
THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SESSION 1962

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 24th September, 1963.

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

PRESENT

His Honour J. E. T. BRANCKER, Q.C., (*Speaker*); Mr. L. E. SMITH, J.P.; Mr. F. C. GODDARD; Mr. E. St. A. HOLDER, J.P.; Hon. C. E. TALMA, (*Minister of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries*); Mr. S. E. SEALEY; Hon. G. G. FERGUSON, (*Minister of Communications, Works and Housing*); Mr. W. R. LOWE; Mr. L. A. LYNCH, J.P. and Mr. G. V. BATSON, (*Chairman of Committees*).

Prayers were read.

Messrs. F. E. MILLER, E. D. MOTTLEY and Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD entered the House and took their seats.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that the Minutes of the meeting of last Tuesday have been printed and circulated amongst hon. members, and unless there be any objection, those Minutes will be taken as read and confirmed. (*After a pause*). Hearing no objection, those Minutes are now taken as read and confirmed.

REPLY FROM THE CHAPLAIN TO CONGRATULATIONS ON HIS GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Mr. SPEAKER: I also have the honour to inform the House that I have received from our Chaplain, Rev. S. A. E. Coleman, a letter of thanks expressing his appreciation for the congratulations of the House on the occasion of his Golden Wedding Anniversary.

MESSAGE re APPOINTMENT OF ACTING GOVERNOR

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present, on behalf of the Hon. Premier, Message No. 8/1963 from His Excellency the Governor regarding his absence from the island and the appointment of the Honourable Sir Kenneth Stoby, Chief Justice, as Acting Governor.

The Message reads as follows:-

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR TO THE HONOURABLE THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

His Excellency the Governor has the honour to inform the Honourable the House of Assembly that he proposes to leave the Island by air on the 21st September, 1963, for the United Kingdom to hold talks with the Secretary of State for the Colonies at the latter's request. His Excellency expects to be away for three weeks.

2. During His Excellency's absence from the Island, the Honourable Sir Kenneth Stoby, Chief Justice, will assume the administration of the Government in accordance with Article XXI of the Letters Patent and the Honourable A. J. H. Hanschell will be appointed to act as Chief Justice.

JOHN STOW
Governor.

Government House,
Barbados,
20th September, 1963.

PAPERS LAID

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Hon. Premier, I am commanded to lay Statistical Service — Selected Monthly Indicators — April, 1963.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Hon. Minister of Social Services, I am commanded to lay the Annual Report of the Public Assistance Board for the period 1st April, 1962, to 31st March, 1963.

Mr. N. W. BOXILL entered the House and took his seat.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Hon. Minister of Education, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to place the sum of \$2,400 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to supplement the Estimates, 1963-64, Part I — Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates, 1963-64, No. 19, which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

REPLIES TO QUESTIONS

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice that the following Oral Replies to Parliamentary Questions are now ready:-

The Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 132/1962 asked by the hon. junior member for the City of Bridgetown on the 11th June, 1963.

The Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 133/1962 asked by the hon. senior member for St. Thomas on the 18th June, 1963.

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

PRIVATE MEMBER'S NOTICE

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

WHEREAS certain articles in the Press have drawn attention to complaints made by the Auditor General relating to the accounts of the Bridgetown City Council;

AND WHEREAS the charge has been made that Sections 207 & 208 (2) of the Local Government Act, 1958-55, have been flouted;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House request the Central Government of Barbados to institute an immediate inquiry into the complaints made against the administration of the Municipality.

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR OF SUGAR INDUSTRY AGRICULTURAL BANK

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Mr. A. B. Way be appointed Auditor of the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank at the annual salary of \$600 for the year commencing on the 1st July, 1963.

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

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

Mr. J. W. CORBIN entered the House and took his seat.
12.25 p.m.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: If I may be permitted, Sir, I should like to get Your Honour's permission to give notice at this stage of my intention to ask for leave later in today's sitting to lay a Statement with regard to the celebrations to take place in connection with the arrival of the cricketers on the 3rd October next. The Statement is now in process of preparation and should be received very shortly.

Mr. SPEAKER: The request of the Hon. Leader of the House is noted.

Order No. 1 stands in the name of the Hon. and Learned Premier: to move the House into Committee of Supply to consider the grant of sums of money for the service of the Island.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask leave to take charge of the Orders standing in the name of the Hon. Premier during his absence.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Deputy Premier has asked leave to take charge of Order No. 1 standing in the name of the Hon. Premier during the absence of the latter, and if there is no objection, leave will be granted.

Having heard no objection, I declare leave is granted for the Hon. Leader of the House to proceed with Order of the Day No. 1.

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

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE 1963-64 No. 15

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that a Resolution for the sum of \$2,291 to be placed at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee for the purposes as set out do now pass.

You will see, Sir, the amounts asked for are for the Department of the Crown Solicitor, and you will note from the Addendum that a post of Deputy Crown Solicitor has recently been created and it is proposed to allow the Crown Solicitor and his Deputy to article clerks; each officer to article not more than two such persons, one of whom would be paid an allowance to be met from a sum of money to be provided in the Annual Estimates for the purpose. Provision of the sum of \$2,291 is therefore required to meet the following expenses for the rest of the financial year ending March, 1964. The allowances to two Articled Clerks will require \$1,650, Travelling of the Deputy Crown Solicitor \$300, Incidentals \$15, and Office Equipment and Furniture for the Deputy Crown Solicitor — \$326, making a total of \$2,291.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE 1963-64 No. 16

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, this is a Resolution to provide additional staff, equipment and furniture for the Department of Inland Revenue. Hon. members will remember that we have already made certain provisions to increase the staff of the Department of Inland Revenue.

I am sorry about the interruption, but the hurricane siren has everybody quite upset, and I think we will have to adjourn pretty soon.

If we may at least finish one or two more of these Resolutions before we go, Section 3 of the Land Development Duty Act, 1962-34 makes provision whereby an area of land may be declared by order to be a special development area. This provision entails the valuation of such areas, and the following additional staff will accordingly be required for the Department of Inland Revenue: one Valuer at a salary of \$4,632 to \$5,712; one Long Grade Clerk at \$1,200 — \$2,832 and one Stenographer at \$1,260 — \$1,728 or \$1,440 — \$2,352.

It is also pointed out in the Addendum that a comprehensive review will be made shortly and the above staff should therefore be provided on a temporary basis.

The Department has also been provided recently with additional permanent staff by Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) (No. 8) Order, 1963.

Supplementary provision of \$9,720 is required to meet the consequential expenditure involved as follows —

Salaries of above-mentioned temporary staff to end of financial year — \$7,280, and furniture and equipment — desks, typewriter and chairs for office use — \$2,440.

I therefore beg to move that the Resolution for the sum of \$9,720 do now pass.

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

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

On the motion of Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, Mr. CHARMAN reported the passing of two Resolutions in Committee of Supply, and asked for leave to sit again and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.
12.35 p.m.

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

THE ADJOURNMENT

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, with the events of 1955 still fresh in the minds of hon. members, it is not to be wondered at that this present unrest and worry have been demonstrated on all sides of the Chamber in consequence of the signals from the Hurricane Station.

We do hope and pray that the Island would be spared any serious and calamitous visitation. I do know that hon. members have private and domestic business to take care of, and in many cases many are involved in parochial administration and on Hurricane Relief Committees and what not, and therefore have to take the necessary steps and make the necessary preparations for the succour of the public in case of any serious visitation.

It would not be fair, therefore, Mr. Speaker, to ask hon. members to remain any longer today and at this stage I beg to move the adjournment of the House until next Tuesday, the 1st October, 1963, at 12.00 o'clock (noon). It is not unlikely that the Cabinet would be reconvening immediately. Members of the Cabinet were sitting this morning and we will have to meet again to set our house in order. I am sure hon. members would wish me to express their hope that the Island would be spared the ravages of another hurricane.

Mr. SPEAKER: Just before that motion is put, is the Hon. Leader of the House going to mention anything of the

Statement which he intimated that he would make earlier today?

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: If I may be permitted, this Statement is in connection with the public celebrations for the welcoming of the West Indian Team on October 3rd, which is Thursday next.

The day would not be declared a Public Holiday, but the public schools throughout the Island will be asked to be closed so that the school children will have the entire day. Business places in the Island are going to be asked to close at midday. With a tourist boat arriving the same morning with quite a number of tourists on it, we would like the tourists to be accommodated and the stores will remain open until midday. After that, there would be a motorcade, and then the celebrations at Kensington and all the other items which have been arranged by the Special Committee to honour the cricketers on their arrival.

I am sorry, Mr. Speaker, that I am not able to lay the Statement owing to this unrest, but all the information will naturally be released to the mass media, the Press and Radio for publication tomorrow.

I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday next, 1st October, 1963, at 12.00 o'clock (noon).

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

The question was put and resolved in the affirmative, and Mr. SPEAKER adjourned the House accordingly.

12.45 p.m.