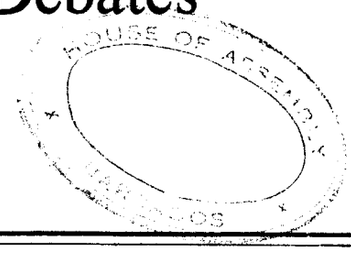
THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)



SECOND SESSION OF 1961—66

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 8th December, 1964.

Pursuant to the adjournment, the House of Assembly met at 2.30 p.m. today.

PRESENT

His Honour J. E. T. BRANCKER, Q.C., *(Speaker);* Mr. L. E. SMITH, J.P.; Hon. C. E. TALMA, *(Minister of Communications and Works);* (Hon. J. C. TUDOR, M.A., *(Minister of Education);* Mr. S. E. SEALEY: Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON, *(Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries);* Mr. W. R. COWARD; Mr. R. St.C. WEEKES, J.P.; Mr. W. R. LOWE; His Honour E. L. CARMICHAEL, J.P., *(Deputy Speaker);* Mr. J. B. YEARWOOD and Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS, *(Minister of Health, Housing, Local Government and Community Development).*

Prayers were read.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD, Mr. BATSON, Mr. MOTTLEY, Mr. LYNCH, and Mr. BOXILL entered the House and took their seats.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER: I regret to say that the Minutes of our last meeting are not yet ready.

DOCUMENT

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that I have received for myself and all hon. members the good wishes of all ranks of the Barbados Regiment for Christmas and the New Year.

I propose to reciprocate those good wishes on behalf of the House.

PAPERS LAID

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

Quarterly Digest of Statistics, No. 30, June, 1964;

The Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) (No. 11) Order, 1964;

The Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) (No. 12) Order, 1964;

The Customs Duties (Material for use in the Manufacture of Phonograph Records and Components) Order, 1964;

The Public Employees Pensions (Amendment) Regulations, 1964; and

The Pensions (Amendment) Regulations, 1964.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

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

Resolution to place the sum of $72,870 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates, 1964-65 Part 1 - Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimate 1964-65 No. 43 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution;

Also, Resolution to place the sum of $58,260 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates, 1964-65, Part 11 - Capital as shown in the Supplementary Estimate 1964-65, No. 44 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution;

Also, Resolution to place the sum of $61,400 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates, 1964-65, Part 11 Capital as shown in the Supplementary Estimate 1964-65 No. 45 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution;

Also, Resolution to approve the Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) (No. 11) Order, 1964;

Also, Resolution to approve an additional non-established post of Scrubber and Cleaner for the Fire Service Department;

Also, Resolution to approve the Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) (No. 12) Order, 1964;

Also, Resolution to approve "The Public Employees Pensions (Amendment) Regulations, 1964."

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to authorise the Minister of Finance to borrow by means of temporary advances from a bank or banks an amount not exceeding in the aggregate the sum of $469,560 to finance certain Government-owned agricultural enterprises.

Sir, I would like to ask leave to deal with this Resolution in all its stages at today's Sitting.

2.55 p.m.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: On behalf of the Hon. Premier, Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Bill to postpone the holding of an Ordinary Election of Councillors under the Local Government Act, 1958, and for the purposes connected therewith and relating thereto.

Also, on behalf of the Hon. Premier, I beg to give notice of a Bill to amend the Public Employees' Pension Act, 1961.

Also on behalf of the Hon. Premier I beg to give notice of a Bill to amend the Casual Employees Pensions Act, 1961.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Bill to amend the Markets and Slaughterhouses Act, 1958.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker; I beg to give notice of a Bill to amend the Interim Traders Act, 1909.

Also, I beg to give notice of a Bill to amend the Local Government Act, 1958.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

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 some of the Money Resolutions of which notice was given today. I have said "Some of the Resolutions" expressly for the simple reason that I have already intimated to hon. members that we propose today to ask for leave to deal, in all of their stages, with a number of these matters of which notice has been given today. I understand that the Clerk has had instructions from Your Honour to circulate to hon. members the total list of items in respect of which we intend to seek the permission of the House to deal with today. In addition to that, the hon. junior member for St. Michael has already intimated his intention to ask for leave to deal with the Resolution for $469,560 for the purpose of financing certain Government-owned agricultural enterprises by means of temporary advances from a bank or banks. Presumably there only remains the circulation of the paper referring to this item, since hon. members are already in possession of the other Items in addition to the Items on the ordinary Order Paper.

At this stage, I am moving the suspension of Standing Orders 5, 14, 16, 18, 40 and 45 for the remainder of today's sitting.

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

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

QUESTIONS

Mr. SPEAKER: Question standing in the name of the hon. senior member for St. Michael.

Mr. SEALEY: Mr. Speaker, to enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

1. Is Government aware that the respective tenants of the land known as Burke's Tenantry situate at Burke's Road, Brittons Hill, St. Michael, (who are unable to purchase the lot occupied by each such tenant) have been given notice to quit and deliver up possession of the lots occupied by each such tenant?

2. Is Government also aware that the majority of the said tenants are unable to find suitable sites to which to remove their respective houses?

3. Will Government consider purchasing the said area of land with a view to:

(a) selling same in lots to the said respective tenants thereof on reasonable terms, and/or

(b) letting the same in lots to the said respective tenants?

Mr. SPEAKER: Question standing in the name of the hon. senior member for St. Thomas.

Mr. BATSON: Mr. Speaker, to enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

Is Government aware of the fact that Mrs. Beryl Earle a domestic of the Saint Thomas' Almshouse, has for upwards of 28 years performed the duties of cleaning the Mortuary of the Almshouse without ever having received remuneration thereof?

Will Government take appropriate action to compensate Beryl Earle for the said work?

REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE

Mr. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I beg to present the Report of the Select Committee which was appointed to consider and report on the Letter received from the Librarian and Secretary of the House of Assembly asking for six months' leave of absence from 1st January, 1965.

Mr. SPEAKER: Copies of that Report will be circulated to hon. members as soon as possible.

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME

On motions of Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA in each case, the following Bills were read a first time:-

A Bill to postpone the holding of an ordinary election of Councillors under the Local Government Act, 1958, and for the purposes connected therewith and related thereto.

A Bill to amend the Public Employees Pensions Act, 1961.

A Bill to amend the Casual Employees Pensions Act, 1961.

On the motion of Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, the Bill to amend the Markets and Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, was read a first time. 3.05 p.m.

On motion of Hon. C. E. TALMA, seconded by Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD, a Bill to amend the Interim Traders Act, 1909, was read a first time.

On motion of Hon. C. E. TALMA, seconded by Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD, a Bill to amend the Local Government Act, 1958, was read a first time.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

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

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: 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 move that Order No. 3 be the first Order of the Day.

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

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

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Your Honour do now leave the Chair and the House go into Committee of Supply, and that it be an instruction to the House while in Committee to deal with the money Resolutions which have been circulated and of which notice was given today.

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

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE 1964-65 No. 41

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Item 16 stand part. As is known, at this time of the year, auxiliary postmen are needed to supplement the permanent postmen during the festival season, and for quite a few weeks around that period.

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

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

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Item 18 stand part. The reasons are set out in the Addendum.

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

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

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Item 36 stand part.

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

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, I would like to know what is the policy of the Government with respect to telephones in Post Offices. I should like to know from the Minister whether it is a policy to put telephones in all these Post Offices or only a select few.
3.15 p.m.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, this amount is for installing a telephone in the St. Lucy Post Office which has been in need of a telephone for quite some time. I do not know if the hon. member is referring to that specifically, but if he is referring to the other Post Offices, that is a different matter.

I can assure the hon. member that as a result of a Committee set up a few years ago - I think during the term of the last Government - from which report we have implemented some of the main instructions, some of the telephones have been reduced, and it is only when a telephone is a dire necessity that it is installed. A telephone is only installed when it is necessary for the Postmaster to perform his duties as such, and if it is not, he is not entitled to such concession.

The hon. member will therefore see that the whole question of free telephones which formerly existed is not the case now, and an officer is only given a telephone if he is actually in need of it; therefore, he does not enjoy that facility now.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, I thank the Hon. Minister for his reply; but when you are thinking in terms of a telephone at public institutions, such as Post Offices, you cannot think of the holder of the office: you have to think of the people who use the office. The holder of the office may have very little use for a telephone — maybe only if the Postmaster or anyone from Head Office telephones him; but it is the public whom you must think of. The public telephone is for anyone who goes there and who wants to put through a message. Government must think in terms of the public and always remember that it is public funds which they are spending and not a particular individual's.

Sir, here it is that you are going to put a telephone in St. Lucy's Post Office. What about the others? There are other Post Offices that are far from Bridgetown, and it is not fair to ask a private individual to give the travelling public a telephone message when you can use a public telephone. It is not fair. As soon as you are putting one in a particular office, you must think of the public and not the particular individual. By this installation, you make one to feel that you are only putting telephones in the Ministers' parishes. Let us think of the people who have to pay for these telephones. You have St. Andrew's Post Office which is in need of a telephone. I repeat: put them in all and do not let it appear that you are one sided.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, first of all, I would like to say that I have the honour to represent, not St. Lucy's parish, but Christ Church. This is a matter which deals with the installing of a telephone at St. Lucy's Post Office. I heard the hon. member speak of installing telephones in the Minister's parish.

Mr. SMITH: I did not say any particular Minister. I dare suppose that the Christ Church Post Office must have had a telephone before the hon. Minister concerned was in this House. I said: do not let it be said that you are putting them in Minister's parishes. Christ Church had a telephone probably before I was born.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Sir, I want to get this Resolution through: I do not want to get into any side debate. I outlined the policy of the Government so far as the installation of telephones are concerned. If the hon. junior member for St. Joseph feels that there is need for telephones in other sub-post offices, by all means let him put in a claim and I would be willing to consider it. Do not think that I am singling out St. Lucy's Post Office for preferential claim. If the hon. member feels that public telephones are a necessity, and in the absence of public telephones he would like them installed at Post Offices, I appreciate all of that. Do not think that I am trying to single out St. Lucy. If the hon. member has a case, let him put it. It is well known that a telephone service is a dire necessity for certain parishes.

The question that Item 36 stand part, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I beg to move that this Resolution for the sum of $9,912 do now pass.

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE 1964-66 NO. 40

LAND ACQUISITION

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: The amount of $250,000 which has been set out in the Addendum is required to meet the cost of completing the purchase of a portion of Wanstead Plantation and to meet the cost of land which may be acquired by the Government during the remainder of the financial year.

With reference to Wanstead, the Government agreed with the owner of this Plantation to acquire 63 acres, with the exception of 25 acres which is to be retained by the owner and we are paying him at the rate of £300 an acre for that which we are acquiring.

In addition, Sir, there are a number of other properties which Government is going to acquire, notably some land in Roebuck Street, which is about 75,000 square feet, in connection with the erection of a stadium at Weymouth. Then, there are other properties for which so far there has been no agreement with regard to the price; negotiations are now being concluded. There are negotiations going on as regards Spencers Plantation so as to extend the Airport, and there are also negotiations going on as regards Fairy Valley Plantation. Then, there is the property alongside this building known as the Trafalgar Hotel for which we are negotiating and also for the property adjacent to the Public Library.
3.25 p.m.

Under Head 7 — Agriculture - Item 11 - Land Acquisition - the sum of $1/2 million was voted for the purpose of land acquisition. This amount of $40,000 has already been spent and the balance in hand is a little over $100,000. This amount of $250,000 is required to supplement the balance

remaining for the purpose of land acquisition in view of the fact that we have commitments for these additional properties. I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, the Addendum to this Resolution reads as follows:-

"This amount is required to complete the purchase of a portion of Wanstead Plantation and to meet the cost of land which may be acquired by the Government during the remainder of the financial year."

Now, Sir, from the way in which the Addendum to this Resolution has been worded, I think that the Government could very nearly do without bringing down this Resolution. They are asking us for money to complete the purchase of a portion of Wanstead Plantation. If we are giving the O.K. for them to buy anything, do you mean to say that the present Government could not treat us with as much respect as to let us know what they are paying for a particular property or anything of the sort? I really cannot understand. They are asking us for the green light for buying something; they cannot buy it unless we give them the O.K. and they are only asking us to pass this money and that is all. The Hon. Minister has said that they are buying this plantation and leaving out 25 acres or something like that. Well, Sir, he should let us know what they are paying for this part and how much remains for the Government to play with: that is to say, that which is to meet the cost of land which may be required by the Government during the remainder of the financial year.

Mr. Chairman, we have no right to pass this money in this way because, if we pass it like this, then the Government can buy land wherever they like and we who are the representatives of the people, we who are supposed to be controlling the purse strings, will not know what is happening. If the Government feel that they can do everything by themselves, well let them do that, and do not bring any Resolution before us because they are only asking us to appear like nitwits or something like that. We are the people who have been elected to this House, no matter how you are looking at it. If any of the taxpayers were to ask me tomorrow how much we are paying for Wanstead Plantation or how much is being left and where we are going to spend this money, I would not be able to say. Mr. Chairman, you cannot say anything because you are in the Chair, but I can see from the expression on your face that you are not in agreement with this. I say that we should let the people know what we are doing. We are passing this Resolution today, and tomorrow we will hear, like anybody else, that the Government is trying to buy land somewhere. I am submitting, Sir, that we should not be voting money to buy anything until the Government is ready to purchase it. We have no right doing things like this. You are signing your cheque, you are just putting your name and leaving the Government to fill in the body of the cheque. I am not in agreement with bringing down things in this way.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, the Addendum to this Resolution must be considered as being a part of the Resolution. This Addendum is not sufficiently explanatory; it is rather vague. It may be that that is because the persons who are responsible for preparing this Addendum are thinking in terms of Government members. Surely the Hon. Leader of the House should never begin to take umbrage if we were to ask the following questions which I hope he will note. The Addendum to this Resolution states this:-

"This amount is required to complete the purchase of a portion of Wanstead Plantation and to meet the cost of land which may be acquired by the Government during the remainder of the financial year."

They want this $250,000 to complete the purchase of a portion of this plantation and also to meet the cost of land which may be acquired by them during the remainder of the financial year. Now let us deal with Wanstead Plantation first. Most of us know Wanstead which is just on the brow between St. Michael and St. James. How much of Wanstead Plantation is the Government purchasing? That is a question which any Minister in charge of a Resolution should be prepared to answer, and not only to answer but also to explain for the benefit of the public. If you told us how much of this plantation you are buying, then the next question is this. In view of the fact that you have an amount of land unknown to us which is involved in this $250,000 and which you may acquire during the remainer of the financial year, we want to know how much you are paying for Wanstead.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, this is really exasperating; you must have the patience of Job in here. Hon. members carry on their own private discussions *ad lib*, they do not listen to what you are saying and then they get up and ask you exactly what you have said. Everything which has been asked by the hon. junior member for St. Joseph I have already said. I mentioned how much land is required, how much we are paying for it and now hon. members are asking us to say the same thing again.

3.35 p.m.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, there is no harm in the hon. member repeating what he said. Sometimes when the hon. member accuses us of taking a leaf out of his book, we make no apologies, because sometimes when we are asking questions, the hon. member in charge of the Resolution is carrying on a conservation and has to ask questions again.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: On a point of order, I object. If I appear to be talking, I have one ear listening to the person with whom I am talking, and the other listening to the Speaker; so I hear both at the same time.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I will have to borrow some of these adjustable ears from members of the Government. I am sure that if the hon. member saw us carrying on a conversation, we were discussing with grave importance the purchase of Wanstead, and it would have been easy for the hon. member to refresh us on what he said.

With regard to the other part of the Addendum which reads " and to meet the cost of land which may be acquired by Government during the remainder of the financial year," I must agree at this stage with the hon. junior member for St. Joseph. Where are you going to buy the land? Are you buying it at Six Mens in St. Lucy?

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, the hon. member is not justified in pursuing that question at all. All that was said fifteen minutes ago. I itemized every single place which the Government propose to buy with this money, and if the hon. junior member for St. Joseph is sleeping, there is no reason why the hon. senior member for Bridgetown should sleep too. As a matter of fact, the hon. junior member for St. Joseph said that the Government comes here and tries to make monkeys and nitwits out of members of the House. We have no such ambition; and it is completely unnecessary in the case of hon. members, because they do it themselves. To every single question they have asked, I have already given the information.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I do not know about monkeys and nitwits, because I do not think there is anybody on the other side of this House who is capable or has the slightest semblance of ability to make me into one. What I do say, however, is that is is rather strange that you, Mr. Chairman, having heard all these things explained, did not pull us up before. The hon. member is now saying that my pursuing these questions, is not justified. Surely he is not going to take over the rulings of the Chair. If you felt these things were explained, I believe you would have drawn it to my attention. You heard the explanations which the hon. member gave, and I think we are justified in getting from him where they propose to purchase this remainder of land. I think I know Wanstead well, but I should like to know if the hon. member has in his possession a plot of the portion of Wanstead which the Government proposes

to buy. I hope this is not a case as when a Minister had to search for a plot which was about six feet long and found it in his pockets, but, it is customary to let us see the plot to see what Government is buying and whether the money is being spent judiciously. The hon. member could not come here without a plan of the property which they are buying. What I know of the property myself I would know personally, but I think that members of this House are entitled to know.

I will ask the hon. member to pardon me if I did not hear where the remainder of the land is to be bought, but since I did not hear, I expect him to let me know. I do not want to waste time or oppose for the sake of opposing, because that is like water on a duck's back. Surely, I am entitled to know where the Government intends to buy this remainder of land for which an amount is given in this $250,000, and before we vote on it the Minister should let us know if he has a plan, and whether the land which they propose to buy is in the same vicinity, in juxtaposition or in another area. The Hon. Minister must not take umbrage if some of us did not hear at the time when he was speaking. I must say that I have no doubt that the hon. member did give the information; but if it appeared that we might not have been paying attention to him at the time, it is not the only time or first time. He has been in a similar position when he was discussing the circumstances of a particular Resolution and someone was not paying attention. I do not care what kind of letters members on that side might have; I challenge anybody to make a nitwit of me. My education came from the University of the World, from experience, and I see nobody who can make a nitwit or a monkey of me. I apologise if I have to ask the questions a second time.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, let me repeat word for word what I said earlier. I said that the whole estate is 88 acres. I said also that the owner is retaining 25 acres, and that in addition to Wanstead we have a commitment with regard to the Trafalgar Hotel adjacent to this building. I also said that there are certain expenses in connection with the extension of the runway at the Airport, and I said that we are committed to the acquisition of The Mount, part of the Cave Hill area, and Fairy Valley which we are negotiating now.

Mr. Chairman, the hon. member need take no offence at my repeating what the hon. junior member for St. Joseph said with regard to the allegation that we come here and try to make monkeys of somebody. The hon. junior member for St. Joseph said that and I answered him. The hon. senior member for Bridgetown did not say it. As a matter of fact the hon. senior member for Bridgetown would not say it because he knows the allegation is not true. As a matter of fact, Sir, the hon. junior member for St. Joseph is only making fun. Every single question he asked about Wanstead today was asked by him in the course of a debate in this House when we discussed Wanstead some months ago, when he came here and criticised the Government for not paying the owner more than we paid him. Hon. members will remember that the hon. junior member for St. Joseph not so long ago lambasted the Government for only paying the owner of this plantation £300 an acre, although he understood we were acquiring the land for public purposes; and all he is talking about now, he knew; we mentioned it in that debate. Imagine coming here and saying he does not see why we want the balance of the money at all! I do not know if he intends to give it to the Treasury, because the only way we can get money is by coming to the Legislature for it.

3.45 p.m.

The thing is this: in every single one of these cases, the decision to acquire these properties has already been discussed in this Legislature and in this Chamber. As a matter of fact, on the Order Paper before hon. members, there is a Resolution for the compulsory acquisition of Fairy Valley Plantation. It came up for discussion, but I postponed discussion on it for some weeks now - since August - because I understand that the owners of Fairy Valley Plantation have been negotiating with the Government on a basis which is feasible; therefore, I do not think it is necessary to invoke the powers of the Land Acquisition Act now in order to acquire this property. As is well known, we are paying £300 per acre approximately for the acquisition of this property. I have already spoken about the acquisition of Wanstead at £300 per acre. That is the price which we are paying for the other estates in the area, Husbands and Oxnards.

The owner of "Wanstead", Mr. Morris, like the hon. junior member for St. Joseph, felt that the land was worth more than £300 per acre, but Government is quite magnaminous, if we are acquiring land in the same area, to offer him the same price. He cannot claim that we have dealt with him unfairly because what we have done is to allow him 25 acres for his own use and we have given him permission to develop it. The Town and Country Planning Officer has given him permission to put down roads, instal water and light and he can sell that land for whatever price he can get for it. We have no control over it. The hon. junior member for St. Joseph cannot say that Mr. Morris has been unfairly treated; he has not been treated unfairly by us. When we came into power, we found that the Government of the hon. junior member for St. Joseph had "frozen" the area and, as a matter of fact, Mr. Morris had several offers to buy and he could not sell.

We gave notice of our intention to acquire approximately two-thirds of it, and we went further and gave him permission to develop the other 25 acres. There is nothing more which we can do.

I do not think there is any additional information which has been asked for which we have not given. What I want to say emphatically is that even if the information on the Addendum appears to be small to the hon. senior member for the City, it is merely because this is not a new matter; the House has already discussed it.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I thank the Hon. Minister for what he has given. According to him, I have no doubt; but I must say at the outset that the Hon. Minister knows well enough that the Addendum should have been more explanatory and that a matter of this sort should have been fully explained.

What did the Hon. Minister say to us? He said roughly that we are going to spend $100,000 at Wanstead and the other $150,000 is for the purchase of Fairy Valley Plantation, Trafalgar Hotel and for work at the Airport and also for acquiring "The Mount".

I have been in here for some time and I have occupied a position similar to the hon. member when I was in the Opposition and when he was in the Opposition. The position is simply this. If you tell us that 63 acres of the amount which would be acquired from Wanstead is roughly for the sum of £20,000 or $100,000, it would mean that you have $150,000 for these other projects. It is for the Hon. Minister and the person preparing this Addendum to make it more explanatory to us. The Addendum should have stated that this amount was to complete the purchase of the 63 acres of land at Wanstead and to purchase these other projects. It would give the Hon. Minister less trouble in explaining. The Addendum should have stated that this money is for the purchase of Wanstead and for the Trafalgar Hotel and so on. It is no secret to the public that Government intends to purchase the Trafalgar Hotel because that matter has been to the House already. The Addendum should go on to say that it is also for the purchase of Fairy Valley Plantation and that you are paying "X" dollars for that. In short, it should have stated that you are paying so much for the acquisition of Wanstead, so much for the purchase of the Trafalgar Hotel, so much for Fairy Valley and we would have fully appreciated that. If you had done that, it would not have given us any opportunity to offer the criticism which has been offered.

I still feel that the Addendum should have set out more clearly what the Hon. Minister had to say although the Hon. Minister has explained that Wanstead is being bought at £300 per acre. I am not defending anybody; I am defend-

ing hon. members of this Legislature. It is money which is raised from the people of this Colony: and when we do not know, we cannot explain it to the people. The Minister has said that we are going to buy "Wanstead" at £300 an acre. The policy to acquire the Trafalgar Hotel, Fairy Valley Plantation and "The Mount" also came before us. These other things could have been set out in the Addendum. Do not take it for granted that you can tell hon. members about that, I say that they should have been set out in the Addendum, and this is not good enough for any Legislature I would like to hear other hon. members on this. All of that should have been set out in the Addendum. If the Government agrees on a policy, it is their policy. They have been elected to run the Government. They are elected to run the country for a given period and, therefore, there is nothing which they are subjected to.
3.55 p.m.

Why do you allow hon. members to wring it out of you? The Hon. Minister should see that those persons who are responsible for preparing the Addendum to this Resolution should set out clearly what the Hon. Minister has actually told us today. The Minister should see that the Addendum is actually a part of the Resolution. We are passing a Resolution which gives power to the Government to complete the purchase of a portion of land at Wanstead Plantation and also to meet the cost of purchasing land, but the Addendum does not specifically say what portion of land it is. It speaks about their buying a part of Wanstead Plantation and it goes on to say also to meet the cost of land which may be acquired during the remainder of the financial year. The Hon. Minister has mentioned Fairy Valley Plantation The Mount and other places; but next month the Minister might come in here and say: "You sat down here and gave us the authority to buy land", and that land may be bought anywhere. I counsel the Hon. Minister to have these Addenda made or set out so clearly that they will disarm the Opposition and the Resolution will go through quite easily. Even the fellow travellers would be forced to say that there is no opposition because you do not oppose things to suit some people.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, I will not say very much more on this Resolution, but the Hon. Minister may think that I am a member of his Party. Sir, I am not a member of His Party and I therefore do not know what they have decided upon. I do not mind whatever nitwit I am, but I must tell the hon. member....

A MEMBER: The hon. member never accused the hon. junior member for St. Joseph of being a nitwit.

Mr. SMITH: Well, Sir, that is the way in which he has put it.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: On a point of order. Mr. Chairman, I said nothing of the kind. The hon. member accused the Government of being a nitwit or appearing to be one. I said that the Government had no such ambition. I went on to say that, in some cases, some hon. members make it unnecessary for us to accuse them of being nitwits because they do that for themselves. If the hon. member wants to pull the strings he may do so. I merely generalised. I merely want to say that in relation to every piece of information for which the hon. member has asked today, he gave the answer to it himself in the course of a long speech in this House on the same matter.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, I asked for information; I asked for what I wanted to know. I heard the Minister say £300 an acre too, but as I said, Sir, if you read this Addendum they could do without bringing down this Resolution and they could say 600 acres at £300 an acre. They could have said so much for Fairy Valley, so much for The Mount and so much for Trafalgar Hotel, and I would not have had to ask for anything. If the hon. member is asking for money to meet the cost of land which will be acquired by the Government during the remainder of the financial year and I give him the O.K. to buy this land, and he even wanted to buy my land, he could do that because I have given him the O.K. to do it. I heard what the hon. member said, but how much are they paying for these places? I do not want to re-open any question about Wanstead at all because my question has been answered today. If I had not made a big noise in here in relation to Wanstead they would have 25 acres of land with which to play.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: On a point of order. Mr. Chairman, I object to that in the most strenuous terms. That is the most brazen misstatement I have ever heard in this House; it is a complete distortion. I am nothing to do with the hon. member's speech. The burden of the hon. member's speech was that we should pay the owner of this land more money for it. In other words, with the houses built on the land then, it would have cost us more. The hon. member's speech had nothing to do with our policy in this matter. He and his Government had refused the owner of this land permission to develop the land, and I do not see how it is that four years after the hon. member's Government refused the owner permission to develop the land, he could be so kind as to come in here and give this advice to us. Why did he not advise his Government?

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, I am still saying that if I had not made that noise, the hon. member would not know what would happen. The Hon. Minister might not know what would happen and I would not say it on the floor of this House. I know the hitch in this matter; I know the meaning of that 25 acres of land and I would ask the hon. member not to press me to it. That matter has been finished; but if I did not say something about this matter. *(ASIDES)* The Minister does not know as much about this matter as I know. What does he know about it. I doubt that the hon. member has read the Addendum to this Resolution. If he had read this Addendum, he would either have asked the person responsible for it to make it more explanatory or he wanted to throw sand in our eyes. If a nitwit can understand it, what do you think about the hon. member? I am sure that the hon. member is not a fool. All I am asking the Government to do is to consider us as members on this side of the Table. No matter how many fools there are over here, they should not be treated with disrespect.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, I do not want to prolong this discussion, but I do want to set the record straight. The hon. member says that if he had not made a noise in here, we do not know what would have happened. Well, Sir, if the hon. member had not made a noise in here, we would not have heard that noise. That is all that would have happened. It is sheer sound and fury, signifying nothing. The hon. member has said that I should not press him. I am not pressing him.
4.05 p.m.

If he knows of one single item in connection with this issue which could throw any aspersions on any member of the Government, I invite him to repeat them here today. Any allegation he wants to make, let him make. All these semi-insinuations and indirect accusations and oblique references are only for the soap-box, but they have no place in here. The hon. junior member for St. Joseph knows as well as the world that the debate he made in this Chamber on this matter some time previously only referred to the fact that in his opinion the Government was acquiring this land for housing, and was not paying Mr. Morris enough for it. I repeat that the Government could not pay Mr. Morris more than it paid for adjacent land for the same purpose; but since he applied years before for permission to develop part of the estate, and the hon. member's Government had refused, all we did was to give him permission to develop the part he wanted to develop. The hon. member knows that Mr. Morris went so far as to put up a gasolene station on that land, and could not even operate the gasolene station because his Government refused to give him permission to develop after it was there.

Mr. SMITH: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, the hon. member is misleading this Committee in what he says about the gasolene station on this land.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: The hon. member knows full well that that is only a red herring. "On that land" is a misstatement, but it was the same Mr. Morris who put a gasolene station at Redman's Village and was not allowed to operate it by his Government after it was erected.

There are two other things I want to say. The Legislature - both Houses - have adopted the principle of giving the Government a blank cheque for the purpose of land acquisition. The hon. member sat down here when we passed it and agreed to the inclusion under agriculture of $1/2 million to the Government for land acquisition. The same blank cheque he talked about today he agreed to when we passed the Estimates, and you cannot, I finally submit, come down to the Legislature and make public the price the Government intends to pay for land before the negotiations are completed. If we are negotiating for Fairy Valley, Spencers, The Mount and Trafalgar Hotel, how on earth could we come here before and say what we are going to pay for it when the price is under arbitration? I do not know what he is talking about when he says that we should put an outside limit on the amount we intend to pay when nobody knows the amount, and the Government would be the damnest nitwit to say what it intends to pay when the question is under arbitration between the negotiators for the Government and the owner of the land. If the hon. member was going to buy a property adjacent to his business place for extension purposes and he and the owner were negotiating for the cheapest price, is he going to tell the people in Bridgetown what he intends to pay for it? I repeat, Sir, that every single place mentioned today which the Government intends to acquire, this House has already been informed about. We have discussed them already in here, and the House has given us permission to resort to compulsory acquisition if it becomes essential.

We assume, Mr. Chairman, that hon. members really keep in touch with what they have done, and we do not want to burden either them or the printers or anybody by repeating information which they have had in detail, and in respect of which a mere tickle of the memory would refresh their minds.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, I do not want to prolong this debate, but I must take issue with the hon. member. I agree with him that you cannot set out the amount you are going to pay for the simple reason that if you go to compulsory acquisition it may end before the Supreme Court; but do not let the hon. member think that because he came here and said that they want to buy Fairy Valley, the Trafalgar Hotel and other places compulsorily that that is enough excuse to say that the Addendum has been properly prepared. If the matter goes to compulsory acquisition and the two sides disagree, it may then go to the Supreme Court, and the Government even has the right to abandon the land after they have acquired it and taken over. The hon. member is bound to agree that the Addendum is part of the Resolution especially when you are passing it here; and if you set out here "to meet the cost of land", all I say is that you should have specified the land - and I challenge anybody, no matter what his Parliamentary experience is, to deny that. You do not have to put in any amount so long as you are going to compulsory acquisition, but you should have set out the actual names of the places which you intend to buy; otherwise we do not call it a blank cheque. If tomorrow, or next year for that matter, the Government decided that the five acres below The Mount were necessary to be bought, there is nothing to prevent them in this Resolution from purchasing that land, because this says nothing about Trafalgar Hotel or Fairy Valley. We do not expect him to get up in public and criticise his Civil Servants, but there is something wrong in this Addendum since it is part of the Resolution. I agree that under the Land Acquisition Act, if you agree in a private treaty the price you are paying for a property, you would set out the amount; but according to this, you can go any place and buy land - and the Hon. Minister knows that is correct.

Mr. Chairman, the fact that one does not get up in here all the time and blow off does not mean you do not have some Parliamentary experience and knowledge. I know about Fairy Valley and Trafalgar Hotel, because it is in my line of business. There is a portion of land next to Seawell which I happen to know about professionally, but it is not for me to come here and talk about it from that point of view. I know of Spencers and of the Trafalgar Hotel in my business, and therefore the Addendum which is part of the Resolution should have the areas which you are going to buy.

4.15 p.m.

I think the hon. junior member for St. Joseph would appreciate that. As a matter of fact, you should come in with a plan and pass it around for hon. members to see. The right thing for the Government to do is to come in here with a plan and pass it around to hon. members of this House, and the Hon. Leader of the House knows that too. I am suggesting now that in future you must put in a plan. The Hon. Leader of the House knows very well that that was always what was demanded and, as a matter of fact, he demanded it. Let us see a plan of what you are buying.

Sir, while I actually agree that you cannot put the actual price, this Addendum is not clear and the Hon. Leader of the House knows that too. Talk it out! I will talk it out for a long time until everybody gets tired. The Hon. Minister believes that the sting has gone out of us over here.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE, 1964-65 No. 42

RENTAL OF MACHINES

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, this Resolution is for the token amount of $1.00 and the Addendum states:

It is proposed to enter into an agreement with International Aeradio (Caribbean) Ltd. to meet the following requirements of the Meteorological Office:-

(1) Twenty-four (24) hour unbroken reception of two radio teleprinter meteorological broadcasts from Miami.

(2) Twenty-four (24) hour teleprinter inter office communication with the IAL tape centre at Seawell.

The Equipment to be used is Dual Diversity Terminal and the monthly payment to the company will be $1,077. The agreement will be for five years with a termination liability clause and will provide for the procurement and installation of the Capital Equipment and for the routine and "On Call" maintenance and provision of necessary spares from a holding stock.

It will take approximately six months from the date of firm requirement to implement the service on account of deliveries of Capital Equipment. Token provision of $1 is accordingly required in order that International Aeradio (Caribbean) Ltd. may be able to order the equipment.

This Resolution really is to implement this teleprinter service.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1964-65 No. 45

COMMUNICATIONS

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: This Resolution is to provide the sum of $61,400 for the two reasons set out under Part 11 - Capital - Head 8 - Communications. The first is for the sum of $48,400 for the East Coast Road. Hon. members will recall that we provided the sum of $360,000 for the construction of the East Coast Road during the current financial year. The work has really gone ahead of schedule and we are trying to complete the first stage by Christmas to Cattle Wash; so before Christmas, the road will be completed, much to the satisfaction of the hon. junior member for St. Joseph.

What we are doing is this. The work which we set out to do is finished ahead of schedule and there were one hundred men employed on it. If we do not vote this additional sum, some of these men would have to be sent home. Therefore, we are keeping the men and we are proceeding with the construction of the road to a greater length than what we estimated before. We are also keeping the men employed by so doing.

The other sum of $13,000 is required for the purpose of replacing 26 defective concrete slabs on the runway at Seawell Airport which, at present, are a potential danger to aircraft using the Airport.

I beg to move that the Resolution for the sum of $61,400 do now pass.

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

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, if there is one thing which I can speak *ex cathedra* on is that of unemployment at this particular time of the year. It is felt in the Municipal area and by the Northern and Southern District Councils, too, that if for financial reasons quite a number of people have to be laid off, they must provide work for them, and it certainly throws a strain on them; therefore, I am happy to think that the Government at this stage has brought this Resolution to the House. This is a Resolution to keep employed these one hundred persons. The Hon. Minister says that he cannot hear. I am wondering whether he cannot hear or he does not understand. When we are talking on this side of the Table, he has one ear turned on this side and the other on the other side.

This Addendum is like all the others. Let us take Note 1, for instance. It says:

"Supplementary Provision in the sum of $48,400 is necessary to continue construction of the East Coast Road. Progress on road construction has gone ahead of the programme as originally planned, and it is desirable to proceed with construction and provide employment for approximately 100 men."

It is the duty of members of the Civil Service to write these things correctly. They should know that all persons in here are not all nitwits. You come and say that you want this money to keep in employment about 100 men. You do not employ all men; you employ women too.

Speaking for my own Party, we are happy to think that you have, at this stage, decided, since you are so far ahead of the schedule, that you are voting this money so as to keep in employment people who normally would be out of work.

Sir, I see the hon. junior member for St. Philip looking at me. I know that he would say, too, that people laid off become a strain on the Council to which he belongs. I am glad to see that you are providing for these people so as to tide over the Christmas season.
4.25 p.m.

As to the amount of $13,000 for runway improvements and drainage, I do not think that the hon. member could come quickly enough with this. This amount is required for the purposes of replacing 26 defective concrete slabs on the runway at Seawell Airport, and there is so much danger in having these slabs at the Airport in bad order that I think this work should be started upon immediately, if not sooner. Therefore, I have much pleasure in supporting the Government with this Resolution. Some of us only saw this Resolution for the first time this morning; but if I had seen it for the first time when I came into this House I would support it, because you must find work for people who have been laid off. In spite of the balderdash which people talk, there are still a lot of unemployed people; as a matter of fact, there are hundreds of unemployed people all over this Island. I therefore have much pleasure in supporting this Resolution.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, I will have to say that I do not think that the hon. senior member for St. Philip can blame me for what I am going to say now; but it would seem to me that from Sunday night the Government has begun to think rightly. I received my papers last Saturday and this Resolution was not among them; it came to me only this morning. I therefore only saw it this morning for the first time. I will have to say that from Sunday night the Government has been trying to think rightly, but they have still failed to 'fix it right'. *(Laughter.)* They are now asking for money to carry on the work of the East Coast Road so as to keep 100 persons going. That is good. Rather than send home these men at this time of the year for them to nurse their fingers and look their children in the face and they are full of starvation, the Government is trying to avoid all that. That is very nice. But I am wondering if, in the same way that they have brought down this Resolution providing employment for these 100 men, they will bring down a Resolution to re-employ those people who have been laid off from the Department of Highways and Transport, the Public Works Department and the Housing Authority. It is not that they are laying them off because they do not have work for them to do; they are laying them off because the particular grant has been exhausted. In the same way that the Government is asking us now to provide this money to help these people, the Government can also bring down a Resolution to help these people in order to qualify them to get their Christmas loan. The Government have begun on one side to think rightly but, on the other side, they are not thinking rightly; however, it is not too late for them to do that. In the same way that they have brought down this Resolution so hurriedly, I am appealing to the Hon. Minister who is responsible for it, to circularise us with another Resolution tomorrow afternoon asking us to meet on Thursday and vote some money for the purpose of re-employing those workers from the Department of Highways and Transport, the Public Works Department and the Housing Authority in order that these workers will be able to eat their Christmas dinner in the same way as those other workers who would be employed on the East Coast Road.

Mr. Chairman, it does not appear as if the Government members are listening to what I am saying now, but I hope that if they do not listen they will pay for it. I repeat, Sir, that in the same way as I was circularised with this Resolution last night asking me to deal with it today, the Government can circularise us with another Resolution asking us to come in here on Thursday and vote some money for the people who have been laid off so that they will be in a position to get some money to provide themselves with their Christmas dinner.

Mr. COWARD: Mr. Chairman, I think it would be my duty to rise on the floor of this House and compliment the Government in bringing down this Resolution to this House. This is a Resolution which is for the purpose of assisting those persons who would normally be out of work during the Holiday Season. I always like to give praise where praise is due and, rather than the Government be criticised in this connection, I feel that they should be complimented.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, before the hon. senior member for Christ Church replies to the remarks of the hon. junior member for St. Joseph, I only want to refer to this nonsense which we heard about Sunday night. All that I know happened on Sunday night was that there were Church Services taking place - and I do hope that, for the good of his soul, the hon. junior member for St. Joseph went to some Church Service on Sunday night. However, Sir, with regard to this Resolution, on the 26th November, the Permanent Secretary to the Hon. Minister of Communications and Works sent the Minister a note informing him of what had happened to the work on the East Coast Road, and before the Hon. Minister went to Trinidad, at a special Meeting of the Cabinet on Tuesday morning last week he asked me to take charge of this matter for him when the Cabinet would consider it finally at a meeting on Friday. Before the Hon. Minister left for Trinidad, he had the formal approval by the Cabinet of the matter. This matter was before the Cabinet since Tuesday of last week and finally approved by the Cabinet on Friday. It had nothing to do with Sunday night; as I said, all that took place on Sunday night were Church Services.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, before you put the question, I think that the public should be given some explanation of this matter for fear of the misleading statements which have been made, being effective. I would like to say that all that the Hon. Leader of the House has said is in order, and that the matter was dealt with, not on Sunday night, but since last week when I had the approval to bring down this Resolution before the Cabinet met and decided it finally on Friday.
4.35 p.m.

This matter has been under very active consideration for the last few weeks. Now, I also want to let the hon. member know that this is separate and distinct from the East Coast Road project which is the subject matter of part of this Resolution, and we intend to proceed with it as quickly as we can in order to complete the first phase of the work which is as far as Cattlewash, not only for the enjoyment and benefit of the local public at large, but also for the tourists and for the reaping of canes in the crop season. It is for that reason that the money which normally would have been sufficient to last until the end of December or probably later has been exhausted through employing a greater number of workers. We have been working from both ends, that is, both from the Belleplaine end and from the Cattlewash end in trying to expedite the work to get the first phase completed before Christmas, and we have therefore to come for this supplementary vote.

Apart from this East Coast Road which employs a great number of men, there are many other projects which have been approved and for which the actual money has been released. There are eight or nine tenantries for which money is available and in the hands of the Director of Highways and Transport to implement and start work on these roads, and I will let the hon. member know a few to establish the *bona fides*. As far as tenantry roads for which provision has been made are concerned and which will be commenced - work has actually commenced on some of them - since we are continuing a programme of employing more people, they are Parish Gap, Westbury Road; Whartons Gap, Baxters Road; Rock Gap, Baxters Road; Kingston Terrace; King Street, St. Andrew; there is one in St. Thomas, one in Parris Hill, St. Joseph, and two or three others island-wide for which provision has been made and money has actually been released; so that quite a number of our people can be employed. I gave specific directions only yesterday to see that at least another 150 people - additional - are employed in order to give some of them some little assistance at Christmas time. The hon. member must not presume that he alone has that amount of sympathy for the working class. He must remember that others fought for years and have the same Christian sympathy for the working class as he may have; so that as far as the workers are concerned we are seeing to it not only that none is left out and rendered unemployed, but an additional 150 will be employed who have never worked at all.

As far as the Public Works Department is concerned, there is no one, strictly speaking, who can be considered blameworthy. There are certain delays in that Department by virtue mainly of the land acquisition on which the project is to be placed. These are matters for the Legal Department which we are trying to expedite, but there are certain matters which are held up whether in the Ministry of Education in the acquisition of land for siting school buildings or extensions to school buildings, or in the Ministry of Health and Housing for conversion of infirmaries to children's homes, or for building public conveniences; so in that Department, I admit that for one reason or another there are disappointments, but we have had recent meetings on matters affecting the Public Works, and there will be no laying off in the Public Works Department in that other projects are being commenced. There is the extension of schools and school wings at St. Luke's and two other schools, then there is another one at St. John the Baptist, where the acquisition of the land is causing some delay; but there are projects in the Public Works Department also which are being started and for which plans have been approved only within the last few days in order to expedite that work and to have continuity of programme. I want the hon. member to realise that we are examining every project which can be started, and insisting that they be started in order that no man or woman who may be working in either of these Departments may be laid off, and so that continuity of service will be given so that they will not only enjoy a weekly wage for the greater portion of the year, but qualify for the Christmas loan to which they are legally and lawfully entitled.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, I have to thank the Minister for mentioning the Public Works Department and the Highways and Transport Department, but I believe he has forgotten the Housing Authority. I wonder if anything could be done with those workers who have been laid off.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: In so far as the Housing Authority is concerned, again that is engaging the attention of the Cabinet, and quite recently, last Tuesday to be exact, the whole question of housing was being re-examined and reviewed, and the employment situation is being carefully examined. The result of that meeting, to make a long story short, is that about $360,000 were released last Tuesday and more people have been employed even than what we had at the time when some of them were laid off. However, all have been re-employed and we are building 50 houses right now.

The question that the Resolution for the sum of $61,400 do now pass was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE 1964-65 No. 44

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, this Resolution for the sum of $58,260, as you will note, includes the sum of $27,210 for the new Public Records Office, and $31,050 for the new Fire Service Station in the parish of St. John. You will note, Sir, that the Government has recently acquired the services of an archivist, Mr. Chandler, in connection with the preservation of public records, and it is proposed to renovate certain buildings at the Lazaretto as a Public Records Office. The estimated cost of renovations to these buildings and of providing the necessary furniture, fittings and equipment is $27,210. It will be recalled that in the Estimates we had a token provision of $1.00 included for this purpose, because we were not then aware of what would be involved. We did not know the area of buildings required, the estimate for repairs or the equipment, fittings and furniture needed.

Now that the archivist is here and has been able to supply the details, it is estimated that the estimated provision required is the amount asked for under this Item.
4.45 p.m.

We have this information supplied in detail and it is estimated that the supplementary provision required is the amount asked for.

With regard to the Fire Station, this Fire Station would serve the parishes of St. John, St. Philip, St. Joseph - we cannot afford to have the home of the hon. junior member for St. Joseph destroyed by fire - then, the southern portion of St. Andrew and the eastern portion of St. George. What we intend to do is to do away with the Police Station at Four Roads since there is one not far away at District "C"; St. Philip. We are going to convert the building at Four Roads into a Fire Station, and the policing of the area formerly served by the police at Four Roads will be served by the police at District "C" Station. Therefore, there would be no longer a police station at Four Roads, St. John.

The cost of the conversion of the Police Station is $10,500, Furniture $450, and two lightweight fire appliances $20,100 which make a total of $31,050. We are doing this so that this part of the island would not have to depend on fire fighting equipment from Bridgetown to journey a long way to this part of the country where a fire may occur.

It is found that the District "C" Police Station can adequately service the two areas and it is found more important to provide against hazards of cane fires and other

fires. Government therefore proposes to the Legislature that the amount in this Resolution be voted in order to carry through these two projects.

I beg to move that this Resolution for the sum of $58,260 do now pass.

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

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, as regards a Resolution of this sort, I would have to say that the Government is thinking in the right direction.

When it comes to fires, we all know what happened during the last crop season. I want to know if the Government is taking a serious view and is trying to do something, if possible to prevent so many cane fires. If we cannot prevent the cane fires, we should see to it that we can catch up with the culprits who are responsible for the lighting of these fires.

I feel that the Government should think about that now you are about to put a fire station at Four Cross Roads. The Government should think in terms of getting some special private constables at least for the crop season and post them all around in plain clothes so that the culprit would not know who is who. They should post them all around the cart roads and let them do some patrol work. The mere thought that you have private people as inspectors or acting as fire preventors would prevent one who would like to draw a match from doing so, even at his home.

Now that you are going to spend this money to erect a Fire Station at Four Roads, St. John and to put firemen and fire appliances there, that still cannot prevent your solving the trouble which we had this crop season; but I am sure, if Government thinks in terms of some private constables patrolling the area at night and even during the day and employs so many that they can change off one another, that will help. Let it be as private as possible. You should try to keep the names of these persons as far as possible from the public so that the public would not know who is who. I feel by so doing, we would solve the problem.

Mr. Chairman, I hope the Hon. Minister would give it a thought, and rather than post a policeman or two at District "C", get special constables who can go through the canefields and cart roads and see if they can catch up with those who are responsible for catching these fires.

Mr. YEARWOOD: Mr. Chairman, I must compliment the Government for attending as quickly as this to such an important issue as putting a Fire Station in St. John. It was long felt that a fire station should be in that area, and if for nothing more than preventing the cane fires which we had last year.

I am sure that the Government would be complimented by all those who have the economy of the Island at their interest.

The Four Roads Police sub-Station has really served a very useful purpose to people in that area and it is felt that the removal of it will create some little burden on the people, especially in registering their births and deaths because they would have to journey to District "C" when it is removed; but, on the other hand, I am very happy to know that the Fire Station is situated there. The people in the area would have less to think of; and during the crop season, when there are so many cane fires, I know that the Government would go all out to track down the people who are ruining the industry. Again, Sir, I congratulate the Government for bringing this Resolution down.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: Sir, the hon. junior member for St. Joseph talked about what procedure the Government should be taking to protect the sugar industry from cane fires such as what we had last year. I do not think there is any member in this House who would not vividly remember the Tuesday afternoon that the hon. junior member for St. George made clear statements in this House that the entire Island was rebelling against this Government's term of office and that was the reason why we were having so many cane fires. From that afternoon, it can be clearly seen what happened. The cane fires reduced considerably. I would like to bring that clearly to the attention of the hon. member.

Sir, I do not think there is any necessity for watchmen, plain clothes constables or any other people to watch for cane fires. There was a clear admission in this House by the hon. junior member for St. George that Tuesday afternoon: and after that admission was made, the cane fires were reduced considerably.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, I do not quite understand the Hon. Minister.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: He was just refreshing the hon. member's memory.

Mr. SMITH: It is true to say that after that Tuesday afternoon the number of cane fires reduced.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The Hon. Minister said that after that admission was made, the fires reduced considerably. 4.55 p.m.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: On a point of order. I did not say that there were no more fires. What I said was that they were considerably reduced, and the records will show that.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, if the canes had already been burnt, the fires would have to be reduced because there would not be anything more to be burnt. It would appear to me as if the Hon. Minister wants to make sport or he is accusing some individual for the occurrence of these cane fires. If it is like that, Sir, then he has the whole thing in his hands. He is making the case much easier and he should be able to catch up with things. If he is correct, then he has the bull by the horns. While I am on my feet, as to the point which has been raised by the hon. junior member for St. John about the creation of a hardship on the people in that area by doing away with the Police Sub-Station, I hope that the Government went into the figures and found out how many cases were reported there so that they would not be creating any hardship on these people. There would be nothing to prevent them from erecting a fire station in the area and still carry on with the Police substation, even if the staff were reduced or all were put under one control. It would be hard on people in having to walk from Vneture, for instance, to District "C" to report a case or make a complaint, and I hope the Government will see that the registration of Births and Deaths will still go on at this Station. Do not let us do anything to create any undue hardship on the people up there.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, I want to assure hon. members that the Government has gone very carefully into the question of Police protection for the area. There has been considerable investigation on the part of the Police Commissioner at the request of the Government, and a Report was prepared and discussed by the Central Planning Committee before the final submissions were sent to the Cabinet. What we are doing, Sir, simultaneously with the conversion, in order to facilitate the Police at District "C", is to provide an additional Land Rover so that the Police up there can traverse these districts more often and the Fire Officer in St. John will be required to relay messages from Four Roads to District "C". In other words, the Land Rover will be at District "C" for the purpose of providing motor transport for the Police to traverse the area more often. There will be a Fire Station at Four Roads and the Fire Officer in charge there is required to receive requests for Police assistance and he will relay these messages to District "C". Although the Fire Station will be at Four Roads primarily, they will still be expected to take calls for Police assistance and to relay these messages by wireless to the St. Philip Station. The hon. junior member for St. John can rest assured that before the change was decided upon, every angle of the question of proper police protection for the area was gone into before the final decision was made as to whether or not the present Police Station should be converted into a Fire Sta-

tion. The records show that the people in the area will suffer no loss with regard to police protection by the conversion of the Police post at Four Roads into a Fire Station.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE 1964-65 No. 43

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, the next Resolution is a Resolution to place the sum of $72,870 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1964-65 Part 1, Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimate 1964-65 No. 43, which forms the Schedule to the Resolution. This Resolution, Sir, is under three Heads of the Estimates and I propose to deal with them separately.

HEAD 19 — FIRE SERVICE

Head 19 — Fire Service — was called.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Head 19 stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

HEAD 2 —PREMIER — CABINET AND GENERAL

Head 22 — Premier — Cabinet and General — was called.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: I beg to move, Mr. Chairman, that Head 22 stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

HEAD 32 — HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT

Head 32 — Highways and Transport — was called.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Head 32 stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that a Resolution for the sum of $72,870 do now pass.

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

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

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

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

5.05 p.m.

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

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I think at this stage we will have a short break.

I beg to move that this sitting be now suspended until 5.30 p.m.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: 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.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I observe that there is no quorum, and ask that the Bell be rung.

Mr. SPEAKER: I thank the hon. member for drawing it to my attention. Mr. Deputy Clerk, let the Bell be rung.

The Bell was rung and a quorum obtained.

THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES PENSIONS (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS, 1964

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the next Order of the Day be the Resolution entitled "The Public Employees Pensions (Amendment) Regulations, 1964".

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

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

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, this Resolution seeks to give legislative approval to the Regulations entitled "The Public Employees Pensions (Amendment) Regulations, 1964" made by the Cabinet on the 4th day of December, 1964 under the provisions of Section 3 of the Public Employees Pensions Act, 1961 (1961-47). The amendment seeks to bring the Public Employees Pensions Regulations, 1961, closer in line with the Pensions Act, 1947-20, with respect to the counting of pensionable service, including probationary service, and reciprocity regarding the payment of proportionate pension or gratuity between Central and Local Government.

Basically, Sir, Regulation 5 (4a) of the Local Government Pensions Regulations, 1961, makes provision whereby the Council responsible for the pension and gratuity to be granted to an officer who is transferred from a pensionable office in the public service into a post in the Government Service, shall be entitled to demand from Central Government a contribution in respect of such pension or gratuity based on the proportion which the officer's public service bears to his total public and local government service. The Pensions Act, 1947, makes no provision for reciprocity in this connection, and consequently under similiar conditions the Central Government cannot demand a contribution from the Local Government Councils. Whereas the Local Government Council can demand a contribution in respect of pension or gratuity from the Central Government, the Central Government legally has no power to request reciprocity under similar circumstances, and therefore, Sir, it is considered that the Pensions Act, 1947, should be amended to reciprocate provision of proportionate pension contribution.
5.45 p.m.

This Resolution seeks to provide the appropriate amendment.

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.

THE CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT (GENERAL) (AMENDMENT) (NO. 12) ORDER, 1964.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I am asking for leave to deal with the Resolution to approve the Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) (No. 12) Order, 1964.

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

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, this Resolution is to approve the Order entitled the Civil Establishment(General) (Amendment) (No. 12) Order, 1964, and as the Addendum sets out, the Order seeks to provide for the following adjustments in the establishment structure. We are asking to increase the number of posts at the Post Office by one Assistant Supervisor at the salary of $3,096 to $3,960; two Long Grade Clerks at $1,200 to $2,832; one Postman at $1,128 to $1,896; and two Porters, at $1,056 to $1,200.

By the Convention of the Universal Postal Union Congress – which supersedes local legislation – the onus for transporting outgoing and incoming surface mail to and from ships rests on the Post Office. This duty was placed, however, on the local steamship agents by section 21 of the Post Office Act, 1911, and by section 18 of the Trade Act, 1910 (now repealed).

The steamship principals have been protesting regularly against this local practice – which is contrary to the terms of the Convention – and are likely to discontinue it. It is proposed that the Government should assume the responsibility for transporting the mail. The present complement of staff will be unable to cope with the additional duties and therefore additional staff is required.

So far as the Public Library is concerned, this Resolution seeks provision of additional posts for the new Branch Library in St. John. Provision is made for one Assistant Librarian at the salary scale of $1,200 to $2,832 and one Clerical Assistant at $1,128 to $1,896; and the bracketing of the grades of Assistant Librarian and Senior Assistant Librarian.

This provision is recommended in an effort to retain the services of Assistant Librarians who qualify as Associates of the Library Association (A.L.A.). It will make such officers eligible for transfer as Senior Assistant Librarians whenever vacancies occur. At no time will there be more than five (5) posts of Senior Assistant Librarian.

The third matter relates to Customs. The adjustment in the number of posts of Messenger is designed to correct an omission in the Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) (No. 4) Order, 1961. No additional expenditure is involved.

I beg to move that the Resolution do now pass.

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

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

THE CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT (GENERAL) (AMENDMENT) (NO.11) ORDER, 1964

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker; the next Resolution which I am asking leave to deal with is the Resolution to approve the Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) (No. 1) Order, 1964.

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

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, this Resolution is to approve the Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) (No. 11) Order, 1964.

The Order seeks to provide for an increase in the establishment of the Fire Service Department by -

2 new posts of Divisional Officer	$4,200-4,872
1 additional post of Sub-Officer	$3,240
1 additional post of Leading Fireman	$2,520-2,760
7 posts of Fireman	$1,200-2,520

The creation of the posts of Divisional Officer is based on the recommendation of the 1961 Salaries Commissioner to meet the need for the maintenance of a higher level of supervision at fires and to strengthen the Fire Prevention and Inspection Section of the Fire Service.

It is proposed to close the Four Roads Police Station and convert the building into a Fire Station to serve the parishes of St. John, St. Philip, St. Joseph, the southern portion of St. Andrew and the eastern portion of St. George, thereby eliminating the long journey from the headquarters station to these areas. The above posts, excluding Divisional Officer, are required to operate the new station.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

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

5.55 p.m.

RESOLUTION *re* ADDITIONAL POSTS OF SCRUBBER AND CLEANER FOR FIRE SERVICE DEPARTMENT

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, the next Resolution with which I am asking leave to deal is a Resolution relating to the provision of additional posts of Scrubber and Cleaner for the Fire Service Department, consequent upon the proposal to convert the Four Roads Police Station into a Fire Station.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member is asking leave to deal with a Resolution to provide additional Non-Established posts of Scrubber and Cleaner for the Fire Service Department. If there is no objection, leave will be granted the hon. member. *(AFTER A PAUSE)* There being no objection, leave is granted the hon. member.

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

RESOLVED that on a date to be appointed by His Excellency the Governor and published in the *Official Gazette*, the annual emoluments and the number of posts appearing opposite to the Non-Established posts set out in the Schedule hereto be as shown in the said Schedule.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker; this Resolution seeks the approval of the House that on a date to be appointed by His Excellency the Governor and published in the *Official Gazette*, the annual emoluments and the number of posts appearing opposite to the Non-Established posts set out in the Schedule hereto be as shown in the said Schedule. Then the Addendum to the Resolution sets out the position as follows:-

This Resolution seeks to provide an additional non-established post of Scrubber and Cleaner for the Fire Service Department consequent on the proposal to convert the Four Roads Police Station into a Fire Station.

The salary scale is set out in the Schedule, namely, $840 per annum. I beg to move that this Resolution 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.

HIGHWAYS (AMENDMENT) BILL

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I am asking leave that Order No. 5 on today's Order Paper be taken as the next Order of the Day.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member is asking leave to proceed with Order No. 5 on the Order Paper for today under Government Business as the next Order of the Day. If there is no objection, leave will be granted the hon. member. *(After a pause).* There being no objection, leave is granted. That Order is to move the second reading of a Bill to amend the Highways Act, 1900. The hon. member may proceed.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: As the "Objects and Reasons" set set out, this Bill seeks to amend section 32A of the Highways Act, 1900, 1900-5, (which section is contained in the amending Act 1960-1) in order to make further provision in respect of the control of funeral processions. As hon. members will remember, in consequence of the density of the population and the density of the traffic, our narrow streets no longer permit us to accomodate funeral processions taking place between 4 p.m and 5 p.m. in the afternoon as before. These funeral processions are causing a certain amount of obstruction and congestion. Some time ago, I think it was in 1960, the undertakers in the island were asked by the Police Department to discuss the matter, and certain discussions were held. It was agreed that in future the Undertakers would notify the Police whenever a funeral was to take place. This agreement has been honoured and it has been working fairly satisfactorily, in that the Undertakers from time to time have co-operated with the Police in this respect.

Section 32 of the Highways Act, 1900, 1900-5 as amended by the Highways Act, 1960, makes it unlawful for any person to take part in any march or procession along any highway or in any public place except in accordance with the terms of a permit granted by the Commissioner of Police. This amendment deals not only with a funeral procession, but also with a march or procession on the streets. In order to carry on any procession or march in the street, it was necessary to procure a permit from the Police. This amendment or amending Bill says that any person who desires a permit shall apply in writing to the Commisioner of Police for such permit, in the case of a funeral procession at least six hours before the hour at which the procession is to commence, and in the case of a march or a procession other than a funeral procession, at least three days before the day in respect of which such permit is desired.

Hon. members will therefore see that this amendment deals not only with funeral processions but also with other processions in so far as marches on the street are concerned. As to the funeral processions, the requisition is now being made that the Act should be amended so that application should be made to the Commissioner of Police at least six hours before a procession is to take place, and the Commissioner of Police has to lay down the conditions in the permit. In deciding what conditions should be laid down, the Commissioner of Police would aim at discouraging any long procession in the streets and that a funeral procession should not normally comprise more than twelve vehicles. If more than twelve vehicles are assembled at a funeral home, the procession should be broken into small processions, each of which should comprise not more than twelve vehicles.
6.05 p.m.

I am just giving the House an idea of what would be operating in the Commissioner's mind in order to try and avoid congestion. It is along these lines that he probably will function, but this is really an amendment to the Highways Act so that as far as funeral processions are concerned, there will be less confusion and congestion of traffic on the road. In so far as processions and marches are concerned, they will be conducted in a more orderly manner. It is not a question of preventing people from attending funerals as such. No one is trying to prevent or eradicate funeral processions or do anything to hinder them; but what we are doing is to make it possible for funeral processions to be more orderly conducted and give greater ease of traffic on the highways between 4 o'clock and 5 o'clock in the afternoon when funeral processions usually take place. We are asking the Undertakers to cooperate with the police as they have done in the past, and by so doing it will be a step in the right direction, owing to the fact that our roads are extremely narrow and are cluttered up in the afternoon between 3 o'clock and 5 o'clock when the stores are closing. I do not think there is any point further that I need explain.

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

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

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I do not understand the section which is supposed to be inserted in this Act. Now, Sir, it reads as follows:-

"Any person who desires a permit as aforesaid shall apply in writing to the Commissioner of Police for such permit, such application to be made (a) in the case of a funeral procession , at least six hours before the hour at which the procession is to commence."

I am wondering, Sir, if this applies to the rural districts too or only to the City. Let us take St. Lucy, for instance, which is the farthest parish out, and a funeral is to be conducted this afternoon. If the undertaker gets the job around 2 o'clock or 3 o'clock and has to make the burial almost immediately, he has to apply in writing to the Commissioner of Police who lives in St. Michael. How could one get permission from the Commissioner of Police to travel along the street with the corpse.

Mr. Speaker, I am a bit worried about the explanation given by the Hon. Introducer of the Bill, because he mentioned something about over twelve vehicles or more or less. How are you going to conduct a funeral in the City if it has 100 or 200 vehicles. If you mentioned twelve vehicles, you would have to send off the first twelve, and when you think that number has arrived at the Cemetery, then you would send off another twelve. I asked you not long ago not to let us make it harder for the people to get along in this small country of ours. We were having funeral processions from creation, and I have never yet heard that anything went wrong with them by way of the traffic, other than that you get a traffic jam.

Mr. Speaker, there is a traffic jam every morning between the hours of nine and ten when there is no funeral; and if you want to be in a traffic jam, you can go by Jemmotts Lane next to the Hospital where there are no stop lights and the cars are coming into Bridgetown from Christ Church. Sometimes you are there for half an hour. There are also traffic jams from Broad Street all the way up between 3.30 p.m. and 4. p.m., and there is no funeral procession at the time. I do not know who is responsible for trying to put the blame on funeral processions, but I was told that the Commissioner of Police was held up in a traffic jam with a funeral somewhere by the Moravian Church, and from then I heard that he was very active in trying to prevent such traffic jams. Now hon. members have to be very careful not to swallow every pill that a Head of Department put into their mouths. I am not convinced yet by the Hon. Introducer as to what is really responsible for this amendment to the Highways Act. If you want to get away from traffic jams, you would have to ban all the traffic; but do not try to blame funeral processions. We must learn to respect the dead; and if we are anywhere and a corspe is passing, we must line up and wait until it has passed.

I was told, Sir, that the Commissioner of Police at some meeting wanted funerals to be directed a little earlier in the afternoon. The Hon. Introducer said that the undertakers met. I am a small undertaker myself and I was never invited to a meeting. I do not know if it is because I am not one of the big ones that I was not considered, but I should have been invited to the meeting, and for that reason the present Bill should go to a Select Committee and let us go into it thoroughly. I do not see the necessity for hurrying this Bill through. The Hon. Minister should take what I have said into consideration, and send this to a Select Committee, and let us get a few undertakers to go into this question.
6.15 p.m.

In other words, I do not see the necessity for their laying the blame on the funerals. They have only brought in a march 'just for so'. A march is a different thing. You cannot get away from a funeral. Why should we now go and try to make it much harder on the bereaved or the person who is burying a corpse by amending this Act?

The Hon. Minister mentioned, if a funeral procession consists of more than twelve cars, how the funeral procession would have to proceed; but he did not say how one which has two hundred cars would proceed. What would happen to that? It would make me to understand that they would conduct that in stages. That is how I feel about it.

The Hon. Minister did not go far enough. All of that would have to be taken into consideration, and the best place to do that would not be on the floor of the House but at a meeting of a Select Committee. I would also like to know if this applies to funeral processions in the country in the same way as it would in Bridgetown. Would these people have to place this in writing six hours before?

Now, Sir, who is to make this application? In the first place, the corpse does not belong to the Undertaker. I feel that the onus should be placed on the person to whom the corpse belongs and not on the Undertaker, because the job of the Undertaker is only to supply the casket and the coach. I heard someone said "and the corpse too." But the Undertaker does not supply the corpse. Along with the casket and the coach, he may have to supply the necessary cars which are being ordered for the funeral. It is not the Undertaker's funeral; therefore, it should not be the Undertaker's duty to apply in writing. The onus should not be on him, but on the person who in truth and in fact is responsible for the funeral.

Those things should be ironed out. Such things are not stated here in this Bill. This Bill only states: "Any person who desires,...' That is the question. Is it the undertaker's desire?

Sir, I feel for those reasons that the Hon. Minister should not press ahead with the passing of this Bill at this stage and I appeal to him for our own safeguard to agree that it be sent to a Select Committee so as to let us iron out these points. Do not take the recommendation from the Commissioner of Police only. I do know that there are traffic blocks at some funerals, but if we do that it will cause him to do things in his way. Representatives of the people should not do anything which would create any undue hardships on the people. I will await the reply of the Hon. Minister, and if I am in order, I will move that this Bill be sent to a Select Committee.

Mr. SPEAKER: Before the hon. member can move that this Bill be sent to a Select Committee, it would have to pass its second reading. No such motion can be made before that is done.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. If I am to be permitted, I am going to adopt the suggestion which the hon. member said that this Bill be sent to a Select Committee. I, too, would like this matter to be investigated although I may say that I was given to understand that the matter was reviewed thoroughly with all the Undertakers. The hon. junior member for St. Joseph said that he never had the opportunity, but I am very surprised to hear him say that. I want to hear the Undertaker's point of view. I was informed when I invited all the Undertakers to my office for discussion on this matter with the Commissioner of Police that they agreed to it.

Mr. SMITH: I was not invited.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: This discussion took place with most of the Undertakers present.

Mr. SPEAKER: May I point out that that is hardly a point of order. It has developed in a speech or a reply. If any hon. member proposes to speak before the hon. senior member for Christ Church exercises his right to reply, he may do so now.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I was not finished. I was awaiting the Hon. Minister after he arose on a point of order.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Minister made his point of order and mentioned something which may have some effect on the hon. member's speech.

Mr. SMITH: The Hon. Minister did say that the Commissioner of Police invited all Undertakers to his office. He did not invite me and I consider that I am one of the best ones. It is very surprising to me that I was not invited. It must be because of some purpose or some reason, and that is why I am appealing to the Hon. Minister to send this Bill to a Select Committee. I am very glad to hear from the Hon. Minister that he agrees with my motion. That shows that you cannot take all that has been written by the Commissioner of Police. I am glad that the Hon. Minister has seen the right light and is going to refer it to a Select Committee.

Mr. LYNCH: Mr. Speaker, this Bill strikes at social life of the people of this country. It is well known to all of us that Barbadians delight in having a lengthy funeral procession and, as a matter of fact, the social and economic status of many a man is judged by the number of cars which follows him on his demise; therefore, we must be very careful in our voting for this Bill without giving the matter due thought.

I had the privilege of attending the funeral of a Barbadian in the City of New York when I was there last, and there were well over one hundred cars following the corpse to its last resting place. I can think of no other place having heavier traffic than New York, and that funeral procession was not driven in any bursts of twelve cars, and it went on uninterrupted. This Bill is going to offend the sensibilities of many people whom we represent here.

Another point which has to be considered is that there will be a definite loss of revenue by this Bill to taxi drivers who would be no longer employed to swell the procession following some popular figure to his grave because people would be saying that if they go to that funeral, they would have to proceed in stages to the cemetery; therefore, it would not be necessary for them to rent a car: it would be better if they meet the funeral at the cemetery.
6.25 p.m.

I can see no reason whatever for our having any crash programme at funerals. In this modernistic age there is no reason whatever why we cannot cast our reflections on the dead body of someone whom we know who is passing to the grave. Therefore, I would like to support my colleague in the proposal that this Bill be referred to a Select Committee so that the opinions of people can be investigated as to whether we should follow this proposal from the official Ministry.

Mr. SPEAKER: If there is no other hon. member who is seeking to contribute to this debate, the hon. senior member for Christ Church may exercise his right of final reply. *(AFTER A PAUSE).* It does not appear as if any other hon. member wants to contribute to this debate, and therefore the hon. senior member for Christ Church may exercise his right of final reply.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I quite appreciate the views expressed by hon. members who have spoken by way of opposition. I would certainly like to know that all the Undertakers have had an opportunity to put forward their points of view and to express what suggestions they may consider desirable. It is for that reason that I am agreeing that this Bill be referred to a Select Committee, in order that the public at large may feel more satisfied that the matter will be fully examined and also that the undertakers who will have to apply for permits will have the privilege of stating their case. The idea, Sir, is not to discourage processions. It is not a question of putting anybody out of bread; it is a question of regulating the traffic to some extent on these narrow streets. It is not a question of putting people out of work; it is a question of the roads being narrow and at that time in the afternoon between 4 p.m. and 5.30 p.m. o'clock in the City streets when the traffic is heavy, there is the proposal to have an easier passage.

Mr. LYNCH: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I never said that there was any intention of putting anybody out of work. The words I used were that this would eventuate in a loss of revenue to the taxi drivers, which is an entirely different thing.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, if your earnings are reduced, that will eventually put you out of pocket. However, Sir, I do not intend to go into the matter any further.

I am saying that it is not a question of making it harder for the taxi-owner to get a living. The intention of this Bill is merely to regulate the traffic in a more orderly fashion than is the case at present. You will find that policemen are at the funeral home and at certain points in order to regulate the traffic. This Bill is merely for the purpose of moving into line with modern-day conditions. It is not a question of causing any harm to any aggrieved family; it is merely for the purpose of seeing that each and every funeral procession will be organized by the Police who will assist in the conduct of the traffic along the street. However, Sir, if hon. members want the opportunity to get all the points of view and to get an expression of a similar point of view to what the Government has in mind, I will not deprive them of that privilege.

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

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I now beg to move that this Bill be now referred to a Select Committee.

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

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

6.35 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: I invite the following hon. members to serve on this Select Committee:

The hon. junior member for St. Joseph; the hon. senior member for St. Thomas; the hon. senior member for St. Michael; the hon. senior member for St. Joseph and the hon. senior member for Christ Church.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask that the hon. senior member for Bridgetown be included on this Committee.

Mr. SPEAKER: I was pondering that in my mind. I am disposed favourably to consider the request, and I now ask the hon. senior member for Bridgetown, the Hon. Leader of the Opposition, if he will also serve on that Committee.

Mr. MOTTLEY: As Your Honour pleases.

Mr. SPEAKER: And the hon. junior member for St. Lucy, the Hon. Minister of Education.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: As Your Honour pleases.

THE POST OFFICE (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) ACT, 1964

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day also stands in the name of the hon. senior member for Christ Church, the Minister of Communications, Works and Housing: to move the second reading of a Bill to amend the Post Office Act, 1911.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, as the Objects and Reasons of the Bill set out, this Bill seeks to replace Section 21 of the Post Office Act, 1911, 1911-8, with a section on the lines of Section 25 of the Post Office Act, 1953 of the United Kingdom. This would remove the onus at present placed on masters of vessels of receiving mail bags at the General Post Office, and a Master's obligation in the matter would extend only to the receipt of mail bags on board his vessel.

This is in connection with the new arrangements which we have entered into whereby the Post Office will deliver their mails at the quay, acquisition of equipment and so on.

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

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

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

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

Clauses 1 and 2 were called and passed.

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

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

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE TEMPORARY ADVANCES *re* GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the Resolution to approve temporary advances *re* Government-owned agricultural enterprises, be the next order of the Day.

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

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

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: Mr. Speaker, pursuant to subsection (1) of section 23 of the Financial Administration and Audit Act, 1964, 1964-23, this is to authorise the Minister of Finance to borrow, by means of temporary advances from a bank or banks an amount not exceeding in the aggregrate the sum of $469,560 to meet current requirements of the Government.

Mr. Speaker, it is clearly set out in the Addendum that this amount of $469,560 is to be borrowed from a commercial bank or banks to tide certain Government-owned, agricultural enterprises over the pre-crop period. The enterprises concerned are Graeme Hall, Husbands and Oxnards Plantations and Scotland Industries Group.
6.45 p.m.

Mr. Speaker, it is common practice at this time of the year for most owners of estates to borrow funds from the banks until the reaping season begins when they would be receiving finances to repay these loans. The amount required for the Scotland area is $369,560 and $100,000 for Husbands and Oxnards.

As this is commercial practice throughout the Island, I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Minister said that this is common practice throughout the Island. I am wondering if that is absolutely correct.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: On a point of order....

Mr. SPEAKER: That is hardly a point of order. The Hon. Minister has the right to reply.

Mr. MOTTLEY: What I want to find out is this. What is the interest rate at which you are borrowing this money? What is the common practice of the Island as regards borrowing from the Agricultural Bank? As far as I remember, during my service on the Board of that Bank, you loaned money to estate owners at a cheaper rate of interest than commercial banks at times. That has been my experience.

This is a very tidy sum to borrow, and everybody knows that you borrow on the crop until such time as you

reap the crop. There is nothing wrong about that; but there are a few people who do not borrow at all. Those who borrow, borrow from the Agricultural Bank which has been set up for the purpose. Since this Bank was set up its value to the industry is well known.

I would like the Hon. Minister to tell us if it is not possible to get this money from the Agricultural Bank. Secondly, I would like to know if this amount could not be had from them. I speak under correction, but they have the necessary wherewithal which brings them in certain interest; and as such, they should be in the position to get money from the other banks at a rate to assist the sugar industry.

I do not see why the Hon. Minister should have to borrow this money from the commercial banks unless the Hon. Minister can satisfy us that they are borrowing at a special rate. It is not common practice for owners of estates to borrow money from the commercial banks at the standard rates of interest, similar to that loaned to businessmen. As a matter of fact, the industry could not afford to pay those interest rates. That is why I want the Minister to reply to me. We are not in a position to borrow money for this purpose at the rate of interest which commercial banks charge. Therefore, we want some clarification. The Hon. Minister said that it is common practice. It is common practice to borrow; but it is not common practice to borrow from commercial banks at the prevailing rates of interest. If the Hon. Minister would just enlighten us on that, I would be glad.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker,

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. senior member for Christ Church seconded the motion without giving any intimation that he was deferring his speech.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: Mr. Speaker, for the information of the hon. senior member for the City, the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank will loan funds on the crop. Those funds loaned are actually on the crop and there are loans at a lower rate of interest than that at commercial banks. Some owners of estates instead of using their own funds also borrow at special rates from commercial banks on security rather than on the crop. There is a limit to what they would be able to borrow from the Agricultural Bank. You can borrow only a limited amount from the Agricultural Bank.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of clarification. The Hon. Minister said that estate owners borrow against the security of the plantation if they do not want to use their own money. I would like the Hon. Minister to explain that.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: What I was trying to draw to the attention of the hon. senior member for the City is that the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank does not have sufficient funds to loan all the estates at this time of the year and some of them are forced to go outside to borrow funds.

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

6.55 p.m.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS (POSTPONEMENT) BILL

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I am asking leave to deal with the Bill to postpone the holding of an ordinary election of Councillors under the Local Government Act.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member is asking leave to deal with the Bill to postpone the holding of an ordinary election of Councillors under the Local Government Act. If there is no objection, leave will be granted. *(AFTER A PAUSE)*. There being no objection, leave is granted. 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 postpone the holding of an ordinary election of Councillors under the Local Government Act, 1958, and for purposes connected therewith and relating thereto.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, as hon. members are aware, the system of Local Government in this island has recently been under investigation with a view, possibly, to the effecting of certain improvements in it. The Report by the investigator, Dr. Jackson, has been made public, and the Government is now actively considering what steps it should take to implement some or all of the recommendations of the investigator and with what modifications, if any. In view of that, it has been felt that the Local Government Elections, which are scheduled to take place in January next year, should be postponed for at least another year in order to give the Government the appropriate time effectively to decide the steps which should be taken for the improvement of the system; and, of course, also to accord appropriate time to members of the Legislature and the public to consider the proposals which have been submitted. It would be extremely difficult for us to be able to submit concrete proposals in proper time for discussion between the receipt of the Report and the date fixed by law for the holding of the next Local Government Elections. Hon. members therefore will no doubt readily support the proposal in this Bill that the Elections, which are due to take place in January next year, be postponed for a period of one year pending the implementation of the recommendations of the Jackson Report which have found favour with the Government.

The Elections for the Bridgetown City Council, the Northern District Council and the Southern District Council were held in January, 1962, would normally take place again in January, 1965; but with this proposal which is before the Legislature, the Councillors who have been elected in 1962, will continue in office until January, 1966, when it is proposed that the election of new Councillors should take place under whatever system the Legislature might, by then, have approved. Under these circumstances, Sir, I am sure that hon. members will consider the Government's action to be a reasonable one, and one which is deserving of their support. I therefore beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

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

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, the hon. introducer of this Bill seems to be very vague with it. Now, Sir, before I go further, I want to say that I am not going to vote for the postponement of the holding of these Elections, because all is not well with the electors and with the members of some of these Councils. I can only speak for the Northern District Council, but I am hearing about the Southern District Council as well. I hear very little about the Bridgetown City Council. Now, Sir, if the Government cannot see fit or does not see fit to discuss Dr. Jackson's Report, or if it would be humanly impossible for them to discuss it and come to a decision on it by the time of the Local Government Elections, why should they try to postpone these Elections? Why do they not have the Elections according to the law? I cannot see why, because they cannot see their way to discuss Dr. Jackson's Report, they have to postpone the Elections. These Elections by law are to take place in January, 1965. What the hon. member has given is a very lame excuse for postponing these Elections, and they are not even trying to find out from the people's representatives or from the people themselves how the people feel about their representatives in Local Government and whether they are satisfied or not with the administration on the whole in their particular areas. But because the Government have the power, they are going to "freeze" the Elections and cause a greater burden to be placed on the shoulders of the people for another year. I am saying, Sir, that that is not fair to the Electors. The Electors should have a chance, if I may use the expression, of sweeping out these representatives in Local Government, these representatives who need to be swept out, because there are a lot of them who want sweeping out. They should not be thrown upon the Electors for another year.

7.05 p.m.

In my opinion, Mr. Speaker, the Government has time enough to implement the Jackson Report. This Report was laid a fairly long time ago on the Table of this House, and we were coming to this House for the last two or three months and blowing a comb, as it were, and it could have been discussed during that time. Why did the Government not make an effort to get the feelings of the representatives in this House and make a start with the Report? Nothing was done; but because they have numbers and the power, they are going to impose on the taxpayers for another year people whom they really do not want. The people should have a say in this matter. Now the same officers who are there now will be there for another year until the elections. In other words, there will be the same Committees and Chairmen. I have just understood that they are going to be changed, but I would have to be assured by the Hon. Introducer because if you are "freezing" you are "freezing". If you are "freezing" the elections, you must be "freezing" the offices; so the hon. members will have to tell me if changes are going to be made on the various Committees.

Mr. Speaker, things are so wrong with the Councils that it does not encourage some members to attend; they do not want to associate themselves with some of the Councillors in the North. Some are ashamed to be called upon in the Northern District Council through the activities, actions and behaviour of some of the Councillors there. I wonder whether Government really went into this matter and tried to find out what harmony exists among members themselves. You will remember, Sir, that I said I could not vote for this Bill; Sir I have to give my reasons for not doing so. There are some Councillors who do not up to now know their duties. I cannot blame them for it, because the present Government put them there, probably thinking that they would learn; but it does not appear to me, Sir, that they are prepared to learn. Last year the taxpayers' money was spent by a particular Committee, but this year they do not want to spend it in that direction. When I asked why they did it last year and do not want to do it this year, one of the representatives who has to do with the administration of that particular Committee informed me that they had the money and did not know what to do with it and they spent it that way. The Government is now telling you, Sir, — because you are a taxpayer in the North — that you must tolerate people of that sort who spend money because they do not know what to do with it. I am not accusing them of stealing it; I am accusing them of spending it in the wrong direction, which is tantamount to stealing it. If the taxpayers know that and have to tolerate such actions for another year, could they ever forget this Government for doing such? No, Sir. I am concerned with the poorest taxpayers in the island who know the meaning of a dollar, and you can talk as much politics as you like — when it comes to spending money, they are going to be serious.

I cannot see, Mr. Speaker, why this Government should take it upon themselves to suspend this election for another year. The taxpayers should have been told what is going to be done, and their feelings should be sought in some way to see how they would react. You should have asked them whether they would like an election next month for their Council, or whether they would like you to suspend it for another year pending the implementation of the Jackson Report; but I am sure that you would get the reply "No, have an election", because all is not well. These Councils have been operating for the last six years, and up to now according to the law, not one cent increase can be passed on to the paupers of that area. They are still receiving the same pittance which they received from the Vestry, but increases are being made for the staff. Taxes have been increased, but nothing has been done for those people who cannot help themselves, people who worked day in and day out and made a considerable contribution to the economy of this country.

7.15 p.m.

You still get some of the same Councillors suggesting that their travelling allowances should be increased. But no increase has been made to these poor people. Something should be done.

Sir, we are paying very dearly now for Local Government. We are paying twice as much taxes today as we were paying over the last six years. What has happened since then? In truth and in fact, nothing is going towards the upkeep of some pensioners or the paupers of the particular area; therefore, I do not think it is fair to be "freezing" next year's election. You will be doing no harm if you allow the elections to come about because it is the law. We would not be violating the law. Nobody would be vexed about it if you allowed it.

Why do you want it? You only told us that you did not have the time to peruse the Jackson Report. Suppose you did not have it, would you be telling us so? Leave it to the people and do not try to let it appear that you are "freezing" the elections. This is something which can be done now. Is it a question of money which you want? What is the trouble? Why are you going to prolong it? You say that it is because of the Jackson Report and I am saying that no effort was made even for us to get a glance at it on the floor of this House, nor have you done anything even to get the feeling of the representatives of the various constituencies on it; nothing has been done at all.

Sir, you say that it is only because you have the Jackson Report that you are prolonging it and yet nothing has been done about it. You are telling the people of this country that you did not have the time to study the Report and that is the reason why you are prolonging the time. I agree that you did not have the time to study it, but how do you think the people would feel when they read that you have suspended the elections?

According to the Objects and Reasons of this Bill,:-

"This Bill seeks, therefore, to postpone the holding of the ordinary election of Councillors which is due to take place in January, 1965 and provided for the continuance in office of the City and District Councillors who are in office on the date on which the Bill comes into operation."

You have more to lose than to gain by holding back these elections. Let the people have their say. I am sure if you have elections for Local Government you will see a change. I am going to tell you that very seldom there is not a row going on between the Chairman and the Councillors. Do you know that most of the outgoing Chairmen and the incoming ones do not speak? There is always a jostle and a tussle with these bodies because one person does not want to leave the Chair and because of that there is no harmony among the Councillors. Why is it? Another person wants to be Chairman and the Chairman do es not want to leave the Chair. Then you get another fellow saying that "You have to leave the Chair" and the row starts. All that happens in the Local Councils.

Sir, it is time now for the people to have a say and they would know about it if you have an election now. The people should know it; the people should know that a majority of Councillors are only there for themselves and to see how much they can get out of it. Why is it that one fellow should be cursing the other fellow in the Chair? You get the other fellow who is going out of the Chair cursing the fellow who is coming in and there is no peace among them. Do you think that the taxpayers are going to tolerate that kind of nonsense? We should allow them to have a say in it. It is not for us to get up in here and vote to "freeze" the next Local Government Elections. When the taxpayers take up tomorrow's newspaper they are going to see that there will be no Local Government Elections next year when they have already made up their minds and had the horses picked for the next race.

It is because you have a little power that you are going to take that power away from the electorate? Their time will soon come and you will still have to face it. If you do not have these elections in 1965, you will be faced with the same thing in 1966 and it will be worse for you. It may cost you more. It may cause you to lose the General Elections. By trying to hold back the Local Government Elec-

tions, it may cause you to lose the General Elections because people are not satisfied. The same people who have the vote for Local Government Elections have the vote for General Elections; therefore, you should not disappoint them now. Give them a chance to use the broom or, in other words, to use the broomstick. You are not giving them the chance to do anything now.

This disappointment is a hard one, Power! This thing called political power! I do not know where it would end. This is political power and it is not going to end nicely or very sweetly always. The people are going to open their eyes wide. You can take away their power from them today, but you cannot take away their power from them all the time. The twenty-four of us around this Table should not try to take away the rights of the other two hundred and forty thousand people. Every three years, there should be Local Government Elections. No law would be violated if you have the Local Government Elections next year. No law has yet been violated for General Elections. The law says that you must have General Elections every five years; therefore, we can play the game for two more years. We can do a lot in two more years. We can laugh, we can sing, we can dance, but the time will come when some of us are going to cry. Do not say that it will cause me to cry because I am a hardworking man.
7.25 p.m.

It may be better for me. As I have just said, these people are not happy. I am not happy either. I am not at all pleased about this matter. I am pleading with the members on the other side of the Table, but, of course, that is of no use because their minds have been made up. Councillors or no Councillors, representatives or no representatives, their minds have been made up, and that is to "freeze" the Local Government Elections. However, Sir, I am saying on the floor of this House that this is not fair to the Electorate. You are not treating them with that amount of respect and decency with which they have treated you. You have forgotten the promises which you have made to them. You are trampling the promises you made to them under your feet, and now you are taking it upon yourselves to take away the people's rights and privileges.

Mr. Speaker, what is to be next? What next will this Government be doing to the people of this country? I do not know; I will have to wait and see; but there is very little more than can be done to the people because you are seeking to take away their rights without a cause. Why can't you have the Elections? What prevents you from having them? The Report of Dr. Jackson is nothing to do with the Elections. You can say that you have had the Report at a late hour or you can say that you have other business with which to deal, but that cannot prevent you from having the Elections. The people are looking forward to these Elections and they want to have them. Mr. Speaker, I will not be a party to voting for taking away the rights of the people.

Mr. WEEKES: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member who has just spoken, has criticised the Government for introducing this Bill here this afternoon; but it is my duty to remind him, that when the Vestry system was abolished, the now defunct Labour Party "froze" the Elections for approximately five years. The hon. member has also mentioned that he knows something about the functioning of the Northern District Council and that he has heard certain things about the Southern District Council. It is my opinion, Sir, that an hon. member should not come in here and make statements about which he is not sure. Any person who feels that the comprehensive Report, which has been submitted by Dr. Jackson, can be dealt with within a matter of a few weeks, is not fit to be a member of this honourable House. If the Government did not have Dr. Jackson's Report in their possession, I am quite sure that the Elections would be held.

The hon. member, who has just spoken, has forgotten that he is a Councillor: but because he belongs to the defunct Labour Party, he feels that he should criticise the Councillors who are members of the Government. I must remind the hon. member that the present Local Government system is a new system and no Councillor has reached perfection with this system. The hon. member should also realise that to err is human. We all make mistakes; I am sure that the hon. member, who is a Councillor, has also made mistakes. As I have mentioned before, none of us has reached perfection. I must commend the Hon. Minister for his introduction of the amendment to the Local Government Act and I am sure that by so doing, that will give the Government time to study Dr. Jackson's Report and they will be able, in the near future, to implement certain changes which they feel are workable. The hon. junior member for St. Joseph has criticised the Government in this matter because he lacks the necessary vision to see that the Jackson Report cannot be dealt with at once, and it would be a waste of time to go back to the people when we have not made any changes to comply with the recommendations of the Jackson Report. *(Cheers from the Government Benches).*

Mr. COWARD: Mr. Speaker; this Bill seeks to postpone the holding of an ordinary Election of Councillors under the Local Government Act 1958, which Election is due to take place in January, 1965. I would like you, Sir, to bear with me for a few minutes while I will try to express a few thoughts which have arisen in my mind in connection with this Bill. You will remember, Sir, that prior to the coming into force of the Local Government Act, 1958, the Local Government administration was operating by parish bounds.
7.35 p.m.

It was the then Government in power which thought of changing that system, and as a result they brought down Sir John Maude and later Mr. Lightburn who made certain recommendations which are operating in this island today. It was never satisfactory from the beginning. The then Government said that they were going to get rid of the Conservatives who dominated the Vestries. When Sir John Maude came to the island, he was informed of the system by the same Conservative planters in this island; therefore he made his recommendations and findings for the planters with whom he came into contact. The Vestrymen in the outer parishes who had the experience of running the Vestry never sought election, because from what was said they knew only too well that they would not be voted for. As a result people without the necessary experience resolved to run as Councillors and got in.

I would say, Sir, that the Councillors lack experience. During the years of the Vestry system, the Vestrymen who were the planters laid the rates on all taxpayers in the country alike. The rates were laid per acre on the land, and I can remember that in St. Joseph, the parish which I have the honour to represent, the land owners paid as low as $8 an acre as taxes. Today land is not rated by the acre; it is rated on the rental value, and in the recommendations which were made by Sir John Maude and Mr. Lightburn, they discarded the land which they called useless land. Well, Sir, the poorest person does not carry useless land. If the underprivileged people of this country have an acre of land in the bottom of a gully, it is not useless, because they plant canes in it, even if it gives five tons an acre. Only the planters have gained from the recommendations of Mr. Lightburn and Sir John Maude, because I can assure you that they are paying less rates today, and that is why the Government has got to give a subsidy to the Councils to carry on. It is the underprivileged people of this country, Sir, who are suffering, because they are rated fairly high, while the plantations stand to benefit.

I think this Government should tonight be complimented for not rushing into any hasty conclusion to call an election under the same system which is operating now. I feel, Mr. Speaker, that if the last Government had looked through the recommendations which were made by Mr. Lightburn and Sir John Maude, the Councils would not be in the mess they are in today; but this Government has got the vision and foresight not to run head over heels and call an election when the Councils are in the same mess as they were in six years ago. I heard one of the speakers say that Councillors seem ashamed and would not serve. I may remind you, Sir, that in my first three years I sent in my resignation because I could not see what was being done, but the Clerk came to me and said there would have to be an

election and asked me to come back, and I did. However, I did not turn up at some of the meetings and the same Clerk with his friends wrote me off. I am quite satisfied because I have been saying that it is not beneficial to the underprivileged people of St. Joseph, and in anything where I do not see any benefit coming to those people who have sent me here to represent them, I will fail to attend, because I would not be a party to anything that is not profitable to the underprivileged people whom I have the honour to serve, not for the sake of compensation, but because I love the working people of this country. They are responsible for my living today and that is why I will serve them.

As I said, I must compliment the Government for not calling an election under the present system because one dozen wrongs cannot make a right. The hon. junior member for St. Joseph, Mr. Speaker, talked about the Chairman, and said that they do not want to come out of office. Of course I think he is speaking from experience, because I remember that when he was handing over the Chairmanship of the Council to Mr. Straughn, he said in handing over the keys that if he did not disgrace those keys, the keys would not disgrace him. You can therefore see the spirit of Chairmen when they have to be moved from office. I lend my support to this Resolution today, and I feel that everyone should be satisfied that the Government is taking time to go into the Report thoroughly before they implement it.

Mr. SPEAKER: Is there any other hon. member who desires to contribute to this debate before the Hon. Leader of the House exercises his right of final reply?

Mr. MOTTLEY: I do not propose, Mr. Speaker, to go into the merits or demerits of the Bill if it is the Government's policy and they feel this is the correct thing to do. When you are in Government, you must govern.
7.45 p.m.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I understand that the Hon. Leader of the Opposition is speaking on a different matter.

Mr. SPEAKER: Is the Hon. Leader of the Opposition going to speak on the Bill to postpone the holding of an ordinary election of Councillors? Let the hon. member proceed.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I do not propose to speak on the Bill. I will remain silent until the appropriate time comes.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, the speeches by the hon. junior member for St. Philip and the hon. senior member for St. Joseph make it almost unnecessary for the Government to say anything further on the merits and the proposals before the House as set out in the Bill to postpone the holding of an election of Councillors; but I certainly cannot refrain from saying in passing that listening to the hon. junior member for St. Joseph, he really had more brass than the molten image which Nebuchadnezzar had set up. Sir, he has more nerve than the astronauts that go up in space. He has more cheek than an alligator because alligators are all cheek. Listening to him, you would not believe that he was in this Chamber in 1954 when the Labour Party to which he belongs brought in an amendment to the Vestries Act, 1911, cited as the Vestries (Extension) Act, 1954 - 60, and asked the Legislature....

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

I was saying, Sir, that they brought in a Bill to amend the Vestries Act cited as the Vestries (Extension) Act, 1954 - 60 and they did not have the decency to put in a limit to the extension of the Vestries at all. They merely said:-

"Notwithstanding the provision of the Vestries Act, 1911, or any other law, the Vestrymen, Churchwardens and Boards of Poor Law Guardians for the several parishes of the Island and the members of the Westbury Cemetery Board in office at the commencement of this Act shall continue in office until the day appointed pursuant to section one hundred and twenty-four of the Local Government Act, 1954."

In other words, they should remain in office until such time as the Government felt like calling an election. They extended the Act until whatever time they felt like calling an election. Now, we have come in here and asked for a single year's extension. We have put in a time limit until the 16th day of January, 1966. The hon. junior member for St. Joseph has the nerve and cheek to say that we are afraid of facing the electorate. He talked all kinds of balderdash. It is quite true after they held Local Government elections for the first time in 1959, shortly after, they were swept out.

Sir, we have had the Jackson Report for four months. It took them five years to explode the Report of Sir John Maude. The hon. member expects us in four months to go through the Jackson Report and all that he has said to implement and modify and then to get the necessary legislation and set up machinery to hold an election.
7.55 p.m.

To sit in here and hear him talk and waste the time of the House with these nonsensical propositions without any foundation in fact or reason, is really asking too much of this Assembly. The proposal in the Jackson Report centred around a number of recommendations which fall into about three categories. Dr. Jackson proposed that changes should be made in the administration of some service if those services are to remain with the Local Authorities or Councils; he also made recommendations for the transfer of some services under Local Government to the Central Government; that Finance and Establishment Committees should be combined and that other Committees could be amalgamated in their services. As regards finance, he recommended that the Central Government should be obliged to approve or fix a budget by a prescribed date and a provision that there should be power to make approximately one-half of property tax payable on the 1st April, irrespective of approval of the rate proposed in the Budget. He also recommended that there should be an improvement in the procedures of administration and accounting and he made a number of recommendations with regard to outdoor relief which are now under consideration. There is also the recommendation that midwifery cases should be transferred to District Hospitals and in the rural areas there should be amalgamations. There was also the recommendation that the giving of outdoor relief should be transferred, that the registration of road vehicles and the collection of Highway Tax should be taken over by the Government and that the Central Government should take over trade tax, either collecting it for central funds or otherwise dealing with it as part of central taxation.

All of these things require consideration by responsible people and the honourable member expects us to decide on them within a period of four months! We must consult with the Councils themselves and we have to give appropriate time to the members of the Legislature for studying these things. If we were to bring these proposals in here within a short time, he would be the first to protest against that. If we cannot bring forward these proposals in proper time, he is saying that we should still go ahead and hold these elections in the face of all of these drastic recommendations by a Commissioner whom we paid to investigate the existing conditions and he gave....

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Since I reminded the hon. member about the use of the word "he", the hon. member has continued to use it.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: The word "he" is a pronoun. I cannot use the words "hon. members" all the time.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: When you refer to any hon. member in this Chamber, you refer to him as "hon. member."

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: You cannot use the word "he" in referring to an hon. member? If you cannot do that...

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have made my ruling and I will not have any further comment on it.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: It is not practicable.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will hear no more on that. I do not wish to hear any comments on any ruling which I have given.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: I am not commenting on your ruling.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Will the hon. member continue?

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Deputy Speaker, in the course of my speech, I may have to use a pronoun. You really cannot talk unless you use one.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The records are there.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: These strictures which have been made by the hon. junior member for St. Joseph only show his complete irresponsibility — perhaps I should say the complete irresponsibility of the hon. junior member for St. Joseph. *(Laughter).*

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will not have any ruling of mine to be reduced to laughter.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: It all depends upon the ruling. With all due respect to the Chair, I am saying that by virtue of the criticisms which have been levelled against the Government in this House by the hon. junior member for St. Joseph, there has been demonstrated the hon. member's complete unsuitability to be a member of this House. The last Government of which the hon. member was a party, "froze" an election for five years because they had recommendations to implement, and now the hon. member gets up in here and wastes the time of the House for half an hour. Well, Sir, I am prepared to stay here all night if any hon. member has any strictures to level against the Government. *(Asides) (Laughter).*

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We cannot stay here all night laughing.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: I will listen to those strictures if they have any foundation of fact. I respectfully submit that while we have been listening to the irresponsible and irrelevent submissions by the hon. junior member for St. Joseph, the hon. junior member for St. Philip has demonstrated what any school boy knows: that is, that the Government in its action in this matter is on very sound ground.

The hon. member wants to know whether the Bill will also maintain in office the Chairmen of the Councils, of the Committees and what not. I am sure that there are legal advisers in his Party and we are not supposed to act as his legal adviser in the House, because the provisions of the Bill are quite clear. The "Objects and Reasons" of the Bill set out that the term of office of the City and District Councillors who were elected at the ordinary election of the Councillors held in January, 1962 will expire on 16th January, 1965.

8.05 p.m.

The Objects and Reasons set out that in view, however, of the recommendations contained in the Jackson Report on Local Government, it is considered desirable that the ordinary election of Councillors which is due to take place in January, 1965, should, pending the implementation of the recommendations in the Report, be postponed for a period of one year. That is as plain as a pikestaff, and you would have to be a child not to be able to understand what it says. It talks about the election of Councillors for the City and District Councils and makes absolutely no reference at all to the internal administration of the Council. All it does is to postpone elections for a year, and since the hon. member is an authority on these matters of what the Government should do and how inefficient the Councillors are, he should be able to understand the simple provisions of a simple Bill. I do not think, Sir, that the Government is to be expected to come here and in A, B, C, fashion explain word for word as if we are in infant school what the matters before the Legislature stand for. The Government has made it clear that by January, 1966, the elections will be held in the City and District Councils or in whatever Local Government organisations exist.

If the hon. member persists in voting against the Bill as he threatens to do, Mr. Deputy Speaker, all he is doing is further to demonstrate his capacity for failing to appreciate similar actions under similar circumstances merely because it is being undertaken by a different Party in office, and it is quite true to say that the reasons for suspending the Vestry election in 1954 were no more urgent than they were today, or no more necessary than they were today. I therefore hope that hon. members on both sides of the Table will see their way to support the second reading of this Bill.

The question that this Bill be now read a second time was put and resolved in the affirmative, the House dividing as follows:—

AYES: Mr. BATSON; Hon. J. C. TUDOR; Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD; Hon. C. E. TALMA; Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON; Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS; Mr. BOXILL; Mr. WEEKES; Mr. LOWE; Mr. YEARWOOD; Mr. COWARD; Mr. LYNCH and Mr. MOTTLEY — 13

NOES: Mr. HOLDER and Mr. SMITH — 2.

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

Clauses 1, 2 and 3 were called and passed.

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

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

8.15 p.m.

REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to move that the Report of the Select Committee dealing with leave for the Librarian and Secretary of the House be the next Order of the Day.

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

Mr. BOXILL: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to move that the Report dealing with the leave of the Librarian and Secretary of the House of Assembly be now adopted.

Mr. W. R. LOWE: I beg to second that.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Deputy Speaker, before you put the question, I want to move an amendment.

The position is this. While it is true to say that we have to compromise and we can take any action we like with regard to our employees, yet still we do not want to be accused of acting in contravention to the Regulations which apply to public servants. It is true that the Librarian and Secretary is not a public servant, but public servants of this status are not entitled to leave of the magnitude proposed in the report of the Select Committee.

Sir, I want to be fairly reasonable in this matter. Incidentally, I want to say that although I was a member of the Select Committee, my notice regarding the matter reached me today for the meeting which was held yesterday afternoon.

I think myself that the applicant, would be quite satisfied and would realise that we are leaning over backwards in his case if we granted him four months' leave with full pay and two months' leave with half pay. After all, this money comes from the Public Treasury and we cannot afford to be accused of supermagnanimity in respect of our employees. Since the holders of a similar post in the public service are not entitled to more than four months' leave with pay, I think he should be pleased to get four months' leave with full pay and two months with half pay.

I am proposing, Sir, that the second paragraph reads as follows:-

"The Committee considered the letter received from Mr. Hutchinson asking for leave of absence and recommend that he be granted four months' leave of absence from 28th December, 1964, to 27th April, 1965 with full pay, and from 28th April, 1965, to 27th June, 1965 on half pay."

That is to say, four months he would have on full pay and the remaining two months on half pay.

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

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am not in favour of the amendment because the Committee met and decided on this matter. The point raised by the Hon. Minister who is within his rights, is this. He wanted to make out a case as to the servants of this House and considered this application with that in respect of other Civil Servants. But, Sir, what is the difference between four months with full pay and the remainder two months on half pay in respect of this officer and four months' leave with full pay for public servants? I take that amendment to be very mean because the Committee met and fixed the recommendation. I am vexed about the Hon. Minister making his amendment although he is within his rights, and the time taken up with making his motion. He could have allowed it to go ahead as it is.

This is for a servant of the House. He is one of our servants and there are other people in the Service who get a lot more than what belongs to them. The Hon. Minister knows that too. It is only petty to draw a red herring across the trail to reduce this to this officer who is going abroad.

I would agree more with the Hon. Minister if he had taken a different approach. I am appealing to members of this Honourable Chamber to consider this matter in the same way as the Committee considered it and agree to the Report as it stands.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Deputy Speaker, before you put the question, I just want to say in reply to the hon. member that there is no foundation in what he said and he has got the wrong impression of what I said. The Government has tried to be as reasonable as possible in this matter. As I said last week, when we had the last salaries revision, the post of Librarian and Secretary of the House was put on the same grade as that of a Long Grade Clerk. No Long Grage Clerk is entitled to more than four months' leave with pay. I felt that we have exercised a lot of latitude and liberality in this matter. It is unfair for the hon. member to say that this is petty.

8.25 p.m.

He is the same hon. member who would get up in here and lambast the Government if he thought that we were squandering public funds. I should like to remind the hon. member that this is not money which is being subscribed by members of the Government; these funds do not come out of his pocket or out of mine; this is money which is coming out of the Treasury. I myself would like to give this Officer this leave, but I would like to say that if some Council or Councillor wanted to be more liberal than what the law allows, the hon. junior member for St. Joseph would have been the first person to say that the House of Assembly did this. The hon. member says that we cannot find the money with which to do this or that and now he is attempting to make the Government do more than what we should do. We are attempting to be as broad minded and as liberal as possible, and we are quite appreciative of the services rendered by this officer; but, at the same time, we do not want to be accused of being more liberal than we are. I am sure that the applicant himself would be quite satisfied with what has been recommended in the Report of the Select Committee.

The question that the Report as amended be adopted was put and resolved in the affirmative.

A division was taken as follows:-

AYES: Mr. BATSON, Hon'bles W. A. CRAWFORD; C. E. TALMA; G. G. FERGUSSON; A. DaC. EDWARDS; J. C. TUDOR; Messrs. BOXILL; LOWE; YEARWOOD; COWARD; LYNCH and MOTTLEY – 12.

NOES: Messrs. HOLDER and SMITH – 2.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question has been resolved in the affirmative, twelve hon. members voting "Aye", and two hon. members voting "No". I now declare that the "Ayes" have it. This Report as amended is now adopted.

RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY *re* DEATH OF FORMER OFFICIAL REPORTER

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Deputy Speaker, since the last meeting of this House, a former Official Reporter of this House has passed away, and in accordance with custom in this Chamber, I propose that we offer the traditional Resolution of condolence to his relatives. I therefore ask leave to deal with this Resolution now.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The hon. member is asking permission of the House to deal with a Resolution relative to the passing of a former Official Reporter of this House. If there is no objection, leave will be granted. *(AFTER A PAUSE).* There being no objection, leave is granted. The hon. member may proceed.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Deputy Speaker, the late Mr. E. J. Taylor, was an Official Reporter of this House from 17th October, 1924, until the 31st December, 1945. He passed away last Thursday, I think it was, and the funeral services were conducted on Friday afternoon at the West bury Cemetery. The late Mr. Taylor, I can say without any doubt, was one of the most efficient and industrious Official Reporters that this House has had in recent years. He was a man of the utmost conscientiousness and he brought to his duties in this Chamber not only a fine sense of responsibility but also the capacity of a very well-trained Shorthand Reporter. So far as I can recall, during the time that I served in this Chamber when the late Mr. Taylor was an Official Reporter here, I have never once heard of any hon. member questioning the accuracy of any of his transcriptions. He was exceedingly competent, impartial and a devoted public servant and in all respects he was a reliable and trustworthy servant of the Legislature. He lived to the very ripe age of 93 years which might be a tribute either to his ordinarily fine health or to the lightness of his duties in those days as an Official Reporter of this Assembly. Mr. Speaker, by this token the present Official Reporters should live up to 150 years; but I am sure that this House would like to pay public respect to the passing of Mr. Taylor and I therefore beg to move the passing of the following Resolution:-

BE IT RESOLVED that this House place on record its sympathy on the passing of Mr. E. J. Taylor, Official Reporter of the House from 17th October, 1924, to the 31st December, 1945.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to his relatives.

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

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I find it my duty to second the motion for the passing of this Resolution. It is never a happy thing to have to second the passing of a Resolution of this nature, but duty demands that one must do so.
8.35 p.m.

I have known Mr. Taylor myself for many years, and I think he can be aptly described as one of nature's born gentlemen. Mr. Taylor was a man of great patience, he was a man devoted to duty as the hon. member has said, and outside of this House when Mr. Taylor had to report for the Press when elections depended mostly upon the speeches made on the morning of nomination, one could readily depend on Mr. Taylor for his accuracy and his ability to put your speech out in a very sensible way, although at times if you had listened possibly to yourself on one of the recording machines, you would wonder how he managed it.

To say that he was one of nature's born gentlemen is to say the least, because Mr. Taylor was one of those inoffensive persons, very polite, very dignified, and indeed he was to my mind a shining example for young reporters — and not only reporters, but for many of us who venture out in public life — to follow. He has gone where all of us must some day go. Today the duty falls upon me to second this Resolution, and I do so and wish for his family that the blow of his passing will be softened by the fact that he was one of the men who followed an accepted Christian life and one who did not cherish hatred, malice or anything of the sort against his fellowman.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I knew very little of Mr. Taylor because I only knew him when I came to this House, and I came in 1944, and he went in 1945. During his short stay here, however, I could see that he was a very Christian-minded person, very polite and a congenial type of person, and I could see that it was never his intention to offend anybody, because he talked very little. I can say that he did his job conscientiously, and as the Hon. Introducer has said, he never heard that anyone had to challenge his transcription or say anything to him one way or the other, no more than to say "Brother T". I sincerely hope, Sir, that he will rest in peace.

Mr. SPEAKER: I associate myself with the remarks of the three hon. members in respect of Mr. Taylor. There are only four members of this present House who were in the House during the time the late Mr. Taylor was Reporter here, and they are myself, the Hon. Leader of the Opposition, the hon. junior member for St. Joseph and the hon. senior member for St. Peter. I can say that Mr. Taylor was a dedicated servant of this Chamber, invariably courteous and efficient and one who deserves whatever encomiums are seen fit to be showered upon him.

I share the regret of hon. members at his passing although he did live to a ripe old age.

In order to indicate our assent to the passing of this Resolution, I am asking hon. members to rise in their places for a space of two minutes.

Members stood in their places for two minutes.

I will direct the Clerk to write to the relatives of the late Mr. Taylor expressing our sorrow and conveying a copy of this Resolution which has duly been passed.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday, 15th December, 1964, at 2.30 p.m.

I understand, Mr. Speaker, that there is a function to which hon. members will be invited the same afternoon at 5 o'clock, and if I may change my former motion, I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until 12 noon on Tuesday, 15th December, 1964.

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

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I understand that there is going to be a function to which hon. members will be invited, but we know nothing about it unless it is going to be a funeral.

Mr. SPEAKER: I can think of no function which can take precedence over one's duties as a member of this House.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, speaking on the Adjournment, sometime ago a Committee sat and went through the salaries for the Officers of this Chamber, but I have heard nothing about it since then. I would be very glad if you could go into the matter and report back to this House next Tuesday, because Christmas is getting near and everybody is getting a berry, and I feel our Officers should get something to go by so as to make them feel at home.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am assured by the Deputy Clerk that the matter has been forwarded to the proper quarter where no doubt it is receiving appropriate attention.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: If I may just be allowed to say this, the matter cannot be receiving attention at the appropriate quarter yet, since this appropriate quarter only received it yesterday afternoon.

The question that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday, 15th December, 1964, at 12 noon, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER adjourned the House accordingly.

8.45 p.m.