

THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SESSION 1962

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 28th January, 1964.

Pursuant to the adjournment, the House of Assembly met at 4.30 p.m. o'clock today.

PRESENT

His Honour J. E. T. BRANCKER, Q.C., (*Speaker*); Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD, (*Minister of Development, Trade Industry, Labour and Tourism*); Mr. L. E. SMITH, J.P.; Mr. K. N. R. HUSBANDS; Mr. F. C. GODDARD; Mr. E. S. A. HOLDER, J.P.; Hon. C. E. TALMA, (*Minister of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries*); Mr. J. W. CORBIN; Hon. G. G. FERGUSON, (*Minister of Communications, Works and Housing*); Mr. W. R. LOWE; Mr. G. V. BATSON, (*Chairman of Committees*); Mr. J. B. YEARWOOD and Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS, (*Minister of Social Services*).

Prayers were read.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER: The Minutes of the meeting of 7th January, 1964, have been corrected and duly circulated. Unless there is any objection, they will be confirmed.

Hearing no objection, I declare those Minutes duly to be confirmed.

I have the honour to inform the House that I have received from the Accountant General a Financial Report for the month ended 30th November, 1963.

PAPERS LAID

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: Mr. Speaker, I am commanded to lay the following:-

Statement showing the sums advanced to the Postmaster General for the payment of Money Orders, the amounts repaid to the Accountant General, and the amounts due by the various Post Offices to 30th November, 1963.

The Harbour Areas (Traffic) Regulations, 1963.

The Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic (Parking Places) (Deep Water Harbour) Regulations, 1964.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

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

A Resolution to place the sum of \$359 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to supplement the

Estimates 1963-64, Part 1 - Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimate 1963-64, No. 46 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

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

A Resolution to place the sum of \$1,245 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to supplement the Estimates, 1963-64, Part 1 - Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimate 1963-64, No. 47 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following:-

A Resolution to place the sum of \$38,600 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to supplement the Estimates 1963-64, Part 1 - Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimate 1963-64, No. 48 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

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

A Resolution to approve the Regulations entitled 'The Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic (Parking Places) (Deep Water Harbour) Regulations, 1964.'

PRIVATE MEMBERS' NOTICES

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

WHEREAS the people of several districts in the Parish of St. Thomas have not had Toilets and Baths constructed for some time,

AND WHEREAS the people of the several areas are very annoyed over the absence of the said Toilets and Baths;

BE IT RESOLVED that Government immediately make provision for the construction of the said Toilets and Baths in order to remedy such inconveniences.

I also beg to give notice of the following Resolution:-

WHEREAS the Parish of St. Thomas is the most central of the Parishes of this Island;

AND WHEREAS the people of St. Thomas have been deprived of enjoying some of the facilities afforded other Parishes in the field of recreation;

BE IT RESOLVED that Government set about purchasing a strip of land in the said Parish with a view to accommodating the people of St. Thomas with a Park and Band Stand within the approaching Financial Year.
4.50 p.m.

2039
P. A. H. C.

Mr. BATSON: To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:

Will Government, in view of the fact that Radio Barbados now exists, immediately set about initiating on their Saturday's or Sunday's Programme a special period for broadcasting Educational Topics suitable for children of school ages while they are at their homes?

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

MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY TO HIS
HONOUR THE SPEAKER

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that I have received a Message from His Excellency the Governor to His Honour the Speaker of the House of Assembly. The Message is as follows:-

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR
TO
HIS HONOUR THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
OF ASSEMBLY

His Excellency the Governor has the honour to refer His Honour the Speaker of the House of Assembly to certain desirable and consequential changes proposed to be made by the Government as part of the constitutional changes soon to be implemented, the main points of which were contained in Message No. 9/1963. The specific changes are -

- (1) the deletion of Clause XVI of the Letters Patent which gives the Governor power to make and execute grants of lands;
- (2) the deletion of Clause XX of the Letters Patent which empowers the Governor to issue marriage licences;
- (3) the making of provision in the Letters Patent for the determination of questions as to membership of the proposed Senate by the Supreme Court in accordance with the provisions of any law for the time being in force in the Island. Such a provision follows from the inclusion of provision relative to the qualification for appointment and tenure of office of Senators and in due course a Bill prescribing the procedure in respect of Senate appointment and vacancy questions will be presented;
- (4) the revision of Clause XI of the Letters Patent to bring it into conformity with the relevant United Kingdom legislation. This clause relates to the power of Her Majesty to disallow any law of the Legislature of the Island which has been assented to by the Governor and which alters to the injury of stockholders any provision relating to the stockholders any provision relating to the stock constituting or forming part of the public debt of Barbados. Paragraph (1) (a) will be affected and as revised would be on the following lines -

"(a) to alter to the injury of the stockholders any provisions relating to stock to which this Clause applies".

A paragraph on the following lines will be added to the Clause -

- (4) The stock to which this Clause applies is stock forming the whole or part of the public debt of the Island -
 - (a) in which a trustee may invest or might at any time have invested, by virtue of section 2 of the Colonial Stock Act, 1900; or
 - (b) by the conditions of issue of which it is provided that this Clause shall apply to it."
- (5) the repeal of the Executive Committee Act, 1891, 1891-22 and the abolition of the Executive Com-

mittee. With effect from the date upon which the Act to repeal the Executive Committee Act, 1891 comes into operation there will become operative new local legislation to perpetuate with amendments and modifications provisions of Act 1891-22 which relate to finance, the vesting and disposal of public property and the dispensing with letters of administration in certain cases. Provision will also be made vesting the functions of the Executive Committee and the Governor-in-Executive Committee in the Cabinet and other authorities and making necessary transitional provisions;

- (6) the amendment of the House of Assembly (Remuneration of Members) Act, 1949, 1949-29, to provide for a precise definition of the expression "the Leader of the Opposition" and for the determination of any doubts arising on its application by the Speaker of the House of Assembly. The amendment will be based on section 10 (3) of the Ministers of the Crown Act, 1937 (c.38) of the United Kingdom.

The Order in Council and Additional Instructions to give effect to these as well as the other constitutional changes contained in Message No. 9/1963 are being prepared by the Secretary of State who has accepted the proposals for amendment to the constitution on the understanding that they have been discussed by the main political parties and are known to be acceptable to them all.

J. M. STOW
Governor.

Government House,
Barbados.
24th January, 1964.

NOTICE OF AMENDMENTS TO STANDING
ORDERS

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of proposed amendments to the Standing Orders of this House.
5.00 p.m.

PROPOSED MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT TO DIS-
CUSS MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

NON-PAYMENT OF BALANCE OF
WIND FALL MONEY

Mr. SPEAKER: There is a notice which I have received from the hon. junior member for St. Joseph in which, under Standing Order 16, he is seeking to move the adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance. This matter, in accordance with Standing Order 16 (2), has been reduced to writing and handed to me. The matter appears that it may be a matter of definite and urgent public importance, and under Standing Order 16 (2) (3) (a) it is required that the leave of the House be given or (b) if such leave is not unanimously given, at least nine members rise in their places to support the request. I will read the notice so that the House will be in a position to decide whether it will give its leave or not. The Notice reads as follows:-

"It is my intention to raise a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the apparent unrest occasioned by the non-payment of the balance of the Windfall money to Sugar workers."

I now put it to the House whether leave shall be given to the hon. member or whether it should be refused.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, how do you interpret that as urgent public business? To what extent is that the business of this Chamber to determine? I would like to know from Your Honour how you interpret urgent, public business, more so in the Government's time in the House without prior notice having been given of that. On what grounds are you going to interpret something which has no determination either in law or otherwise? How are you going to determine what is to be payment or not when you

have no authority to determine such a payment? What do you know about Windfall payment having to be made? Do you know that there is something known as a Windfall money to be paid and it has not been paid?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, on a point of privilege, I am going entirely to endorse the Statements made by the hon. senior member for St. Peter. I could say quite a lot of derogatory and scathing things about the attempt of the hon. member even to insinuate a matter like this into these proceedings. As the hon. senior member for St. Peter has said, there is machinery for collective bargaining in this country. Under the Trades Disputes Act, 1939, there is also provision whereby power is vested in the Officer administering the Government in this territory, if there is a trade dispute — which at the present moment does not exist to the best of my knowledge, information and belief — to establish either an arbitration tribunal or a commission of enquiry. This is the kind of politics indulged in by the very people who are causing the agitation, who belong to the terrorist organization which they are trying to introduce into the Caribbean and who try to ventilate their private grievances on the floor of this Chamber.

I do not think it is competent for a legislature to entertain or to intervene in any matter of this kind at all. I have already declared the Government's attitude in these matters and we have played straight down the line. As far as this Government is concerned, we have observed all the international conventions, the rule of law and everything else, because we have supporters of the Party on the other side with guns and so forth, and even threats are being made to the Hon. Minister and to the hon. senior member for St. Peter which are really threats to them as Members of this House. We have not seen fit to engage in this matter of threats as a matter of public importance, although we consider that this is a matter of privilege. I would just warn the Officers of this House that they are employees not of any former Government Party so that they should be framing notions of addresses of this kind, but that they are employees of the whole Chamber and not of any particular Party of this House. That is all I want to say now. As a jurist, and quite apart from your authority as Speaker, I am quite sure that Your Honour will not entertain any such attempts to interfere with the normal machinery of this Chamber.

Mr. HUSBANDS: Mr. Speaker, as a matter of privilege, I do consider it your right to determine whether or not the proposed motion to be moved by the hon. junior member for St. Joseph — whether that motion comes within your right to decide that it concerns a matter of public importance. I say that there has been a challenge to Your Honour's powers as Speaker of this Honourable Chamber. On many occasions in the past, questions of this kind have arisen and the presiding Officer of this Chamber has, in his own right, considered that a matter of public importance was at stake. You, Sir, have declared that, in your opinion, this is a matter of public importance. I do not think, Sir, that your right should be challenged on this occasion.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: On a point of Order, Is the hon. member suggesting that he has licence to question Your Honour's authority as he did on the last occasion, but on this occasion he is not challenging Your Honour's authority? I have merely said that the introduction of this Resolution is not consonant with the rules of law in this Chamber in matters of this kind. For the hon. member to suggest that on this occasion, in contradistinction to the last occasion when he supported the same hon. member who is now making use of the Chair, your authority is not to be challenged, I want to say, Sir, that we have never challenged Your Honour's authority. The hon. member is always pontificating and purporting to speak *ex cathedra* because he is an ex-Speaker of this House; but we have no respect for him either as ex-Speaker or at all.

Mr. HUSBANDS: Mr. Speaker, following the interruption by the hon. member who deserves that I pay him no attention at all, I will continue. The Hon. Premier has given his opinion; you, Sir, have given your opinion; and when the hon. member finds that his opinion is contrary to your

opinion, well then, it is said that Your Honour's authority is being challenged. I feel that Your Honour has actually made a ruling in this matter. When you give your opinion — and I think that on this occasion or on any other occasion, I have never challenged your ruling. Irrespective of what certain irresponsible gentlemen are wont to say, I have never challenged Your Honour's opinion. I think that this House is very willing to abide by Your Honour's ruling. 5.10 p.m.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, speaking now again on a question of privilege, I think that from what the hon. member who has just sat down has said, he is trying to read into this debate so far an intention which, so far as I understand, was not Your Honour's. I did not understand Your Honour to say that you had made an interpretation of what constitutes or what does not constitute a matter of urgent public importance. I understood you to say that a request was made to Your Honour and that you were applying the Standing Orders of the House to the request, and that you were leaving it to the House to pronounce upon it. If I am wrong, Your Honour will correct me, but I did not understand that Your Honour was attempting to interpret what constitutes a matter of urgent public importance.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. junior member for St. Lucy, the Minister of Education, is correct.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: In those circumstances, Sir, will you request the hon. member, the *Pontifex Maximus* to withdraw the statements made just now?

Mr. SPEAKER: I was about to make a check of a list of the names of representatives of constituencies of the Island, because I do not instantly recall any "*Pontifex Maximus*".

Mr. HUSBANDS: On a question of privilege, if the Hon. Premier wants to hail himself, I will give him the opportunity. I am of the opinion that this was a matter of public importance and that you left it to the House to decide whether or not they would entertain the motion. That is what I understood, I do not know what other hon. members care to understand.

Mr. SPEAKER: I was careful to read the Standing Order verbatim just in case hon. members did not have a photographic copy in their minds, or their Standing Orders beside them. I am, as a result of having heard certain points of view, of the opinion — and it is indeed clear — that leave of the House is not given; and, unless nine hon. members rise in their places, then leave may be deemed not to have been given.

Mr. HUSBANDS: On a point of order.....

Mr. SPEAKER: At this stage, may I take it that the hon. junior member for St. Peter is rising in his place to support the request? At this juncture, it is still a request that this leave be given.

Mr. HUSBANDS: I am, Sir.

Mr. HUSBANDS, Mr. HOLDER, Mr. SMITH and Mr. MILLER rose.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am instructed that four hon. members have risen in their places and I can confirm that from personal observation. In consequence, I declare that nine hon. members not having risen in their places to support the request to proceed with this matter, it automatically may not be proceeded with.

Mr. HUSBANDS: I thank Your Honour.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Mr. SPEAKER: The first Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Leader of the House, the hon. senior member for St. Philip, to move the House into Committee of Supply to consider the grant of sums of money for the service of the Colony.

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

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

The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair, and the House went into Committee of Supply, Mr. BATHON in the Chair.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE 1963-64 No. 45

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Chairman, this Resolution is for payment of a disability pension to one of the former members of the South Caribbean Force. It is not often that we get Resolutions of this kind, fortunately, because most of these pension entitlements have been settled a considerable time ago.

The history of this case briefly is that Mr. Jackman was injured while serving as a Gunner with the First Battalion of the South Caribbean Force, during the last War. He was demobilised in May, 1945 shortly after the cessation of hostilities, and was awarded by the War Office in London a disability allowance of five shillings a week for 104 weeks, plus a final gratuity of \$64 paid through the Barbados Treasury. The payments terminated on 1st May, 1947. Mr. Jackman, I believe migrated to the United Kingdom, and after he arrived there, he had further difficulty with his knee and applied to the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance in the United Kingdom for further compensation on the grounds that he has been further incapacitated which made it difficult for him to work. The pension, of course, had come to an end in 1947, as I explained before, but the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance in the United Kingdom has now recommended that the pension should be reinstated, as an abundance of precedence exists for such, if there is a recurrence of the injury which arose during the course of his period of service as Gunner in one of the Armed Forces. The amount of pension is computed from the 8th January, 1962, to 31st March, 1963 at \$6.72 a week, which is 28/- a week, which comes to \$430.08, and then from the 1st April, 1963 to 31st March, 1964 which is exactly one year at the same 28/- a week and amounts to \$349.44.

The Government of Barbados is under a liability to honour these pension awards, and I therefore 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.

On the motion of Hon. C. E. TALMA, seconded by Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported the passing of one Resolution in Committee and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

5.20 p.m.

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

PROPOSED ADJOURNMENT OF SITTING

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, it is proposed that we take an adjournment for half an hour in order that the Select Committee which was appointed to consider and report on the Bill to provide for the operation in this Island of a Company to be known as the West Indies Hospital Funds Limited should meet and finalise its report. Hon. members of that Committee have agreed with this and I, therefore, beg to move that the sitting of this House be now adjourned for half an hour.

At the conclusion of the break, it is proposed that we return to deal with Item No. 2 on the Order Paper: Third reading of a Bill to provide for the operation in this Island of a Company to be known as the West Indies Hospital

Funds Limited and for matters connected therewith. It is the only item which I propose to deal with on the resumption of the Sitting.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I am afraid that while we agree to the Committee sitting — and I may say that we are perfectly satisfied with the evidence which we got from the Hon. Minister-in-charge up to one point — on that point it seems that we are unable to get through with it until overseas information has been received.

I am wondering, Sir, whether, in view of the fact that this House must meet again next week, and in view of the Hon. Premier's statement to the effect that it was not until the end of last year, but it was to the end of the financial year that this Bill should become law, we could not deal with it next week. It is a question of authorised capital and paid-up capital which we are considering in Select Committee. I would, therefore, counsel the Hon. Leader of the House who is Chairman of the Select Committee, rather than to have any division — we have agreed to the other possible safeguards, but it is only that point which we are giving consideration — that we wait until next Tuesday to conclude this Bill.

Sir, I know that some hon. members over there might be willing to say that I am pontificating on something which I know nothing about.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Sir, strictly speaking, details of this matter are not before the House.

Mr. SPEAKER: I was just about to point out that to the Hon. Leader of the Opposition, but I was just awaiting more of what he had to say because I was of the opinion that he wanted to develop his point as to the legitimacy of the motion.

I would, however, remind the Hon. Leader of the House that according to our Standing Orders — Standing Order No. 56, paragraph 6 — "except by leave of the House no Select Committee shall sit while the House is sitting."

If the motion is carried for the suspension of the House, the House would be still sitting and the House would also have to give leave for the Committee to sit while there is a sitting of the House. That leave of the House must be unanimous.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Sir, I was trying to develop my point.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: In view of Your Honour's reference to the Standing Order, it is obvious that the motion is impracticable of being put into operation if the Select Committee cannot sit during the sitting of the House except with the unanimity of the House. That I can foresee we are not going to get; therefore, there is no point in my proceeding with the motion.

Under the circumstances, therefore, I beg leave to withdraw the motion.

Mr. SPEAKER: If there is no objection, leave will be granted the Hon. Minister. (A Pause).

Hearing no objection, leave is granted the Hon. Leader of the House to withdraw the motion.

May I add in respect of the definition of the phrase "leave of the House", according to paragraph 290 of "A Selection from the Volumes of Decisions from the Chair of the House of Commons" by which we are guided whenever our Standing Orders do not adequately set out the particular point:—

"On the 13th November, 1882, during the Debate on the Resolution (Motions for Adjournment before public business), a Member stated that he thought that it would be useful, if the House could have an authoritative declaration from the Chair of what was meant by the "leave of the House". Did it mean an unanimous leave, or the leave of the majority?"

Mr. SPEAKER ruled:-

"I may say, in answer to the noble Lord's question, that the understanding with reference to the leave of the House is that it involves unanimity on the part of the House. Whenever the Question is put from the Chair, "Is it your pleasure that so-and-so be done?" If there is a single dissentient voice, the leave of the House is not given."

I see no reason to differ from that definition with which I may say I entirely agree. Hence, I have adopted it.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: I hope that hon. members on the Select Committee, because of that, may have no excuse for not meeting when the House is adjourned. I hope that those hon. members will meet and take this as a summons to the meeting of the Select Committee.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. If the Hon. Minister is throwing that out as a warning to me, I may tell him that I am willing to meet, but I can also tell him that a summons should be sent out giving notice of a meeting of a Select Committee.

Mr. SPEAKER: So long as hon. members talk long enough, instructions can be issued for the notice to be prepared for this afternoon or tonight.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Provided that hon. members are not tied in the House.

THE ADJOURNMENT

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until next Tuesday, 4th February, 1964, at 4.15 p.m.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I beg to second that.
5.30 p.m.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, before you put the question, I rise to speak on the motion (Mr. SPEAKER: On the adjournment) for the adjournment for purpose of raising a matter of grave public importance.

Mr. WALCOTT: On a point of order.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: On a point of order.

Mr. WALCOTT: On a point of order. The hon. member cannot emasculate your ruling in that fashion. He cannot rise on the motion for the adjournment and speak on any other matter. He can only speak on the motion as to whether the House should now adjourn until 4.15 p.m. of the clock next Tuesday or not. He cannot now raise that matter which he attempted to raise earlier today on this sand-side interpretation. The motion has been made for the adjournment of the House until next Tuesday at 4.15 p.m. of the clock, and the hon. member has to speak on that motion. Where are we getting these sand-side rules from now?

Mr. SPEAKER: There cannot be any discussion on any matter other than the adjournment of the House. That is the matter which is before the House and it is provided for under Standing Order 15 unless notice of any other matter be given in writing to the Speaker not less than three days before today. No such notice has been given to me by any hon. member either three or any number of days before today to raise a matter under the provisions of paragraph (2) of Standing Order 15.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I would really like to have this matter clarified under this Standing Order which I will quote — Standing Order 16 (2) (b). This is what it says:-

"(b) if such leave is not unanimously given, at least nine members rise in their places to support the request;

the motion shall stand until 6.15 p.m. on the same day, and at that hour any proceeding on which the House is engaged shall be postponed until either the motion for the adjournment is disposed of or the moment of interruption is reached, whichever is the earlier....."

Mr. SPEAKER: May I point out to the hon. member that Standing Order 16 deals with a matter such as which we earlier considered — a matter which he attempted to bring before the House and in respect of which the House has given a definite and unequivocal ruling? That matter has been ruled upon by the House and that matter can no longer be the subject of debate by anybody whomsoever. A motion has now been made for the adjournment of the House by the Hon. Leader of the House under Standing Order 15, that the House do now adjourn until another day. In respect of that motion under that Standing Order no matter may be raised in debate other than the question of the date or the time or some such thing in connection with the adjournment. No other matter may be raised unless notice of not less than three days has been given before the sitting concerned to the Speaker. No such notice has been given and therefore there may be no debate on the motion by the Hon. Leader of the House other than the date of the next meeting.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask what is the good reason for the adjournment of the House until 4.15 p.m. next Tuesday. The Order Paper does not look to be so big, and it seems to me that we will be able to dispose of the business as quickly as possible. I just want to know what is the reason for our adjournment until 4.15 p.m. and I intended to ask that question before the hon. junior member for St. Joseph spoke just now. This playing about with the hours does not seem to me to be very consistent.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: The time of our meeting is conditioned on the basis of the extent of the Order Paper. We have given notice of three Money Resolutions today and one other small Resolution and then, of course, there is the Bill which is before the Select Committee. It is our opinion or our belief that you could quite easily dispose of these matters by 7 o'clock and we would have the earlier part of the day free for doing other business. There really is no ulterior motive other than that we thought that no more time was needed than that in which we could expeditiously dispose of the Order Paper.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker,.....

Mr. WALCOTT: The hon. member has already spoken. (Laughter).

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member has spoken already. He spoke immediately after the motion was made for the adjournment, which motion was seconded by the hon. senior member for Christ Church, the Hon. Minister of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries.

The question that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday next, 4th February, 1964 at 4.15 p.m. of the clock, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER adjourned the House at 5.40 p.m.