

THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SESSION 1962

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 3rd March, 1964.

Pursuant to the adjournment, the House of Assembly met at 2.30 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. F. E. MILLER; Mr. E. St.A. HOLDER, J.P.; Hon. C. E. TALMA, (*Minister of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries*); Mr. J. W. CORBIN; Mr. S. E. SEALEY; Mr. R. St.C. WEEKES, J.P.; Mr. W. R. LOWE; His Honour E. L. CARMICHAEL, J.P., (*Deputy Speaker*); Mr. G. V. BATSON, (*Chairman of Committees*); Mr. J. B. YEARWOOD and Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS, (*Minister of Social Services*).

Prayers were read.

PERMISSION TO TAKE PHOTOGRAPHS

Mr. SPEAKER: I have given permission this afternoon for one of the United Kingdom's most distinguished photographers and Director of the Camera Press Limited, London, to take a photograph or two during this session without the Bar.

I understand that there is the concurrence of the Hon. Leader of the House and the Hon. Leader of the Opposition.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER: The Minutes of the meeting of the 18th February, 1964, have been circulated and unless there is any objection, they will be declared confirmed. (*A Pause*)

There being no objection, I declare these Minutes to be confirmed.

RECEIPT OF CARD

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of a card from Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy, widow of the late John FitzGerald Kennedy, expressing her deep appreciation of the sympathy of this Chamber and her grateful thanks for the thoughtfulness of this Assembly in passing a Resolution of Sympathy to her on the death of her husband.

PAPERS LAID

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to lay the Statistical Service - Selected Monthly Indicators, November, 1963.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Hon. Minister of Communications, Works and Housing, I am commanded to lay the 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 31st December, 1963.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Government Notices were given as follows:—

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Resolution to place the sum of \$177,218 at the disposal of the Governor-in-Executive Committee to supplement the Estimates, 1963-64 Part 1 - Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimate No. 52 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: A Bill to remove doubts about the dates of the coming into force of the first Valuation Lists for the rating areas of the City of Bridgetown and the Northern and Southern Districts, to validate and confirm all acts performed in good faith by persons in the belief that the said valuation lists had come into force and to indemnify such persons in respect of such acts.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: A Bill to amend the Governor's Act, 1890.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: A Bill to continue various expiring laws.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: A Bill to repeal the Executive Committee Act, 1891 and the Executive Committee (Remuneration of Members) Act, 1949, and to provide for the vesting of all property vested in or held by the Governor-in-Executive Committee or the Executive Committee, for the transfer of the functions of the Governor-in-Executive Committee and the Executive Committee and for other matters consequential thereon.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: A Bill to provide for the determination of questions as to membership of the Senate and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: A Bill to provide for the construction of references to the Legislative Council in Acts and subsidiary legislation on the replacement of that body by a Senate.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: A Bill to amend the House of Assembly (Remuneration of Members) Act, 1949.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: A Bill to provide for the remuneration of Ministers consequent on the repeal of the Executive Committee (Remuneration of Members) Act, 1949, 1949-50 and for the remuneration of Parliamentary Secretaries.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: A Bill to amend the Interpretation Act, 1949.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: A Bill to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1957.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: A Bill to provide for the control and management of the public finances of the Island; to regulate the receipt, control and issue of public moneys; to provide for the audit of public and other accounts and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.
2.55 p.m.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Bill to amend the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act, 1937.

I should like to say at this stage, Sir, that Replies are ready to virtually all the Questions which are now standing on the Order Paper. The Government therefore proposes today to move the suspension of the appropriate Standing Orders in order to permit Question Time to be extended for a sufficiently long period of time so as to enable all the Replies to Questions to be given and discussed. I am now notifying hon. members of my intention to move the suspension of the Standing Orders at the appropriate time.

QUESTIONS

Mr. BATSON: To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:

Is Government aware that Sierra Leone's Prime Minister, Sir Milton Margai will shortly be visiting Trinidad and Tobago?

2. Is Government also aware of the important link and interest a similar visit to Barbados will reveal if such an invitation is extended and accepted?

3. Will Government immediately set about exploring the possibility of requesting the said African Prime Minister to visit Barbados during his itinerary to the Caribbean?

Mr. CARMICHAEL: To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:

Is the Minister aware of the absence through illness of one of the Magistrates of District "A" since 13th January, 1964?

2. Is the Minister aware that, as a result of the absence of such Magistrate, the work of the Magistrates' Courts of District "A" is interrupted, disorganised and delayed, causing unnecessary inconvenience and hardship both to members of the Public and of the Legal Profession?

3. Is the Minister aware that there are Counsel learned in the Law available and willing to perform duties of Magistrate on reasonable terms and conditions, even in an acting capacity?

4. Will the Minister investigate this matter without delay with a view to immediate amelioration of this situation?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, as to the notices which have just been given, it would be advisable if Your Honour would advise if it is a matter for external affairs in the first instance; and, in the second instance, whether the matter is not one for the Judicial and Legal Service Commission. Neither of these questions has been directed to any Minister and before we set the Civil Service machinery to work in preparing the Replies to these Questions, we would like to save the energy and time which would thereby be expended. I expect that Your Honour will give a ruling on the matter by the next meeting of this House.

Mr. SPEAKER: I should like to say, that, in respect of the first Question, I have been instructed that it has escaped the vetting which I assumed had taken place by the Clerk before Questions are placed in this file.

Mr. WEEKES: To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:

Is Government aware that there is grave dissatisfaction among peasant proprietors in this Island in that they have been unrepresented during the recent negotiations in the payment of the windfall monies paid to cane growers and workers, and as a result thereof may not have received the maximum amount of monies due to them?

2. Will the Minister use his influence and ensure that in any future distribution of monies in any future windfall payments, the small cane farmers obtain fair and adequate representation in respect of any monies that may be due to them?

Mr. CORBIN: To enquire of the Honourable Minister of Communications, Works and Housing:-

Is the Minister aware that Archibald Hunte, formerly employed as a watchman at the Department of Highways and Transport, has been dismissed from his post without consideration of his seventeen (17) years' service?

2. Will the Minister inform the House whether his investigation has been held in respect of the dismissal of the said Archibald Hunte and what were the findings of such investigation?

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill to remove doubts.....(MEMBERS: We cannot hear). Mr. Speaker, I understand that hon. members are complaining about not being able to hear me. Well, Sir, I have been complaining about that for seven years now and I am glad that hon. members are now experiencing what I have been experiencing all along.
3.05 p.m.

On the motion of Hon. E. W. BARROW, seconded by Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD, the Bill to remove doubts about the dates of the coming into force of the first Valuation Lists was read a first time.

On the motion of Hon. E. W. BARROW, seconded by Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD, the Bill to amend the Governor's Act, 1890 was read a first time.

On the motion of Hon. E. W. BARROW, seconded by Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD, the Bill to continue various expiring laws was read a first time.

On the motion of Hon. E. W. BARROW, seconded by Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD, the Bill to repeal the Executive Committee Act, 1891, and the Executive Committee (Remuneration of Members) Act, 1949, was read a first time.

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On the motion of Hon. E. W. BARROW, seconded by Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD, the Bill to amend the Interpretation Act, 1949, was read a first time.

On the motion of Hon. E. W. BARROW, seconded by Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD, the Bill to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1957, was read a first time.

On the motion of Hon. E. W. BARROW, seconded by Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD, the Bill to provide for the control and management of the public finances of this Island; to regulate the receipt, control and issue of public moneys; to provide for the audit of public and other accounts and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto was read a first time.

On the motion of Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, the Bill to amend the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act, 1937, was read a first time.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I want to give notice of Replies to Questions; but since there is a fairly large number of questions involved - almost each Minister has some - I think it might be better for us to move the suspension now of the Standing Orders before the time allotted for questions expires at 3.30 p.m. so I will move the suspension now and then give the notices of the Replies after the suspension has been moved.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Standing Orders Nos. 5, 14, 16 and 18 be suspended for the remainder of this Sitting.

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

Mr. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, we are objecting to that motion if it means we might not revert to Private Members' Business.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Will the hon. member repeat what he said?

Mr. SPEAKER: I understand the Leader of the House to propose the suspension of certain Standing Orders in order that the period for Question Time, in view of the large number of Replies ready, be extended. So far as Private Members' Business is concerned.....

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: After all, Mr. Speaker, Questions are Private Members' Business, and if we give the entire period allotted to Private Members for Questions, they still have it. If after the Replies we propose to give, the time is 4.30 p.m. - the normal time for Private Members' Business - we will go on to Government Business; if not, we will go on with Private Members' Business. We have the Bill to provide for the establishment of a Public Accounts Committee. It depends on what time we get through with the Questions.
3.15 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: I understand the Hon. Leader of the House is not seeking the suspension of Standing Orders in order to do anything other than Private Members' Questions, but in view of the fact that Private Members' Questions may not be done until after 3.15 p.m., as there are so many, the Hon. Leader of the House is proposing to seek the assent of the House to extend, so to speak, Question Time without taking away from the rest of Private Members' Time.

Mr. MILLER: As I understand it, Question Time is already passed, and this is now time for Private Members' Business. I think we should be given the opportunity to discuss Private Members' Business which we have on the Order Paper.

Mr. SPEAKER: Standing Order 62 in respect of the Suspension of Standing Orders is as follows:-

"A question the object or effect of which may be to suspend any Standing Order of the House shall be proposed

only with the consent of the Speaker, either after notice given or after the expression of the general assent of the House."

I gather that the general assent of the House is not forthcoming.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Who says not?

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, what I gather is this. The hon. junior member for St. George is suggesting that on the expiration of Question Time, we go to Private Members' Business. We have not disagreed to that. We say that normally Private Members' time expires at 4.30 p.m. If Question Time expires before 4.30 p.m., naturally, we go to Private Members' Business; but on the expiration of that time, we go to Government Business.

Mr. SPEAKER: This is a matter for the general assent of the House. The hon. member is in order to move that any Standing Order be suspended.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: I have already moved that Standing Orders 5, 14, 16 and 18 be suspended for the remainder of the day's sitting.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that those Standing Orders be now suspended. Hon. members in favour will please say "Aye" and those against will please say "No".

Mr. MILLER: I object.

Mr. SPEAKER: This is not a question of one member objecting: this is a matter for the general assent of the House, which is taken by me by a vote.

The question was put and resolved in the affirmative, the House dividing as follows:-

AYES: Mr. BATSON, Hon'bles E. W. BARROW, W. A. CRAWFORD, C. E. TALMA, A. DaC. EDWARDS, J. C. TUDOR, Messrs. CORBIN, WEEKES, LOWE, YEARWOOD, CARMICHAEL and BOXILL - 12.

NOES: Messrs. HOLDER, SMITH, MILLER, SEALEY - 4.

MR. SPEAKER'S RULING re NO CONFIDENCE MOTION BY HON. JUNIOR MEMBER FOR ST. GEORGE

Mr. SPEAKER: Before the Hon. Leader of the House proceeds to deal with the answers to Oral Questions which are on the Order Paper, I think the moment is opportune that I promulgate the Statement which I gave the undertaking that I would give this afternoon.

It is as follows:-

On the 11th February, 1964, in this Chamber, the hon. junior member for St. George gave notice, when "Notices", Private Members' Business was called, of the following Resolution:-

"BE IT RESOLVED that this House declares that the Government no longer enjoys the confidence of the country, and accordingly calls upon the Premier to advise His Excellency the Governor to dissolve the Legislature so that a General Election can be held."

2. Objection has been taken by certain hon. members of the House to the admissibility of the said Resolution, and My Ruling as to its propriety and validity has been sought. Not only have I consulted all available relevant authorities, but, additionally, inasmuch as the most recent Edition (the Sixteenth) of May's Parliamentary Practice was published so far back as 1957 (and no Supplement thereto has been issued), to ensure being fully up-to-date in my information, I have been in communication - both by correspondence and by cablegram - with His Honour the Speaker of the House of Commons, my learned friend, Sir Harry Hylton-Foster, Q.C., M.P., to ascertain whether there have been Motions of this nature considered in the Mother of Parliaments subsequent to the appearance of the Sixteenth Edition of May's.

3. It is worthy of note that whereas Standing Orders 12 to 14 of the General Assembly are specific as to the content of Questions handed in by honourable members, and there are clearly defined directions with respect thereto, similar Orders dealing with Motions (Standing Orders 19 to 25) refer mainly to the manner of giving of notices, withdrawal of motions, etc. with no precise indication as to composition of such. For example, Standing Order No. 20 (5) reads thus:-

"5. Any such notice shall be submitted to the Speaker who shall direct -

- (a) that it be printed in the terms in which it was handed in; or
- (b) that it be printed with such alterations as he may direct; or
- (c) that it be returned to the Member who signed it, as being in his opinion out of order."

There is, however, no guidance provided in Standing Orders as to how specifically the opinion or discretion of the Speaker may be exercised; and consequently pursuant to normal procedure, there is reversion to established convention: where our Standing Orders are silent, then the usages, customs and conventions of the United Kingdom Parliament shall prevail.
3.25 p.m.

4. There is little doubt that the hon. junior member for St. George intends this motion to be a Vote of Censure on Government. Notwithstanding that any member may table such motion provided its substance is in order, yet nowhere in my researches - extending from the institution in United Kingdom of modern Parliamentary Party Government, to the present day - have I discovered a Vote of Censure moved by any other than a leader - by this I mean "out-standing figure" - of the Official Opposition. There are such Motions in the names of the Leader, the Deputy Leader, and even of Shadow Cabinet Members of the Official Opposition, but none have I yet come across by a member of a Minority Party. I quote as examples:- (a) Censure Motion, moved on 26th July, 1962, by Rt. Hon. Hugh Gait-skill, M.P., Leader of Her Majesty's Opposition, recorded at Page 1735 of the Official Report of the Parliamentary Debates of the House of Commons, 1961-62, Vol. 663 and which, it is manifest, provided the precedent for the drafting of the Resolution introduced by the hon. member, as it is almost a *verbatim* copy thereof;

(b) Censure Motion, moved on 1st November, 1956, by Mr. James Griffiths, M.P., Deputy Leader of Her Majesty's Opposition, recorded at page 1619 of Hansard, Vol. 663; and (c) Motion of No Confidence, moved by Mr. Chuter Ede, M.P., on December 8th, 1952, reported at Volume 509 at page 43. Indeed May's (Sixteenth Edition) at page 305, under sub-Head "Votes of Censure", sums up the matter thus:-

"By established convention the Government never fail to accede to a demand from the Leader of the Opposition to allot a day for the discussion of a motion expressing lack of confidence in the Government - a "vote of censure", as it is called. In allotting a day for this purpose, the Government are entitled to have regard to the exigencies of their own business, but a reasonably early day is invariably found. Few sessions fail to provide examples of such motions.

This convention is due to the recognised and responsible position of the leaders of the Opposition as a potential alternative Government - a position which guarantees the legitimacy of such an interruption of the normal course of business."

5. However, despite the assurance given in the passage just quoted, Votes of Censure - as such - are in fact decreasing in number in the House of Commons, as matters of Confidence are now dealt with in Debates restricted to a specific major issue, it being understood that, if the Gov-

ernment is defeated on any such issue, it must - by convention - resign. A Stevens & Sons Publication (1962), Messrs. Hanson and Wiseman's "Parliament at Work", (First Edition) at page 108, states:-

"It is rare nowadays for the Government to move a Motion of Confidence (or for the Opposition to move one of Censure) couched in general terms. Normally, the Resolution to be debated defends, - or attacks - some specific aspect of Government policy. But it is none the less a matter of Confidence, in so far as a defeat for the Government - in the unlikely event of such being registered - would bring in its train a resignation or an appeal to the country."

6. It is not within the province of the Speaker to pronounce as to whether the Government should allow a motion to be dealt with in the time allotted for Government Business and so give that motion the official stamp of being a Censure Motion. My duty clearly is limited to determination of whether the motion - *qua motion* - is: (a) repugnant - or offensive - to proper Parliamentary Procedure; (b) properly introduced. Incidentally, however, I may mention that - save as hereinbefore stated - neither formally nor morally is Government obliged to allow time for discussion of a motion expressing lack of confidence in the Government.

7. In the circumstances, I do not deem the motion in question to be out of order; and accordingly, I do not direct that it be returned to the honourable member who signed it as being - in my opinion - out of order. Hence this motion may remain under Private Members' Business, and be treated as such.

8. It may not be amiss, *ex abundante cautels*, to draw attention to Standing Order No. 26 (paragraph 4) which states that "it shall be out of order to reflect on any vote of the House or to attempt 'to reconsider any specific question on which the House have come 'to a conclusion during the current session, except upon a substantive 'motion for rescission." No infringement - or attempted infringement - of that Standing Order is permissible; and any reference - or attempted reference - in course of any debate on this Resolution to any matter upon which this House has already cast a vote during this session cannot - under any circumstances - be entertained.

That concludes my Statement and my Ruling. (*Cheers*).

It has been intimated to me this morning by the Honourable and Learned Premier that he, on behalf of himself and the Government, has waived all objections previously made in respect of this Resolution and, further, that the Government has decided to allot a day during this month for the discussion of the Resolution in question, of the honourable junior member for St. George, in the event of such Resolution being allowed by me. I have allowed that Resolution.
3.35 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: It is now Question Time and perhaps the Hon. Leader of the House will intimate which is the first answer ready. However, I think it will be necessary for the Hon. Leader of the House to move first that Question Time be now taken.

QUESTION TIME

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

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

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

LAYING OF WATER MAINS

Mr. SPEAKER: The first Reply is to Parliamentary Question No. 25 standing in the name of the hon. junior member for Bridgetown, who alas, is not in his place. The next Question is in the name of an hon. member who is in his place, and that is No. 32.

Mr. SEALEY: Mr. Speaker, the question is as follows:-
To enquire of the Minister of Communications, Works, Housing and Tourism:

Will Government consider as an urgent priority the laying of water mains in the following areas in the parish of St. Michael:-

Free Hill, Black Rock; Garden Land, Country Road; Morris Gap, Westbury Road; Pounder's Gap, Westbury Road; School Gap, Westbury Road; Parris Gap, Westbury Road; Rock Land, Spooner's Hill; Woodstock Road, Spooner's Hill; Bow Road, Bush Hall; Syndicate Road, Bush Hall; Paradise Road, Bush Hall; Deane's Village, Hindsbury Road; Goodland Tenantry; Dalkeith Village, Dalkeith Hill; Belle Tenantry; Licorish Village; Rollins Gap, Brittons Hill.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, the Reply is as follows:-

"Water mains have been already laid in a number of these areas in St. Michael and consideration will be given to the laying of mains in the other areas mentioned in the Question, which qualify in the light of available finances and priorities established."

POLICY OF AGRICULTURAL CREDIT BANK

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 40 stands in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Peter whose seat is at the moment vacant. And the next Question No. 59 stands in the name of the hon. and learned member for St. James.

Mr. CARMICHAEL: Mr. Speaker, the question reads as follows:- To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:

Whether the practice and policy of the Agricultural Credit Bank since its inception and particularly during the

past year, has been in strict accordance with the Act under which it functions?

2. Is it true that loans have been applied for by members of the staff of the said Bank, and if so, by whom, and for what amounts?

3. Have any such applications been granted? If so, (a) to whom, (b) in what amount or amounts, (c) for what alleged purpose or what date or dates?

4. Will the Minister take steps whereby an Inquiry into the running of this Institution be forthwith set up and conducted?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, the reply is as follows:-

"1. There has been some doubt whether the Bank's practice of issuing loans for payment of balance of purchase money to applicants with an equitable interest in the land in respect of which they had applied for loans was consistent with the provisions of section 19 (b) of the Agricultural Credit Bank Act, 1961 which empowers the Bank to make loans to owners for the payment of the balance of purchase money. The practice and policy of the Bank has been to interpret the definition of owner in section 2 of the Act to include applicants with such equitable interest e.g. those who have already paid deposits on the purchase price to the vendor and have an enforceable agreement for the purchase of the land or have entered into possession. The Bank's solicitor's and the Crown Law Officers have advised that this practice is not inconsistent with the law. It has however since been discontinued as a matter of policy.

2. Yes, Sir. The following members of the staff of the Bank had applied for loans:-

Name	Status	Date of Application	Amount	Purpose
S. E. Foster	Inspector	22.5. 1958	\$600	Cultivation
		23.5. 1960	\$700	Cultivation
		6.11.1958	\$880	Irrigation
O. W. Weekes	Accountant	30.10. 1961	\$30,000	Payment of balance of purchase money.
		12.9. 1962	3,000	Cultivation

3. Mr. Foster was issued loans of \$600 and \$200 on the 11th July, 1958 and 1st December, 1958 for cultivation and irrigation purposes respectively, and an amount of \$700 on the 13th June, 1960 for cultivation purposes only. In the case of Mr. Weekes the loan applied for cultivation purposes was issued on the 26th July, 1962, but the application for a loan for the payment of the balance of purchase money was refused.

4. The operation of the bank has been investigated and instructions given for the restriction of loans in respect of the payment of the balance of purchase money. The Government's policy is to restrict such loans to bona fide agriculturalists who wish to obtain clear titles to their land to facilitate borrowing for cultivation and similar purposes from the bank and not to attract applications from persons who would normally have financed their purchases through the normal commercial channels. These instructions have been rigidly adhered to and in the circumstance no further enquiry is considered necessary."

Mr. CARMICHAEL: Mr. Speaker, as a supplementary, would the Minister say what were the terms and conditions of that \$30,000 and if any of it has been repaid?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I thought I had made it clear that the \$30,000 was refused. In other words, the advance was never made.

Mr. CARMICHAEL: Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to the Hon. Minister.
3. 45 p.m.

WATER RATES FOR CERTAIN BLOCKS IN GARRISON

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 66 stands in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Thomas.

Mr. BOXILL: To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:

Is the Minister aware that the Government has been, and still is, paying water rates for certain Blocks in the Garrison, St. Michael?

2. If the answer to the above question is in the affirmative, will the Minister state why in each case?

3. If the answer is in the negative, will the Minister seek to rectify this situation immediately.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: The replies are as follows:-

1. Yes, Sir.

2. It is administratively convenient to reflect the water charges in the rents payable by the occupants of those premises. The rents are subject to periodic review and such a review will shortly be undertaken.

3. Does not arise.

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 69 stands in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Joseph, who is not in his place.

PUBLIC TELEPHONE AT GRAZETTES HOUSING AREA

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 77 is in the name of the hon. senior member for St. Michael.

Mr. SEALEY: To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:

Will Government with all convenient despatch cause a public pay telephone to be installed at the Grazettes Housing Area for the convenience of the inhabitants thereof?

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, the reply is as follows:-

The Housing Authority has installed a telephone in the residence of the Warden for the Grazettes Housing Area. Another telephone is also installed at the work-site of the same Housing area and the tenants are permitted to use these telephones free of charge whenever the necessity arises.

Mr. SEALEY: Thank you very much.

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 86 stands in the name of the Hon. Leader of the Opposition who is not in his place.

HARDSHIPS OF RESIDENTS IN NORTHERN DISTRICT COUNCIL AREA

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 90 is in the name of the hon. senior member for St. Andrew.

Mr. CORBIN: To enquire of the Honourable Minister of Communications, Works, Housing and Tourism:

Is the Minister aware of the hardships existing in the Northern District Council Area through residents having to continue to walk long distances to draw water for domestic use?

2. Will the Minister cause investigation to be made into the situation with a view to finding out whether or not standposts have been erected at various points in the said Council Area, under instructions from the Water Works Department or with the consent and knowledge of that Department and the said standposts have not been brought into use during the past eighteen months?

3. Is the Minister aware that until this moment no water mains have been laid in the said areas for supplying water through the said standposts for the benefit of residents of the area?

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, the replies are as follows:-

An application was made to the Waterworks Department for water mains to be laid at Rock Dundo and the Whim in St. Peter where standpipe columns had been erected by the Northern District Council without the prior knowledge of the Waterworks Department. Standpipes in the Rock Dundo area have already been connected. Instructions are being awaited to connect those in the Whim.

INSANITARY CONDITION OF BEACHES IN ST. JAMES

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 101 stands in the name of the hon. senior member for St. James.

Mr. CARMICHAEL: To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:-

Is Government aware of the insanitary condition of the beaches between Prospect and Paynes Bay, St. James, due largely to the absence of public conveniences?

2. Will Government, in its programme of works for this year, give priority to the erection of not less than two public conveniences - one by the Fitts Village Bay, another by the Paynes Bay Market?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, the reply is as follows:-

"A Public convenience has been erected near the Paynes Bay fish-shed. The siting of other such conveniences through the island is under investigation.

Mr. CARMICHAEL: I am very grateful to the Hon. Minister.

ERECTION OF PUBLIC BATHS IN ST. PHILIP

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 109 stands in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Philip.

Mr. WEEKES: To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:

Will the Honourable Minister of Social Services state whether Government is considering the erection of another public bath or more public baths in the parish of St. Philip?

2. If the answer is in the affirmative, will the Minister make the necessary arrangements for one of the new sites of such public baths to be at either Brereton's, or Well-House?

3. Will the Minister further use his initiative to see that the erections begin as soon as possible?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, the replies are as follows:-

1. Government is considering the erection of public baths in places where the need for such facilities is evident. Provision for 24 such units has been included in the Development Plan 1962-65.

2. In this context the needs of the places mentioned will be examined.

3. Efforts are being made to finalise the plans at an early date.

Mr. WEEKES: I thank the Hon. Minister for the Reply.

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 14 stands in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Joseph, who is not in his place.

Question 116, stands in the name of the hon. junior member for Christ Church, who is also not in his place.

Similarly, Question No. 121 stands in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Joseph, who is not in his place.

And likewise, Question No. 123, stands in the name of the hon. senior member for St. Peter, who is not in his place.

PLAYING FIELD AT BAGATELLE

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 128 stands in the name of the hon. senior member for St. Thomas.

Mr. BATSON: To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:

Is Government aware that the playing field situated at Bagatelle, St. Thomas, is in a very bad condition?

2. Will the Minister investigate the matter with a view to having the said playing field made usable in order that the pupils at Welches School, St. Thomas, as well as the people in the area may be able to have the use of the said playing field?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, the Replies are as follows:-

1. Government is aware that the playing field at Bagatelle, St. Thomas is in need of improvement.

2. Yes, Sir. Steps are already being taken.
3.55 p.m.

ABSENCE OF TOILET AND BATH AT POREY SPRING

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Question is Question No. 131 also 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 that the people of Porey Spring, St. Thomas are very annoyed over the fact that they are without the uses of a toilet and bath for some time?

2. Will the Minister explore the possibility of having a toilet and bath constructed in the said area without delay?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: The Reply to the hon. member's Question is as follows:-

It is appreciated that the absence of public Toilets and Baths would result in some inconvenience to residents in certain areas.

2. The Government is considering the erection of public Toilets and Baths in places where the need for such facilities is evident. Provision for twenty-five such units has been included in the Development Plan 1962-65. In this context the needs of the places mentioned will be examined as efforts are being made to finalise plans at an early date.

REMOVAL OF PUBLIC STAND-PIPE AT THE CORNER OF DALKEITH HILL

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Question is Question No. 138 standing in the name of the hon. senior member for St. Michael:-

Mr. SEALEY: To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:

Is Government aware that, as a result of the removal of the public stand-pipe at the corner of Dalkeith Hill, St. Michael, the residents of Dalkeith Village now have to travel as far as the middle of Culloden Road for their water supply?

2. Will Government take urgent steps to replace the said stand-pipe?

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: The Reply to the hon. member's Question is as follows:-

It is recognised that some inconvenience will have been caused by the removal of the stand-post, but its removal was necessary to enable road-widening works to proceed. Additionally, its location constituted a danger to members of the public making use of it.

(2) The Bridgetown City Council will be requested to select an alternative site on which to erect another stand-post.

Mr. SEALEY: I beg to thank the Hon. Minister for his reply.

COMPULSORY ACQUISITION OF LAND AT CHAPEL GAP FOR PLAYING FIELD

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Question ready to be dealt with is Question No. 139, also standing in the name of the hon. senior member for St. Michael.

Mr. SEALEY: Mr. Speaker, To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:

Will Government consider the advisability of acquiring, compulsorily or otherwise, a portion of land at or near the corner of Chapel Gap, St. Michael, for the purpose of providing a Playing Field and a Recreational Centre for the surrounding area?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, the Reply to the hon. member's Question is as follows:-

Persons from the area are granted access for organized games to the playing fields at the Pine Primary School. Another field in the vicinity of the Parkinson School will soon be available for the use of the school and the public.

Mr. SEALEY: Mr. Speaker, I beg to thank the hon. member very much for his reply.

INADEQUATE WATER SUPPLY AT FREE HILL, BLACK ROCK

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Question ready to be dealt with is Question No. 141. That also stands in the name of the hon. senior member for the Metropolitan Parish.

Mr. SEALEY: Mr. Speaker: To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:

Is Government aware that Free Hill, Black Rock in the parish of St. Michael, is now a densely populated area and is — for the most part — without an adequate water service?

2. Will Government see to it that such a service be provided for the inhabitants thereof at the earliest possible point of time?

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, the Reply to the hon. member's Question is the same as... (Pause). We have the Reply, but it is not in the file. I will give the hon. member the Reply to his Question in a short while.

Mr. SPEAKER: The next two Questions stand in the name of the hon. junior member for St. James, namely, Questions Nos. 142 and 145. The hon. member is not now in his seat.

Mr. HOLDER: Mr. Speaker,.....

Mr. SPEAKER: I apologise to the hon. member, I thought it very strange that I did not hear the hon. member's voice.

Mr. HOLDER: I accept Your Honour's apology.

DAMAGE TO PROPERTY BY OPERATION OF QUARRY

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Question stands in the name of the hon. junior member for St. James.

Mr. HOLDER: To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:

Has the Minister anything to add to his reply to Question No. 70/1962 given in this House on 20th November, 1962, relative to compensation to residents at Hoyte's Village, St. James, for damage done to their houses and furniture by the operation of the quarry worked by Messrs. Richard Costain (W.I.) Ltd.?

2. Is the Minister aware that the said residents have not yet received any such compensation?

3. Will the Minister use his good offices to ensure that such compensation be paid at the earliest opportunity?

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, the Reply to the hon. member's Question is as follows:-

1. Yes.

2. Yes.

3. Representations made to Messrs. Richard Costain (W.I.) Limited on behalf of the residents have been unsuccessful. It is proposed, however, to make *ex gratia* payments of compensation to them on the basis of assessments of costs of repairs as prepared by the housing Authority after inspection of the damage in 1961.

Mr. HOLDER: Mr. Speaker, I beg to thank the Hon. Minister for his Reply.

RESUSCITATION OF LAWN TENNIS COURTS AT THORPE'S HOUSING AREA

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Question is Question No. 145, also standing in the name of the hon. junior member for St. James:-

Mr. HOLDER: Mr. Speaker, to enquire of the Minister of Social Services:

Will Government resuscitate the two lawn tennis courts at the Playing Field at Thorpe's Housing Area, St. James, upon the spots where the two courts were formerly sited, one for the convenience of the residents of the said Housing Area, and the other for the use of the St. John The Baptist Primary Schools?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, the Reply to the hon. member's Question is as follows:-

The reinstatement of the two lawn tennis courts at Thorpe's Housing Area, St. James, is now under study.

Mr. HOLDER: I beg to thank the Hon. Minister for his Reply.
4.05 p.m.

CONDITION OF CERTAIN ROADS

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 147 stands in the name of the hon. senior member for St. Michael.

Mr. SEALEY: Mr. Speaker, the question reads as follows: To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:

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

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

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

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, the answer is as follows:-

"These roads are all due for repairs and will be taken into consideration when the road programme for the financial year 1964-65 is being drawn up."

Mr. SEALEY: Mr. Speaker, I beg to thank the Hon. Minister.

INSTALLATION OF WATER SERVICES

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 150 stands in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Philip.

Mr. WEEKES: Mr. Speaker, the Question reads as follows:- To enquire of the Hon. Minister of Communications Works and Housing:

Is the Minister aware that people living in Zones I and 11 of the Water Protected Areas are not allowed to install water at their homes even for domestic purposes?

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

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, the Reply is as follows:

"No, Sir. The Government's Underground Water Resources Protection Policy as declared in December, 1962 prohibited new water connections in Zone I areas, but no such restrictions applied to Zone II areas."

2. In August, 1963, the Government approved certain amendments to its original policy, enabling the Water Board to authorise special exemptions with respect to new buildings and new water connections in Zone I areas."

WIDENING OF TUNNEL IN ST. THOMAS

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 151 stands in the name of the hon. senior member for St. Thomas.

Mr. BATSON: Mr. Speaker, the Question reads as follows:- To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:

Is the Minister aware that the tunnel at the entrance to Carrington's Village Tenantry Road, St. Thomas needs widening in order that the water would be able to flow freely?

2. Will the Minister remedy same in an effort to bring satisfaction to the people living in the said area?

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, the Reply is as follows:

"Carrington's Village Tenantry Road in the parish of St. Thomas was until recently maintained by the Northern District Council. The Complaint will be investigated by the Department of Highways and Transport, with a view to effecting the necessary repairs."

MOBILE CLINIC FOR RURAL AREAS

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 152 again stands in the name of the hon. senior member for St. Thomas.

Mr. BATSON: Mr. Speaker, the Question reads as follows:- To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:

Will Government explore the possibility of placing a Mobile Clinic at the disposal of the people living in the rural areas?

2. Will the Minister immediately set about negotiating for the said Mobile Clinic with a view to putting same in operation as of the coming crop season?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, the Reply is as follows:-

"It is not clear which type of mobile clinic the hon. member has in mind. However a mobile Dental Clinic is being provided by the Junior Chamber of Commerce for the benefit of persons living in rural areas."

PUBLIC DAY NURSERY IN ST. THOMAS

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 153 again stands in the name of the hon. senior member for St. Thomas.

Mr. BATSON: Mr. Speaker, the question reads as follows:-

Will Government explore the possibility of building a Public Day Nursery in the Bagatelle Housing Area, St. Thomas?

Will the Minister give the above request his immediate attention in view of the fact that there are quite a number of mothers willing to work but have no one at their homes to attend to their children?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, the Reply is as follows:-

"A survey of Bagatelle Housing Area undertaken by the Housing Authority showed that the parents of approximately 60 children under the age of 5 years would be willing to make use of a day nursery. Arrangements can be made to make use of a day nursery. Arrangements can be made with the Housing Authority for the use of premises for the purpose, provided there is an approved organisation to operate the Nursery as has already been done at Gall Hill, Christ Church; Ellerton, St. George; Belleplaine, St. Andrew; and at Golden Rock, Pine Housing Area."

ROAD AT BAY WOODS, ST. JAMES

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 154 stands in the name of the hon. junior member for St. James.

Mr. HOLDER: Mr. Speaker, the questions reads as follows:-

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

Is Government aware that the road at Bay Woods, near Orange Hill, in the parish of Saint James is — because of its narrowness — a hazard both to pedestrians and to motor traffic?

2. Will Government take steps to have the said road widened as soon as possible?

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, the Reply is as follows:-

"This Government is aware that the road at Bay Woods, which was until recently under the control of the Northern District Council, narrows from 18 to 15 feet in a rock cutting five feet high.

2. This section of the road which forms a danger to the public will be widened as soon as circumstances permit."

ROAD FROM PAYNES BAY THROUGH HOLDERS HILL

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 135 stands in the name of the hon. senior member for St. James.

Mr. CARMICHAEL: Mr. Speaker, the question reads as follows:-

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

Is Government aware that the public road leading from Paynes Bay through Holders Hill to Thorpes in the parish of St. James is a hazard to pedestrians and vehicular traffic on account of its acute narrowness?

2. Will Government take immediate steps to have the said road widened as soon as possible?

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, the Reply is as follows:-

"The Government is aware that the public road leading from Paynes Bay through Holders Hill to Thorpes in the parish of St. James is narrow. Improvements are currently being made to this road." 4.15 p.m.

CONDITION OF ALLAN VIEW ROAD, ST. THOMAS

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 156 stands in the name of the hon. senior member for St. Thomas.

Mr. BATSON: To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:

Is Government aware that the people living in Allan View, St. Thomas are unable to get out of their homes after a rainfall?

2. Will the Minister make it possible to have the road so extended as to afford those people living therein some measure of relief?

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, the replies are as follows:-

At the request of the Northern District Council funds were provided in 1959 by Government for the construction of a road at Allan View.

2. Now that the roads in the Northern District area have been taken over by Central Government, the extension of this road will be considered in connection with the general question of the reconstruction of other roads so taken over.

COMMUNAL BATH AND TOILET AT SHOP HILL

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 157 stands in the name of the hon. senior member for St. Thomas.

Mr. BATSON: To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:

Will Government provide, as an urgent priority, a communal bath and toilet at some convenient site at Shop Hill, St. Thomas, for the use of the inhabitants of the said district?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: The reply is as follows:-

Government is considering the erection of public baths in places where the need for such facilities is evident. Provision for 24 such units has been included in the Development Plan 1962-65.

In this context the needs of the places mentioned will be examined. Efforts are being made to finalise the plans at an early date.

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 158 stands in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Joseph, who is not in his place.

LACK OF WATER HYDRANTS IN BUILT-UP AREAS IN ST. JOHN

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 159 stands in the name of the hon. junior member for St. John.

Mr. YEARWOOD: To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:

Is the Minister aware that two major fires have recently occurred in heavily built-up areas in the parish of Saint John and that the efforts of the Fire Service were greatly impeded in each case because of the lack of a water hydrant?

2. Will the Minister treat as an urgent priority the provision of at least one water hydrant in every village or other built-up residential area in the said parish?

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, the answer is as follows:-

In the two (2) cases of five (5) referred to, extensive damage occurred before the arrival of the fire appliances which extinguished both fires.

2. Hydrants are installed by the Waterworks Department, in accordance with priorities established after consultation with the Chief Fire Officer. In settling further priorities the needs of the parish of St. John will be given adequate consideration.

OVERHANGING OF CANES ON PUBLIC HIGHWAYS

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 160 stands in the name of the hon. junior member for St. John.

Mr. YEARWOOD: To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:

Is Government aware of the hazard caused to both pedestrians and motorists through the overhanging of canes on to public highways throughout the Island after the canes are full grown?

2. Is Government aware that this hazard is greatest around curves and at major stops?

3. Will Government take immediate action to lessen and, if possible, remove this hazard by seeing to it that canes are not planted within a distance of six feet inward from a point of 20 feet from the beginning of any curve or major stop on a public highway?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, the answer is as follows:-

1. Yes, Sir.

2. Yes, Sir.

3. Certain protective measures have been taken by the Agricultural Society which has drawn the attention of its members to the problem and has urged them to alleviate the hazard by having the canes banded away from the Highways. Further study is being given to the problem.

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 161 stands in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Joseph who is not in his place.

Question No. 162 stands in the name of the hon. junior member for the City of Bridgetown, who is also not in his place.

HARDSHIPS CAUSED TO RESIDENTS OF ROCK DUNDO

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 163 stands in the name of the hon. senior member for St. James.

Mr. CARMICHAEL: To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:

Is the Minister aware of the hardships being caused to the residents of Rock Dundo and Sion Hill because of the absence of water supply between 9.00 p.m. and 6.00 a.m. daily?

2. Is this absence of water due to the closing off of the main or tanks which pumps the water from Black Bess through Haymans and the districts of Rock Dundo and Sion Hill?

3. Will the Minister have this matter fully investigated with a view to remedying the same?

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, the replies are as follows:-

No Sir.

2. Water is pumped to the Rock Dundo and Sion Hill areas from the Warleigh reservoir. Pumping ceases at 10.30 p.m. and is resumed at 3.30 a.m. so as to reduce pressure on the mains during this period of normally low consumption.

3. Present plans for new pumping stations on the leeward side of the Island should bring a general improvement in the supply to Rock Dundo and Sion Hill.

WATER SUPPLY IN THORPES HOUSING AREA

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 164 also stands in the name of the Hon. and Learned senior member for St. James.

Mr. CARMICHAEL: To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:

Is the Minister aware of the acute shortage of water supply in the Thorpes Housing Area in the parish of St. James?

2. Is the Minister aware that the residents of this area frequently experience hardships because of the absence of water between six o'clock and nine o'clock on mornings?

3. Will the Minister make inquiry into the system of water supply in this area with a view of remedying the same?

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: The replies are as follows:-

1. Yes, Sir.

2. Yes, the hardship being experienced by residents in the Thorpes district is caused by the heavy withdrawal of water between the hours of 6.00 a.m. and 9.00 a.m. when the demand for water is at its peak.

3. It is expected that the situation will be remedied as soon as present proposals for a pumping station at Applewhaites are implemented.

INADEQUATE WATER SUPPLY AT FREE HILL, BLACK ROCK

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I can give you now the answer to Question No. 141 asked by the hon. senior member for St. Michael.

Mr. SPEAKER: I understand that the answer to No. 141 is now available. The Question has already been put, 4.25 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Leader of the House has indicated that the Reply to Question No. 141 is now available.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, the Reply to Question 141 asked by the hon. senior member for St. Michael is as follows:-

Water mains have been already laid in a number of these areas in St. Michael and consideration will be given to the laying of mains, in the other areas mentioned in the question, which qualify in the light of available finances and priorities established.

Mr. SEALEY: I beg to thank the hon. member for his Reply.

BROADCAST OF EDUCATIONAL TOPICS FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Question ready to be dealt with is Question No. 165, standing in the name of the hon. senior member for St. Thomas.

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. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, the Reply to the hon. member's Question is as follows:-

The Government intends to have Educational Programmes Broadcast to children of school age outside the school hours.

**BUS SHEDS FOR POREY SPRING AND
SHOP HILL**

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Question also stands in the name of the hon. senior member for St. Thomas, that is, Question No. 166.

Mr. BATSON: Mr. Speaker, to enquire of the Appropriate Minister:

Is Government aware that the people living in Porey Spring and Shop Hill, St. Thomas, are in dire need of Bus Sheds?

Will the Minister make it possible to have same constructed in order to relieve those living in the said areas of such inconvenience?

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, the Reply to the Hon. member's Question is as follows:-

The Government is aware that the erection of Bus Sheds would greatly facilitate persons who travel by bus.

2. The question of the construction of Bus Sheds in these areas, as well as other areas in the island, will be given careful consideration by the Government.

**FORTRESS HILL AND LION CASTLE JUNCTION
DANGEROUS TO VEHICULAR TRAFFIC**

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Question is Question No. 167, 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 that the Junction via Fortress Hill and Lion Castle in the Parish of St. Thomas is very dangerous to vehicular traffic?

Will Government make provision for remedying same by placing Major Road Stop signs in order to check the flow of traffic and to avoid any serious accidents occurring at the said point?

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, the answer to the hon. member's question is as follows:-

1. Yes, Sir.

2. Appropriate signs have been erected to check the flow of traffic.

**DANGEROUS SITUATION ON THE ST. SILAS
CHAPEL - GAMBLE HILL ROAD**

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Question is Question No. 168 standing in the name of the hon. junior member for St. James.

Mr. HOLDER: Mr. Speaker, to enquire of the Appropriate Minister:

Is the Minister aware of the dangerous situation to pedestrians and vehicular traffic on the road leading from St. Silas Chapel to Gamble Hill in the parish of St. James due to no guard walls where the road crosses a gully?

2. Will the Minister authorise the erection of guard walls as soon as possible?

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, the answer to the hon. member's Question is as follows:-

This road is included among the roads formerly maintained by the Northern District Council and now under the control of the Department of Highways and Transport. The complaint will be investigated with a view to erecting the guard walls, if necessary.

Mr. HOLDER: Mr. Speaker, I beg to thank the Hon. Minister for his Reply. I may say, Sir, that no question will come from me about this road, until these roads are under the control of the Government.

**LABOUR FROM ST. THOMAS re ERECTION
OF READY MIX CONCRETE PLANT**

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Question stands in the name of the hon. senior member for St. Thomas, that is, Question No. 169.

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

Is Government aware that the Burnup and Sims Company will soon be setting up a Ready Mix Concrete Plant in the Island?

2. Will the Minister see to it that there is provision for employing labour from the parish of St. Thomas when the said Plant is being erected?

3. Will the Minister also see to it that the sites for any subsidiary plants that may be set up as a result of the said Concrete Plant be also located in the parish of St. Thomas?

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, the Reply to the hon. member's Question is as follows:-

1. Yes, Sir.

2. I have no authority to require the Company to recruit its labour from any particular parish.

3. I have no control over where industrialists site their plants. Economic considerations and the requirements of the industrialists themselves are usually the deciding factors as to where an industry should be located.

QUESTION HELD OVER

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Question ready to be dealt with is Question No. 170, standing in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Peter. Inasmuch as the hon. member is not now in his place, that Question will be allowed to stand over.

DESIGNATION OF MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. SPEAKER: Inasmuch as the hon. junior member for Bridgetown is now in his seat, Question No. 25 standing in his name might now be dealt with. The Reply to that question has been laid.

Mr. LYNCH: Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for Your Honour's indulgence. The Question is as follows: To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:

Does Government agree that in view of constitutional developments in this Island, members of the General Assembly should cease to be referred to as "Member of Colonial Parliament" (M.C.P.)?

2. If the answer to (1) is in the affirmative, what action will Government take to put an end to the practice?

3. Will Government direct that members of the General Assembly be designated "Member of the House of Assembly" (M.H.A.)?

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I should like to reply to the hon. member's question on behalf of the Hon. Premier. The Reply is as follows:-

1. Yes, Sir.

2. and 3. Research into this matter has failed to produce any legal or constitutional authority for the use of the term "Member of Colonial Parliament" in reference to Members of the General Assembly. It appears therefore that a

Resolution of the House of Assembly is all that would be necessary to effect any change in the designation of members of the General Assembly.

Mr. LYNCH: Mr. Speaker, would the Resolution be acceptable to you now? I will draft it on my feet.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am afraid, No. Let the hon. member draft it with his head. *(Laughter)*.

Mr. LYNCH: Your Honour has misunderstood me. I said that I would draft the Resolution on my feet, not with my feet.

DUMPING OF GARBAGE OUTMODED

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Question also stands in the name of the hon. junior member for Bridgetown. That is Question No. 162.

Mr. LYNCH: Mr. Speaker, to enquire of the Appropriate Minister:

Is the Government aware that the dumping of garbage is now considered an uneconomical and outmoded process which has been superseded by converting garbage into fertiliser and selling it?

2. Will the Government make the necessary enquiries from the Government of Jamaica re the organization and working of the Jamaican Organic Fertiliser Company Limited which has been granted pioneer status in that territory for this purpose?

3. If the Government is not interested in this modern and highly profitable garbage disposal, will the Minister state the reason for this lack of interest?

4.35 p.m.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, the answer is as follows:-

"1. It is understood that certain types of garbage may be converted into fertiliser.

2. The removal of refuse from roads and other places in Barbados and consequently its disposal is one of the specific responsibilities placed on Local Government Councils.

3. The Government has received no submissions from the Bridgetown City Council on this subject."

Mr. LYNCH: As a supplementary, Mr. Speaker, does the Reply indicate that applications have been received from the other two Councils?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: No, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. LYNCH: I should like through you, Sir, to thank the Hon. Minister for the Reply, and I can assure him that before many hours have passed, he will have before him the necessary application.

Mr. SPEAKER: I think that completes the list of answers to Oral Questions which have been laid in respect of hon. members who have been or are now in their places.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I think this is an appropriate time to move the suspension, and I therefore 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.

4.45 p.m.

On Resumption,

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: I beg to move that Private Members' Business be now proceeded with in order to deal with Item No. 15, which stands in my name, on behalf of the Hon. Premier.

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

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

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: I beg to move that Item No. 15 be the first Order of the Day under Private Members' Business.

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

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

AMENDMENTS TO STANDING ORDERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Mr. SPEAKER: Order No. 15 stands in the name of the Hon. Leader of the House and it is to move the passing of certain amendments to the Standing Orders of the House.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, hon. members will be aware that it was part of the policy of this Government, even before assumption of office, that there should be a public Accounts Committee which would have the power to review the expenditure of all Government Funds expended by officers of the Public Service, and officers of the Legislature, and make a thorough examination into the expenditure of all public monies.

The first step which was taken to implement the policy of the Government in this regard was the passage through the Legislature of a Bill intituled "The Legislature (Privileges, Immunities and Powers) Act, 1962." It was necessary to enact this legislation to empower Committees of this House to summon witnesses and to give other powers and authorities to the Speaker of this House in relation to matters of privileges.

It has taken a considerable time to get these amendments to the Standing Orders before the House, and it is only due to pressure of business that they have not been presented before. The last step, therefore, in making provision for a Public Accounts Committee after the passage of the Privileges Bill is the amendments to Standing Orders which we now propose to introduce, and the principal amendments are to Standing Orders Nos. 54, 56 and 69.

The amendment to Standing Order No. 54 is to provide for a Select Committee to be designated the Committee of Public Accounts for the examination of accounts showing the appropriation of the sums granted by Parliament to meet the public expenditure.

Section 2 of Standing Order No. 54 sets out that 'at the commencement of each Session a Committee shall be appointed to assist Mr. Speaker in all matters which relate to the printing executed by order of the House, and for the purpose of selecting and arranging for printing Reports and Papers presented in pursuance to motions made by Members, and in all matters connected with the comfort and convenience of Members of the House.'

This is the only Section which now exists under Standing Order No. 54. In other words, there is a Standing Select Committee of the House which has been the principal Committee, and we are now amending Standing Order No. 54 to have another Standing Select Committee which is to be designated the Public Accounts Committee.

The amendments to Standing Order No. 56 deal with the procedure of Select Committees. One of the amendments is to paragraph 9 which is to read as follows:-

"9. When it is intended to examine any witnesses, the Member of the Committee requiring such witnesses shall deliver to the Clerk of the Committee at least seven days before the day appointed for their examination a list containing the name, residence and occupation of every witness. The Chairman shall then summon such witness on behalf of the Committee."

Then Paragraphs 10 and 11 of this Standing Order are to be deleted, and Paragraphs 12, 13 and 14 are to be re-numbered 10, 11 and 12 respectively.

Speaking subject to correction, I think the reason why those two paragraphs are deleted is that provision is already made in the Immunities and Privileges Bill for the taking of evidence by Select Committees and other Committees of this House and matters subsidiary thereto.

The last amendments are to Standing Order No. 69, which deals with the attendance of strangers. The first which is to paragraph 1, is to the effect that no stranger shall be entitled to enter or remain within the Chamber of the House or the precincts thereof without the authority of the Speaker.

The next is to paragraph 3 which is amended to read:

"The Speaker may, whenever he thinks fit, order the withdrawal of strangers from the precincts of the House or any part thereof."

Of course, this last amendment, Mr. Speaker, is not strictly related to the establishment of a Public Accounts Committee. I should mention that the practice in the United Kingdom, as far as I understand, and in other places where there is a Public Accounts Committee, is that this Committee is usually presided over by the Leader of the Opposition and there are other West Indian territories which have recently adopted this procedure. I daresay that, since we have not made any specific provision for the composition of this Public Accounts Committee, we should follow the normal tradition and have the Leader of the Opposition as the Chairman of this Committee.

5.45 p.m.

I should like to point out, Sir, that there is in paragraph 1 of Standing Order No. 54 the question of the quorum. This is a matter for the House; the House will have to decide how many members of the House should constitute the Committee, and the number of the Committee who shall form a quorum. The reason why these two spaces have been left blank is that we did not want to set out how many members there should be of the Public Accounts Committee. Subject to those two amendments, Mr. Speaker, I am going to move that these amendments be accepted. In the course of the discussion I hope that some hon. member will move that the number of the members of the Public Accounts Committee should be so many, and the members who should form a quorum may be such-and-such number of persons. I now beg to move that these amendments do now pass.

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

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I do not suppose that the Hon. Leader of the House expects to have any opposition to these amendments, neither do we over here have any intention to offer any opposition to these amendments. However, Sir, as the Hon. and Learned Premier has said, they have not fixed the number of members and I am wondering whether he would agree that the number should be not more than seven and that four members should form a quorum. If the hon. member has no fixed idea, we have no fixed idea either, but he possibly has more experience in these matters than we have. This is practically something new in Barbados and the hon. member knows what exists in other democratic countries. We are wondering if the Hon. and Learned Premier would accept the number of seven as the number of members of this Public Accounts Committee, and that four members of the Committee should form a quorum. Otherwise, Sir, we support the idea of having this Public Accounts Committee and we realise that the existence of such a Committee is long overdue.

Mr. Speaker, we have not had any experience similar to that of our sister colonies. As the Hon. Premier has pointed out, when we were in England, money could not be taken out of the Treasury of this island as it could be taken out from the Treasuries on the signature of Ministers in other colonies — I prefer not to call any names. This is a heritage of which we feel very proud because it is a heritage which the last Government had accepted inasmuch as it was a safeguard and guide and control over the finances of the country. However, Sir, these amendments are absolutely necessary because there are things which arise from time to time. Under the Standing Orders of this House we might be ruled out of order — I would not say it has happened today, but it can possibly happen. We are therefore giving our support to these amendments and we make the suggestion that the number of members of this Committee be seven and that four members of the Committee form a quorum.

Mr. SPEAKER: Is the hon. member making a motion?

Mr. MOTTLEY: Yes, Sir, I beg to make that motion.

Mr. HOLDER: Mr. Speaker, I beg to second the motion which has just been made by the hon. senior member for the City. I really do not see that we can have any opposition to these amendments. From the time that I received my copy of these amendments, I checked my Standing Orders and the only thing that worried me was that the number of members of the Committee was not inserted. We have the wording "..... to consist of not more than members, who shall be nominated at the commencement of every Session and of whom shall be a quorum....." There were these two blank spaces in that paragraph. I was wondering why these spaces had been left blank, but the Hon. Premier has explained the matter, and I am therefore supporting the motion which has been made by the Hon. Leader of the Opposition.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, the Government is quite willing to accept the motion made by the Hon. Leader of the Opposition. I may say, Sir, that I am very glad to see the attitude adopted by the hon. junior member for St. James; he seems to be more reasonable than some of his colleagues for most of the time. I should just like to say Sir, that in Trinidad, in 1959, a Resolution was passed to the effect that there should be a Public Accounts Committee and the number of members of the Committee was to be determined by the House and that the Committee should publish a Report of its work at regular periods. In that territory it was left to the House to decide what the number of members of the Committee should be, and following the tradition in that and other territories we felt that this was a matter for the House to decide. I suppose that in the same manner that we decide what the number of members of the Committee should be now, if we find that the number of members of this Committee is inadequate in view of the volume of work which the Committee may have to deal with, we can also introduce an amendment to the Standing Orders to bring the membership of the Committee up to mark. We are quite prepared, Mr. Speaker, to accept that the Committee should be comprised of seven members with a quorum of four members.

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

5.55 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, that brings Government Business to an end for the day, and I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday, 10th March, 1964, at 12 noon.

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

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

5.58 p.m.