly if they have University training, though not exclusively so, might benefit by these posts of Administrative Cadet, and provide the adequate training ground for them before they assume a more responsible position in the Service, and so too, that if any person in the Service so qualified by the acquisition of a University degree might be retained in the Service at that administrative level.

This, Sir, has nothing at all to do with the existing and wide range of clerical and other persons who have to carry out the work of the Department, nor does it preclude in any way those who are not in the Service and the salaries arrangements to which those posts conform; but it does help to attract into the Service young people suitably qualified to come and have the necessary training.

In respect of the additions to the Customs Department, hon. members will be aware that this is a most important Department, and from time to time there have been complaints about its efficiency — though, of course, no praise is too high for the conscientious manner in which people who work in this Department discharge their duties. The Government feels that this is the proper time to increase the establishment of the Customs Department by the creation of these additional posts of Assistant Supervisor, and by the provision of more Long Grade Clerks so that the efficiency of this Department, far from being at the minimum, would be at the maximum. 3.45 p.m.

I beg to move that this Resolution to give approval of this Order do now pass.

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

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

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE LEASE OF LAND
TO THE BARBADOS LIGHT AND POWER
COMPANY LIMITED**

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Communications Works and Housing:- To move the passing of the following Resolution:-

Resolution to approve the lease by the Governor-in-Executive Committee to the Barbados Light and Power Co. Ltd. of a parcel of land at "Avalon" at the corner of Jemmotts Lane and Collymore Rock, St. Michael.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: Mr. Deputy Speaker, prior to the erection of the new Hospital, the Barbados Light and Power Company Limited had erected on the northern side of Jemmotts Lane within the boundaries of the present hospital a power station which supplied the Hospital and premises around that area. At the present time there is a new Hospital being constructed on Martindales Road, and it is necessary to have the sewerage lines passing from the Hospital through Jemmotts Lane to meet at the junction that existed. It is therefore necessary not to have a power station with high-powered lines operated around the area. Therefore, the Barbados Light and Power Company Limited are asking us to lease to them a portion of land of approximately 216 square feet at the south-eastern part of the Hospital on the Doctors' premises where the power station would be completely out of the way and where a six-foot pavement would be erected along the site at Jemmotts Lane.

The Hospital wall is being taken down, and there will be a six-foot pavement. That is in keeping with the Government's policy as to highway improvement. Prior to the application for this lease, a charge was taken from the Company of one shilling per annum but, Mr. Deputy Speaker, we are now asking for a rental of \$15 a year as a small rent for this 216 square feet of land which is to be used by the Barbados Light and Power Company Limited. With those remarks, Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. BOXILL: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I have no objection to the lease by the Governor-in-Executive Committee of this parcel of land to the Barbados Light and Power Company, but I want to bring once again this matter to the attention of the Government. The Barbados Light and Power Company, like all public utility services, is not pulling its weight fully. This Company was operating in this island some fifty years ago and they have not made any great effort to make electricity available throughout this island. I do not want it to be misconstrued that, because on a former occasion I had to refer to this matter, I have any bee in my bonnet for the Barbados Light and Power Company Limited. To prove that, they will find out when the Public Utilities Bill comes up for consideration in this House next week. It is overbearing, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that we have been making representations to the Barbados Light and Power Company to have poles erected in many rural areas, and up to the present moment that Company cannot see fit to do so although they are enjoying a monopoly in Barbados.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, if there were two or three Electric Companies here, this Company would not be sticking out its neck and saying that a person must pay down \$200 or \$300 in order to have poles erected before that person can obtain electric light. There is no stipulation that, after that person has paid down that money, only such person will be able to enjoy the benefit of the light. Anybody else can make application to the Electric Company and have his electricity installed, and nothing by way of reimbursement is paid to the person who paid down his \$200 or \$300. Mr.

Deputy Speaker, in the parish of St. Thomas which borders on the parish of St. Michael, it is only recently that people have been able to get electric light in Bridgefield. I myself have encouraged people to have their houses wired in the Welchman Hall and Bryan areas. The Manager of the Electric Company is a gentleman; but you can be turned around by people who are still thinking in terms of the 14th century or the 15th century in Barbados. There are some people at the Electric Company who still feel that electricity is something for the benefit of a select few. It is not only stupid, but it is also wicked to think so.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, if you were to go to the neighbouring island of Trinidad, you will be surprised to see some of the places like those in Shanty Town where they do not even have proper houses, but you will find that they have electricity installed. If you were to go to Curacao, you will also be surprised to find that houses which are patched with tin have electricity installed in them. In Barbados, we have some fairly nice homes, but the people are suffering from the lack of electricity. Years ago it used to be said that the people are too poor to have electricity installed in their homes, but that statement cannot hold water today. No matter how poor people are today, they are striving to get facilities like the supply of electricity. It is much better to have electricity installed in homes than to have to resort to the use of kerosene oil lamps. It is possible that a rat may run through a house, the cat may run behind the rat, the lamp is overturned and the house is put on fire. 3.55 p.m.

Let us get away from the old method where people have to go in the out-offices and have to run out with a box of matches, when they can easily pull a switch and have light in the outhouses. I do not see any good reason why we should keep sitting here and allowing the Electric Company to drag its feet. It is a private concern, and it is also true that it is a utility service, and is benefiting from the law that governs utility services. I am therefore calling on this Government once more, because I am tired of going to the Electric Company and creating a noise, to ask the Electric Company to step up its programme not only for St. Thomas, but for the entire Island. I am not going to be satisfied when I go to St. Thomas to have people asking me when they are going to get light. I have told people to wire their houses and have actually wired some myself, and there is absolutely no excuse for not having electricity in that parish. The excuse they have given me is that they have to put down a transformer, but if we had two or three Electric Companies, they would not be telling us about putting down a transformer. It is merely because they are enjoying a monopoly that they can afford to drag their feet.

I am therefore calling on the Government, Mr. Deputy Speaker, to call on the Electric Company to step up its programme. I have been told that they have asked for \$60,000 and the Government had agreed to pay \$20,000 and they would pay \$40,000. Whether or not that has taken place, you should call on them. We are about 50 years behind time, and we should call on the Electric Company to have the entire Island electrified in every crack, crevice and nook. If you have electricity in these places, there is the possibility that you will find some industries going into the rural areas, because all the industries cannot hold in Bridgetown, and I am therefore asking Government to call on them without fear to have the entire Island electrified before the year is ended.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I would not like the hon. member to be solo in this matter. I agree with this Resolution which seeks to make available a parcel of land for the Electric Company to put down a sub-station; but like the hon. junior member for St. Thomas, I think it is time that we should reiterate our views and call upon the Company to have a more vigorous approach to this question of supplying the country with electric power. Firstly, if they do not have a very vigorous policy, it is going to stultify any development programme, because it would mean that one of the problems in this island of the distribution of industries is the fact that there are some areas where there is no electric supply, and people have to use alternate methods which can be very expensive.

Secondly, I would like to draw to the Minister's attention that we are living in a modern age, and I think it should be drawn to the Company's attention that this dangerous method of still having wires strung about the City is something that is out of tune with a modern city, a radius of approximately 15 square miles. I was minded when we had the threat of the hurricane what it would mean in Bridgetown, if the hurricane had struck, to find these electric wires lying about. It is not a good thing for a City. The time has come when these wires should be underground in the city at least. Apart from being unsightly, the time has come when that sort of progress programme should be up, and we should not have these antediluvian methods which we find in the City of Bridgetown of a lot of wires knocking about the streets. On the other hand, I think this country is in need of a better supply. The hon. member has rightly said that the gross national income of this country has gone up, and I would say that the Company should reflect this sort of thing. In all countries of the world this kind of service reflects the national improvement. Electricity, gas and all these services mean that more people will begin to use these things, and I think we should call upon them vigorously to do something more than what they have been doing.

I am sure, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that the members of the Government were themselves dedicated to this policy. As an example, Mr. Deputy Speaker, though I do not want to do anything that would embarrass you, Sir, your colleague and yourself represent a parish in this Island which is not an underdeveloped parish, and I had the privilege without your consent to be resident in your parish for a few days and was amazed when I looked and found that there is not a street lamp — and this is not the Electric Company's fault, I am sure — from the Lazaretto right through that built-up area until you get to Road View, St. Peter, a stretch of seven miles along the most expensive land in the Island — or maybe in the world, as somebody tells me. It is a poor reflection, not on the Electric Company, but on the local authorities. I would say, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that if we call upon the Company and let them know how we feel about it, we would be encouraging what we regard as poor people to put electricity in their homes so that they can use radios and other modern conveniences, because some of them have relatives in the United Kingdom sending back electrical equipment, and I feel it is time that our country should be better supplied with electricity than it is.

This Company has been here for over half a century, and if I may draw an example, Mr. Deputy Speaker, (Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: You are out of order). It is said that I am out of order, but can we be out of order if this is a Resolution to approve the grant of a piece of land to the Electric Company?

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have not told the hon. member that he is out of order.

Mr. WALCOTT: I want to know if the hon. member is aware that this is an abstract Resolution asking Government to grant the Barbados Light and Power Company a parcel of land on a property called "Avalon" situate at the corner of Jemmotts Lane for the purpose of erecting a sub-station thereon, and therefore it means that you can talk about the Electric Company.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You do not have to listen to the Leader of the House.

Mr. WALCOTT: I want to make it clear that we are not going outside of the Resolution, though I went outside the Resolution to draw an analogy. I feel that when we take this opportunity to talk about a better electric supply, we are only doing it because we are now granting the Light and Power the authority to put down a sub-station, and I think we are quite in order to draw this matter to the House's attention.

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

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am asking leave to take Order No. 2 as the next Order of the Day. 4.05 p.m.

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

THE BARBADOS DEVELOPMENT BANK BILL, 1963

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Premier: Second reading of a Bill to provide for the establishment of a Bank to be known as the Barbados Development Bank to provide financial assistance to development enterprises in the Island and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: I am asking for leave to take charge of this Bill, standing in the name of the Hon. Premier.

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

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Deputy Speaker, this Bill seeks to authorise the establishment of a Development Bank for the purpose of assisting in the economic development of this Island.

You will see that the Bill is divided into three parts. The first part relates to the establishment, functions and responsibilities of the Bank. The second part relates to finance and the authorised capital of the Bank, which would be \$3 million divided into three million shares of the par value of one dollar each; and the third part seeks to make necessary provisions of a general nature.

Under Clause 25, provision is being made in respect of the transfer to the Bank of loans now made by the Development Board, and of charges on amounts allocated to that Board from loan funds and of other rights, powers, privileges and liabilities relating to finance.

It should be also noted, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that there are certain consequential changes which would follow on the establishment of this Development Bank. The Barbados Development Board which is now charged with the responsibilities of granting loans for development purposes and for assisting in other industrial development in the Island will be named the Industrial Corporation, and from this Board as at presently constituted would be taken its present loan-making functions.

Very important is the fact that the Bank will have the power to act as a Small Business Loan Board. Instead of creating a separate establishment with a separate name, it is proposed to give the Development Bank not only the responsibility for assisting in the establishment of large scale industries in the country, but where any co-operative society registered under the Co-operative Societies Act, 1949, or any person is carrying on small retail business, the Bank will have the power to grant, on such terms as to security, rate of interest, repayment of principal and other similar matters as the Bank may think fit, loans to such society or person and to give them other forms of financial assistance; and such loans or financial assistance will be for the purpose of: (a) purchasing equipment, plant, tools and other articles necessary for carrying on such retail business; and (b) improving any premises in which such small retail business may be carried on.

For this purpose, the Bank will establish out of monies standing to the credit of the Bank a separate fund of not less than fifty thousand dollars in addition to such other funds, if any, as may from time to time be provided by the Legislature of the Island for the said purposes.

No loan or other form of financial assistance granted or, as the case may be, given in respect of assisting in the establishment of small retail businesses will exceed the sum of one thousand five hundred dollars.

In so far as manufacturing businesses are concerned, the Bank will have power to grant to persons carrying on small manufacturing businesses loans, not exceeding two thousand five hundred dollars in respect of any one small manufacturing business on such terms as to security, rate of interest, repayment or principal and other similar matters as the Bank may think fit.

For this purpose the Bank will establish out of moneys standing to the credit of the Bank a separate fund of not less than one hundred thousand dollars.

Now, Sir, you will notice also that the Bank will have power to issue debentures not exceeding four million dollars, either on par, premium or discount and either with or without interest as to participation in the profits or capital of the Bank or any department thereof, or as to redemption, or as to conversion into debentures or bonds of a different class or redeemable at a different date or dates, or into shares in the capital of the Bank.

The directors of the Bank itself will consist of not less than five persons, of whom one member is to be the Chairman and another, Deputy Chairman. The terms of appointment are not to exceed three years.

In the general context of industrial development in Barbados it has been found necessary for the Government to advance capital assistance to people who want to establish industries in the first instance, and also for the purpose of expanding the availability of hotel rooms in the Island.

It is proposed now to place this loan function in the hands exclusively of the banking corporation and, as I have said earlier, to give it the power in addition of granting financial assistance to small businessmen and small industrialists. Apart from this, I would not be at all surprised if sooner or later the Government may regard it necessary to embark on the establishment of industrial enterprises in this Island because, in my conception, if private enterprise is not active or dynamic enough in the embarking upon new enterprises in the Island, the time may well come when the Government would find itself constrained to take the necessary steps of establishing industries and operating them until such time as it thinks it advisable either to turn them over to private enterprise or might think it fit to make provision for their continuance. 4.15 p.m.

That has been found necessary in other parts of the world and in under-developed territories; but we do feel that, by making finance available to people who may want assistance in whole or in part for industrial development, we are making a very good contribution to the future development of this island. We do hope that the people of this country, when this assistance is made available to them, will make the maximum use of it since it is inconceivable that there should not be in this community a sufficiently large, alert and capable number of people who will be able to appreciate the necessity for further industrial development and to embark upon it so long as the necessary finance and assistance are available to them.

The establishment of this Bank and the separation of the functions presently carried on by the Development Board into those of loan-making and development purposes have been pledged to the community by the Government in our Manifesto; and we have been engaged, since we have assumed office, in taking the necessary steps in having the necessary legislation drafted to give effect to these proposals. The proposed legislation which is now before the House today therefore seeks to carry out and honour the Government's pledges in this respect. I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

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

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is....

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I want to make a few remarks on this Bill. This matter is a very far-

reaching and important one, and I think that those of us who feel strongly on this matter should take this opportunity of complimenting the Government on producing a Bill of this character. I think it is very much needed to accelerate the pace of industrial development in this island, and we hope that the Government, in setting about its task of appointing directors of this Bank, will endeavour to get forward-looking people who really have the 1963 and the 20th century projection in mind, and who will see what can be done to help the community. I feel sure that I am not wrong in stating that the Hon. Minister, who introduced this Bill, was himself one of the protagonists for the acceleration of industrial development in this island; and now that he is in the seat of Government, I think he should be in a very advantageous position to see that the right people with the right approach are appointed on this Board. You can have excellent legislation, but you can have the wrong people to carry it into effect.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I would also like to draw to the hon. member's attention that there is something in this Bill which I would like to query; that is the definition of "development enterprise" in the definition Clause of the Bill. It says here:-

" 'development enterprise' means any enterprise or class of enterprise which may from time to time be approved as a development enterprise by the Minister for the purposes of this Act; "

In Barbados one of the types of development in this island which will take place in another forty or fifty years so as to catch up with the bad housing in this island will be building construction work; and that will go on for a long time. I do not see anything in this Bill which makes any positive projection for building societies. I think that this is a form of investment which takes place even among the lower income sectors of the community and I would like to see something done about it. Also the limit of the loan to small people in the manufacturing and retail business is \$2,500. I am sorry that the amount has been limited in the Bill, because I feel that this amount of \$2,500 is an extremely meagre one when you think in terms of the maximum. As I say, the amount of the loan to small people is limited to \$2,500 and I do not know the reason why it has been put to that limitation. This sum of \$2,500 is not a lot of money even for a small man, because if a man is doing the kind of work where he has to use machinery and he has to buy it, you will find that this amount of \$2,500 is somewhat narrow for him to live within that scope.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, on the other hand, perhaps the Government did not want to put in an unlimited amount. However, it is wise that we should have a Development Bank and we hope that it will go from strength to strength. I hope that the hon. member will see that suitable people are appointed to this Board, people who have the right projection. The matter is not before us as yet, but it may be that when the Report of the Sugar Commission comes up, that will focus attention to what this Bank will do. With this island's economy being very dependent on sugar today, it looks to me, and I almost feel sure, that with the structure of the sugar industry as it is, all the factories will not remain with us. 4.25 p.m.

We have twenty-one factories operating now in Barbados, and whether we like it or not, or whether Government intends to buy some or not, it looks to me that the days for 21 sugar factories manufacturing 190,000 tons or 200,000 tons of sugar are numbered. I think that a thing like a Development Bank can make some projections on the future to help people with the sort of advice that is so necessary, and to help industry, because I can see a Development Bank entering many things in Barbados. There are, for instance, the people cutting stones now. The old days of getting stones out with a drill are coming to an end, and though we have a lot of labour, there are certain times when manual labour is no use for development, and I do feel that the Development Bank can give some attention to these things. I think it is a wise step and I have much pleasure in supporting it. As I said earlier when the Min-

ister was not listening, I do not see anything in the definition clause that makes mention of building societies, and I do not know if this Clause includes that. This says " 'development enterprise' means any enterprise or class of enterprise which may from time to time be approved as a development enterprise by the Minister for the purposes of this Act." I say that because I would like to see building societies and things of a construction nature being included in this, because I feel that building is going to be one of our important projects in this Island, maybe for the next 40 or 50 years. I therefore have much pleasure in supporting this Bill and wish it all the best.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, a Bill of this sort should prove to be very successful from the name alone. We are developing, and as far as I can see, it is the aim and object of the Bill to help the small manufacturers and the small business people.

Now, Sir, so far as the limitations of this Bank are concerned, the sum of £500 is a very small amount when you come to investing in any kind of business, especially when you have to buy implements, stock and things of that nature. It is no use starting a business half way by asking for £500 when you need £1,000, because there is the likelihood of your throwing away that £500 rather than developing. As far as the small businessman is concerned, no sooner than the Bank calls for security or a guarantee, you will not be doing anything by way of helping him. There are very few people who have security today who have not already got it out of their hand, and they would not be eligible for any help from this Bank. There are small people who do not have any security at all, but they have the business acumen and the know-how to start, and as far as the security is concerned, they will never be able to start. Those are the people we have to think of if we want to help.

Now there are certain provisions that could be made in this Bill if you intend to help small people; but as I have said, these small people have no security, and those who have are already secured. Any businessman, from the smallest to the biggest, who has security has already borrowed money to develop his business, and there will be very few who can make use of this Bank, unless the Bank is prepared to help them although the security is in the hands of somebody else. We are only fooling ourselves and, maybe, fooling the people with a Bill of this nature if we are asking for security for such a small amount. If you intended to make a loan of £10,000 and asked for security, then you are out to do big business; but you should not ask for security on a meagre \$2,500. You have to take chances when you are helping a man. If I lent a man \$100 without security, I am taking a chance. There are small joiners who can do with £100 to buy their wood and so on to make chairs especially at Christmas time, and be able to make a turn-over and a profit both to feed their children and to repay the Bank.

4.35 p.m.

You have carpenters and joiners today who are building things and selling them especially around Christmas time. They are building chairs, ladders and so on. They do not have money. People come and give joiners work to do, but, there again, these joiners do not have money; so they cannot buy the materials to do the work. You have tailors who can go into the stores and buy cloth and make suits for people. These are the type of people whom you are trying to help; but they cannot do anything because they do not have the money.

What is the use of having a bank like this? You are doing nothing by having such a bank. One thing which I want to find out from the Minister — and I hope he would give me a reply — is what is the policy relative to these small people? You say that loans can be made up to £100. It will be very difficult where you will get people who are able to offer security or to find a suitable guarantor to back the note for them. There would be some people who would be able to catch the judge's eye, but those people who can find a person to be guarantor for them may not be the best persons to deal with. What is the good of telling people that you are establishing a Development Bank to help them, and

when they go they find out that they have to produce security or a guarantor to back the note for them? I am sure that those people who read this in the newspapers tomorrow will feel happy because they will say that the Government is establishing a bank to help them with loans; but if this bank should come about, then, the bank will be asking for security. As a matter of fact, there are some people who do not know the meaning of that. There are some people who can turn out good work, but they do not have a house of their own to offer as security. They live in a rented house, but they have the experience to turn out the goods.

This is only fooling some people. It would not fool any of the people who really understand anything of it. Some people may ask if I want the Government to lend out money without security, but you will have to take a chance if you want to help these people. If you do not want to help them, say that you cannot help them. As soon as you are asking for security, everything is finished. It will be no use our losing time passing a Bill of this sort because the majority of people who want the help will not be able to get it. You are going as far as offering these people a loan up to £100, and you will not even lend them £100 at one time. You can loan them half, see the progress they make with that, and see whether they pay you the interest and so on before you lend them anymore. It is known when you are out to help such people that you do not want to make a big profit. You are offering these people; the people are not asking you for it.

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

I was saying, Sir, that you are offering this assistance to the people. I do not think any of these people asked the Government to establish a bank of this sort. I remember moving a Resolution asking the Government to establish a Small Business Loan Board and it is in Government's manifesto also. I do not know what they meant when they stated that in their manifesto, but I know what I meant when I moved the passing of my Resolution. This is to help persons whom I have mentioned, not the persons who have security. I always say that the business people who have security are already doing business.

Mr. Speaker, another point which I am unhappy about, is what is contained in Clause 7 (4). It reads as follows:-

"No loan or other form of financial assistance shall be granted or, as the case may be, given by the Bank pursuant to this section for the purpose of enabling goods to be purchased in order that they may be re-sold in the same condition as that in which they were purchased."

In other words, I am taking it that if you buy anything, you cannot sell it the same way as you bought it. For instance, if a person should buy a suit length of cloth, he cannot sell it to another person as a suit length; he has to make it up in a suit. I cannot understand that too clearly. I take it that you mean to say that you cannot borrow money from this bank to buy, and then sell the same way as you purchased. That means that they will have to manufacture the goods after they have bought them. Imagine, Sir, that I can borrow some money from this bank and I go into a cloth store and buy two or three suit lengths and I take them up to my garage. I cannot sell them as I bought them. I would not be able to buy a pair of shoes and sell them. This would mean that I would have to buy leather and make a pair of shoes or buy cloth and make a suit. I cannot see how much help there is in this. The majority of people of today are out to be salesmen. You cannot stick to work as a tailor or a shoemaker. You have other people doing other businesses. Loans should be made available to people regardless of what type of business they are doing so long as those persons are turning over the money and making a little profit, and so long as they can satisfy the Inspector. I cannot see, so long as they are doing that, why any officer or Director of the bank should interfere with them. I do not see, if a person can borrow \$200 and buy cloth with it and go into the country and sell it out, why he should be debarred from doing that. He is making a living, and in doing so he is also employing other people. Nobody can

buy 500 or 600 holes of yams, dig them and sell them himself. He has to hire other persons to help him. When you allow them to do that, you will be helping them to build up the economy of the Island because if you spend a dollar and get back a profit of 20 cents on it, you are making money. From the way in which this paragraph reads, it would appear to me that if you go and buy potatoes you cannot carry them into town and sell them as potatoes. According to this, it would appear that if you would like to be a hawker, you cannot. You would not be able to go into the country and buy breadfruits and carry them to town and sell them unless you can work a little miracle and turn the breadfruits into yams.

Sir, I cannot see where this Bill is going to help these small people whom I expect you want to help. I have not seen it anywhere in this Bill where provision is made for these small people.
4.45 p.m.

If you make provision to lend as high as \$2,500 and \$1,500 with securities, then you should have something like \$100 without securities and take a chance with these people. If you are sticking to the letter of the law in a businesslike manner and you are sticking to your securities, then nothing will be done. You may have a breadwinner with his wife and children at home and he cannot get his two ends to meet. If he can manage to establish a little farm in his backyard, his wife will be able to see to that, and she could help her husband; but no provision is made for that in this Bill. Again, a man may be living in a rented house so that he would not have any security; he may want to help his children even to buy their shoes, but there is no help for these people in this Bill. Again, a man's wife may be a seamstress and, as I say, there is no provision made for these small people. Those are things which we should take into consideration because these are the people who are not in a position to keep their homes going as they should be kept going. It may be that they are those who cannot pay, but it does not mean that they are dishonest.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I hope that the Hon. Minister, if he has not thought along the lines on which I am speaking, will reply to what I have said. There are lots of people who would like to be helped along the lines of farming, with the rearing of chickens, and so on. At least a small loan of £50 would help these people in this direction. This matter does not really concern the House, but when I was a businessman I went to a certain agent and I was in the happy position at the time when I could buy five bags of flour. I thought that that agent would have given it to me at a reasonable price. The person did not tell me "No" directly, but he offered me the flour at a price which was much dearer than that at which I would get it from my merchant; therefore I had to return to my merchant. You do not expect that a small man will push himself up against a big one. I cannot see why the Government cannot go into the matter and establish a small Marginal Bank so as to help these small people, the sort of people who really want the help. For instance, a shopkeeper would be completely out of the scope of this bank because he would be buying a bag of rice and he would be selling it; he would not get anything because he has to retail this rice. You could almost do without establishing this bank having regard to the small man, having regard to the way in which this Bill is worded.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I notice that the Government will make sure that in order to prevent anybody from taking a chance they are putting the penalty for contravening the provisions of this Bill at £500. A small man borrows \$240.00 and if he fails in his enterprise, provision is made for him to pay a penalty of £500. That is the manner in which they are helping the small people; Mr. Speaker, they are helping them in jail. (Laughter) I am saying that the penalty for a contravention of the provisions of this Bill is too high. I know that you will have to try and frighten away people, but this penalty is too hot. If you do not have to give any security and you violate the provisions of this Act, the penalty is a fine not exceeding \$2,400 or, in default of payment thereof, a term of imprisonment, with or without hard labour, not exceeding twelve months or to both such fine and imprisonment. You have a fine of \$2,400 and a term

of imprisonment as well. I see that the Government is protecting themselves and they still have your security. I can understand a term of imprisonment being imposed if you do not have any security, but imagine that you have security and still as soon as a person winks his eyes in the wrong direction, he has gone overboard. I hope that the Hon. Minister will be able to clarify what I say. This provision is here to help, but how is it going to help? You are putting something in my mouth, but still your hands are in my throat. As I have said, it is the very small person who wants to do something; there are many people who can do things. There is a firm in England which I am representing, and I will say that the son of the founder of that firm has told me that his father started out making copper pins and he has now left him a millionaire. He started out making things out of wire, but he did well and was able to leave his son a millionaire.
4.55 p.m.

I can say that I started on nothing; I do not even know what I started doing; there are lots of people who want to start but cannot, because nobody as a private individual is going to lend \$400 or \$500 without security. One might say that you should not expect Government to do that either, but the Government is offering this to people; so they must take the chance. You must take a chance, but have your Inspectors make regular inspections, because you are not dealing with hardheaded business people who know business in full. No grocer can be helped under this Bill, because he cannot buy a bag of meal and sell it; so he is ruled out according to Section 4. It is only the shoemaker who is going to buy leather and make shoes, or the tailor, in my opinion, who is going to buy cloth and make a suit; but you do not have all tailors, shoemakers or joiners. There are other people who do not have a trade at all but who can make a trade, and unless Government goes into the matter of establishing a small marginal amount for the benefit of those small people who are doing nothing, we will only be fooling ourselves and the people of this country as far as this Development Bank is concerned.

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Speaker, I was not here for the introduction of the Bill, but the main purpose of this Bill is greatly needed in this Island. We are thinking of development, and a lot of development can be done by the small man. At the present moment there is many a good worker who would launch out on his own, but for the need of capital he cannot. He has to go to the Bank and he will have to get a friend of some standing to back a note for him, and from there he goes on. That is the normal channel today. If Government wishes to intensify the developing of skills of people and so encourage further development — especially in the small man, this is the channel through which it should be done. This Bank will be taking over the lending functions of the Development Board, and will also be taking over the assets and liabilities, and from there will put everything in the hands of financiers. The Directors of the Bank should be carefully chosen with a view to assisting the small man as much as possible, but always having in mind that the bank's money should be protected. You cannot for the sake of development just allow the Directors to go ahead and give out a lot of risk money. That should be in another form. They should be satisfied through a proper prospectus, investigation or through their Inspectors that the business has a reasonable chance of success, and that the character of the person who is borrowing the money is above board. He should prove to them from his past record that he is a hard worker, and he should have evidence to that effect; but a lot would depend on the composition of the Directors, because if it gets off on the right foot, this bank could be a great source of help to the economic development of this Island.

Mr. Speaker, we have banks of other forms for agricultural purposes, but now this will be for industrial purposes, and the emphasis will be on the small man. As the last speaker has said, big businesses that are already established and have their own collateral go to the commercial banks and make a loan. They have a record and are well known, and either by debenture or overdraft sums of money will be found for their development. Almost every business in Barbados today started from very humble be-

ginnings, and many of the big businesses of the future might start today from humble beginnings. It is the individual who is skilled, has thrift and an ability to work and put aside for expansion that will determine whether that business will thrive or go through. I give this Bill my blessing because it is something that will put the development Bank at the disposal of good workers. How often are we approached by individuals that we know to buy a piece of machinery for someone? He might not have the money, and some of my friends who have it will go and back a loan, and you see this small business thrive. The last speaker said that this is an industrial bank. It is not for the buying of grapefruit juice, opening the case and selling it by the tin. It is for the purpose of buying equipment and manufacturing or converting raw material into manufactured items. It is for buying raw material, leather or plastic and getting the machinery to convert it into something that will be sold. However the best way for this to get off to a good start is to appoint some business people who understand the purpose of this Bill to give the small man with character, and the desire to work, a chance to develop new businesses.

Mr. HUSBANDS: Mr. Speaker, I too hail this Bill as one which is very necessary if we believe that this community has got to become more self-supporting and we have to provide more jobs for more people. A long time ago I remember hearing a former Head of the Administration on the day of the opening of the Legislature make mention of a Bill of this sort being brought down.
5.05 p.m.

That former Head of this Administration, a former Governor, probably had experience in one of the colonies where such a Bill had been put on the Statute Book. Now, Sir, you say that this Government has brought down this Bill. I am glad to hear that the proposed Development Bank is intended ultimately to take over the present functions and probably have an extension of those functions of the now Development Board, but I have listened to the hon. junior member for St. Joseph and I was at some pains to understand him. I think he was championing the cause of the small businessmen and he bemoaned the fact that some measure of collateral or security was expected of some of the small businessmen.

Now, as the hon. junior member for Christ Church pointed out, I believe that a business of this sort is bound to see to it that there is some security provided by the would-be borrower. After all, this is about \$3 million turned over to this bank as share capital, and one would not like to believe that this money would be whittled away by lending indiscriminately; but, at the same time, there are so many people in Barbados who are full of business ideas, who are honest and industrious, people who do not possess any collateral and yet who might generally make a success of business if given a start with some capital.

In the neighbouring country of Jamaica, already there has been provided what is known as a Small Businesses Loan Board. That is sponsored by the Government just as this Development Board, and, of course, that Board has been running for some time now. I think I have seen something about it; I would not say that I have it in my hands now. Anyhow, Sir, it has been the experience of the Small Businesses Loan Board of Jamaica that small businessmen occasionally have found themselves in arrears as far as paying back their loans is concerned.

What they have done is this. They have established what is known as a Marginal Loan Fund attached to this Small Businesses Loan Board in Jamaica, and they have appointed Field Officers whose duty it is to collect the arrears of small businessmen. Mark you, this Marginal Loan Fund has no collateral security attached to loans. The Small Businesses Loan Board has agreed to set up this special Marginal Security Loan Fund for the purpose of dealing with applications from persons who are unable to offer adequate security. This operates in Jamaica an independent country, and it has been operating for a long time. This 1960 Report which I have is one of the latest reports I have seen, and so, Sir, the point which has been raised by the hon. junior member for St. Joseph has shown itself

as a problem in Jamaica and they have got around it. The Small Businesses Loan Board has established a Marginal Loan Fund for those who are unable to offer collateral security.

Sir, this would not benefit as many people as it is intended or hope to benefit if security is expected from each one. There are some enterprising salesmen, tradesmen with business ideas, tradesmen of good calibre, who would make a success of their business venture if they were provided with a stock by means of a loan. Having no security, they cannot get a sponsor and banks will not accept them. Individual businessmen would not do that either, and these people find themselves unable to make any advancement. It used to be said that the Development Board existed only to serve the interest of those who intended building hotels and serving the tourist industry. This is not actually true. In my parish, I know of a shoemaker who has been helped by the Development Board to buy machinery and it has been a means of making his business to flourish more.

This Development Bank, I understand, is taking over the functions of the Development Board which used to extend its services to small business people, and you must not put that to a point where small business people are able to provide the necessary collateral. We can take advantage of what information we can get, what information will be easily available to them from Jamaica, and having the case of Jamaica before us, we are able to get information from them as to how this problem and how aiding them without security can be got around.
5.15 p.m.

These people have had the experience and they have set up a marginal security lending fund for the particular purpose of helping those who cannot for themselves provide the collateral; therefore if the Board of Jamaica can find a solution in these matters, I do not think that we have to be original in finding one. We may get information from these people and be able to help those who we think need our help in this country. You have banks, co-operatives and the like associations which are able to help depositors and they are able to help their membership; but it would be a great pity if we found out that, on the establishment of this Bank, we did not extend the facilities which are already provided by the Development Board. That would be a very sad story indeed; I think that the purpose of this Bill is to go beyond the extent to which the Development Board has been able to operate.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I have made quite a study of this Bill, and from my experience I say that it is a wonderful thing to be brought to Barbados. On the face of it the Government backing the Development Bank is something to be encouraged, and all sides of political opinion in this Chamber will give the necessary support to this Bill; but do not let us be too optimistic nor do not let us be over enamoured as to the success of this Bill. Wherever I have turned I have met the small business people. It is only today that I went into a garage and I met an upholsterer who said that the Government had made promises that they would come forward with some sort of Bank which would enable small persons like him who, rather than be working for a small salary, would be able to get help to establish his own small business and thereby provide a better standard of living for his family. That is the ambition of every tradesman, every artisan and every man who has some sort of business acumen.

I was not present to hear all the speeches made by hon. members, but I think that we will all support a Bill of this nature. I listened to the remarks of the last speaker on the question of formulating some plans whereby you could help people without their having some sort of security. I am a firm believer in helping the small man to be able to establish himself so that we can have a number of small businesses established in the community, because, after all, that becomes the backbone of the country. That is why the United States of America is so prosperous a country because you have not only the big combines and not only have you got the bigger minds coming together to strangle

or to prevent the competition which exists, but you have a number of small businessmen who start up business and within a short time they become prosperous; therefore you have people growing up in business. If a man wants to get in machinery, the Government can get that machinery and hold a lien against it. I am sure that with the establishment of this Bank these things can be done. If, for instance, a shoemaker wanted to get the machines by means of which he could put out several pairs of shoes per day, which he could not do otherwise, as long as the Government was satisfied that he could establish himself and similarly that other people could establish themselves in their businesses and put a name to those businesses, I can see the Directors of this Bank coming in and helping people. That would be nothing strange because in the big commercial banks of the world and even in this little island of Barbados, there are those who have not got any collateral, but they have a name; and if they can satisfy the bankers as to their integrity, then they can get overdrafts, without anybody having to provide any security.

I have seen that taking place on many occasions. That, of course, is the risk of the management; but they must have sufficient confidence in the integrity of the persons to whom they are making these loans. I am speaking of the small people not because they have security; I am speaking of those who can put up propositions to the management of the bank. I am referring to people who will say to the bank: "These are the facts", and they get all the assistance they need. It is not so much a question of security, but it is a question of people who have established their name as well as their integrity.

The aims and objects of this Bank are to help this type of person, but it is a rather difficult thing. I will say that it is all right for the Government to pass a Bill of this sort; but you will have to set up your Directors who are responsible to the Government. You must be absolutely sure as to what the position really is; otherwise you will find yourself in a position somewhat like that of the Housing Authority.

5.25 p.m.

I have always made it clear in here what had been said to me as soon as I came into business in Bridgetown and was able to establish myself, and it is that the value of money is not always necessarily to be able to have it in your pocket or even in your bank book; the value of it is to have the integrity and ability to use money belonging to somebody else, and that takes a lot of confidence which must grow like a plant of slow growth. What the hon. junior member for St. Joseph has said, therefore, must not be just cast aside, because he has rightly said that there are a number of persons — and I think of mechanics, artisans and the like — who would like to get down some small lathes and small machines; but all they have is the ability to do the work and the integrity which must be tested and proven. There is many a man in Bridgetown today flourishing in a big business who, if he depended purely on putting up collateral to do business, would never be able to do it.

Some of us who sit here and pass these Bills, Mr. Speaker, have not made a sufficient study of business in Bridgetown or on the whole. I do not pretend to have any special training in business, Mr. Speaker, but I certainly have training in the world's university, and that to me is a training which sometimes is better than in a specific University. There are numbers of people in business today who on sheer integrity and ability convinced those in authority and control of money at banks that they could make good. They had no title deeds, collateral or godfathers to sign or back them in overdrafts or notes, and I am sure that sitting on my left are people who know what I am speaking of, because they have had the experience, and there are members of the Government who have had similar experience. Therefore, however hard and fast this must be made, if it is to be of use to the small man, you must have a certain amount of elasticity given to the Directors for the simple reason that a man in Bridgetown who has a good friend and a good name and wants to get machinery for

\$1,000 can very well get it without possibly having a cent or without any collateral, because if he has a good name and integrity, he can get a good friend to guarantee his payments. If this is going to work on the same basis of getting people merely to guarantee your payments, you are merely doing what can be done and what is being done in Bridgetown today, because there is keen competition among the four commercial banks in Bridgetown, and they will allow any member of the public who is not even a depositor at their bank but whom they believe to be sufficiently qualified and to have sufficient integrity in the community to back notes for small people in businesses, or even for people who have children studying abroad. This Bank which will be made up of \$1.00 shares from the man in the street to the tune of \$3 million will be responsible for a lot of money, and it will take all the people from Jamaica back down to Trinidad to subscribe this amount. You are aiming high, and I will say that it is going to be in competition with the Government Savings Bank. Unless, as the hon. junior member for St. Joseph has rightly said, some elasticity is given to the Directors of this Bank whereby they can examine the proposition of a prospective borrower, this will be of no use. I am not thinking of a person who wants to establish a grocery, because in my opinion he should look for money to establish a grocery. I am talking about a man with ability — an artisan, a good welder or a good mechanic who can get down machinery and work on his own. We have got men here who have been doing metal work to which Canadians and Americans have given great praise. I have been discussing quite recently with some of these people the question of developing. There are men who read the most modern literature on their trades and business, but they cannot get the money; they can only eke out an existence on what they do. If such persons are called upon merely to be backed by someone with collateral, then this Bank will only be in competition with the other commercial banks, and I hope the Minister of Trade sees the situation when it comes to that.

I have much pleasure on behalf of my Party in supporting this Bill. The Objects and Reasons of the Bill are to provide for the establishment of a bank to be known as the Barbados Development Bank to provide financial assistance to development enterprises in the Island and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. I hope this is not just for somebody who wants to open a grocery business and wants to borrow some money, because that is all nonsense.

5.35 p.m.

I am of the opinion that this is a wonderful thing if it is worked along the right lines, and I repeat — it is not usual for me to agree with the hon. junior member for St. Joseph, but I understand that he made a point with regard to small businessmen. I would say that it should even be applied to small garage owners where such people can get loans to get down things made at certain business houses and which are sold by many well known garages. It would help them to build their businesses up to that efficiency; and more especially, I want you to help tradesmen and people with business acumen.

Sir, I hope with the development of this Bank, we would see more assistance, as has been promised, to these small workmen and tradesmen who are really skilled in their line of work. It is really a pity. I have seen some men who are so skilful in their job; I have seen some men replace upholstery to a car that had been burnt up and they did it as skilfully as if they had been taught in a factory which does that line of work in the United States. You would not think that it was not done in the United States where they had the necessary tools and equipment to do it. If these people could get the right material and the regular tools, you must wonder what they would do and I think that they are the people whom the Government should help. Only today, one man approached me on this matter.

Do not let it go abroad that this is something in which, because you have shares in it more than to the extent of what you can borrow, your idea is that you are drawing out your own money. All it means is that you should draw your shares and your dividends would not accrue to very

much. I want Hon. Ministers of the Government to know that I understand as much of this matter as any of those who brought it in.

Sir, I have much pleasure in supporting this Bill and I hope it will have the effect which hon. members of the Government desire.

Mr. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, we are thinking of implementing a Development Bank. Sir, I have given a lot of time to studying the Clauses of this Bill and development in a small poverty-stricken area of ours, and I have come to the conclusion that it means a lot more than establishing a bank of this kind. We must realise that in Barbados — and it has been so for a long time — it has always been under the pressure of a financial ring of people, and this financial ring has been so tied for a number of years that it is accepted as an organisation in itself. We are so fabricated as it is with another set up by big finance that there is very little likelihood, no matter how you imagine it, that an individual may have success so far as development is concerned. He will be always kept down because of this closed shop and because of this finance ring which operates in this country.

Sir, this Development Bank is not geared to follow a similar policy as that of the United States of America. There is no provision, apart from the five Directors, to set up a panel of advisers. It is all right to think of the small businessmen and tradesmen; but in the establishment of a development bank, you want to be careful because it must involve risk capital. I would not be that stupid to say that if a man has the knowledge and the technical background he should be able to go to the bank and borrow money. He must have money of his own. He must have an interest and something of his own. You do not want to make any mistake about that at all. You want to help the small craftsman who would be suffering for a loan of \$500 or so, but you must be sure that he is able to pay back. We must reach down to that fellow, but we must bear in mind that it must involve risk capital. These people are seldom of the type who can provide the necessary collateral; so that is the position.

What we need to do is to search the country's resources and the possibility of seeing if a number of things can be found in the neighbouring colonies. We need a panel of experts to go into this matter. Let us lease from the Government of St. Lucia 100 acres of land for 200 years at a peppercorn rent, and see if you can provide heat and fuel from Soufriere. Let us see if we can send it to Barbados in high tension cables. I know that is a possibility. I know that we could go in for a number of things if we examine them. In some of these islands there is low grade bauxite. As a matter of fact, I can think of the year when I, myself, have brought samples of it to Barbados and sent them overseas, and there was found to be as high as 40% bauxite in them.

You will know, Sir, what is taking place in Jamaica; but less than 200 miles from Barbados we have bauxite in large quantities. With a little exploration it could be a boon to us, but you need technical advice. To set up a bank and take a dollar from an individual outside to put in a venture like that involves very great risks although the underwriters of this Bank could provide the national securities.

What have you got? Have you given a thought to the individual who is technical in the sense of the word, but another thing which is equally as important is management? We so often forget this. We need the information of what was done by the Caribbean Commission and is now carried on by the present body. I can call dozens of schemes and ideas that we can look forward to. We have a tremendous potential, for instance, in the manufacture of milk and ink. 5.45 p.m.

We always look for the underdog and wait for him to try. It must be seen that you are making a profit. You must be seen often and be assisted and helped when you are feeling. Along comes industrial development. Some of us do not understand this matter. In the United Kingdom as high

as 80% of the brassiers worn by the people are manufactured by the people in Jamaica. All of these things can be examined, but what you need is a panel of advisers. You have a pool of these advisers in Canada and in the United States of America on which you can draw. We can all take a look and see what Dr. Saint has done. I am saying that a country is only a rich country when it can rely on its resources. In the United States of America they can produce so much milk themselves that they can prohibit the importation of milk. It is all right to say that there is a Development Board and you put a ceiling of \$3 million; but you need not have one cent in the Bank by way of a share. You can send in an Inspector and see that the money which was borrowed from the Bank is being used in the right direction.

This Bill does not provide for the taking of risks. If you talk about development, that must involve risk of management and of funds. There are people who have done a colossal research, particularly through the Chambers of Commerce of the whole world. We know that there is the clever, crude shark whom you call the businessman of the country; he is always in time to do this, that and the other; but there is a tremendous pool which is capable of assisting this country in this matter of development. I have mentioned one or two, but I could probably mention twelve or sixteen. I have been through this mill, and therefore I know what it is. You can import the crude oil and sell gas cheaper than how we are now selling it from our own well.

Mr. Speaker, what is seriously lacking in this Bill is the omission of the panel of technical advisers. You have these technical advisers in Holland going around like flies, and you also have them in Israel. You can take our ash and soot and you can produce all the country's fertilizers. It is a question of getting the material so as to produce these things, but the businessman who is importing all of this material does not read about these things. Nevertheless, you have heard the man who needs assistance and, consequently, you have these advisers on whose advice you can draw.

To talk about lending money to a grocer who is an ambitious person, that is not regarded as development. Again, you may be able to cut a man's cost of producing a pair of shoes by one half. Probably an amount of \$500 loaned to this man would double his business, but he must be sure that he has his earnings in this direction. You may be able to double your business or to add to it one hundred percent, but you must be in a position to accept failure. I want to say that as long as you have the money, any scheme which is undertaken in this island will succeed; as a matter of fact, it will succeed anywhere in the world. It is bound to succeed in cases where people have money. It is true that there is a limit as the amount of money which you can spend, but I say that you are bound by the decision of a panel which is known as the Board of Directors or whatever you have, and you can go to the panel and put up your scheme. I may say that there are few of the members of this Committee who can understand this matter, and therefore we need the advice of the panel. You can bring them out for a period of six months or for a period of one year. I repeat that you have them in Israel, you have them in the United States of America and they are knocking you down asking for help.

When you come to the question of pottery and clay, a lot of these things are being wasted in British Guiana and in the Rivers of Dominica. You want somebody to send up a sample and the people of Barbados will buy it. Those are things which we want to examine. Federation is certainly a matter of our life or death, and we have got to be able to send our people overseas; we have got to be able to send them overseas for training in the industrial field. We cannot convert our megasse and have a supply of material over and above the requirements of the country. We can make boards and we can sell our material locally and also offer it for export. 5.55 p.m.

All these factories now operating on bagasse for industrialisation. You have no idea of the material that can

be made in the United States from the same bagasse. You can make your wall-boards of all shades, and there is a growing demand for it because you are still in the tropics; but you need somebody to assist and advise us, and provision should be made for this, and when you think of a Development Board or a Development Bank it must be your first concern. You may have a small man struggling in the back with some idea. He has probably read a textbook, or over a time-lag is able to make sugar cakes and confits; but you must look for something that would mean millions, and nobody has been able to tell us the truth of the country's potential in so far as its rock and mineral are concerned. Even if it is not in this little island of 166 square miles, we can find it outside. The Trinidad industrialists were inclined to launch a swop deal over British Guiana's bauxite by having smelting plants in Trinidad, and we know that 68% is found in Jamaica. We can do these things, and there are a number of other things I will rather not disclose at the moment; but you need help and help is available, though you must be able to pay a man's board and lodging and fees, and provision should be made for that in this Bill. This is as simple as night and day. All we are going to do is to work towards keeping a big finance ring and keep this country starving. That has been the position for over 100 years. There are fellows outside struggling to get in the ring, but they are probably operating on more than those in the ring.

Mr. Speaker, if an idea is hatched in a man's breast, and you want to give him some hope, the first thing to do is to get technical advice. Big financiers are not going into the quarry industry or dairying or even supplying plantations with manures and what not. We must therefore be willing to regard up to 20% of the capital as risk. You may lay down regulations to tell him he must pay 6% on a loan of \$10,000 but you examine his books and find he is running a bad period and cannot feed himself, far more pay the 6%, and the moment you demand it, he is through. You break his enthusiasm and that of others who would follow. There is so much that can be said on this, but I need not go any further than to give the two salient and important points. You should provide him with advice on management and how to control finance, and place him in a position where he can call on a pool of advisers in his particular field.

Now we have been reading in the newspapers only a week ago that manjak was found in the Scotland Area. So much has been said of it, and what the price of manjak is today I have no idea; but we can find out because it may provide materials necessary for smelting bauxite that is required all over this world. This is an industry like sugar that would employ large numbers.

I close by saying that we must welcome any Bill that thinks of development; but you must think of \$3 million that will probably stagnate in this bank because no one is willing to venture out as it is beyond his ability, and there is no hope if he should flounder, because if he loses the idea it disheartens the others who would follow to do something for the development of this country. You need a panel of advisers to make it clear that if a man fails for the first two years, you should not hang it on the man's neck for another ten years. You should hope that in another eight years he would be able to pay back something that was lost in the first two years. You have to do something whereby you can examine his accounts. This is important if the Bank is to develop, and I would be in this Parliament and I will remind you if you have failed, because you have failed to provide the authority to tell this man how to follow the course of this Bill.

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Speaker, this Bill is a very important one which seeks to establish the Barbados Development Bank to provide financial assistance for private enterprise. You could not want anything better than that. A lot of members have spoken on this Bill which is to provide a means of helping a poor man who is unable to carry on his business. The shopkeeper who has a slow turn-over will be able to get financial assistance from the Bank so that he can bring in more goods and turn out a bigger profit to help himself and family. Nowadays if a shopkeeper carries in \$100 to a merchant, he only gets goods to the

value of \$100, and with 10% on the dollar, the shopkeeper is only able to make \$10.00. That is not good enough for a man who is running a business. If this Bank provides ways and means of helping that shopkeeper, he might be able to carry in \$300 in goods which would mean \$30 profit. That man must have some good beginning and give Government a real indication of what he is doing before he can make a loan. Mr. Speaker, if I go to either of the commercial banks and ask for a loan, I would be asked for a security or to bring in a man who can guarantee the loan.
6.05 p.m.

I say, "Yes, I can bring a man." The Manager says, "Well, bring the man." The man comes and says, "I can guarantee him", and I get the money. The man whom I brought knows my character and my integrity; therefore, he takes upon himself the responsibility of "staying bond" for me to get the loan. I then can go and appropriate that loan to my use with the understanding that I have to pay it back. If I do not pay it, the man who stood the security for me would have to pay it and the Good Book says, "When you stand security for a friend, you have to be smart with it".

Mr. Speaker, let us suppose a shoemaker was carrying on a business and he needed some machinery. You saw some indication that he had a workshop, and if he could get that machinery it would cause him to turn out a quicker and better job. Well, I would go to the bank and ask them to help him with a loan. The man is a friend of mine and I go to the bank with him and tell them to help him. Another man, may be a carpenter, mason or bricklayer, may go and say that he wants \$1,000 to carry out some business. The Government says that they are not against lending him the \$1,000, but, before they do so, they send a man to see how he is situated, and when the man goes he sees no sign of a workshop or anything. He returns to the Manager of the Bank and says that he has seen nothing. That man who wanted the \$1,000 may have the trade in his head but he has nothing; therefore he cannot get anything. You must have something. The Act says, "financial assistance"; therefore, you must have something in order to ask for assistance. I would not give any credit to this Government or the next Government or any man or bank to lend a man money without seeing whether he is going to get it back.

Mr. Speaker, I am a man who employs labourers to work in my land; and if a man who works with me for three days asks me to lend him six days' pay, I will say to him, "Friend, you have only worked three days; you want me to lend you six days' pay; but how am I going to get back my money?" I would have to know that man's ability and qualifications before I could lend him six days' pay. I will agree with any member inside or outside of this Assembly who would say that we should lend an individual, but with security. We must see some sign of his prosperity before we lend him because there are some men who would take your money and spend it on non-production and not on reproduction. There are some men who would take your money and drink it out. There are others who would take it and appropriate it to their own use.

Sir, I remember some time ago, when fancy molasses was sold at eight cents a gallon, a woman went to a gentleman and asked him to lend her one shilling. The gentleman loaned her, and she took a five gallon tin to a factory and bought three gallons of syrup with that shilling and she went around and sold it at four cents a pint. At the end of the week, she carried back that shilling and repaid the man. Since then, she has never had to ask any man to lend her anything. You see, Sir, that she spent it on reproduction and not on non-production. She took the money and appropriated it to the best use.

Sir, I say that it is really a good thing that this Bill has come before us, but Government must take heed and pay special attention and see to whom they are lending money. If a man says that he is a bricklayer and he has machinery set up, but he has run short of money, and he goes to the Bank and asks for a loan of \$500, surely you could lend a man like that \$500; but if the man does not have a workshop set up or anything to give an indication of his work, how can you lend him money? There are many small

private enterprises which would profit by this Bill when it is passed, and it is for them to go about a loan in the right way; and if they do so, surely, they would have help. I am imploring the Government, however, that they must take heed of what they are doing. Sir, a man had two sons. One asked his father for all that he had to give him and the father gave it to him. He left his father's home and went and spent all that the father gave him in riotous living; in other words, on non-production. He returned to the father naked and destitute, but the father still had compassion on him and took him back. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, we have to be careful in giving out cash money. Money takes all your hands and all your eyes to keep it under control. I am not against helping the lowest man in this community with a loan so long as he is going to spend it on reproduction and not on non-production, because I know that it will be a help to the poor people in this Island of Barbados.

Mr. SEALEY: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I welcome a Bill of this kind. A Bill of this kind should have been law a long time ago. I hope it is here to stay. This Bill is for the purpose of providing for the establishment of a Bank to be known as the Barbados Development Bank to provide financial assistance to development enterprises in the Island and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

There are plenty of joiners in this Island of Barbados who are seeking to develop their business by way of small loans. A Bill of this kind is very good for that purpose because it can provide more employment, better industries; and apart from that, it can do a lot of good for the Island of Barbados.

Mr. Speaker, I cannot see anyone embarking on a capitalisation of \$3 million made up of three million one-dollar shares and taking up that money and loaning it out to someone without some kind of security. Security very often makes a man honest. Another important matter in your making loans to anybody is that there should be a panel of people to go into the matter and report to the Director of the Bank. Management of a business is very important.
6.15 p.m.

Mr. Speaker, with a Bill of this kind I beg to associate myself and I wholeheartedly agree with it.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, the hon. senior member for St. Peter, in his first contribution to this debate, deplored the fact that the Bill gave no assistance to housing projects. I think that the hon. member should be told at the outset that, in so far as the Government is concerned, housing falls within an entirely different category. If you were to refer to the Manifesto of the Government Party you will see that reference is made to a Finance Development Corporation as being separate and distinct from the encouragement of mortgage rental insurance schemes to stimulate the building industry. Those are two separate and distinct things and the Government still stands by those two separate and distinct pledges. In the first place, there is the Finance Development Corporation and, secondly, the establishment of mortgage rental insurance schemes for housing. The question of housing is already provided for in the categories in the following manner; agricultural workers' housing is financed from Labour Welfare funds, then there is the scheme for public workers financed from the public workers' loans, and then the general housing scheme in which artisans are assisted with funds to build, extend or repair their homes. Over and above all this, as is already well known, the Government is actively engaged in the provision of large-scale middle-class and also working-class houses on a mortgage rental basis; and I think that the House has already been told that negotiations are under way between the appropriate Government Department and the owners of certain estates in the Cave Hill area for the acquisition of these estates for the purpose of establishing these mortgage rental housing schemes. The actual financing of the schemes has been partially arranged, and it is merely a question of the final acquisition of the land areas in order that the schemes may be started. Therefore the hon.

senior member for St. Peter can rest assured that the Government is neither unmindful of the necessity for assistance to the building industry, nor does it fail to appreciate the significance of building in expanding the economy of the country. However, Sir, it is not proposed to make any provision in the proposed legislation before the House for expanding or for assistance in expanding the building industry.

Mr. Speaker, so much nonsense has been said in this debate that it is difficult to know from where one should reply. The hon. junior member for St. George made one of his characteristic contributions, and unedifying as it was, at least it did in two aspects shed a very slight ray of light on the darkness which completely enveloped his colleague, the hon. junior member for St. Joseph. The hon. junior member for St. Joseph was completely enveloped in abysmal gloom almost throughout the entire period of his discussion on the Bill. However, the hon. member did realise that the proposal before the House involves development. In considering the fact as to whether or not an applicant should be granted a loan, the test was whether the purpose to which the loan would be put would involve development or not. The hon. junior member for St. Joseph apparently had absolutely no appreciation of this particular aspect of the matter before the House, because he said during the course of his remarks that he saw no reason why a speculator who wanted some money to go into the country and buy 400 holes of yams or potatoes should not be able to get assistance under this Bill.

Mr. SMITH: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I did not say that a speculator should get money under this Bill; I was referring to a small marginal loan of £100 by means of which a small man could be helped.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member began by saying that the amount provided under this Bill.....

Mr. WALCOTT: You are now wasting as much time in replying to him as he wasted.

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

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: I can assure the hon. senior member for St. Peter that I do not propose to waste much time in replying to the contribution made by the hon. junior member for St. Joseph to the debate on this Bill, but I just want to make it clear that nobody subscribes to the hon. member's conclusion. The hon. member began by saying that the amount included in this Bill for assisting small enterprises was too small. The amount of \$1,500 was nothing and the amount of £500 was also nothing. The hon. member went on to say that there were certain businessmen who could do with a marginal loan of £100; therefore the £500 which is provided in the Bill is five times the amount which the hon. member said would be useful to the small man and which he also said was too small. Mr. Speaker, it is therefore difficult for me to follow what the hon. member really meant. First and foremost in so far as the retail business referred to by the hon. member is concerned, the Government does not envisage assistance of this sort in the purchase of stock. You want to provide additional equipment for freezing and storage of goods; you want to improve the business itself and so you are assisted with a loan. In no place does this Bill say that the security is to be collateral.
6.25 p.m.

I am trying, Sir, to find the section which deals with the question of security. Subsection 1 of Section 6 says "For the purpose of this Act, the Bank shall have power to grant to persons carrying on small manufacturing businesses loans not exceeding two thousand five hundred dollars in respect of any one small manufacturing business on such terms as the security, rate of interest, repayment of principal and other similar matters as the Bank may think fit."

In other words, the Bank is empowered to authorise a loan for a small manufacturing business up to \$2,500 or of a retail business up to \$1,500 on such security as the

Bank may think fit, and security, I say, does not necessarily involve collateral security. It can be tied in the case of a small manufacturing business to the equipment, and it is relegated to the province of the Directors of the Bank to take into account the experience of the applicant, what they know as to his general character and what the recommendations are as to his character, experience and aptitude and so on, and taking all these things into account, the Board is entitled to advance him a loan if it so desires against the equipment itself as security. We also envisage that the applicant himself is going to have some portion of money in the majority of cases; he is not going to have all. He wants to buy a piece of equipment to expand his trade or industry; he goes to the Bank; he may have no collateral, but the Bank, taking into account all the information they have of his character, and proficiency in his profession, can advance him up to the sum specified in the Bill for the purposes already enumerated. Nowhere does it say that the security must be of the nature of a house or land, as the hon. junior member for St. Joseph apparently seems to think.

Mr. Speaker, we appreciate the fact that some of this capital will be risk capital, and that there are cases in which the Bank will advance loans to applicants without what the average financial concern like a bank would regard as adequate security; but in the interest of general expansion of the country, economically speaking, in the interest of assisting retail businessmen to offer better facilities to their customers, and in the interest of expanding the industrial development of the country, the Government is prepared to take the risk and accept the challenge offered by this legislation. It does seem to me, however, that it is rather late in the day for the members of the Barbados Labour Party to attempt to encourage us or to tell us what should be done by way of industrial development of the Island. It is true that they never got an Industrial Development Board in this country until 1961, because although the legislation for establishing an Industrial Development Board was tabled on the floor of this House as far back as 1946, it was not until 1956 that the Barbados Labour Party saw fit to bring down a Bill to provide for the establishment of an Industrial Development Board; and even after the Legislature passed the Bill, it took them five years — until 1961 — before the Board began to operate, because they said they could not find anybody to operate it. The Legislature had made available the sum of \$1¼ million as far back as 1946 for the operation of this Board, and not one cent was touched nor was anything done to implement the decision of the Legislature, and it was not until five years after that the Board began to operate under a man called Mr. A. G. Shepherd, five years after the Legislature had agreed in principle to setting up the Board, and fifteen years after it was proposed on the floor of this House repeatedly both by the Conservative Opposition and of the Opposition of which Your Honour and I were part, that the country needed an Industrial Development Board.

Two years after Puerto Rico started theirs, I went there myself, got a copy of the legislation, tabled it in this House, and it took fifteen years before it began to operate; and all they are telling us tonight is what should be done with regard to promoting industrial development in the Island. The hon. junior member for St. Joseph has been very outspoken in the last two years on this question of a Small Industrial Loan Board. Last year when he first mooted the question, he confessed at the time that he had not seen any reference to it in the manifesto of the Government Party the year before. A sudden gleam of revelation had inspired him to propose a Small Business Loan Board for the assistance of the small businessmen in this Island; but as far back as 1955, 1956, 1957 and 1958 when I had proposed it on the floor of this House, I cannot recall a single instance in which he or any member of his Party said one word in support of it; but suddenly after the Government has been committed to establishing a Small Industries Loan Board to help small businessmen and retailers to put their trade on a sound financial basis, it suddenly dawns on him that this is a horse he should flog. The Government appreciates his belated endeavours. It seems somewhat like teaching an old hen new tricks. The proposals contained in the Bill before the House represent in every detail, Sir, the promises made by the Government

Party during the election campaign. The question of whether or not Government funds will be utilised to advance to people to buy breadfruits in the country and sell them in Bridgetown, will have to await the return of the hon. member's Party to power, and we have no doubt, to judge from the example in the past, that the question of buying breadfruits in St. Joseph and yams in St. Andrew and bringing them to Bridgetown and selling them would represent what that Party would regard as industrial development for Barbados in the 20th Century.
6.35 p.m.

We must confess that we are a little less antiquated in our thinking. We hope to see in the near future, with the aid provided in this Bill before the Legislature, something approximating the industrial trend of this industrial age such as the products which are produced in Great Britain and other parts of the world at present, not 200 years ago.

Mr. Speaker, I do not think it is necessary to say anything more other than to assure hon. members that in so far as we are concerned there would be cases in which the Board would insist that such should have collateral and security because, after all, this money which is setting up this Bank is the money of the taxpayers. But, by and large, the average artisan or tailor with reasonably good character in the community who can provide evidence of his willingness to work and who can contribute something to the country would get every single assistance he can under this Bill; and we are sure, provided appropriate use is made of it, that it would make a substantial contribution to the economy of the Island.

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

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

Clauses 1 to 27 inclusive were called separately and passed.

Clause 28 was called.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, I want to make a slight reference to Clause 28 because earlier in the debate, at least one speaker tried to give the impression that the penalties in this Clause were unduly harsh. Clause 28 says:

"The Minister may make regulations —"

Mr. Chairman, I am sorry. It is Clause 29 to which I am referring.

I beg to move that Clause 28 stand part.

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

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

Clause 29 was called.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: This is the Clause, Mr. Chairman, to which I want to refer. It says:

29. Any person who —

- (a) obtains financial assistance from the Bank under the provisions of this Act by means of any false representation;
- (b) wilfully applies any loan made to him by the Bank or guaranteed by the Bank under the provisions of this Act to any purpose other than the purpose for which the loan was made;
- (c) having obtained a loan from the Bank or the guarantee by the Bank of a loan under the provisions of this Act, wilfully destroys any security given in relation to any such loan or guarantee,

is guilty of an offence against this Act.

6.45 p.m.

Later on in Section 31 the penalty in respect of such an offence is provided for by a maximum fine of \$2,400, or in default of payment thereof, a term of imprisonment with or without hard labour for a term not exceeding 12 months. The hon. junior member for St. Joseph endeavoured to create the impression that having agreed to grant a small businessman or retailer a loan we are, at the same time, imposing these penalties for the offences specified in the Bill. These penalties apply not to the small businessman alone, but generally to people who are borrowing money from the Bank. It is not inconceivable that people may borrow as much as \$100,000 or more from the Bank. In relation to the old Development Board there are cases in which loans have been made — I speak off hand — of amounts exceeding \$75,000. I can think of one enterprising group who tried to borrow as much as \$200,000, and one of the biggest influential concerns has tried to borrow as much as £50,000. In the context of these sums, therefore, the penalty proposed under this Bill is not unduly harsh; furthermore, the offences themselves are clearly set out. If you get money from the Bank by means of false representation or if you borrow money for a specific purpose and then you wilfully apply that money to something else, or having obtained a loan from the Bank you destroy the security which you have given, then you are liable to these penalties which are set out in the Bill.

Mr. Chairman, I do not think that, for the offences specified in the Bill and for the extent of some loans which may be possible under this Bill, these penalties are unduly harsh. It is true that the penalties apply to people, more or less to those who have made small loans, but it is not for any failure or inability to maintain your interest payments or your quarterly or six-monthly instalments, as the case may be, that these penalties are put into effect. These penalties are in relation to the special conditions as set out and they almost involve criminal charges in respect of the offences committed. I cannot, for the life of me, conceive that anybody who appreciates the fact that we are dealing with public funds and that the Authority authorising these loans is finally responsible to the taxpayers — I cannot see that anybody who appreciates that could consider that these penalties are unduly harsh bearing in mind the gravity — I almost said the criminality — of the offences involved.

The question that Clause 29 stand part of the Bill was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Clauses 30 to 33 inclusive were called and passed.

The Schedule was called and agreed to.

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

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

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

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

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

QUARRIES BILL

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Leader of the House:— To move the second reading of a Bill to make provision for the registration, licensing and supervision of quarries; for the safety of workers employed therein; for the fencing thereof and for matters incidental to and connected with the foregoing.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, this is a very small Bill. It seeks to amend or rather to consolidate and revise the Quarries Act and the most important proposals are, firstly, to change the definition of "occupier"; and secondly, in the event of the abandonment of a quarry, the owner thereof and not, as at present, the occupier should notify the Labour Commissioner of such abandonment. Thirdly, that the fee for the registration of a quarry should be increased from 25 cents to one dollar and that a fee of one dollar should be payable by a new owner in the event of the transfer of a registration to him. Provision is also made to the effect that until a licence to operate a quarry has been granted, any operation of the quarry, other than that which is necessary to carry out the requirements of the Labour Commissioner under the Bill, would be illegal. 6.55 p.m.

You cannot operate until you have a licence, and furthermore, Sir, under Section 17 it becomes compulsory for quarry owners to keep the same reasonably fenced to the satisfaction of the Labour Commissioner for the prevention of accidents.

Those are the main provisions of the Bill, and I beg to move that the Bill be now read a second time.

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

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

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

Clauses 1 to 23 inclusive were called and passed.

The Schedule was called and passed.

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

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

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1963

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I am asking leave to take Order No. 6 as the next Order of the Day.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Minister of Education has asked leave to proceed with Order No. 6 as the next Order of the Day, and if there is no objection, leave will be granted.

Hearing no objection, leave is granted.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I am asking leave to take charge of this Item in the absence of the Hon. and Learned Premier.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Minister of Education is seeking the leave of the House to take charge of Item No. 6 which stands in the name of the Hon. and Learned Premier, and if there is no objection, leave will be granted.

Hearing no objection, leave is granted the Hon. Minister.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, Your Honour will recall that last week the House passed in all its stages a Private Members' Bill, the purpose of which was to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1957, and that the purpose of that amending Bill was to reduce the voting age from 21 to 18 for elections to the General Assembly of this Island. 7.05 p.m.

It is pointed out in the Report which the Select Committee submitted to this House that there were certain consequential amendments which would have to be made to other Acts, particularly to the Local Government Act. If this amendment to this present Bill were not made, we would have an anomaly in the Representation of the People Act because for election to the General Assembly, people of the age of 18 years would be able to vote, but for election to Local Government Councils they would not be able to vote.

The purpose of this Bill, Sir, is to further amend the Local Government Act, 1958, so as to bring the provisions for the qualification of voters in line with the provisions recently enacted with respect to the Representation of the People Act. What the Bill, therefore, seeks to do, is to make such amendments to the Local Government Act, 1958 as are necessary in order to give effect to the proposal that the qualifying age for voting at a Local Government election should be reduced from twenty-one years to eighteen years.

That means, when this Bill is passed and the amendments are made to the Schedule and it becomes law, it would be on all fours with the Representation of the People Act and, in consequence, the whole elections to the General Assembly as well as Local Government Councils would take place with universal adult suffrage, the qualifying age being 18 years and upwards.

I formally move that this Bill be read a second time.

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

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

On motion of Hon. J. C. TUDOR, seconded by Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS, Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the House went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. BATSON in the Chair.

Clauses 1 to 3 were called separately and passed.

The Schedule was called and passed.

On motion of Hon. J. C. TUDOR, seconded by Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported to Mr. SPEAKER the passing of one Bill in Committee.

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

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

AMENDMENTS FROM OTHER PLACE TO DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS BILL

Mr. SPEAKER: The Other Place has returned to this House the Bill relating to the Director of Public Prosecutions Act, 1963, with certain amendments, one or two quite trivial, but another certainly not so trivial.

I wonder if the Hon. Leader of the House would like to peruse these amendments which were made by the Other Place to this Bill.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Yes, Sir. I think we can deal with them now. The first amendment appears on page three in Clause 3, subsection (1). The Clause reads as follows:-

"The Director of Public Prosecutions shall receive such salary and other emoluments as may from time to time be prescribed by or under any law or by a resolution of the General Assembly or by the Governor;"

That was in the Bill which was passed by this House. The Other Place has deleted the words "General Assembly or by the Governor", and substituted the word "Legislature".

Further, in the Proviso, which was passed by the House, to this same subsection, what we passed reads as follows:-

"Provided that — (a) no such resolution may reduce any salary or other emoluments for the time being prescribed by or under any law and the Governor may not reduce any salary or other emoluments for the time being prescribed by or under a law or by any such resolution;"

The amendment which has been made by the Other Place, takes out the words "and the Governor may not reduce any salary or other emoluments for the time being prescribed by or under a law".

Then on page five, there is a minor amendment, the word "has" is substituted for the word "had".

On page seven, Section 5 reads as follows:-

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

Instead of the word "Government", it should be the word "Governor".

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

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

The question was put and agreed to.
7.15 p.m.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that these amendments be now read a second time.

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

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

On the motion of Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD, seconded by Hon. J. C. TUDOR, the amendments were agreed to.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS CONCLUDED

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, that concludes Government Business for the day's sitting.

THE ORDER PAPER

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, in fixing the Order Paper, in connection with Order No. 4 which we are asking to be made Order No. 2, which will be the Bill relative to the payment of compensation to workmen in respect of injuries suffered in the course of their employment, we would be very grateful if we could have the assurance that this Bill will be printed and circulated immediately so that hon. members would be able to have it and to study it.

Mr. SPEAKER: I have been instructed that the Government Printer has not supplied the proof of that Bill to the Clerk of this House. I am also instructed that possibly the reason for that might be that it is a very long Bill.

THE ADJOURNMENT

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday next, 5th November, 1963 (*ASIDES*).

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, if the Hon. Minister would give way, I would like to point out to him that in arranging the business of the House, as far as I can see from today's Order Paper we have nearly liquidated all of the business with which the Government had to deal with the exception of the Bill in relation to compensation to be paid in case of fatal accidents which I do not think would present us with any problem in passing. I do not know what was introduced today; but when the hon. member speaks

about the Workmen's Compensation Bill, may I inform him that, in so far as I am concerned, I will be dealing with that thoroughly. I am sure that hon. members who do not even have the idea of how this Bill is to be amended, would have to have some time to study it, and it may be they will have to get some advice on it. If we do not have copies of Bills, which are printed, before Saturday evening — I may say that I usually read my Bills on Sunday night — I cannot see, if we received this Bill on Monday, how we could be asked to do justice to it. Mr. Speaker, this is a very important Bill, and in any case it will have to be referred to a Select Committee because there are too many changes made in it and there is no use in rushing it through on the guise that we will pass it. We just cannot finish this Bill. I think that we should escape next Tuesday at least and come here the following Tuesday. Unless you are going to justify us that the Order Paper is big enough, I do not think that we should be asked to come back here next Tuesday.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, it seems to me that we have a reasonable assurance that hon. members will get this Bill in their hands early. After all, hon. members ought to have had this Bill some four or five days ago and therefore it cannot be much longer delayed from now. I think that when the Clerk goes to the Government Printery

tomorrow he will hear that we will get copies of this Bill very soon. I think that we should come out next Tuesday and deal with the business which should be done. I do not think that we need fear that next Tuesday is Guy Fawkes day (MEMBERS: Oh, No! No!) In these circumstances, Sir, I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday next, 5th November, 1963, at 12 o'clock noon.

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

SELECT COMMITTEE DISCHARGED

Mr. SPEAKER: Before I put the motion for the adjournment, I have the honour to discharge the Select Committee which was appointed to consider and report on the Bill to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1957, with my thanks to the Committee for their services.

The question that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday next, 5th November, 1963, at 12 o'clock noon, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER adjourned the House accordingly.

7.25 p.m.